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Civil Engineering

EXTERIOR LIGHTING MANAGEMENT



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This instruction implements the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq), Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 32-70, *Environmental Quality*, Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-7064, *Integrated Natural Resources Management*, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Biological Opinion issued 9 April 1991 and updated 2 May 2000. The instruction also explains management responsibilities, exterior lighting restrictions and reporting requirements necessary for the 45th Space Wing (45SW) to remain in compliance with Federal, State, and local standards.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This revision provides a more extensive background that addresses the need and requirement for implementation of the instruction and more thoroughly describes the responsibilities of organizations, tenants and residents. This revision also addresses the use of interior lighting (paragraph 3.1.2.). A bar (|) indicates changes from the previous edition.

1. Background. In 1998, the 45SW and USFWS agreed to develop Light Management Plans (LMPs) in an effort to reduce the amount of exterior lighting visible from the beach. This action was required to reduce sea turtle hatchling mortality caused by disorientation. Disorientation occurs when sea turtles crawl toward inland light sources rather than the ocean. The LMPs identify exterior lights that can be replaced with low-pressure sodium (LPS) lamps, unnecessary lights that can be eliminated, and operational constraints for all exterior lights.

2. Concept. This instruction establishes responsibilities and provides guidance for the protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles in accordance with the Endangered Species Act and the Biological Opinion issued by the USFWS. This instruction applies to all exterior lighting systems or fixtures located within Air Force property boundaries of the 45SW.

3. Responsibilities.

3.1. Organizations, tenants, and residents are responsible for minimizing exterior lighting during the sea turtle nesting season, 1 April through 31 October, between the hours of 2100 and 0600. Exterior lighting that is not mission-, safety-, or security-essential will be extinguished during this time frame. All exterior lights will be controlled by either individual or cluster light-specific switches, or an Energy Management Control System (EMCS).

3.1.1. Mission-essential operations that require artificial lighting will be accomplished using LPS light fixtures. Where color rendition or explosion-proof fixtures are required, well-shielded, high-pressure sodium (HPS) lights may be used; however, a letter of justification must be submitted to the 45SW Civil Engineering Environmental Flight (45 CES/CEV) with the request for this variance. Further, any lighting other than HPS that is required for color-rendition purposes will require a letter of justification. Lighting directly visible on the beach must be shielded to prevent incidental illumination of the beach.

3.1.2. Interior lighting that creates an incidental glow visible outside the facility must be extinguished or shielded to prevent the light from being visible external to the facility. If interior lighting is required for safety or security reasons and is visible outside the facility, the facility manager must work with the 45 CES/CEV office to identify alternative light types.

3.1.3. Use of photo cells is not permitted unless lighting is a security requirement. Programmable timers may be used for area lighting, if essential for personnel safety. Requests to 45 CES/CEV for the installation of photocells must be accompanied by written justification.

3.2. The 45 CES/CEV office will be responsible for monitoring and enforcement of light use restrictions on 45 SW installations.

4. Notification and Reporting.

4.1. The 45 CES/CEV office will issue annual notices to all personnel prior to the sea turtle nesting season to remind organizations, tenants and residents of light use constraints and responsibilities.

4.2. Detachment 1, 45th Mission Support Group Commander (Det 1, 45 MSG/CC) will issue the annual notices to organizations and tenants on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

4.3. Incidents of inappropriate light operation will be reported to the accountable facility managers and appropriate Commanders.

4.4. Military personnel who violate this instruction are subject to punitive action under Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice. Violations by civilian employees may result in administrative or other disciplinary action under AFI 36-704, Discipline and Adverse Action.

4.5. Questions regarding the requirements of this Space Wing Instruction or concerns related to sea turtles and lighting should be directed to 45 CES/CEVP at 494-7288.

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Commander