



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
BOX 788100
TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA 92278-8100

5090
4E
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POLICY LETTER 7-16

From: Commanding General
To: All Hands

Subj: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND PROTECTION

The two most important national functions of the Marine Corps are making Marines and winning battles. Training for combat is integral to performing these functions. We need to preserve the training opportunities enjoyed by today's Marines for future generations of Marines, by respecting and maintaining the natural and cultural resources entrusted to the Marine Corps.

Maintaining our status as a premier training institution, and an exemplary environmental steward, requires that all members of the Combat Center community be environmentally sensitive. Each Marine, Sailor, civil servant and contractor has a role in ensuring that we sustain and enhance mission readiness and access to training environments through effective and efficient environmental management.

Sustaining future operations requires that we continually improve how we manage ranges, training areas, support facilities, and even our homes. I will use a formal, comprehensive Environmental Management System (EMS) to maintain our freedom of action, and control risks to operational readiness posed by the environmental impacts of our actions. The EMS integrates environmental stewardship into our daily decision-making and long term planning processes across all missions, activities, and functions.

As Marines, we uphold the Constitution by obeying the nation's laws. Environmental laws are no exception. I am committed to complying with all applicable environmental legal requirements. Environmental compliance, pollution prevention, environmental training and awareness, conservation, reporting, responding to contaminated sites or unpermitted releases, and long-term management of training areas are keys to environmental stewardship and mission accomplishment. As good stewards, all commanders shall strive to generate environmental awareness through leadership and training.

The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center's Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division Staff is available to assist you in preserving, sustaining, and enhancing our mission readiness while complying with our nation's environmental laws.


W. F. MULLEN III