



MAGTFTC-MCAGCC 29 Palms

Environmental Standard Operating Procedure



1 October 2025

Aircraft Washing (AWA)

Application and Purpose

This guidance applies to personnel working with or at aircraft washracks aboard the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC), Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms ("installation").

This document provides environmental protection guidelines for operation, use, and management of aircraft washracks and aircraft washing activities.

Procedures

Washing and cleaning is an essential element of aircraft and helicopter maintenance and is critical to the mission of the installation. However, wastewater from aircraft and helicopter washing is typically contaminated with sediment (for example, sand, dirt, grit, mud, and similar materials) and oil or fuel. Sediment and oil or fuel can interfere with the performance of the installation wastewater collection and treatment systems, subjecting the installation to regulatory violations. To prevent this, each washrack aboard the installation discharges to an oil-water separator (OWS) for removal of oil and sediment.

Operational Controls

The following requirements must be followed when using organic solvent degreasers:

- Soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents are prohibited from use on washracks unless specifically authorized in writing by Environmental Affairs' (EA) Water Resources Office (refer to Enclosure 1).
- Approvals for the use of soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents provided by EA Water Resources Office are only good for the period specified and will not exceed 1 year. Requesters must obtain approval annually or at the end of the specified period.
- Disposal or dumping of any materials or wastes such as oils, fuels, antifreeze, solvents, and paints are strictly prohibited.
- Maintenance of any type is prohibited on washracks, except those that have permanent overhead crane(s).
- The parking or storage of vehicles, equipment, or aircraft on the washrack is strictly prohibited unless they are being washed.
- Refueling of equipment, vehicles, or aircraft on washracks is strictly prohibited.
- Hoses must use an automatic shutoff nozzle to prevent the constant free flow of water.

- High-pressure washers must be used and maintained according to the manufacturer's recommendations, if applicable.
- Washrack drains and catch basins will be kept clean and clear of trash and debris.
- The Public Works Division (PWD) will be notified immediately of any leaks, drain blockage, or other malfunctions. Maintain a copy of the PWD work request and number for follow up and records.
- In the event of a spill, it is important to contact the EA Abatement Chief via phone at (760) 401-9841.

If there are specific situations or other concerns not addressed by this procedure, contact EA's Water Resources Office via phone at (760) 830-7883.

Training Requirements

All affected personnel must be trained in this document and the following:

- General Environmental Awareness training
- OWS Environmental Standard Operating Procedure (ESOP)
- Abatement ESOP

Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures

Refer to the spill response procedures listed in the Abatement ESOP.

Inspection and Corrective Action

The Environmental Compliance Coordinator (ECC) will confirm unit adherence to this ESOP. The ECC will confirm that unit personnel are trained in this ESOP and maintain appropriate documentation in accordance with this ESOP. If this ESOP contains an enclosed inspection checklist, designated personnel will conduct the inspections using this ESOP as guidance and document the inspections via the enclosed checklist. If deficiencies are discovered during an inspection, the ECC will ensure immediate corrective action is taken and that all deficiencies and corrective actions are recorded on the enclosed checklist.

Recordkeeping

The following solvent usage records must be maintained:

- Inspection and training records maintained on file for no less than 3 years.
- Service or maintenance records and work request tracking information for washrack(s).
- EA approval letters for the use of soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents.

References

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste Discharge Requirements Board Order R7 2020-0003

Use and Version Control

ESOPs are used to augment instructions contained in official orders and directives, and, where necessary, provide for sufficient control of the installation's significant practices. EA maintains the authoritative, current version of this and other ESOPs on the installation's website: <https://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/G-4-Installation-Support-Directorate/Environmental-Affairs/#environmental-sops>.



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
BOX 788110
TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA 92278-8100

CCO 5090.1K

From: _____

To: Environmental Affairs (EA), Water Resources Office

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR USE OF SOAPS OR DEGREASERS AT WASHRACKS

1. Soaps and degreasers are not allowed to be used on the washrack(s) unless written approval is given. Written approval is only good for up to 1 year and approval is on a case-by-case basis. Populate this document and submit to the EA Water Resources Manager to request the use of soaps or degreasers.
2. Use and operation of the washrack will be in accordance with all installation orders and environmental standard operational procedures and will not cause any violation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste Discharge Requirements Board Order R7-2020-0003.

UNIT NAME: _____

POINT OF CONTACT No. 1: _____ Phone: _____

POINT OF CONTACT No. 2: _____ Phone: _____

EVENT START DATE: _____ ENDING DATE: _____

NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT/VEHICLES BEING WASHED: _____

NUMBER OF DAYS WILL YOU WASH AIRCRAFT/VEHICLES: _____

PRINT NAME/RANK: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

* Safety Data Sheets of the material being used must be provided with this sheet to receive approval.

EA APPROVAL:

NAME: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

TIME PERIOD APPROVED (from-to): _____