

Environmental Standard Operating Procedure (ESOP)	
Aircraft Washing (AWA)	
Environmental Affairs (EA): Water Resources (760) 830-7883	Revised: 1 October 2024

Subject: AIRCRAFT WASHING

Reference: (a) Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste Discharge Requirements Board Order R7-2020-0003

1. Purpose. This document provides environmental protection guidelines for operation, use, and management of aircraft wash racks and aircraft washing activities.
2. Application. 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. For further references to MAGTFTC, MCAGCC in this document, the term "installation" will be used.
3. 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/fuel. Sediment and oil/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.
4. Operational Controls. The following controls apply:
  - a. Soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents are prohibited from use on washracks unless specifically authorized in writing by EA's Water Resources Office (Attachment 1).
  - b. Approvals for the use of soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents provided by EA's 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.
  - c. Disposal or dumping of any materials or wastes such as oils, fuels, antifreeze, solvents, and paints are strictly prohibited.
  - d. Maintenance of any type is prohibited on washracks, except those that have permanent overhead crane(s) at the washrack.
  - e. The parking or storage of vehicles, equipment, or aircraft on the washrack is strictly prohibited unless they are being washed.
  - f. Refueling of equipment, vehicles, or aircraft on washracks is strictly prohibited.

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- g. Hoses must use an automatic shutoff nozzle to prevent the constant free flow of water.
  - h. High-pressure washers must be used and maintained according to the manufacturer's recommendations, if applicable.
  - i. Washrack drains and catch basins will be kept clean and clear of trash and debris.
  - j. 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.
  - k. In the event of a spill, it is important to contact the EA Abatement Chief via phone at (760) 401-9841.
  - l. 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.
5. Documentation and Record Keeping. The following records must be maintained:
- a. Inspection and training records maintained on file for no less than 3 years.
  - b. Service or maintenance records and work request tracking information for washrack(s).
  - c. EA approval letters for the use of soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents.
6. Training. All affected personnel must be trained in this document and the following:
- a. General Environmental Awareness training
  - b. OWS ESOP
  - c. Abatement ESOP
7. Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures. Refer to the spill response procedures listed in the Abatement ESOP.
8. 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 will maintain appropriate documentation in accordance with this ESOP.

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

From: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Environmental Affairs (EA), Water Resources, Marine Corps Base, Twentynine Palms (Attn: Mr. Chris Elliott)

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR USE OF SOAPS OR DEGREASERS AT WASHRACKS

1. Soaps and degreasers are not allowed to be used on the washrack 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 the information, provided as follows, and submit and request the use of soaps or degreasers to EA's Water Resources Office via phone at (760) 830-7883.
2. Use and operation of the washrack will be in accordance with 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 AIRCRAFTS BEING WASHED: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF DAYS WILL YOU WASH AIRCRAFTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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): \_\_\_\_\_