

Environmental Standard Operating Procedures (ESOP)	
Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) Heaters	
Environmental Affairs (EA): Hazardous Waste Management Branch (HWMB) (760) 830-7244	Revised 1 October 2023

Subj: MEALS READY TO EAT (MRE) HEATERS

Ref: (a) Hazardous Waste Operations Manual, MCAGCC  
(b) CCO 5090.5D, Integrated Contingency and Operations Plan (ICOP)

1. Purpose. This document provides environmental protection guidelines for proper handling and disposal of the MRE flameless ration heater.
2. Application. This guidance applies to those individuals who are using MRE's 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. All MRE heaters that have not been properly activated must be disposed of as hazardous waste in approved solid waste containers aboard this installation after they have been properly activated.
4. Operational Controls. The following controls apply:
  - a. Individual User will only use and activate the MRE heater for its intended purpose and will discard the heater properly after activation.
  - b. Separate and properly label each storage container as Hazardous Waste.
  - c. Do not store MRE heaters near an open flame. Vapors released from activated heaters contain hydrogen and flammable gas.
  - d. Only activate MRE heaters in a well-ventilated area.
  - e. Ensure compatible fire extinguisher is readily available.
  - f. If there are any specific situations or other concerns do not address by this procedure, contact MCAGCC Environmental Affairs office at BLDG 1418.
5. Documentation and Record Keeping. The following records must be maintained when storing MRE Heaters.

There is no required record keeping for this ESOP.

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

General Environmental Awareness Training.

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7. Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures. Notify fire department when there is a fire.

8. Inspection and Corrective Action. There are no inspection requirements for this ESOP.

**Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) Inspection Checklist**

Date:	Time:
Unit:	Work Center:
Inspector's Name:	Signature:

Inspection Items	Yes	No	Comments
1. Are MRE heaters being properly activated before being disposed of as solid waste?			
2. If MRE heaters are not activated, are they being properly disposed of as hazardous waste?			
3. Are all hazardous waste requirements being properly followed as they pertain to MRE heaters?			
4. Are training and inspection records maintained and available for inspection?			
5. Are compatible fire extinguishers available and maintained in a serviceable condition?			

Additional Comments:

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Corrective Action Taken:

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Unit Inspector:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_