



# MAGTFTC-MCAGCC 29 Palms

## Environmental Standard Operating Procedure



1 October 2025

### Oil-Water Separators (OWS)

#### Application and Purpose

This guidance applies to individuals working with OWSs 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 the operation, use, and management of oil-water separators (OWSs).

#### Procedures

Washing and cleaning is an essential element of vehicle and equipment maintenance and is critical to the installation's mission. However, wastewater from vehicle and equipment washing is typically contaminated with sediment (such as sand, dirt, grit, mud, and similar materials) and oil/fuel. Sediment and oil/fuel can interfere with the performance of the installation's wastewater collection and treatment systems. To prevent this and remove oils and sediment, each washrack aboard the installation discharges to an OWS. To confirm that OWSs operate effectively, they must be periodically inspected and cleaned, and certain activities must be prohibited on washracks.

#### Operational Controls

The following controls apply:

- Disposal or dumping of any materials or wastes such as petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POLs) or water contaminated with POLs, antifreeze, solvents, and paints are strictly prohibited.
- The use of soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents is prohibited from use on washracks unless specifically authorized in writing by the Environmental Affairs' (EA) Water Resources Office (refer to Enclosure 1).
- Approvals for the use of soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents provided by the 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.
- Repairs and maintenance to OWSs should be performed in accordance with established Public Works Division procedures and Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Board Order R7-2020-0003.
- Should the OWS or any component of the OWS be inoperable, the OWS and contributing washrack(s) will be taken out of service until repaired. Additionally, notification of the shutdown action will be made to the EA Water Resources office via phone at (760) 830-7883 and all applicable units.

- Weekly inspections of each OWS will be conducted and maintained on file for no less than 3 years. The enclosed checklist may be used to satisfy this requirement.

If there are specific situations or other concerns not addressed by this procedure, contact the EA 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
- Abatement Environmental Standard Operating Procedure (ESOP)
- Aircraft Washing ESOP
- Vehicle Washrack ESOP

## **Recordkeeping**

The following records must be maintained:

- Inspection and training records maintained on file for no less than 3 years
- EA approval letters for the use of soaps, detergents, cleansers, degreasers, or solvents

## **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.

## **References**

- (a) Wastewater Treatment Plant WDRs 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. Environmental Affairs 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**  
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MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER  
BOX 788110  
TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA 92278-8100

CCO 5090.1K

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

To: Environmental Affairs (EA), Water Resources Office

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR USE OF: SOAPS OR DEGREASERS AT WASHRACKS

1. Soaps and degreasers are not allowed to be used on 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, 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 #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

POINT OF CONTACT #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): \_\_\_\_\_



# Oil-Water Separators

## ECC/Unit Inspection Checklist

Date:	Unit:
Unit Rep Name:	Signature:
Locations:	

Inspection Items	Yes	No	Comments
1. Are general housekeeping and separator conditions satisfactory (such as no ground discoloration, trash, odors or chemical smell, or excessive oil sheen)?			
2. Is there any evidence of spills or overflows of the OWS?			
3. Is there any evidence of dumping?			
4. Is there evidence of any other substance (for example, detergents, solvents, or antifreeze) present in the OWS?			
5. Is the rope skimmer operating and effectively removing oil?			
6. Is there a minimal amount of oil in the final stage of the OWS?			
7. Is documentation available to demonstrate the proper maintenance and pumping schedule is accomplished in accordance with Board Order R7-2020-0003 and this environmental standard operational procedure?			
8. Are access doors free of leaks?			
9. Is the OWS pumping station operating properly?			
10. Are training and inspection records maintained and available for inspection?			

Additional Comments:

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Corrective Action Taken:

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