

Environmental Standard Operating Procedures (ESOP)	
Soil Excavation and Grading (SEG)	
Environmental Affairs (EA): Conservation (760) 830-5720	Revised: 1 October 2023

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Ref: (a) CCO 3500.4, Range, Training Area, and Airspace Program
(b) ESOP for Wildlife Handling
(c) ESOP for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documentation
(d) CCO 5090.1, Environmental Protection

1. Purpose. This document provides environmental protection procedures for soil excavation and grading.

2. Application. These procedures apply to any individual grading or excavating soil aboard the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (Combat Center).

3. Procedures. Personnel grading or excavating soil shall ensure their actions do not negatively impact natural resources without prior authorization.

4. Operational Controls.

a. Military units conducting field training shall:

1) Ensure compliance with reference (a), Combat Center Order 3500.4, and its associated SOPs.

2) Plan operations using the current range and training area map available in the Combat Center's Range Facility Management Support System (RFMSS).

3) Ensure compliance with reference (b), the ESOP for Wildlife Handling, regarding any wildlife present at the training site.

4) Return the site to grade (e.g., knock down berms and fill excavations) after training has completed.

b. Personnel other than military units conducting field training shall:

1) Prior to starting work, ensure compliance with reference (c), the ESOP for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documentation.

2) Contact the Public Works Division (PWD) to obtain a dig permit, if required, and ensure any/all permit requirements are met.

3) Ensure any applicable Permit to Operate is properly posted for any equipment being used, and that any permit conditions are met.

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4) Cover any holes or trenches overnight or when left unattended to optimize human safety and avoid animal entrapment.

5) Abate fugitive dust by applying water, tarps, or other measures.

c. Contact EA Conservation at (760)830-5720 regarding specific situations or other concerns not addressed by this procedure, in case of inadvertent discovery of cultural resources, or in case of unexpected discovery of natural resources.

5. Documentation and Record Keeping.

a. Military units conducting field training shall maintain a copy of the current range and training area map at the training site.

b. Personnel other than military units conducting field training shall maintain a copy of any applicable dig permit at the work site.

6. Training.

a. All affected personnel shall be trained in this document.

b. Before conducting work in the range training areas, personnel shall first receive environmental awareness, desert survival, and UXO awareness training. Contact Range Safety (760 830-6945) to schedule this training.

7. Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures.

a. Refer to reference (a) and its associated SOPs for emergency procedures in the range and training areas.

b. Refer to reference (d) for spill response requirements.