MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS EAST POLICY STATEMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST) is a key national defense asset where Marines, Sailors and their families live, work, and train. MCIEAST offers unique and irreplaceable training venues in which to hone our warfighting capabilities, enable Force readiness, and prepare for future conflict. Protecting these critical assets through sound, professional environmental management and compliance is crucial for its continued, sustained availability. Failure to adequately protect natural and cultural resources and environmental non-compliance carry significant risk to our mission through fines, lawsuits, and readiness impacts such as restrictions on how, when, and where we train; delays in new construction; failure of facilities and equipment; and degraded relationships with regulatory agencies and the public whose support we need for our continued mission success. We must meet our environmental and sustainability responsibilities, meet or exceed our goals, minimize the risk to mission, and strive for continuous improvement by:

- Complying with all applicable environmental legislation, regulations, and policy in order to protect human health and the environment;
- Conserving the natural and cultural resources entrusted to us by the American people;
- Promoting environmental sustainability through pollution prevention, source reduction, recycling, sustainable procurement, water and energy efficiency and conservation, use of native plants in landscaping, and adaptive reuse of existing infrastructure;
- Initiating environmental planning actions early in project planning and involving all appropriate internal and external stakeholders;
- Proactively engaging with regulatory agencies and the public to foster partnerships and build trust.
- Remediating areas of contamination that are the result of past disposal practices; and
- Eliminating preventable accidental releases of Aqueous Film Forming Foam.

U.S. Marine Corps operational and tactical success is linked to responsible stewardship of the environment, while we enable our tenant organizations to conduct realistic, full-spectrum training in support of their readiness and mission requirements. We must understand and fulfill our collective roles in protecting the environment within our training venues, our bases, and our stations. I expect our Commanders and all personnel aboard our installations to take a personal interest in meeting our environmental responsibilities and protecting our mission. Our future Marine Corps operational readiness depends on it.

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