

CHAPTER 22

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

22-1 Scope

22-1.1 This chapter establishes Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) program requirements, guidelines, and standards for complying with resource protection laws, and conserving and managing natural resources in the United States and its territories and possessions for both appropriated and non-appropriated fund activities. This chapter also summarizes the natural resources management (NRM) program for managing Navy lands, waters, forests, fish and wildlife, and outdoor recreation resources.

22-1.2 More detailed program requirements, guidelines, and procedures for all elements of NRM program are addressed by reference (r). That manual is a Navy-wide directive under the authority of this instruction.

In addition to implementing statutes governing natural resource management, this chapter establishes policy and provides guidance to implement the requirements of 4 Executive Orders (EOs). EO 11987, Exotic Organisms of 24 May 1977, requires executive agencies to restrict the introduction of exotic organisms into natural ecosystems. EO 11988, Floodplain Management of 24 May 1977, provides direction regarding actions of Federal agencies in floodplains. EO 11644, as amended by EO 11989, Use of Off-Road Vehicles on Public Lands of 24 May 1977, establishes policies and provides for procedures to control use of off-road vehicles on public lands. EO 11990, Protection of Wetlands of 24 May 1977 as amended, directs the preservation and enhancement of wetlands.

22-1.3 The Navy NRM policies for activities in foreign countries are addressed in Chapter 18.

22-1.4 References. Relevant references are:

- a. 7 CFR 658, Farm Land Protection Policy;
- b. 15 CFR 923, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Zone Management Program Development and Approval Regulations, current edition;
- c. 15 CFR 930, Federal Consistency with Approved Coastal Management Programs;
- d. 16 CFR 3501, Coastal Barrier Resources;
- e. 32 CFR 190, Natural Resources Management Program (also DOD DIR 4700.4 of 24 January 1989; (NOTAL))
- f. 33 CFR 320-330, Clean Water Act Section 404 and Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 Regulatory Programs;
- g. 36 CFR 251.23, Experimental Areas and Research Natural Areas;
- h. 40 CFR 6, EPA National Environmental Policy Act Procedures;
- i. 40 CFR 300.600, National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), Designation of Federal Trustees;
- j. 40 CFR 300.615, Responsibilities of Trustees;
- k. 50 CFR 10, 18 216, 228, Regulations Concerning Marine Mammals;
- l. 50 CFR 10.13, List of Migratory Birds;
- m. 50 CFR 17.11 & 17.12, Fish and Wildlife Service List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants;

1 November 1994

n. 50 CFR 402, Interagency Cooperation - Endangered Species Act of 1973;

o. DoDINST 7310.5 of Jan 25, 1988, Accounting for Production and Sale of Forest Products; (NOTAL)

p. NAVCOMPT Manual Volume 3; (NOTAL)

q. NAVFAC Real Estate Procedural Manual, P-73, Vol. I; (NOTAL)

r. NAVFAC Natural Resources Management Procedure Manual, P-73, Vol II (NOTAL).

22-2 Legislation

Laws that control the management of natural resources on Navy lands and that regulate the Navy's operations with respect to natural resources are listed below. Legal citations are included in Appendix A.

22-2.1 Bald Eagle Protection Act. Provides for the protection of bald and golden eagles.

22-2.2 Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982. Regulates the expenditure of federal funds to discourage development within boundaries of undeveloped, unprotected coastal barriers of the Coastal Barrier Resources System established by the Act, unless the expenditures are for military activities essential to national security.

22-2.3 Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). Establishes goals and a mechanism for States to control use and development of their coastal zone. Authorizes States to administer approved coastal nonpoint pollution programs.

22-2.4 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). As amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), CERCLA establishes a series of programs for the cleanup of hazardous waste disposal and spill sites nationwide. Requires protection of human health and the environment. Work under this legislation is conducted under the

Navy Installation Restoration (IR) Program (Chapter 15).

22-2.5 Conservation Programs on Military Reservations (Sikes Act). Provides framework for management of natural resources on military lands.

22-2.6 Defense Appropriations Act of 1991 Legacy Program. Establishes program for the stewardship of biological, geophysical, cultural and historic resources on Department of Defense (DoD) lands.

22-2.7 Endangered Species Act (ESA). Provides for the identification and protection of threatened and endangered species of animals and plants and their critical habitats.

22-2.8 Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. Governs the use and application of pesticides in natural resource management program.

22-2.9 Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974. Establishes control and eradication of noxious weeds and regulates them in interstate and foreign commerce.

22-2.10 Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 (CWA). Regulates dredging and filling of wetlands and establishes procedures for identifying and regulating nonpoint sources of polluted discharge into waterways.

22-2.11 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act. Encourages management of non-game species.

22-2.12 Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. Provides mechanism for wildlife conservation to receive equal consideration and be coordinated with water-resource development programs.

22-2.13 Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act. Regulates the export of unprocessed timber originating from Federal lands in western States.

22-2.14 Marine Mammal Protection Act. Protects marine mammals and establishes a marine mammal commission.

22-2.15 Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. Establishes regulations relating to dumping specific material into open waters and establishes a program for designation and regulation of national marine sanctuaries.

22-2.16 Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Protects migratory birds and establishes a permitting process for legal taking.

22-2.17 Military Construction Authorization Act - Leases; Non-excess property. Provides for the outleasing of public lands. Information can be found in 10 U.S.C. 2667 (an update of the Military Construction Authorization Act of 1956).

22-2.18 Military Construction Authorization Act - Military Reservations and Facilities - Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping. Establishes requirements for regulating hunting, fishing, and trapping on military lands. Such information is available in 10 U.S.C. 2671 (an update of the Military Construction Authorization Act of 1956).

22-2.19 Military Construction Authorization Act - Sale of Certain Interests in Lands; Logs. Provides for the production and sale of forest products. Information can be found in 10 U.S.C. 2665 (an update of the Military Construction Authorization Act of 1956).

22-2.20 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Provides a national charter for protection of the environment and requires Federal agencies to prepare a statement of environmental impact in advance of each major action that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

22-3.21 Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90). Redefines the requirements of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) to include planning for, rescue of, minimization of injury to, and assessment of damages for injury to, fish and wildlife resources.

22-2.22 Outdoor Recreation - Federal/State Programs Act. Defines a program for managing of lands for outdoor recreation.

22-2.23 Soil Conservation Act. Provides for application of soil conservation practices on Federal lands. Such information can be found in 16 U.S.C. 590A.

22-3 Terms and Definitions

22-3.1 Agricultural Outleasing. Use of DoD lands under a lease to an agency, organization, or person generally for growing crops or grazing domestic animals.

22-3.2 Annual Increment. A management section addendum prepared annually, to facilitate implementation of a NRM plan section. The annual increment concisely provides detail and cost estimates of proposed work or projects to be accomplished during a fiscal year.

22-3.3 Best Management Practices (BMP). Within the scope of this chapter, BMPs are practical, economical and effective management or control practices that will reduce or prevent water pollution. Usually BMPs are applied as a system of practices based on site-specific conditions rather than a single practice. BMPs are usually prepared by State agencies for land disturbing activities related to agriculture, forestry, and construction.

22-3.4 Biodiversity. The diversity of life and its processes; living organisms, the genetic differences among them and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur.

22-3.5 Biological Assessment. A biological evaluation conducted as part of the interagency regulations under the ESA. The purpose of the assessment is to allow the regulatory agency to determine whether or not the proposed action is likely to adversely affect the continued existence of a species listed as endangered or threatened, or proposed for listing.

22-3.6 Candidate Species. Any species being considered by the Secretary of Interior or Commerce

1 November 1994

for listing under the Endangered Species Act as an endangered or a threatened species, but not yet the subject of a proposed listing.

22-3.7 Carrying Capacity (Outdoor Recreation). The maximum sustainable amount of recreation activity and number of participants that a land or water area can support in a manner compatible with the objectives of the NRM plan and without impairing or degrading existing natural resources.

22-3.8 Carrying Capacity (Wildlife). The maximum density of wildlife that a particular area or habitat will support on a sustained basis without deterioration of the habitat.

22-3.9 Coastal State. A State of the United States in, or bordering on, the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, Long Island Sound, or one or more of the Great Lakes. The term also includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and America Samoa.

22-3.10 Coastal Zone. An area specifically identified or otherwise delineated by a coastal State in its approved Coastal Zone Management Plan. It is an area of coastal waters and adjacent shorelines strongly influenced by each other and in proximity to the shorelines of the several coastal States, including islands, transitional and intertidal areas, salt marshes, wetlands, and beaches. Excluded from the coastal zone are lands solely subject to or held in trust by the Federal government, its officers or agents.

22-3.11 Conservation. The prudent care, protection, and management of natural resources that best reflect sound resource stewardship for present and future generations.

22-3.12 Critical Habitat. The geographic area on which are found those physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a species listed and published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under the authority of the ESA.

22-3.13 Damages. The amount of money calculated to compensate for injury to, destruction of, loss of, or

loss of use of natural resources, including the reasonable costs of assessing or determining the damage, which will be recoverable by a trustee.

22-3.14 Ecological Reserve Areas. A physical or biological unit in which current natural conditions are maintained insofar as possible by allowing natural, physical and biological processes to prevail without human intervention, except under unusual circumstances when deliberate manipulation may be utilized to maintain the unique feature(s) that the ecological reserve area was established to protect.

22-3.15 Ecological Risk Assessment. A quantitative and/or qualitative appraisal of the actual or potential effects of a hazardous waste (HW) site on plants and animals other than people or domesticated species.

22-3.16 Ecosystem. A system formed by the interaction of a community of organisms with each other and the environment.

22-3.17 Ecosystem Management. Ecosystem management in DoD draws on a long-term vision of desired future ecological conditions, integrating ecological, economic and social factors. The goal of ecosystem management is to maintain and improve the sustainability and native biological diversity of ecosystems while supporting human needs, including the military mission.

22-3.18 Endangered or Threatened Species. A species of fauna or flora that has been listed by the USFWS or the NMFS for special protection and management under the ESA.

22-3.19 Fish and Wildlife Cooperative Plan. A plan for the cooperative management of fish and wildlife on a military installation by the host military activity, and the appropriate Federal and State fish and wildlife agencies as required by the Sikes Act.

22-3.20 Fish and Wildlife Management. A coordinated program of actions designed to preserve, enhance and regulate indigenous wildlife and its habitats, including conservation of protected species and non-game species, management and harvest of

game species, bird aircraft strike hazard (BASH) reduction, and animal damage control.

22-3.21 Forest Management. An integrated program for managing forested areas for the commercial production and sale of forest products, including timber management, forest administration, timber sales, reforestation, timber stand improvement, timber access road construction and maintenance, forest protection, and other directly related functions; and for maintaining the health and vigor of non-commercial forest ecosystems.

22-3.22 Forest Products. All plant materials in wooded areas that have commercial value.

22-3.23 Game Species. Fish and wildlife that may be harvested per applicable Federal and State hunting and fishing laws.

22-3.24 Grounds. All land areas not occupied by buildings, structures, pavements, and other facilities. Depending on the intensity of management, grounds may be classed as improved, as those near buildings, semi-improved, or unimproved.

22-3.25 Habitat. An area where a plant or animal species lives, grows, and reproduces, and the environment that satisfies their life requirements.

22-3.26 Injury. Any adverse change in a natural resource or impairment of a service provided by a resource relative to baseline, reference, or control conditions. Injury incorporates the concepts of "destruction," "loss," and "loss of use."

22-3.27 Land Management. Programs and techniques to manage lands, wetlands, and water quality, including soil conservation, erosion control and nonpoint source pollution, surface and subsurface waters, habitat restoration, control of noxious weed and poisonous plants, agricultural outleasing, range management, identification and protection of wetlands, watersheds, floodplains management, landscaping, and grounds maintenance.

22-3.28 Multiple Use. The sustainable use of natural resources for the best combination of purposes

to meet the long-term needs of the DoD and the public.

22-3.29 Natural Resources. Landforms, soils, waters, and their associated flora and fauna.

22-3.30 Natural Resources Damage Assessment. The process of collecting and analyzing information to determine injury to, or destruction of, or loss of, natural resources, and the assessment of damages for that injury, including the costs of assessing the injury, loss or destruction resulting from a past or present HW release or oil spill.

22-3.31 Natural Resources Management (NRM) Plan. A 5-year planning document that guides legally and ecologically sound, cost effective management of natural resources to maximize benefits for the installation and neighboring community. The NRM Plan addresses all land, agriculture, forest, fish, and wildlife and outdoor recreation resources of the installation.

22-3.32 Natural Resources Management Procedural Manual (NRMPM). Reference (r) which provides comprehensive guidance for implementing requirements of pertinent laws, EOs, and Federal regulations, DoD directives, SECNAV and OPNAV instructions.

22-3.33 Natural Resources Management Professional. Individual with an undergraduate or graduate degree from and accredited U.S. college or university in a natural resources related science and who has the responsibility for managing natural resources on a regular basis.

22-3.34 Natural Resources Trustee. Federal trustees are those agencies who have statutory responsibilities with regard to protection or management of natural resources or stewardship responsibilities as a manager of Federally owned land. State agencies and Indian tribes may also be trustees.

22-3.35 Non-game Species. Fish and wildlife species not classified as game species and that are not harvested for recreation or subsistence purposes.

1 November 1994

22-3.36 Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution/Polluted Runoff. Pollution caused by diffuse sources that are not regulated as point sources and normally associated with runoff from construction activities, urban, agricultural and silvicultural runoff, and other land disturbing activities such as military training and operations that disturb lands, soils, and waters. NPS pollution can result from land runoff, precipitation, atmospheric deposition, or percolation. This definition is necessarily general; legal and regulatory decisions have sometimes resulted in certain sources being assigned to either the point or NPS categories because of considerations other than their manner of discharge. For example, irrigation return flows are designated as "non-point source" by Section 402(1) of the CWA, even though the discharge is through a discrete conveyance.

22-3.37 Noxious Weeds. Plant species identified by Federal or State agencies as requiring control or eradication.

22-3.38 Off-road Vehicle. A vehicle designed or used for recreational travel on natural terrain. The term excludes a registered motorboat confined to use on open water and a military, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle during use by an employee or agent of the government or one of its contractors in the course of carrying out their tasks.

22-3.39 Outdoor Recreation. Program, activity, or opportunity dependent on the natural environment. Examples are picnicking, bird-watching, off-road vehicle use, hiking, wild and scenic river use, and primitive camping. Developed or constructed facilities such as golf courses, tennis courts, riding stables, lodging facilities, boat launching ramps and marinas are not included.

22-3.40 Outdoor Recreation Management. Management of natural resources to provide recreation opportunities that are sustainable, within the military mission, within established carrying capacities, and consistent with the natural resources upon which they are based. Outdoor recreation shall be predominantly

muscle powered activities that will not impair or degrade natural resources.

22-3.41 Projects. Includes studies, plans, surveys, inventories, and land/water treatments as well as physical improvements.

22-3.42 Proposed Species. Any species of fish, wildlife or plant that is proposed in the Federal Register to be listed under Section 4 of the ESA.

22-3.43 State Listed Species. Any species of fish, wildlife or plant that is protected by an appropriate State agency as issued in a State's endangered species law and other pertinent regulations.

22-3.44 Stewardship. The responsibility to inventory, manage, conserve, protect, and enhance the natural resources entrusted to one's care in a way that respects the intrinsic value of those resources, and the needs of present and future generations.

22-3.45 Sustainable Yield. Production of renewable natural resources at a level such that harvest or consumptive use does not exceed net growth.

22-3.46 Watershed. The ridge or crestline dividing two drainage areas; the area drained by a river or stream.

22-3.47 Wetlands. Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, such as swamps, marshes, and bogs.

22-4 Requirements

This section contains a general discussion of the requirements of the many laws, regulations, EOs or directives that apply to natural resources. These requirements are organized loosely by subject areas, including general or program-wide requirements, fish and wildlife, land management, forest management, outdoor recreation, and environmental restoration.

22-4.1 General

a. **Natural Resources Management.** Each military reservation within the U.S. is required to manage its natural resources to provide for sustained multi-purpose uses and to provide public access appropriate for those uses to the extent that the uses are not inconsistent with the mission. Reference (e) requires preparation and maintenance of plans for the integrated management of those natural resources.

b. **Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans.** Each installation having custody of Class I property (land and water) suitable for the conservation and management of natural resources will prepare (or ensure preparation of) and implement a comprehensive, integrated, NRM plan that includes all phases of NRM applicable to the installation. Management plans will be prepared by professionally trained personnel; address compliance with legal mandates protecting specific natural resources; and, include sections on various programs covered by this chapter. NRM plans will be continually monitored, reviewed annually, and revised and re-approved at least every 5 years.

c. **Pesticide Use in NRM Programs.** If any multiple-use program of land management involves pesticides, users will ensure that use complies with applicable requirements (see Chapter 13). Pesticide use will be minimized and applied per the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

d. **Public Access Associated with the NRM Program.** Military lands will be available to the public and DoD employees for enjoyment and use of natural resources, except when a specific determination has been made that a military mission prevents such access for safety or security reasons, or that the natural resources will not support such usage. The determination will be included and explained in the installation NRM plan.

e. **Access by Federal and State Conservation Officials.** Federal, State, and local officials will

be permitted access to natural resources after proper safety and security measures are taken.

f. **Consistency with Coastal Zone Plans.** The CZMA requires that Navy installations ensure their operations, activities, projects, and programs, in or on coastal lands or waters, that affect the coastal zone are consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the Federally approved Coastal Zone Management Plan of the State.

g. **Protection of Coastal Barriers.** Before construction, maintenance, military activities, or other Federal expenditures may take place in designated Coastal Barrier Resources, the Navy is required to consult with the Secretary of the Interior. Navy activities may expend funds in areas designated as coastal barriers only for uses listed in reference (d), which include military activities essential to national security, projects for the study, management, protection and enhancement of natural resources, scientific research, essential emergency actions, maintenance (but not expansion) of publicly owned structures, and non-structural projects for shoreline stabilization.

h. **Exotic Organisms.** The introduction of exotic species into any natural ecosystem is prohibited, unless either the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior find that such introduction will not have an adverse effect on those ecosystems.

22-4.2 Fish and Wildlife

This section discusses requirements of various laws that govern aspects of natural resource management that relate to the protection and management of fish and wildlife resources.

a. **Endangered Species.** The Navy, as a Federal agency, is required (reference (n)) to consult with the USFWS (or the NMFS for oceanic species) on any action that may affect an endangered or threatened species, that results in adverse modification to critical habitat, or that is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any species formally proposed

to be listed under the Endangered Species Act. Such consultations can be either formal or informal. When necessary, the Navy will prepare a biological assessment of the effects of a proposed action on listed species to assist the USFWS in issuing a Biological Opinion as to whether the action will jeopardize the continued existence of the species. In addition, the Navy will utilize its authority to further programs for the conservation of endangered and threatened species.

b. **Marine Mammals.** Under the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, Federal agencies must not take (harass or kill) any marine mammal on the high seas, or in waters or on land under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Permits for a take that may be incidental to a legitimate operation can be obtained through a lengthy rulemaking procedure. In addition, many marine mammals are also endangered species. Navy activities will evaluate their operations that may affect marine mammals.

c. **Bald and Golden Eagles.** It is illegal for anyone to take a bald or golden eagle; the Navy, as a Federal agency, must cancel any lease, license, or other agreement that authorizes grazing of domestic livestock by anyone convicted of a bald or golden eagle violation.

d. **Migratory Birds.** Except as permitted, actions of the Navy may not result in pursuit, hunting, taking, capture, killing, possession or transportation of any migratory bird, bird part, nest or egg of any bird listed at reference (1). (Birds designated as migratory are protected even though certain populations may not be migratory in nature). Navy activities must apply in advance for depredation permits for actions that may kill migratory birds, their young or eggs.

e. **Fish and Wildlife Coordination.** When the Navy proposes to take an action that modifies any stream or body of water, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act requires that Navy activities first consult with the USFWS and the cognizant State wildlife agency with a view to the conservation of wildlife

resources that may be affected by the proposed action. The Navy must include recommendations of the USFWS and State in reports to Congress or to persons authorizing the construction. The Navy must give full consideration to the wildlife aspects of the proposed action. This is not applicable to activities in connection with programs primarily for land management and use carried out by Federal agencies with respect to Federal lands under their jurisdiction.

f. **Fish and Wildlife Conservation.** Congress encourages all federal agencies to utilize their statutory and administrative authority, to the maximum extent practicable and consistent with each agency's responsibilities, to conserve and to promote conservation of nongame fish and wildlife and their habitats.

g. **Cooperative Plans for Military Fish and Wildlife.** Navy activities are required to manage fish and wildlife cooperatively with the appropriate Federal and State fish and wildlife agencies under a cooperative plan (Chapter 4 of NRMPM). Cooperative agreements with appropriate Federal and State agencies will be required for installations having potential for management of fish, wildlife, and outdoor recreation resources. Natural resources cooperative agreements are intended to expand installation opportunities for assistance and cooperation with Federal and State agencies. A cooperative plan consists of a fish and wildlife management section (of the NRM plan) plus the cooperative agreement (with appropriate Federal and State agencies) to implement the section. Installations cannot legally allow trapping, hunting, fishing, or collect fees for these activities without a cooperative management plan. Installations will formally request the participation of the appropriate Federal and State agencies in a cooperative plan. Guidance for preparation of the cooperative plan is provided by the NRMPM. Cooperative plans for military fish and wildlife will be reviewed and signed by the installation commanders, reviewed for technical accuracy and signed by the cognizant Engineering Field Division (EFD), and submitted to major claimants' environmental offices. Cooperative

agreements will also be included as part of the installation's integrated NRM Plan.

h. **Fish and Wildlife Management.** Navy activities with such programs will ensure that professional services are provided for management of fish and wildlife resources on each installation. When contracting fish and wildlife work on military controlled lands, priority will be given to Federal and State agencies having responsibilities for conservation and management of fish and wildlife. Fees or proceeds from hunting, fishing, aqua-culture, and trapping will be used only for funding or supplementing funding of wildlife management programs on installations where fees are collected. Uses may include funding of partnerships, cooperative and research agreements with appropriate agencies. Fees must be handled according to specific procedures set forth in the Chapter 4 of NRMPM.

22-4.3 Land Management

Requirements of laws governing management of lands and waters are discussed under this section.

a. **Wetlands Protection.** Section 404 of the CWA prohibits discharges of dredged or filled material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, without first obtaining a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE). The Navy will comply with the national goal of no net loss of wetlands, and will avoid loss of size, function and value of wetlands. In addition, the Navy will preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out its activities.

b. **Nonpoint Source Pollution.** Section 319 of the CWA describes guidelines for the control of nonpoint source pollution. These guidelines assign the States responsibility to implement nonpoint source programs. Federal consistency provisions also authorize States to review federal activities for consistency with State nonpoint source programs. (Section 6217 of the CZMA establishes authority for States to administer coastal nonpoint pollution programs when approved by National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)).

c. **Agriculture.** As part of the integrated management of natural resources, DoD lands will be managed to conserve lands suitable for agriculture, and will be reviewed for suitability for agricultural outlease purposes when compatible with military needs. Rentals received by the installations from agricultural leases will be deposited as directed in Chapter 19 of reference (q).

d. **Soil Conservation.** Federal agencies are directed to manage lands so as to control and prevent soil erosion and preserve natural resources by conducting surveys and implementing soil conservation measures.

e. **Farmland Protection.** Federal agencies must identify prime and unique farmland and take into account the adverse effects of Federal programs on the preservation of farmland; consider alternative actions, as appropriate, to reduce such adverse effects; and assure that such Federal programs to the extent practicable, are compatible with State, local government, and private programs and policies to protect farmland.

f. **Control of Noxious Weeds.** Navy installations will cooperate with States in which there is a program for controlling noxious plants, and will allow access for that control, provided that it is consistent with national security, control measures are acceptable and have been followed on privately owned lands.

g. **Floodplain Management.** As it carries out land management, construction and land use activities, the Navy will provide leadership in avoiding direct or indirect development of flood-plains, and in restoring and preserving the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Potential effects of actions in floodplains must be evaluated and early opportunity for public review of proposals in floodplains must be provided.

22-4.4 Forest Management

a. **Management Requirements.** Navy installations with forests or lands with the potential for the growth and production of forest products will provide for optimum sustainable yield of forest products and the improvement of forest resources, consistent with the military mission and multiple use of natural resources. Installation NRM plans will, when appropriate, include current forest inventories, conditions, trends, and potential uses; silvicultural goals; maintenance of forested areas and access roads; forest and stand improvement methods; harvesting and reforestation methods and schedules; and protection and enhancement of other natural resources.

b. **Product Sales.** Navy contracts for sale of timber and forest products will include requirements for orderly harvesting, operational procedures, and payment for products to be sold. Forest products will not be given away, abandoned, carelessly destroyed, used to offset costs of contracts, or traded for products, supplies, or services. Proceeds collected from the disposal or sale of all merchantable forest products produced on a Navy installation will be turned over to the servicing Navy accounting and finance officer. For each installation generating forest product sales, records will be kept to show sales proceeds generated by fiscal year for determining payments to States as required by 10 USC 2665. Criteria and procedures for administering timber sale contracts are contained in Chapter 3 of NRMPPM.

c. **Accounting and Use of Forestry Proceeds.** Navy installations or commands incurring obligations for the production and sale of forest products are to be reimbursed from collections made as a result of the sale of such products. Forest management program obligations must be related directly to the economic production and sale of forest products and the enhancement, protection, conservation and management of Navy forests. Insofar as they meet this test, obligations may include funding of cooperative agreements and research agreements with appropriate agencies. Reimbursable program obligations do not include expenses incurred for operations that,

while related to the land and forest, are for other purposes, nor do they include expenses for the protection of forests that are incapable of economic production of forest products. Nonessential program expenses will be limited to ensure a balanced program as required by reference (o), reference (p), and Chapter 3 of reference (r).

d. **Export Lumber.** The 1990 Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act (16 USC 620 et seq.) prohibits the export of unprocessed timber originating from federal lands west of the 100th meridian in the contiguous 48 States and restricts substitution of unprocessed federal timber for timber exported from private lands. All Navy solicitations and contracts for timber sales affected by this statutory limitation will contain a provision restricting the export of unprocessed timber procured on Navy lands.

e. **Forest Pest Suppression.** Navy installations with forest resources will cooperate fully in the planning, coordination, and execution of field operations to prevent and suppress damaging forest insect and disease outbreaks, consistent with the terms of the Forest Pest Suppression Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Department of Agriculture and the DoD of 11 December 1990, and whenever it is determined to be necessary by either the Regional U.S. Forest Supervisor or cooperating State forestry department or commission.

22-4.5 Outdoor Recreation

a. **Recreation Opportunities.** The Sikes Act requires that installations provide public access for natural resources uses to the extent it is appropriate and consistent with the military mission.

b. **National Park Service.** A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Defense and the Department of the Interior provides guidance on the management of natural resources for outdoor recreation. Cooperative agreements with the National Park Service, in conjunction with the integrated NRM Plan, are the mechanism for a program

of planning, development, maintenance and coordination of outdoor recreation on Navy lands.

c. **Off-Road Vehicles.** Off-road vehicle use on Navy land will be permitted only in designated areas and trails. Policies, procedures, and criteria for establishing designated off-road areas and trails are provided in Chapter 5 of NRMPM.

22-4.6 Environmental Restoration

a. **Natural Resource Trustees.** CERCLA, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) (Part 101, section 16), defines natural resources as "land, fish, wildlife, biota, air water, ground water, drinking supplies, and other such resources." CERCLA designates the President as the trustee for federally protected or managed natural resources on behalf of the public. In addition to EO 12580, the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (see Chapter 11) designates heads of specified Departments, including the Department of Defense, as natural resource trustees.

b. **Natural Resource Trustee Responsibilities.** After notification or discovery of a natural resource injury, loss, or threat, a trustee takes appropriate actions such as conducting a preliminary survey of the area affected by the discharge or release to determine if natural resources are or may be affected; cooperating with the On-Scene Coordinator/Regional Project Manager (OSC/RPM) in coordinating assessments, investigations, and planning; carrying out a plan for restoration, rehabilitation, replacement or acquisition of equivalent natural resources.

c. **Ecological Risk Assessments (ERAs).** Through the authority found in CERCLA and other statutes, the EPA has directed that ecological risk assessments be performed at all National Priority List sites in order to protect wildlife, fisheries, endangered and threatened species and values habitats. During the remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) stages, ecological effects and routes of exposure must be examined so that important impacts and transport pathways are not overlooked, and reasonable estimates are made of health and environmental effects of

various remedial alternatives. ERAs require natural resource expertise in site reviews, work plans, reviews of contractor qualifications and final products, as well as remedial action decisions.

22-5 Navy Policy

22-5.1 General

a. **Stewardship.** Responsibility for good stewardship of natural resources shall be an important and identifiable function of all echelons of command management. Procedures shall be established by each command to ensure Navy decision makers are kept informed of the conditions of natural resources, the objectives of NRM plans, and potential or actual conflicts between Navy actions/management plans and the policies/procedures herein. Stewardship shall be recognized as a major requirement in retaining control and use of Navy lands for mission needs.

The policy of the Navy is to act responsibly in the public interest to restore, improve, preserve, and properly utilize natural resources on Navy administered lands. There shall be a conscious and active concern for the inherent value of natural resources in all Navy plans, actions, and programs. Proposals for new and continuing actions that affect natural resources shall be coordinated with the managers of those resources. Recommendations to minimize impacts to natural resources shall be incorporated to the maximum extent practicable.

Since the management of natural resources is inherently a governmental function, the management, implementation, planning and enforcement of Navy NRM programs shall not be included in the DoD Commercial Activities Program or base operating services contracts.

The principles of good stewardship shall also be applied to natural resources not administered by the Navy, preserving resources such as marine mammals, coral reefs, and other resources potentially affected by Navy operations.

b. **Multiple Use.** Natural resources under the jurisdiction of the Navy shall be managed to support the military mission, while practicing the principles of multiple use and sustainable yield, using scientific methods and an interdisciplinary approach.

c. **Ecosystem Management.** It is Navy policy to incorporate ecosystem management as the basis for planning and management of Navy installations. This approach shall take a long-term view of human activities, including military uses, and biological resources as part of the same system. The goal is to preserve and enhance ecosystem integrity, and to sustain both biological diversity and continued availability of those resources for military and other human uses.

Ecosystem-based management shall include:

(1) A shift from single species to multiple species conservation.

(2) Formation of partnerships necessary to consider and manage ecosystems that cross boundaries.

(3) Use of the best available scientific information in decision-making and adaptive management techniques in natural resource management.

d. **Navy NRM Program Goals.** The conservation of natural resources and the military mission need not and shall not be mutually exclusive. Commands shall accomplish the following when managing natural resources on Navy lands:

(1) Assign specific responsibility, centralized supervision, and professionally trained personnel to this program; and provide natural resource personnel the opportunity to participate in NRM job training activities and professional meetings.

(2) Protect, conserve, and manage the watersheds, wetlands, natural landscapes, soils, forests, fish and wildlife, prime and unique farmland,

and other natural resources, as vital elements of an optimum natural resources program.

(3) Manage natural resources to provide outdoor recreation opportunities. This shall be recognized as an important objective in the conduct of all Navy NRM programs.

(4) Utilize and care for natural resources in the combination best serving the present and future needs of the U.S. and its people.

(5) Provide for the optimum use of land and water areas and access thereto while maintaining ecological integrity.

e. **Integrated NRM Plans**

(1) **Authorship.** If preparation of the sections of the NRM plan is beyond the technical capability of an installation, and the installation requests, then the appropriate EFD shall provide assistance, contingent upon funding and manpower availability.

(2) **Consistency with State Non-point Source Plans.** The title page of a land management section shall be offered to the State for signature by an appropriate representative (as an indication of coordination regarding installation consistency with the State non-point source pollution abatement plan) if the host State has an EPA-approved non-point source pollution abatement plan.

(3) **Endorsement.** All management sections of an installation integrated NRM plan shall have a title page endorsed by the installation commanding officer (CO), or his/or her authorized representative, to indicate the installation's commitment to and acceptance/approval of the section and by the CO of the appropriate EFD or his/her authorized representative, to indicate technical approval of the section. Each section shall be re-approved and signed every 5 years. Copies of each NRMP shall be submitted to the major claimant environmental office.

(4) **Recordkeeping and Reporting.** Data shall be maintained by installations and by NAVFACENCOM to facilitate and ensure the efficient and effective accomplishment of program goals and objectives. Periodic reports shall be required at the discretion of COMNAVFACENCOM to ensure compliance with legal requirements and to facilitate the implementation and coordination of program responsibilities.

(5) **NEPA Compliance.** With appropriate Federal, State, and local officials with interest or jurisdiction, environmental review in the form of an assessment or statement may be necessary prior to the implementation of projects or proposals formulated by the NRM plan. Environmental review under NEPA shall be conducted per the procedures of Chapter 2. Each annual increment shall be annotated to indicate the existence of a categorical exclusion, finding of no significant impact (FONSI) or record of decision (ROD), or the need for review under NEPA.

f. **Legacy Resource Management Program.**

Navy installations are encouraged to participate fully in the DoD Legacy Resource Management Program in order to promote the conservation of biological, cultural, and earth resources under Navy control and to demonstrate a leadership role in protecting the environment.

g. **Coastal Zone Management**

(1) **Support of State Programs.** The Navy shall support the development and implementation of State coastal nonpoint pollution control programs on Navy lands by identifying nonpoint sources, specifying corrective measures and coordinating nonpoint source compliance efforts with State programs. The Navy shall also identify areas of sensitive natural resources of the coastal zone, minimize the loss or degradation of coastal wetlands, enhance the natural value of wetlands, and protect water quality. The Navy shall encourage research and development efforts to address nonpoint sources of pollution to

identify and understand Navy impacts on the coastal and marine environment.

(2) **Consistency with State Programs.**

Navy activities shall ensure their operations, activities, projects and programs in or on coastal lands or waters that affect coastal zones, comply with the coastal State's approved management program to the maximum extent practicable, and shall cooperate in resolving concerns identified during the consistency review process.

h. **Partnerships.** Navy activities shall encourage the use of partnerships and volunteers to complete projects under the direction and approval of Navy professional natural resources personnel. Programs that foster pride in accomplishment among volunteers, partners and the Navy are encouraged. Examples of effective partnership programs are Coastal America, Partners in Flight, Student Conservation Association, and the Chesapeake Bay Initiative.

i. **Exotic Organisms.** The Navy shall use its authorities to restrict the introduction of non-native organisms into natural ecosystems. Section 19-10 Ship Ballast Water and Anchor System Sediment Control provides measures to prevent such introductions.

j. **Ecological Reserve Areas.** Natural areas on Navy lands that warrant special conservation efforts shall be identified. After appropriate study and coordination, such areas may be designated as Ecological Reserve Areas. The integrated NRM plan for the installation shall address management provisions necessary for protection of each area. Special natural areas include botanical, ecological, geological, scenic or research areas. More information about ecological reserves is available from Chapter 5 of NRMPM.

k. **Funding for Natural Resource Programs.** Funding for natural resources management is an important responsibility of Navy commands and shall be included in activity Program Objective Memorandum.

1 November 1994

dum (POM) submittals. Funds may be available from other sources to supplement portions of these programs such as agricultural outleasing, forestry programs, Sikes Act user fees, and the Legacy Resource Management Program. Activities are cautioned not to rely on any one source to fund stewardship and natural resource compliance programs.

22-5.2 Fish and Wildlife

a. **Endangered species.** The Navy shall review its activities, identify those that may affect Federally listed species or habitats, and consult formally or informally with the appropriate agency. Unless delegated to the activity, formal consultations shall usually be performed by the cognizant EFD/Engineering Field Activity (EFA). Navy installations shall keep EFD/EFA personnel apprised of all planned or ongoing consultations. The Navy shall utilize its authority to enhance the recovery of Federally listed endangered and threatened species and their habitats. Protection of State/territory listed rare and endangered species is not required by legal mandate. However, the Navy encourages cooperation with States and territories to protect such species.

b. **Fish and Wildlife Management.** It is Navy policy to comply with laws for the protection and management of wildlife resources, and to develop, where compatible with the mission, programs for the development, enhancement, and use of wildlife resources. Where appropriate, those programs shall be performed under cooperative agreements with State and Federal wildlife agencies.

c. **Enforcement of Resource Protection Laws.** Enforcement of laws, primarily aimed at protecting natural resources (and recreation activities that depend on natural resources) shall be an integral part of a natural resources program and shall be coordinated with or under the direction of the natural resources manager for the affected area.

22-5.3 Land Management

a. **Land Management Section of Natural Resources Management Plan.** When appropriate, land management plans shall address ecosystems, soils, water resources, wetlands and watersheds, estuaries, soil and water conservation, biodiversity, grounds maintenance, nonpoint source pollution control, landscaping, agricultural uses and potential, fire management, insect and disease management, rangeland conditions and trends, management for multiple use, and critical or unique coastal barrier systems, critical habitats and other areas of special interest.

b. **Funding.** Land management is an important use of appropriated funds. Additionally, revenues from the agriculture and grazing outlease program are available for:

(1) Administrative expenses of agricultural leases. (Priority in funding personnel costs shall be given to natural resource professionals directly administering agricultural programs.)

(2) Initiation, improvement, and perpetuation of agricultural outleases.

(3) Preparation and revisions of natural resources management plans.

(4) Implementation of integrated natural resources management plans.

c. **Wetlands.** In order to comply with the national policy to permit no overall net loss of wetlands, commands with land management responsibilities shall ensure the following:

(1) That all facilities and operational actions avoid, to the maximum degree feasible, wetlands destruction or degradation regardless of wetlands size or the legal necessity for a COE permit. Any facility's requirement that cannot be sited to avoid wetlands shall be designed to minimize wetlands degradation and shall include compensatory mitigation as required by wetlands regulatory agencies in all phases of the project's planning, programming,

and budgeting process. Within this policy, use of Navy lands and lands of other entities are permissible for mitigation purposes for Navy projects when consistent with EPA and COE guidelines or permit provisions. Requests by non-Navy entities to mitigate for the effects of non-Navy projects on Navy property should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for their effect on the environment, Navy mission, and appropriateness of economic compensation to the Navy for the long-term use of the site.

(2) That any action significantly affecting wetlands is addressed by the environmental review and public notification process per Chapter 2.

(3) That boundaries of legally defined wetlands, on all Navy lands, are identified and mapped and that the maps are distributed to all potential users, including facilities planners, operational units, and tenant commands.

(4) That adequate NRM expertise is available to installation COs for the protection, management, identification, and mapping of wetlands.

(5) That land suitable for establishment or re-establishment of high quality wetlands is identified in all installation NRM plans and master plans. Implementation of wetlands creation or enhancement projects, where compatible with the installation mission, is encouraged.

d. **Nonpoint Source Pollution.** The Navy shall support and accelerate the development and implementation of NPS pollution management programs that ensure water quality protection. Special emphasis shall be placed in preventing NPS pollution from ground disturbing actions (e.g., construction, military training, farming, timber harvesting, and training activities) in shoreline/streamside areas. Installations that control land areas shall evaluate the scope of nonpoint source pollution with assistance from COMNAVFACENGCOM EFDs and EFAs. Land management sections of an installation's NRM plan should be used as a primary tool for identifying NPS, specifying corrective measures, and coordinating

nonpoint source compliance planning with State coastal and nonpoint source programs.

e. **Prime and Unique Farmlands.** Navy installations shall identify and take into account the adverse effects of their actions on the protection of farmlands. Alternative actions that lessen such adverse effects shall be given full consideration.

22-5.4 Forest Management

a. **Management of Navy Forests.** Forest management that accommodates and improves the economic and ecological value, wealth and diversity of the forest conserves natural resources through wise use, provides financial returns to the government and contributes commercial forest products to the economy. It is Navy policy that forest lands shall be intensively managed for restoration, enhancement and improvement of forest resources. This shall be accomplished through an active program of professional forest management, based on soil-site capabilities, in a multi-disciplinary, ecologically sound manner commensurate with the forest resources and species. Navy forest management shall include harvest, reforestation, afforestation and silvicultural treatments that shall foster forest health and vigor, structural and biological diversity, and regeneration and plant community succession.

b. **Use of Clearcutting.** Clearcutting as a standard harvest management practice shall be used only where it is essential to meet specific forest plan objectives as defined in the installation-specific integrated natural resources management plan. Judicious use of alternative harvest methods, in lieu of clearcutting, shall be implemented whenever possible.

c. **Old-Growth Forests.** The harvest of old-growth timber shall be determined on the basis of balanced economic, social, and environmental values that are identified during the management/ planning process. To the extent practicable, old-growth forests should be reserved in their natural state to preserve their biological, scientific, and aesthetic benefits.

22-5.5 Environmental Restoration

a. **Natural Resources Trusteeship.** In the carrying out of natural resource trustee responsibilities, Navy components shall:

(1) Provide for natural resource expertise in contingency planning.

(2) Utilize natural resource professionals to evaluate impacts of oil and hazardous substance spills and releases and to assist in appropriate response.

(3) Develop mitigation plans in response to Navy spills and spills on Navy lands.

(4) Coordinate with other appropriate trustees.

(5) Assess natural resource damages, as appropriate, to mitigate spill impacts to natural resources on Navy lands.

b. **Ecological Risk Assessment.** Natural resources professionals familiar with the site shall be utilized to assist in assessing the ecological risks in site cleanup decisions. Where sensitive habitats are involved, they shall also review sites and work plans, evaluate contractor qualifications, and assist in remedial action and site restoration planning.

22-5.6 Training. Every person preparing, implementing, supervising and managing Natural Resources programs shall receive Environmental and natural resources training outlined in Chapter 24 of this instruction, shall receive comprehensive natural resources training specific to their job assignment, and shall be familiar with the provisions of this chapter and the procedures outlined in the NRMPM. Continued professional training shall be an integral part of responsible natural resources management.

22-6 Responsibilities

22-6.1 Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (DCNO) (Logistics) shall:

a. Ensure an adequate, Navy-wide organizational capability and the programming of resources necessary to establish and maintain an integrated, natural resources program.

b. Provide policy in order to establish and maintain a program for the management, conservation, and enhancement of natural resources on Navy lands.

c. Ensure resolution of natural resources issues in support of all aspects of the Navy mission.

d. Assign a representative to serve on the Defense Natural Resources Council.

e. Coordinate pertinent aspects of the Navy Natural Resources Program and issues with headquarters elements of other Federal agencies, other military services, and private organizations.

f. Ensure natural resources program staffing, grades, and organizational alignment receive the same high priority as other staff elements responsible for environmental compliance and stewardship.

22-6.2 COMNAVFACENGCOM shall:

a. Provide adequate professional staffing, and maintain a program for integrated management, conservation, and enhancement of natural resources on Navy lands including, but not limited to:

(1) Managing and conserving the soil, water, forests, land, grounds, fish and wildlife, wetlands and flood-plains, and natural areas.

(2) Staffing recommendations for natural resources personnel.

(3) Evaluating and incorporating new methods and procedures in the preservation, management, and enhancement of natural resources.

(4) Coordinating NRM requirements with other Federal, State, or local professional authorities, including all Section 7 consultations under the ESA.

(5) Determining the potential for NRM programs on installations that contain land and water areas suitable for the conservation and management of natural resources.

(6) Gathering information from installations to satisfy program reporting requirements.

b. Issue and coordinate the program management guidance and services required, and issue appropriate Navy-wide instructions for implementation of integrated NRM.

c. Resolve natural resources impact issues in support of the environmental impact analysis process.

d. Ensure that current and planned mission activities (e.g. master planning, construction requests, site approval requests, and training exercise plans) are effectively coordinated in a timely manner with appropriate natural resources managers.

e. Ensure that the NRM program is evaluated as part of Environmental Compliance Evaluations (ECEs) as described in Chapter 20.

f. Provide functional sponsorship for funding and support for the establishment and maintenance of the DON natural resources data base.

g. Provide necessary guidance to ensure that applicable cooperative agreements, plans, and MOUs are entered into, and executed by, commanders/COs at appropriate levels of command.

h. Provide technical assistance to area commanders and installations in carrying out their responsibilities as natural resource trustee.

i. Provide technical assistance to Marine Corps installations, upon funded request.

22-6.3 Major claimants and intermediate commands shall:

a. Require, ensure, and assist subordinate installation's NRM planning and program implementation, including compliance with applicable instructions, laws, directives, etc.

b. Programs and budget resources to fund both routine and recurring costs to operate and maintain NRM planning and program implementation.

c. Ensure that subordinate installation COs act as trustee for natural resources under their jurisdiction. Promote cooperative projects with Federal, State, and local organizations.

d. Ensure that effective NRM is an identifiable function, and is specifically accountable in performance evaluations, at each command level.

e. Ensure that installation NRM programs are evaluated as part of ECEs (see Chapter 20).

f. Ensure that adequate NRM expertise is available to installation COs for the protection, management, identification, and mapping of wetlands.

g. Ensure that contracts for operation of Government Owned, Contractor Operated (GOCO) installations include provisions for complying with policies and procedures as prescribed in this chapter and instruction.

h. Include NRM program effectiveness as an inspection item during an Immediate Superior In Command (ISIC) inspection of activities having land and water areas suitable for NRM programs.

i. Maintain records necessary to monitor and evaluate natural resources under their management, and provide requested information to agencies with jurisdiction and to the public.

1 November 1994

j. Take appropriate action necessary to assure that actions authorized, funded, or carried out comply with the ESA.

k. Coordinate proposals for new and continuing actions that affect natural resources with the managers of those resources.

l. Review and approve all memorandums of understanding, cooperative agreements and integrated NRM plans.

22-6.4 Commanding officers of shore activities holding Class 1 plant accounts shall:

a. Act as trustee for natural resources under their jurisdiction, develop and maintain an effective conservation program as outlined in this instruction, and use technical assistance from the EFDs as necessary.

b. Integrate natural resources requirements into the day-to-day decision-making process.

c. Request funding sufficient to ensure support of an integrated program as prescribed by this chapter and the NRMPM.

d. Ensure preparation of integrated management sections of comprehensive NRM plans and systematically apply the conservation practices set forth in such sections.

e. Appoint, by letter, an installation NRM program manager whose duties include ensuring that the CO is informed regarding: natural resources issues, conditions of natural resources, objectives of NRM plan sections, and potential or actual conflicts between mission requirements and natural resources mandates.

f. Implement programs to reduce the potential for collisions between aircraft and birds or other animals if the installation has a flying mission.

g. Ensure that information copies of all applications or any other decision document(s) or proposal document(s) to fill or create a wetland are forwarded to CNO (N45) via the chain of command. The purpose of this requirement is to monitor the Navy-wide status regarding "no overall net loss of wetlands" policy compliance. (Refer to paragraph 22-4.3a).

h. Ensure incorporation of soil and water conservation measures and landscaping in the preliminary engineering, design, and construction of facilities involving ground disturbance in coordination with EFDs. Ensure that state-approved erosion prevention/control measures are included as requirements in the specifications for all ground disturbing construction projects. Include these costs as a specific item in new project investigations and preliminary engineering reports.

i. Review all non-excess land to identify areas that may be suitable and available for agricultural outleasing or commercial forestry. The results of this review shall be documented as described in Chapters 2 and 3 of NRMPM.

j. Enter into fish and wildlife cooperative plans that may be developed on behalf of the Secretary of Defense as required by the Sikes Act.

k. Seek the aid of, and coordinate the NRM program with, Federal, State, and local agencies.

l. Coordinate proposals for new and continuing actions that affect natural resources with the managers of those resources.

m. Conduct surveys and other appropriate actions as necessary to document the presence of threatened or endangered species, to identify currently used and periodically/indirectly used habitat for these species and to assist in the determination of whether any such habitats should be considered for designation as "critical habitat". Surveys shall also be conducted to determine presence and distribution of proposed threatened and endangered species, species under review for threatened or endangered status

(Category 1 and 2 candidate species), and State/territory rare and endangered species.

n. Request the appropriate EFD NRM function to conduct necessary consultations under the ESA with the USFWS and/or NMFS.

o. Take appropriate action to avoid direct or indirect adverse impacts of new construction on wetlands.

p. Ensure that any action affecting natural resources is given proper consideration in the environmental review and public notification process (see Chapter 2).

q. Maintain records necessary to monitor and evaluate natural resources under their management, and provide requested information to agencies with jurisdiction and to the public.

r. Ensure that natural resources management principles are integrated with environmental protection programs to coordinate an effective overall environmental program.