

Section I

GENERAL

1-1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE.

a. Hunting, fishing, trapping regulations and water safety are published for the information and guidance of all concerned, and to prescribe general policies and procedures concerning hunting, fishing, watercraft, water safety, and trapping on Fort Rucker military reservation. This regulation is applicable to all who participate in any activities governed by this regulation. The use of “he,” “him,” or “his” refers to both genders unless specifically stated otherwise.

b. Regulations pertaining to hunting, fishing, watercraft, water safety, trapping, open seasons, bag limits, and creel limits will be in accordance with (IAW) the laws of Alabama, and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Lacey Act, Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act, Endangered Species Act, Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the regulations set forth herein. Nothing in these regulations will be interpreted to permit acts contrary to either state or federal statutes. Violation of this regulation may result in punitive actions.

1-2. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (DFMWR). DFMWR is designated as the primary agency responsible for reviewing, coordinating, and publishing this regulation. DFMWR will be responsible for administration of this regulation as described in paragraphs 1-8 and 1-9.

b. Directorate of Public Works (DPW). DPW is the authorized agency for supervision, planning, maintenance, and management of fish and wildlife resources. DPW is responsible for biological data collection. DPW will maintain a record of deer, turkeys, and hogs harvested on the installation and provide the information to the proper authorities to assist in effective game management. DPW is responsible for policy regarding the harvest of antlerless deer and will be IAW the annually published State Regulation and Installation Command Policy (See Paragraph 2-7, Quality Deer Management Program). DPW is responsible for developing food plots for wildlife and stocking fish for all installation lakes.

c. Directorate of Public Safety (DPS). DPS is the primary designated law enforcement authority on the Fort Rucker military reservation and will provide Game Law Enforcement (GLE) officers. The GLE officers will closely coordinate with the Fish and Wildlife Section, and DPW, in the execution of the hunting and fishing programs.

d. Chief Training Division, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security (DPTMS) or his/her designated representative is responsible for overall training area management and the releasing of training areas for recreational purposes as training or maintenance activities allow as prescribed in Chapter 5 of Fort Rucker Regulation 385-1, Safety Range and Training Area (TA) Regulation, 24 February 2015.

e. Individual sportsmen and women.

(1) Sportsmen and women who have permission to hunt, fish, use watercraft, and trap on Fort Rucker are charged with the responsibility of familiarizing themselves with the provisions of this regulation, and applicable state and federal laws, and abiding by these regulations and laws.

(2) A Fort Rucker special overprint map is used to control hunting, fishing, and trapping activities on this installation. All sportsmen and women are required to familiarize themselves with this map (appendix A) prior to engaging in these activities. Areas on the Fort Rucker training map that are not numbered or lettered as training areas are not open to hunting. This map is also available at the Outdoor Recreation (ODR) Pro Shop, 334-255-4305, Building 242351, on Johnston Road, Lake Tholocco, West Side.

(3) All persons engaged in hunting, fishing, trapping, or the use of watercraft on Fort Rucker are responsible for informing a responsible person of their whereabouts (i.e., training areas) and expected time of return. Responsible persons so informed who are aware that a sportsman or woman has not returned as expected from ODR activities on Fort Rucker, should report such to the Military Police (MP) desk, 334-255-2222.

(4) All persons engaged in hunting, fishing, trapping, or the use of watercraft on Fort Rucker are required to treat Alabama State, Federal, military authorities, and Fort Rucker employees with courtesy and respect.

1-3. RESTRICTED AREAS NORTH OF HIGHWAY 27. The policy for hunting in the areas north of Highway 27 is as follows:

a. Outdoor recreational activities are not allowed within the impact area. Access to this area is restricted to authorized personnel only. The impact area is defined as that area bounded by Highway 27 on the south and the paved perimeter road on the north, east, and west, plus portions of Training Areas 7 and 11 (appendix A).

b. Hunting areas that are adjacent to the impact area, Areas 1 through 11, are shown on the hunting and training map. Hunters using these areas must be familiar with the following restrictions: Access to these areas, when open for hunting and trapping purposes, will be granted by calling HuntTrac after clearance is received from the DPTMS. The Training Division, DPTMS, will ensure gates across east and west perimeter roads and Johnston Road are open when hunting or trapping is allowed in Training Areas 1 through 11. Gates 28 and 35 are permanently closed and Gate 25 is open on a limited basis.

c. Patrons/Personnel finding any unexploded ordnance (UXO) will immediately report the location to the Training Division, DPTMS, 334-255-4303/4793. Patrons/Personnel will not pick up, move, or otherwise disturb an item suspected of being a UXO. Mark the area and path in such a way that the UXO can be easily located by Range Operations.

d. Any road with access barriers (e.g., signs, gates, chains, mounds, etc.) is restricted from vehicle traffic, except for vehicles in direct support of training; vehicles used by the Natural Resources Branch, and DPW; vehicles used for area maintenance; and DPS safety and emergency vehicles.

1-4. PATRONS/PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO HUNT, FISH, AND TRAP ON FORT RUCKER. Anyone desiring to hunt, fish, or trap on the Fort Rucker military reservation must meet all licenses and permit requirements stated in paragraphs 1-5 and 1-6 of this regulation.

1-5. **LICENSES.** All patrons/personnel (resident or nonresident) who fish, hunt, or trap on the Fort Rucker military reservation are required to possess the appropriate State of Alabama fishing, hunting, or trapping license. The purchase of a federal duck stamp and State of Alabama duck stamp, in addition to the appropriate state license, is required for hunting water fowl. A federal duck stamp may be purchased at any U.S. Post Office. A State of Alabama duck stamp may be purchased at the Probate Judge's Office at the county courthouse. Residents of the state of Alabama under 16 years of age, or 65 years of age and older are not required to have a state license.

1-6. **PERMITS.**

a. DFMWR is the only agency authorized to issue installation hunting, fishing, and trapping permits. All patrons/personnel 16 years of age or older who hunt, fish, or trap on Fort Rucker must have in their possession a valid Fort Rucker hunting, fishing, or trapping permit, as applicable. Permits will be issued only to eligible individuals who possess a valid state license, view the UXO video, pay the appropriate permit fee as prescribed, (for hunters) have proof of completion of a state-certified hunter education course from any of the 50 states, Canada, or Germany.

b. Classification of post hunting, fishing, and trapping permits is as follows:

(1) Annual hunting, fishing, and trapping permits; weekly and daily fishing permits.

(2) Alabama state residents under 16 years of age, or 65 years of age and older are permitted to hunt, fish, and trap on Fort Rucker at no cost. Individuals meeting the state criteria as totally disabled and possessing a special annual State of Alabama fishing license for totally disabled persons are permitted to fish on Fort Rucker at no cost. Patrons/personnel meeting these criteria will be issued the appropriate Fort Rucker permit. Individuals will contact the ODR Service Center, 334-255-4305 for details on how to obtain a permit.

c. Different permit types are identified below.

(1) Hunting Permits.

(a) Basic Annual Hunting Permit.

(b) Free Trapping Permit. Must be annotated on the Fort Rucker hunting permit, ensuring receipt of the trapping briefing on rules and procedures. See appendix G.

(2) The basic annual post fishing permit fee is separate from the basic annual post hunting permit.

(a) Daily Fishing.

(b) Seven-Day Fishing.

(c) Annual Fishing.

(d) Daily Boating.

d. A Sikes Act fee for managing fish and wildlife resources and a family morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR) fee for managing recreational aspects of the program will be charged to patrons. The fee is included in the permit prices. The rates will be published annually.

1-7. **INSPECTIONS.** Sportsmen and women must carry their state license, post permits, and proof of identification on their persons for examination upon request by Fort Rucker GLE officers, or state game wardens. Creel and game bags will be made available for examination upon request. Sportsmen and women must have their weapon's registration in their vehicle or in a gun case as they travel on the installation with firearms.

1-8. **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.** DFMWR will implement the provisions of the common regulatory violations and possible penalties by conducting hearings when applicable and taking necessary actions in those cases where a violator is identified (appendix B). A violator is defined as an individual who is apprehended or issued a summons by Fort Rucker GLE officers, federal game wardens, or state game wardens for violation of this regulation, state or federal laws, or other applicable Army regulations on the Fort Rucker military reservation. Violators will surrender their post hunting, fishing, or trapping permits to the officer making the apprehension, and those privileges will be suspended (appendix B). Any appeal of a suspension will be made IAW paragraph 1-9.

1-9. **RESTORATION OF PRIVILEGES.** Appeals for restoration of hunting, fishing, boating, and trapping privileges will be submitted in writing to DFMWR through DPS (for comment) within 10 calendar days from the date the penalty was issued. The community recreation officer will make a recommendation to the director, DFMWR, who will then determine if restoration of privileges is warranted or justified. Grounds for appeal include, but are not limited to, emergency beyond patron's control, citation issued improperly, or patron called back to unscheduled military duty.

Section II

HUNTING

2-1. CLEARANCE TO ENTER TRAINING AREAS.

a. During all hunting seasons, all hunters must call the Range Operations briefing tape at 334-255-4086 to obtain information regarding training area closures and to complete the mandatory sign-in via the HuntTrac Hunter Control System. It is the hunter's responsibility to check training area closures each period posted daily by DPTMS Range Operations at 1100, 1600, and 2000.

b. Hunters will select an open area of choice. This selected training area assignment shall be binding. Individuals will be allowed to change areas only by calling the Range Operations briefing tape for closed areas, then changing their area through the HuntTrac Hunter Control System. This requirement exists to address safety concerns by ensuring the number of hunters does not exceed the area's capacity, and prevents recreational activities from impeding on training activities. The HuntTrac Hunter Control System will be utilized as the primary method to check into a hunting area. If the HuntTrac Hunter