



ORIGINAL
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29904-5001

ASO 11011.1
CP/LO

21 SEP 2009

AIR STATION ORDER 11011.1

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ENCROACHMENT CONTROL

Ref: (a) MCO 3550.10
(b) MCO P5090.2A
(c) OPNAVINST 3770.2J
(d) USMC Installation Commanders' Guide to Encroachment Partnering

1. Situation

a. Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort is home to Marine Aircraft Group 31 (MAG-31), one of the largest aircraft groups, which includes approximately 4,200 Marines and Sailors working here. Its size, combined with MAG-31's reputation for tactical proficiency, has earned the Air Station the title "Fightertown." Continuous training is the focus of the seven F/A-18 Hornet fighter-attack squadrons which, along with a headquarters element, comprise MAG-31. The Hornet squadrons, also known as "gun squadrons," are VMFAs 115, 122, 251 and 312, as well as VMFA (AW)s 224 and 533. The MAG-31 headquarters element and these squadrons are Fleet Marine Force units under the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, headquartered at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina. One Navy F/A-18 squadron also calls MCAS Beaufort home. Strike Fighter Squadron 86 is under the operational command of Commander Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic, headquartered at Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia.

b. Combat readiness is of the utmost importance to the Marine Corps. In order to achieve the highest levels of readiness, squadrons must maintain rigorous and realistic training programs based on approved training standards. Encroachment is a serious threat to the readiness of the Marine Corps. Continued population growth, environmental regulations, and economic development around military installations, operational ranges, and training areas can create resource (land, air, water, frequency spectrum) uses that are incompatible with current and future military testing, training and general mission activities.

2. Mission. This Order establishes responsibilities for planning, prevention, and control of encroachment.

a. Encroachment, as discussed in this Order, refers to factors that degrade or have the potential to degrade the capability of MCAS Beaufort, and Townsend Bombing Range (TBR), to provide adequate operational ranges, training areas, associated special use airspace, sea space, frequency spectrum and other locations within the white-space where MAG-31 conducts current and plans future military testing and general mission activities.

b. Encroachment Control describes current mitigation efforts underway and planned prevention efforts to be taken by local, state, regional, and

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national public and private entities to lessen or prevent training impacts caused by encroachment.

c. White-space, as discussed in this Order, refers to the area outside installation or range compatibility zones that, at any given time, is required to meet current and future military mission needs and is not under the management control of the military.

4. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent

(a) In accordance with the references, this Order establishes the Community Plans and Liaison Officer, MCAS, as the primary proponent for all encroachment control matters.

(b) There are 11 encroachment issues currently used to assess MCAS Beaufort's operational ranges, training areas and associated special use airspace, they are:

1. Noise Restriction
2. Unban Growth
3. Airspace
4. Maritime Sustainability
5. Frequency Spectrum
6. Air Quality
7. Threatened & Endangered Species/Critical Habitat
8. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and Munitions Restrictions
9. Cultural Resources
10. Water Quality/Supply
11. Wetlands

(2) Concept of Operations

(a) The Marine Corps ECP is under the direction of the MCAS Encroachment Prevention Working Group (EPWG). In coordination with MCIEAST Government and External Affairs and Headquarters, USMC I&L, the EPWG provides installation-wide management and prioritization for planning, prevention, and control of encroachment on MCAS Beaufort and the TBR, operational ranges, training areas, associated special use airspace, sea space, frequency spectrum and other locations where the Marine Corps conducts current and plans future military testing, training and general mission activities.

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(b) The MCAS Beaufort Community Plans and Liaison Officer is the executive agent for all initiatives, control policies and programs developed by the EPWG. Additionally, the Community Plans and Liaison Officer will be the sole proponent for communicating ECP objectives to the public when community involvement is required to achieve ECP objectives. The EPWG will meet quarterly at a minimum, with more frequent meetings as required. Meetings will follow quarterly Environmental Impact Review Board meetings when feasible. The EPWG will be responsible for:

1. Identifying/maintaining the current MCAS Beaufort and TBR mission footprint.
2. Identifying/maintaining a current, comprehensive list of encroachment threats to the combined MCAS Beaufort and TBR mission footprint.
3. Managing the MCAS Beaufort and TBR Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative Program.
4. Developing a comprehensive ECP that includes options, recommendations, timelines and milestones for addressing encroachment threats to the combined MCAS Beaufort and TBR training footprint.
5. Management/oversight of the EPC to ensure the plan's initiatives are achieved.

(c) Voting members of the EPWG are as follows:

1. XO
2. S-3
3. NREAO
4. S-4
5. CP&LO
6. PAO
7. SJA
8. MAG-31

(d) Nonvoting member is representative from the Georgia Air National Guard Townsend Bombing Range.

(e) The EPWG will report its findings and recommendations to the Commanding Officer for approval on an "as needed" basis.

b. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Comply with the intent and content of this Order. The terms "shall," "will," and "must" as used in this Order are directive and require compliance. Words such as "may" and "can" are advisory and do not require

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compliance.

(2) Submit all recommendations concerning this Order to the MCAS Beaufort, Community Plans and Liaison Office (CP&LO).

5. Administration and Logistics

a. The Executive Officer, MCAS Beaufort will administer the requirements and ensure the accuracy, modification, and distribution of this Order.

b. Requests for deviations from any of the provisions of this Order must be submitted to the EPWG and Executive Officer.

6. Command and Signal

a. Command. This Order is applicable to all members of MCAS Beaufort and the TBR.

b. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.



J. R. SNIDER

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