BY ORDER OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

HQ UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY INSTRUCTION 32-7001



CIVIL ENGINEERING



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This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 32-70, Environmental Considerations in Air Force Programs and Activities, and the State of Colorado wildlife laws applicable to the U.S. Air Force Academy's (USAFA) Natural Resources program. It explains how the Natural Resources program is administered and describes the regulations that apply to fishing, hunting, forestry and wildlife management, recreational trail use, and the protection of natural resources on USAFA, including Farish Recreation Area and Bullseye Auxiliary Airfield. Other corresponding guidance is outlined in the USAFA Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 32-7003, Environmental Conservation. This instruction applies to all individuals training, working, residing, visiting, or recreating at USAFA. This publication does not apply to the Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) or the Air National Guard (ANG). This publication does not apply to the United States Space Force. Compliance with the attachments in this publication is mandatory. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using Department of the Air Force (DAF) Form 847, Recommendation for This publication may not be supplemented or further Change of Publication. implemented/extended. The authorities to waive requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier 3 (T-3) number following the compliance statement. See DAFMAN 90-161, Publishing Processes and Procedures, for a description of the authorities associated with the Tier numbers. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority. The waiver authority for non-tiered requirements in this publication is 10 CES/CEIEA. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to Air Force Instruction 33-322, Records Management and Information

Governance Program, and are disposed in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This document has been substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. Major changes include revision of the process for obtaining a disabled veteran fishing permit in Section 2.2.1; revision of the ice fishing restriction in Section 2.3.5; new restrictions on shed antler collecting in Section 3.7; updated requirements for the use of animal-resistant trash containers in Section 3.8.1; revision of the process for reserving the Scout/Youth Camping Area in Section 7.1; and new restrictions on the use of e-bikes on USAFA and Farish trails.

1. Administration of the Natural Resources Program:

- 1.1. The Commander of the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron (10 CES/CC) is responsible for the fisheries, wildlife, range, recreational trails, and forestry management programs and oversees the implementation of the *Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan* (INRMP).
- **1.2.** Natural Resources (10 CES/CEIEA) implements the INRMP and conducts daily management and operations through a Cooperative Agreement with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); and coordination with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), Colorado State Forest Service, and the U.S. Forest Service. The USFWS Cooperative Agreement provides financial support for personnel to implement the natural resources management program. The 10 CES/CEIEA also collects hunting and fishing fees and issues permits online at https://usafa.isportsman.net, with the receipts deposited in a reimbursable conservation program account (57X) administered by the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC). The collection of fees for outdoor recreation activities is authorized by the Sikes Act Improvement Act (Section 670b of Title 16, United States Code (U.S.C.).
- **1.3.** In coordination with USAFA, CPW and USFWS is responsible for enforcing all fishing, hunting, and other applicable wildlife laws and regulations. Wildlife law enforcement assistance provided by CPW is authorized under concurrent State jurisdiction on the installation. The 10th Security Forces Squadron (10 SFS) personnel may assist CPW and USFWS as necessary.
- **1.4.** The 10th Force Support Squadron (10 FSS) issues over-the-counter fishing permits and collects permit fees. The 10 FSS deposits the receipts in the AFCEC reimbursable conservation program account (57X).

2. Fishing on USAFA:

2.1. Individuals Authorized to Fish:

2.1.1. Persons in the following categories, with Department of Defense (DoD) identification, are eligible to purchase an <u>annual</u> USAFA fishing permit: active duty military, USAFA cadets and Preparatory School students, military retirees, disabled veterans, USAFA DoD civil servants and non-appropriated fund employees, Army and Air Force Exchange Service employees, visiting USAFA faculty, individuals with special authorization from the 10 CES/CC, military reservists on USAFA orders, and dependents (see <u>Attachment 1</u>) of individuals in the above categories.

2.1.2. Purple Heart recipients and veterans with DoD identification and a 60% or higher service-connected disability documented by the Department of Veterans Affairs are eligible for a half-price annual fishing permit. The half-price permits are only issued online through the iSportsman website (usafa.isportsman.net) after documentation of the applicant's disability rating is provided to 10 CES/CEIEA. Dependents (see **Attachment 1**) of these individuals are also eligible to purchase a full-price annual or one-day fishing permit.

- 2.1.3. The sponsored guests (see **Attachment 1**) of individuals listed in paragraph **2.1.1** and **2.1.2**, and non-USAFA DoD civilian employees (and their sponsored guests) are eligible to purchase a one-day and second-rod fishing permit.
- 2.1.4. Overnight camping and lodging guests at Farish Recreation Area, who are otherwise not eligible for a USAFA fishing permit, may purchase a one-day fishing permit for each day of their stay, including the day of checking out.

2.2. Purchasing a USAFA Fishing Permit:

- 2.2.1. Fishing permits (annual, one-day, second-rod) must be purchased online at https://usafa.isportsman.net or over-the-counter at Outdoor Recreation, Farish Recreation Area, and FamCamp. A valid form of DoD identification to confirm eligibility is required to obtain a permit and must be carried while fishing. Annual and second rod permits are valid 1 January to 31 December. A state-issued fishing license is not required. NOTE: Anglers are highly encouraged to use the online permit system. The fishing program must be self-supporting, so the permit fees cover the annual cost of stocking hatchery-reared fish. By using iSportsman to purchase permits, administrative costs are substantially reduced and more of the fee goes toward fish stocking and other natural resources and recreational amenities. Fishing permits sold over-the-counter at Outdoor Recreation, Farish Recreation Area, and FamCamp incur a processing fee that is included in the cost of the permit.
- 2.2.2. A second-rod permit, valid only for USAFA and Farish Recreation Area, allows an angler to simultaneously use two fishing poles, but this does not change the daily catch limit of three (3) fish. All anglers, regardless of their eligibility category, must have a second-rod permit if using two poles. A state-issued second-rod stamp is not valid on USAFA.
- 2.2.3. If an eligible angler is under 16 years of age, a fishing permit is not required, but the youth may only keep two (2) fish. An angler under 16 years of age must purchase a second-rod permit if fishing with two poles simultaneously. Anglers under 16 years of age may keep the daily catch limit of three (3) fish if an annual or one-day permit is purchased.

2.3. USAFA Fishing Rules:

- 2.3.1. All anglers must possess a valid fishing permit and optional second-rod permit as required by this publication. The USAFA does not participate in the State's annual free fishing weekend in June.
- 2.3.2. Sponsors must accompany their guests when purchasing an over-the-counter permit and while fishing.

2.3.3. Fishing is prohibited in the golf course ponds, non-potable reservoirs, and Monument Creek and its tributaries.

- 2.3.4. Fishing is allowed Sunday Saturday from 0001-2400.
- 2.3.5. Ice fishing is prohibited on the USAFA. Ice fishing may be allowed at Farish Recreation Area at the discretion of 10 FSS depending on the condition of the ice and safety concerns.
- 2.3.6. Chumming and the use of minnow traps, seines, trotlines, or floating jugs is prohibited.
- 2.3.7. The use of corn and live minnows as bait is prohibited.
- 2.3.8. Dumping or transferring fish or other aquatic animals and plants into the lakes and streams is prohibited. Anglers must clean all gear (e.g., waders, nets, tackle) to remove any debris that may carry invasive animals or plants between bodies of water.
- 2.3.9. Grass carp stocked for aquatic weed control must be immediately released.
- 2.3.10. Crayfish (crawdads) may be taken by hand, baited line, trap, pot, or dip net. Traps or other tackle may not be left unattended or overnight in the lakes. There is no daily limit on crayfish, but a USAFA fishing permit is required.
- 2.3.11. The daily catch limit is three (3) fish, with no size restriction.
- 2.3.12. Trash must be properly disposed of in the available garbage receptacles. The cleaning of fish and disposal of entrails in the lakes or garbage receptacles is prohibited.
- 2.3.13. Organizations conducting a fishing derby or group fishing activity must have at least one annual fishing permit holder for every five non-permitted participants (e.g., youth). For such events, all participants older than 16 years of age must have a valid annual or one-day fishing permit. All group events must be coordinated with 10 CES/CEIEA. A waiver of the permit requirement for non-profit organization events may be requested through the 10 CES/CC.
- 2.3.14. Anglers may use a float tube (belly boat) in the USAFA and Farish lakes. A Coast Guard approved personal flotation device is required when using a float tube.

2.4. Other Rules Pertaining to the USAFA Lakes and Streams:

- 2.4.1. Swimming, boating, canoeing, paddleboarding, rafting, tubing, or any other floatation device (excluding float tubes and rental paddleboats at Farish) is prohibited in the lakes and streams.
- 2.4.2. Use of the lakes for USAFA-approved training or other activities must be coordinated with 10 CES/CEIEA.
- 2.4.3. Vehicles must park in designated areas and may not be driven around the USAFA lakes without a State-issued handicap vehicle placard or license plate. Handicap anglers have priority use of the vehicle-accessible fishing pier at Kettle Lake #3.
- 2.4.4. Camping and open fires are prohibited around the lakes, except in established campsites at Farish.

2.4.5. Mobility-impaired anglers who have a State-issued handicap parking placard or license plate may be issued a badge good for one-year to access the Kettle Lakes through the K-1 airfield gate. Handicap anglers must complete a USAFA Form 13 through 10 CES/CEIEA (Building 9030, 719-333-3308) prior to obtaining a gate access badge from the 10 SFS Pass and Registration Center.

3. Hunting, Trapping, and Care and Handling of Injured or Deceased Wildlife:

3.1. Hunting, trapping, harassing, or dispatching of nuisance or injured wildlife must be authorized by 10 CES/CEIEA. Additional approval from CPW or USFWS may be required depending on the species of concern. 10 CES/CEIEA personnel are authorized to transport and discharge firearms during the approved hunts and for dispatching injured or nuisance animals.

3.2. Hunting of Deer, Elk, and Turkey:

- 3.2.1. The 10th Air Base Wing Commander (10 ABW/CC) is responsible for approving all hunting access and activities. Hunting is prohibited at Farish Recreation Area and Bullseye Auxiliary Airfield.
- 3.2.2. Hunters must possess a valid state license and USAFA access permit, receive a safety briefing, and sign a liability waiver.
- 3.2.3. Hunting is conducted in accordance with all USAFA-specified safety requirements and State and Federal laws.
- 3.2.4. Information on State-issued hunting licenses for USAFA (Game Management Unit 512) is published in CPW's brochures and on the CPW website (cpw.state.co.us). Additional USAFA-specific hunting information is available at https://usafa.isportsman.net.

3.3. Trapping of Wildlife:

3.3.1. Trapping of wildlife (other than for pest management) is prohibited unless 10 CES/CEIEA or other organizations (e.g., Department of Biology) have received approval and permits from the appropriate State and Federal agencies.

3.4. Care and Handling of Injured or Deceased Wildlife:

- 3.4.1. Organizations and contractors that dispose of or handle any wildlife must possess the appropriate Federal and State permits. These organizations and contractors must maintain a log of all wildlife handling or disposal activities, including animal species, cause of death or injury, individual disposing of the animal, and the date and method of disposal. Copies of these records must be provided to 10 CES/CEIEA as requested.
- 3.4.2. Drivers involved in a wildlife-vehicle accident resulting in the injury or death of a large mammal (bobcat, fox, coyote, deer, elk, bear, mountain lion, etc.) must report the accident to 10 SFS at (719) 333-2000, who will then notify 10 CES/CEIEA.
- 3.4.3. Road killed deer and elk may be salvageable with a Roadkill Wildlife Possession permit obtained from 10 CES/CEIEA or CPW within 48 hours to legally possess the animal. When necessary, 10 SFS refers to a 10 CES/CEIEA-generated list of people wanting to salvage deer or elk. The 10 CES/CEIEA conducts an in-person sign-up each August to create an updated list of individuals interested in salvaging animals.

3.4.4. The 10 SFS personnel responding to injured wildlife notifications have the discretion to determine if an animal should be dispatched. Injured wildlife that appears to have a reasonable chance of survival will be given an opportunity to recover unassisted. If 10 SFS believes that an animal may have been killed or injured illegally (i.e., poaching), 10 CES/CEIEA and CPW will be notified. To protect any evidence, the animal will not be disturbed until a CPW wildlife officer has had an opportunity to assess the incident. The 10 SFS will report all deceased wildlife to 10 CES/CEIEA to ensure proper disposal of animals.

3.5. Reporting and Controlling Potentially Dangerous or Nuisance Wildlife:

- 3.5.1. The USAFA does not destroy, trap, or relocate wildlife that is not posing an immediate threat to public health or safety or causing significant property damage.
- 3.5.2. Animals presenting a possible public safety hazard (e.g., rattlesnake, black bear, mountain lion, and injured wildlife) should be reported immediately to 10 SFS or 10 CES/CEIEA.
- 3.5.3. Birds, occupied nests, eggs, and bird parts are protected by Federal and State laws and shall not be disturbed or possessed without 10 CES/CEIEA approval and/or the required Migratory Bird Treaty Act permit.

3.6. Feeding and Possessing Wildlife:

- 3.6.1. Feeding or possessing wildlife is prohibited by State law. All personnel, residents, and visitors are prohibited from providing food, mineral supplements, salt blocks, or other items that could attract wildlife.
- 3.6.2. The feeding of birds is allowed, but three or fewer feeders should be offered to avoid attracting wildlife that may create a dangerous or nuisance situation. The 10 CES/CEIEA and the Housing Office may require that bird feeders be removed if there are reoccurring wildlife conflicts.

3.7. Shed Antler/Horn Collection:

3.7.1. The collection and possession of antlers or horns on USAFA complies with CPW closure regulations and is prohibited from January 1 - April 30. Searching for antlers or horns is only allowed in areas open to the public and military.

3.8. Household and Facility Trash Management:

3.8.1. All personnel, residents, contractors, and visitors are required to properly use any provided animal-resistant trash containers to prevent wildlife from accessing food waste and other items that could cause them harm. Damaged containers that cannot be secured to prevent wildlife from accessing their contents must be reported to the appropriate facility manager or 10 CES at (719) 333-2790 for repair or replacement.

4. Protection of Other Natural Resources:

4.1. The destruction or removal of live plants and plant parts (e. g., tree limbs, bark, pinecones, flowers), rocks, soil, historical and cultural resources, geological and mineral resources, archeological artifacts, and fossils is prohibited without 10 CES/CEIEA approval.

4.2. Firewood is available for a nominal fee at the 10 CES/CEIEA woodlot. Firewood cutting or gathering is prohibited unless approved by 10 CES/CEIEA.

- **4.3.** Open dumping of yard waste, household waste, or other refuse is prohibited.
- 4.4. Recreating (such as fishing, tubing, rafting, boating, swimming) in Monument Creek and its tributaries is prohibited due to safety and environmental concerns.

5. Off-Road Vehicle (ORVs) Restrictions:

5.1. Off-road vehicle (ORV) operation is prohibited unless authorized for official business, military training, or security patrols. ORV use is defined as any licensed or unlicensed motorized vehicle traveling on other than maintained roads. Unlicensed motorized bikes, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles are prohibited in all natural areas. Authorized ORV users must avoid unnecessary impacts to soil, vegetation, wildlife, wetlands, and cultural resources.

6. Controlling Domestic Animals:

- **6.1.** Domestic pets must be under the physical and voice control of their owner at all times. Stray, nuisance, or aggressive pets should be reported to 10 SFS.
- **6.2.** Dogs must be leashed or kept in a fenced area. Dogs are allowed to swim in the lakes but may not interfere with anglers or disturb or harass wildlife. Under State law it is illegal to allow a dog to chase or harass wildlife.
- **6.3. Free-roaming cats are prohibited.** Cats must remain indoors or can be outdoors only under the immediate supervision of their owner.
- **6.4.** Horses may only be ridden on unpaved roads and established recreational trails. Horses must be kept at least 100-feet from the lakes.

7. Camping:

- 7.1. Camping is authorized in designated areas at Farish Recreation Area, Peregrine Pines FamCamp, and the Scout/Youth Camping Area near the North Gate B-52 display. To reserve the Youth Camping Area, email a USAFA Event Request Form and USAFA Form 117, Request for Short-Term Facility Use, to usafa.events@afacademy.af.edu. For more information, contact USAFA/A3 at (719) 333-4148/6724. To make a camping or lodging reservation at Farish Recreation Area, call (719) 687-9098.
- 7.2. The USAFA Fire Chief (10 CES/CEF) must approve having open fires in the designated camping areas or elsewhere on USAFA.

8. Recreational Trail Use:

- **8.1.** Hikers, runners, and cyclists must yield to horses and cyclists must yield to pedestrians on all trails. Mountain bike riders must maintain control and ride at speeds appropriate for the sight distance and terrain to avoid colliding with other users. All road and trail cyclists must wear a helmet. Additional restrictions and rules to promote pedestrian and bicycle safety are outlined in AFI91-207_USAFASUP, *U.S. Air Force Traffic Safety Program*.
- 8.2. Only Class 1 and Class 2 electronic bikes (E-bikes) are allowed on the USAFA and Farish Trails.

8.3. Creating new trails and shortcutting between existing trails is prohibited. Using wet and muddy trails is highly discouraged to prevent trail damage and unnecessary wear-and-tear.

- **8.4. Large USAFA-sponsored events (e.** g., races, trail rides, training exercises) must coordinate use of the trail system with 10 CES/CEIEA. Events that cause excessive trail wear-and-tear or damage may be required to reimburse the installation for trail maintenance and repair.
- 8.5. Dogs or other pets accompanying a trail user must be leashed.

9. Instruction and Regulation Enforcement:

9.1. Anyone who violates any portion of this instruction, or any State or Federal law or regulation, concerning fishing or hunting, natural or cultural resource protection, or an act affiliated with those laws, or any act inconsistent with good safety practices, or commits any act which results in injury or damage to persons or property, may have their specific privilege relating to the violation suspended or revoked.

BYUNG-SUK CHOI, Lt Col, USAF Commander, 10th Civil Engineer Squadron

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

DAFMAN 32-7003, Environmental Conservation, 25 Jan 2024

DAFMAN 90-161, Publishing Processes and Procedures, 17 Oct 2023

AFI 33-322, Records Management and Information Governance Program

AFI 91-207_USAFASUP, U.S. Air Force Traffic Safety Program, 14 Jan 2021

AFPD 32-70, Environmental considerations in Air Force Programs and Activities, 29 Jul 2018

Sikes Act Improvement Act, Section 670a-670o of Title 16, United States Code (U.S.C.)

USAFA Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP, 12 Jun 2023

Adopted Forms

DAF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication

USAFA Form 13, Application for United States Air Force Academy Access Credential

USAFA Form 117, Request for Short-Term Facility Use

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AF—Air Force

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

AFRC—Air Force Reserve Command

AFRIMS—Air Force Records Information Management System

ANG—Air National Guard

CPW—Colorado Parks and Wildlife

OPR—Office of Primary Responsibility

RDS—Records Disposition Schedule

USFWS—United States Fish and Wildlife Service

USAFA—United States Air Force Academy

Terms

Annual Fishing Permit—A fishing permit valid from 1 January to 31 December on USAFA and Farish Recreation Area.

One-Day Fishing Permit—A fishing permit valid on USAFA or Farish Recreation Area for only the day(s) listed on the permit.

Second-Rod Permit—A supplemental permit authorizing an angler to simultaneously use two fishing poles. The permit does not change the daily catch limit of three (3) fish.

Float tube—A floatation device specifically designed to suspend an angler in the water from the waist down and is not propelled by oar, paddle, or motor.

Sponsored Guest—A visitor, other than a dependent, that may purchase a one-day and second-rod fishing permit and must be accompanied by an eligible user.

Dependent—A lawful spouse; unmarried children under age 21, including adopted children, stepchildren, or wards that depend on the sponsor for over half of their support; unmarried children over age 21 who depend on the sponsor for over half of their support because of mental or physical handicaps; unmarried children under age 23 enrolled in an approved college, university, or trade school; parents, including father, mother, stepparent by adoption, and parents-in-law who depend on the eligible sponsor for over half of their support.