



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS BASE
3250 CATLIN AVE
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5001

MCBO 5090.4A

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06 OCT 2014

MARINE CORPS BASE ORDER 5090.4A

From: Commander
To: Distribution List

Subj: POLICY FOR MAINSIDE TRAIL USE AT MARINE CORPS BASE
QUANTICO

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 11011.47C
(b) MCO 5090.2A
(c) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan for
Marine Corps Base Quantico

Encl: (1) MCB Quantico Mainside Trails

1. Situation. To provide policy and guidance concerning management and recreational use of the trails in the Mainside area of Marine Corps Base, Quantico (MCBQ).

2. Cancellation. MCBO 5090.4

3. Mission. MCBQ provides a network of woodland trails for hiking, jogging, mountain biking, horseback riding, and organized Marine Corps events in order to provide MCBQ personnel a safe place for recreation and to maintain fitness.

4. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Commander, MCBQ will appropriately manage and make available this trail system to MCBQ personnel to the extent that it does not interfere with safety, training requirements, or other scheduled events. Use of the Mainside trail system is considered "dispersed recreation," as defined in reference (b), and is addressed in Chapter 8 of reference (c).

(2) Concept of Operations

(a) A MCBQ Trails Committee shall meet annually to identify any actions needed to further the safe enjoyment of the trail system. The MCBQ Trails Committee will be composed of representatives from Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (NREA) Branch (GF), Family Housing Branch (GF), Public Works Branch (GF), Security Battalion, Office of Counsel, Operations Division (G-3), Marine Corps Community Services Division (MCCS), Safety Division, and Marine Corps Marathon(MCM).

(b) Enclosure (1) shows the locations of the designated Mainside trails and the compatible uses by DoD personnel and their dependents, Marine Corps event participants, and authorized licensees. The trails are open from dawn to dusk daily. Compatible uses include pedestrian travel (e.g., running, hiking and dog walking), horseback riding, and bicycling. Mountain biking and horseback riding shall be restricted to those trails designated in the enclosure. Mountain bikes have the highest potential for degrading current trails due to the volume of traffic, concentrated "foot-print" of lugged/knobby tires, and the unimproved character of this trail system. The trails east of Biker's Bumps and Ambush Alley, known as Arboretum trails, are restricted to foot traffic only. Deviations or useage waivers will only be granted with written approval by the Commanding Officer.

(c) Ensuring the safety of trail users mandates proper trail etiquette. The following rules and courtesies should be adhered to when using the trails:

(1) On multi-use trails shared by pedestrian, horse, and bicycle traffic, the right-of-way remains with foot traffic at all times. Bicyclists must yield to all other traffic and control their speed. If bicyclists or runners are overtaking horses from the rear, they should announce their presence and ensure the rider is aware of them. Persons passing should be considerate, as horses may be frightened by unfamiliar objects such as bicycles or by sudden movements. If horses are passing a group of pedestrians, they should be allowed plenty of room to pass. Everyone in the group should stand on one side of the trail and avoid sudden movements and loud noises until the horse(s) passes.

(2) Pick up any litter encountered. Everyone doing their part will keep this area pristine and open to recreational use.

(3) Travel quietly. Doing so improves the chances of seeing wildlife and respects others seeking solitude.

(4) Dogs must be kept leashed at all times and the animal's feces must be policed in accordance with MCBO 10570.2D.

(5) Horseback riding is authorized for US DoD personnel with existing base access/use privileges on the Mainside trails identified for horseback riding. Trail use events such as the Marine Corps Marathon's Run Amuck take precedence and horseback riding will not be allowed during those events. Additionally, as with dogs, horseback riders are required to police their animal's feces. Horse trailers must be parked at the site of the Quantico stables (indicated on the map in enclosure (1)) for accountability purposes. Additionally, for accountability purposes, horseback riders must call in and out to the MCBQ Command Duty Office (CDO) at (703) 784-5587. All horses entering base must have their current health certifications that the rider(s) must be able to present to the Provost Marshall's Office (PMO).

(d) Training Area 1, the area of Mainside in which the trail system is located, is open to qualified archery hunters shooting from elevated platforms (tree stands) on the dates established in the base's annual hunting bulletin. Both hunters and authorized trail users must be mindful of the potential presence of the other.

(e) Authorized users must stay on the designated/marked trails only. Shortcutting a switchback or avoiding a muddy trail by walking in the grass creates unnecessary erosion and multiple paths. Such practices also increase the risk of encountering Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) or encountering other safety concerns.

(f) Archeological and historical remains are not to be disturbed under any circumstances. Unidentified metal objects should never be handled due to the potential of there being UXO. Do not touch suspected UXO for any reason. Report suspected UXO to the PMO and move away from the object.

(g) Use of motorized vehicles on any of the base trails is prohibited, except for authorized safety vehicles at programmed events, maintenance, natural resources management, and law enforcement activities. ATVs are not recreationally permitted anywhere on base.

(h) Proposals for new trails may be submitted to the Base Trails Committee for review and submission to NREA Branch for environmental impact analysis. Proposals will only be reviewed if they include plans detailing the proposed trail location, the work required to construct the trail, and the proposed compatible uses of the trail. Construction of any new trails, or changes to existing trail uses, shall also be subject to the approval of the Commander, MCBQ with the recommendation of the Base Trails Committee. The Base Commander may close existing highly eroded or unmaintained trails upon the recommendation of the Assistant Chief of Staff (AC/S), G-3 and/or the AC/S, GF.

(i) Violators of this Order may be subject to administrative or disciplinary action as appropriate to the offense. Use of Mainside trails by unauthorized users may also constitute trespass under 10 U.S.C. § 1382.

(j) Requests for approval of organized events are to be addressed to the AC/S, G-3. Non-Marine Corps events require NAVFAC real estate documentation under reference (a) in addition to any approval obtained through the AC/S, G-3.

(k) Trail maintenance is to be performed primarily by volunteers, including, but not limited to, participants in the MCBQ Conservation Volunteer Program, mountain bikers, MCM personnel, military personnel during base clean-up evolutions, and Girl and Boy Scout troops. Groups using volunteers for trail maintenance must have legal agreements with the base and adequate insurance to cover the volunteers during maintenance activities. Appropriate personal protective equipment shall be used for the tasks being accomplished. Maintenance personnel are required to attend the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Section's UXO safety training prior to performing work on the trails.

(l) Kiosks and Signage

(1) Kiosks are to be constructed based on the National Park Service model used at the Wildlife Viewing Area and Arboretum Trails.

(2) New signage for trail names shall be white lettering on a brown background per national standards for recreational areas. Enclosure (2) has order details for new signs. Standard symbols for horseback riding, mountain biking, and foot traffic shall be used to mark trail entrances with prohibited and permitted uses.

(3) Designated trails are to be marked with colored hash marks to serve as navigational aids. The hash marks should be approximately four inches by one inch and attached to trees approximately every 150 feet and at a height of 5 feet.

b. Subordinate Element Missions

(1) AC/S, G-3 (Operations Division)

(a) Schedule the use of the trail network for Marine Corps organized activities and issue Letters of Instruction when applicable.

(b) Provide printing services for trail map brochures.

(2) AC/S, GF (Installation and Environment Division)

(a) Public Works Branch: Coordinate between easement owner and trail maintenance crews if required for utility right-of-ways that are coincidentally used as trails.

(b) NREA Branch:

(1) Chair the MCBQ Trails Committee.

(2) Post up-to-date trail maps at information kiosks on the trail system.

(3) Maintain information kiosks at crucial trail entry points. Provide the following information at the kiosks: Trail maps, trail use rules, UXO safety brochures and photos of UXO items most likely to be encountered in that area.

(4) Mark major trail loops with hash marks to provide navigation assistance.

(5) Mark entry points and major intersections with signage indicating trail names and permitted/prohibited uses.

(3) Director, MCCS. Submit requests to the AC/S, G-3, MCBQ, to schedule mountain biking races or any other MCCS-sponsored events using the trail network.

(4) Public Affairs Officer. Publicize availability of the trail network as an outdoor recreational resource via the Commander's welcome aboard brief, the base website, and through articles in the *Quantico Sentry*.

(5) Director, MCM Office. Submit requests to the AC/S, G-3, MCBQ to schedule races or any other MCM-sponsored events using the trail network. Perform pre-event and post-event maintenance on any trails used for race events. Submit race routes to the AC/S, G-3 and the NREA Branch for review and concurrence prior to the event.

(6) Specific trail maintenance responsibilities. The following organizations have primary maintenance responsibilities:

(a) Public Works Branch. Coordination with easement owners on trails along utility right-of-ways.

(b) NREA Branch. All non-utility right-of-way trails including coordination of volunteer services and groups (such as Boy Scouts) to conduct the maintenance.

(c) Director, MCCS, and Director, MCM. Perform pre-event and post-event maintenance on any trails used for race events.

(7) CDO. The CDO, MCBQ, is responsible for fielding calls from horseback riders checking in and out of the trail system. The CDO will log the calls in the Duty Logbook and report any failure to check out by sunset with PMO.

(8) PMO. PMO is responsible for visually inspecting the designated horse trailer parking area at dusk each day to ensure that the riders have left the trails once riding conditions are no longer safe.

5. Administration and Logistics

a. Administration. Recommendations concerning the contents of this Order may be forwarded to the Commander MCBQ (B 046) via the appropriate chain of command. All approved trails are

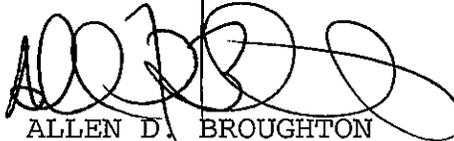
available only to Department of Defense (DoD) members/employees and their dependents with proper identification allowing them to access and use Marine Corps/Navy property. Non-DoD personnel participating in a sanctioned Marine Corps event may also use the trails consistent with the guidelines governing the event.

b. Logistics. None.

6. Command and Signal

a. Command. This policy applies to all Commands, tenants, personnel and authorized users of MCBQ property.

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


ALLEN D. BROUGHTON
CHIEF OF STAFF

DISTRIBUTION: INTERNET

