



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT LEE
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FORT LEE, VA 23801-2706

AMIM-LEP-E (200-1n1)

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Hunting Policy

1. References:

- a. AR 200-1 (Environmental Protection and Enhancement).
- b. Fort Lee Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.
- c. Fort Lee Regulation 350-1 (Fort Lee Ranges and Training Areas.)
- d. The Lacey Act, Title 18 U.S.C. 42.

2. Background. This policy sets responsibilities and procedures for the Fort Lee hunting program in support of the wildlife management mission. It applies to all personnel on Fort Lee, VA. Per Executive Order 14347, the Department of Defense (DoD) is otherwise known as the Department of War (DoW). Reference to DoW in this memorandum constitutes reference to both DoW and DoD for purposes of the authority to act in accordance with this policy.

3. State and Federal Laws. All persons participating in the hunting program on the Installation shall comply with state and federal fish and game laws, and all Army and Fort Lee regulations identified in this policy. They will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies. Unless otherwise stated, Fort Lee follows state regulations for hunting in Prince George County.

4. Boundary Definition. Fort Lee is comprised of two main hunting areas and one minor area as described below:

- a. The Range complex is defined as the area north of Temple Avenue (Route 144), east/southeast of River Road, and west of Interstate 295.
- b. The Cantonment area is defined as the main post area and the Ordnance Campus, the area south of Temple Avenue (Route 144).
- c. There is a satellite parcel of 52 acres that lies east of Interstate 295, across from the Range complex, which is accessible to deer hunters via private land access.

5. Enforcement. The Garrison Commander has delegated law enforcement authority to Fort Lee Provost Marshal's Office (PMO). They will protect wildlife and wildlife

habitat, the hunting community, installation property and facilities, and ensure the safety of the public to the fullest degree possible.

6. Violations.

a. Violators of federal and state game laws shall be subject to prosecution before the U.S. Magistrate and/or the appropriate state court. Actions taken under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or the U.S. Magistrate may be in addition to administrative suspension or revocation of hunting privileges.

b. The Garrison Commander retains the authority to suspend or revoke hunting privileges on Fort Lee. The Conservation Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) and natural resources personnel have the authority to suspend hunting privileges for up to 14 days. Personnel will be officially notified of long-term suspension or revocation of privileges by letter from the Garrison Commander's office.

7. License Requirements. All personnel, including family members, must meet all requirements listed below before they may hunt on the installation.

a. Fort Lee Permit. All hunters age 16 and older must have a valid permit purchased on Fort Lee's iSportsman website. Hunters under 16 do not need a permit, but must hunt with a permitted adult, attend the hunter safety briefing, and pass a bow proficiency test, if applicable. Hunters 16 and older must meet the following requirements to obtain a permit and hunt on Fort Lee:

- (1) Have a valid Virginia state hunting license and appropriate tags.
- (2) Attend and pass a Virginia hunter education course, or similar course given by any other state.
- (3) Attend the Fort Lee hunter safety briefing each year.
- (4) Pass an annual bow proficiency test if they plan to use archery equipment. Qualifications are valid for the current license year (1 July – 30 June) only.
- (5) Register all weapons at the Visitor Control Center at the Gregg Gate. Do not bring the weapon with you inside the facility when registering.

b. Additional Requirements.

- (1) All hunters are required to agree to a statement in iSportsman releasing the U.S. Government and all in authority from responsibility for

any injuries resulting from duds (unexploded ordnance), mines, barbed wire, falls, or any other injury resulting from hazards incident to hunting on the installation.

(2) All hunters will have an appropriate hunting license, installation hunting permit, proof of weapon registration, and identification in their possession while hunting and display them upon request to any person authorized to enforce the laws and regulations referred to or prescribed in this policy.

8. Days open to hunting. Authorized hunting days and hours will be posted in iSportsman. Sunday hunting is authorized, when available.

9. Scheduling Hunting Days. Environmental Management Division (EMD) schedules available hunting days through the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS). They are requested within a 30-day window of opportunity and are afforded no special conditions when competing with training requirements. Days may be bumped for training scheduled prior to the 14-day reservation date. When a valid training requirement materializes within the 14-day hunting window, it must be adequately justified by the unit chain of command and can then be approved by DPTMS. Additionally, DPTMS may approve a valid training request that is properly justified by a customer and close down hunting in specific training areas for that day.

10. General Hunting Regulations.

a. Hunter Control. Hunting areas are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Areas opened or closed for hunting will be announced in iSportsman.

(1) In order to promote safety and accountability of personnel, everyone must check in via iSportsman before entering a hunting area. Youth hunters not requiring a permit must be checked in as a guest of an adult hunter with a valid permit.

(2) Hunters must annotate in iSportsman what species they are hunting.

(3) Hunters are prohibited from checking in to more than one area or stand at the same time.

(4) Vehicle parking passes showing the hunter's name and vehicle license plate number will be printed from iSportsman and displayed at all times on the vehicle's dash. Vehicle parking permits are good for the whole year and required during all hunting seasons. If multiple hunters are using the same vehicle, each hunter's parking pass must be displayed on the dash. Parking is authorized only in designated locations on the hunting map.

(5) All hunters must check out from their stand or location no later than 2100 in iSportsman. If not checked out by closing time, CLEO will attempt to contact the

individual by telephone and conduct a physical search of the hunting area. Hunters tracking a wounded animal who will be checking out late must notify the CLEO prior to 2100. Failure to check out on time will result in an automatic hold on the hunter's iSportsman account. The second time a hunter checks out late may result in suspension from the hunting program.

(6) All hunters with iSportsman reservations must either hunt that stand/area or cancel the reservation. Two or more consecutive reservations without signing in and hunting that area will result in a two week suspension. Please be respectful of other hunters.

(7) Hunting for deer must be conducted from an approved tower stand or tree stand elevated to a minimum height of 10 ft. Safety harnesses must be used in all elevated tree stands. Handicapped hunters may utilize the furnished wheelchair-accessible blind (34H) using archery equipment or buckshot only.

(8) Portable or climbing tree stands may be deployed and left in a tree only for the duration of the hunter's reservation for that hunting area. Stands must be removed before checking out. We are not responsible for lost or stolen tree stands.

(9) Scouting, antler collecting, trail cameras/game cameras, and baiting are prohibited.

(10) During the prescribed open season, fall turkey hunting in the range complex may be conducted with shotguns while in a tree stand. When seasons overlap, a deer hunter with a muzzleloader rifle may also harvest a turkey that comes within range from their stand. Spring gobblers may be hunted from the ground with shotgun only.

(11) No person shall bring any animal on the installation except as authorized by federal, state, Army, and/or installation regulations. No person shall kill or cripple any animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the animal. No person shall leave an assigned area to retrieve a crippled animal unless permission is granted from the CLEO (AKA Game Warden). Hunters must report all crippled animals not recovered to the CLEO.

b. Manner of Taking.

(1) Deer and turkey harvested will be tagged with a Virginia big game tag (paper tag or e-notch) before removing from the kill site. All deer harvested will be taken to the skinning shed at the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) Outdoor Recreation building for applicable biological data collection. All game harvested will be recorded in iSportsman by the hunter. The first failure to report a kill in iSportsman will result in a one-week suspension of hunting privileges. The second violation may result in revocation of Fort Lee hunting privileges.

(2) State and federal seasons and bag limits on migratory game birds are adopted as installation regulations.

c. Prohibited activities. The following prohibited activities warrant suspension from the program and may also be subject to applicable state or federal penalties.

- (1) Hunting while under the influence of alcohol, intoxicants, or narcotic drugs.
- (2) Entering any "restricted" zone or buffer marked as such on the hunting map located in iSportsman or physically marked by signs.
- (3) Hunting or discharging any firearm within 100 yards of the centerline of a named roadway, of any hardtop roads on the range complex, or of a housing area or occupied building.
- (4) Driving a motorized vehicle on firebreaks, maneuver trails, or dirt roads for hunting or locating game. Firebreaks, trails, and dirt roads will be used for the sole purpose of walking from the designated parking area to and from the hunting area. Hunters will make an effort to enter and leave the hunting area as quickly and quietly as possible so they do not disturb other hunters.
- (5) Mutilating any bird or animal to obscure the sex, age, or species of the carcass.
- (6) Distributing any food, mineral, or other substance to attract wildlife.
- (7) Using any electronic calls or devices except in compliance with state law.
- (8) Erecting any tree stand or platform by attaching nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree. This prohibition does not apply to portable stands that can be removed after use with no metal left in or attached to the tree.
- (9) Directing the rays of a spotlight, other artificial light, or automotive headlights for the purpose of spotting, locating, or taking any animal within the boundaries of the installation or along rights-of-way for public or private roads within the installation.
- (10) Transporting a loaded firearm in a vehicle. A loaded firearm is one that contains ammunition in the chamber and/or magazine. Muzzleloaders can have a bullet and powder charge in the barrel, but the firing cap must be removed or the powder removed from the flash pan.
- (11) Hunting deer from the ground.
- (12) Disrupting operations at the Outdoor Recreation office or skinning shed or interfering with any other individual using these facilities.

(13) Bringing unauthorized guests hunting who have not completed all requirements in section 7, "License Requirements" above and enclosure "Permit Fees and Authorized Hunters".

d. Deer Hunting Areas. Deer hunting areas, authorized weapons, and hunter density for various areas will be designated by EMD in conjunction with a review by the Safety Office and DPTMS (for primary training areas), and concurrence by the hunting council. All hunting areas and stands will be subject to annual review as directed by the hunting council. Hunting maps will be generated by EMD showing all current hunting areas, stands, and parking areas. These maps are available for free in iSportsman.

e. Archery Hunting. Archers may hunt in any area open to hunting. Some areas are designated exclusively for bow hunting. In archery-only stand locations, hunters may hunt from a portable tree stand within 20 yards (60 feet) of the designated stand location, provided all other safety buffer distances are maintained.

f. General Firearms Deer Season. All deer hunting will be done from tree stands. Stalking and ground blinds are not permitted on Fort Lee. Hunters using shotguns, muzzleloaders, or air rifles in the cantonment area (if allowed) must hunt from designated stand sites when one is indicated on the hunting map. Hunting is permitted only in those areas posted as open in iSportsman. Hunting is prohibited in all areas that are occupied or being used for training. Firearm hunters observing any troop activity within an area in which they are hunting will cease hunting and report the activity to EMD and the CLEO.

g. Drive hunting is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Garrison Commander. Any authorized drives will be planned and scheduled at least 30 days in advance.

h. Hunting with dogs is prohibited.

i. Retrieving dogs may be utilized for all authorized waterfowl hunting areas outside of general firearms deer season.

11. Weapons and Ammunition:

a. Unauthorized Weapons and Ammunition. Hunters may not use the following:

(1) Lead shotgun ammunition while hunting migratory waterfowl.

(2) Pistols or revolvers.

(3) Rifles, except muzzleloader rifles or air rifles .35 caliber or larger.

(4) Spears.

(5) Traps or snares.

b. Authorized Weapons and Ammunition for Deer Hunting.

(1) Shotguns 20 through 10 gauges, buckshot and slugs. Slugs may be used only from stands already approved for use by muzzleloader rifles.

(2) Bows capable of propelling a nonpoisonous and nonexplosive broad head arrow at least 125 yards. Broadhead width must be at least 7/8-inch wide or expand upon impact to 7/8-inch.

(3) Muzzleloader rifles or muskets, in accordance with Virginia game laws.

(4) Crossbows, in accordance with Virginia game laws.

(5) Air rifles, in accordance with Virginia game laws.

12. Safety Regulations. Violation of the following safety practices will result in a minimum seven-day suspension of hunting privileges.

a. The safety of all weapons must be engaged until ready to fire.

b. All weapons will remain unloaded until hunters are in their stands. Weapons will be unloaded when ascending or descending from the stand. Muzzleloaders will be capped or primed after ascending the stand and de-capped or de-primed prior to descending the stand.

c. All hunters (firearms, archery, and muzzleloaders) and any person accompanying a hunter are required to wear blaze orange or blaze pink in accordance with state regulations when they are in an area or stand designated for firearms. Blaze orange is not required on Fort Lee during early archery deer season, in archery-only areas, or during spring gobbler season.

d. Shotguns, muzzleloaders, and air rifles may only be used in designated areas. See iSportsman map for details. *Note on hunting map the presence of buffered areas around residential and office areas and proximity to Fort Lee boundary. When placing tree stands, position stand facing away from buffers and boundaries.

e. Archery equipment shall not be discharged within 50 yards of any dwelling, occupied building, or road, except on an approved range.

f. Minors under the age of 18 using a firearm or muzzleloader and minors under the age of 16 using any weapon must be under the immediate control of their parent or other responsible adult. Immediate control is defined as maintaining close visual and verbal contact with, providing adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the weapon.

13. Hunting Council. The primary purpose of the hunting council is to establish, promote, and maintain a safe and productive hunting program on Fort Lee. The Council also:

a. Addresses and makes recommendations to the Garrison Commander or delegated representative for improvements in the hunting program.

b. Ensures timely approval of hunting regulation updates and changes.

c. Provides an avenue for all military and civilian members of the Fort Lee community to express concerns about the hunting program.

d. Consists of a representative from EMD, PMO, Safety Office, DPTMS, DFMWR, and the hunting community. A representative from the Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) may be included as an advisor to the council. A representative from Internal Review and Audit Compliance (IRAC) may sit in on meetings if issues emerge that warrant IRAC participation. The Garrison Command Sergeant Major (CSM) will serve as the chairperson, and the DPTMS will serve as the alternate chairperson.

e. Meets annually prior to 01 September and provides minutes of each meeting to the council chairperson for final approval. Minutes will be forwarded by the chairperson to the Garrison Commander, as appropriate.

14. Responsibilities:

a. Garrison Commander.

(1) Has overall responsibility for the Fort Lee hunting and wildlife management program.

(2) Has exclusive approval authority for the use of normally restricted areas for hunting activities.

(3) Has exclusive authority to authorize special hunting activities such as organized drives.

b. DPW.

(1) Implements and executes the operational functions of wildlife management under all appropriate DoD/Army regulations and Army pamphlets.

(2) Develops a wildlife management hunting program that provides guidance on the types and number of game available for harvest.

(3) Establishes proper guidelines for the protection of endangered species of plants and animals.

(4) Utilizes iSportsman to coordinate all hunting activities.

(5) Utilizes Range Facility Management Support System to schedule hunting days.

c. DFMWR. Maintains game dressing facility, refrigeration unit, and archery range.

d. DPTMS.

(1) Provides Range Bulletin to EMD as soon as it is available.

(2) Allocates range and training areas for hunting IAW Fort Lee regulation 350-1.

(3) Makes training areas available for hunting if scheduled training is canceled and notifies EMD when hunting areas must be closed for training.

e. The Provost Marshal is the Chief Conservation Law Enforcement Officer and:

(1) Enforces all applicable federal, state, and local game laws and regulations.

(2) Coordinates with state Conservation Law Enforcement Officers, as needed.

(3) Appoints FortLee Conservation Law Enforcement Officer(s).

f. Garrison Safety Office.

(1) Reviews and advises Garrison Commander on safety aspects of the Fort Lee hunting program.

(2) Includes countermeasures in the safety program that will reduce the number of vehicle/deer accidents.

(3) Assists the hunting council with the risk assessment for proposed hunting areas, methods of harvest, access lanes, and boundaries.

g. Designated Hunting Representative(s).

(1) Provides an avenue for all active and authorized members of the Fort Lee community to express concerns about the hunting program.

(2) Participates in and makes recommendations to the hunting council for improvements to the hunting program.

(3) Assists in coordinating volunteers for EMD to support the recreational aspects of the hunting program.

h. SJA. The SJA may provide administrative and criminal law support.

15. This policy supersedes all previous Fort Lee Hunting Policies.

16. The proponent for this policy is the Director of Public Works.

4 Encls

1. Permit Fees and Authorized Hunters
2. Deer Management Assistance Program
3. Game Dressing Facility
4. Other Recreational Hunting

RICHARD J. BENDELEWSKI
COL, MI
Commanding

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Permit Fees and Authorized Hunters

1. Any fees collected shall comply with the requirements in AR 200-1. All authorized hunters must purchase necessary permits in iSportsman. Permitted hunters' dependents under age 16 hunt for free. Hunting can be canceled at any time at the discretion of the Garrison Commander. No refunds will be given.
2. All personnel wanting to hunt on Fort Lee must satisfy all requirements in section 7 of the Hunting Policy above.
3. Authorized hunters are specified below and must show valid credentials indicating their status at the pre-season safety brief or during archery qualification.
 - a. Active-duty Service Members and their immediate family members.
 - b. Reserve and National Guard Service Members and their immediate family members.
4. Retired Service Members and their immediate family members.
5. DoD and NAF Civilians and retirees and their immediate family members.

Deer Management Assistance Program

1. This program is adopted from and works in concert with the Virginia Deer Management Plan, developed and produced by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR). The Fort Lee Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) is designed to help manage the deer herd on Fort Lee. The plan addresses six areas: populations, habitat, damage, recreation, education, and administration.

a. Population control goal. The cultural carrying capacity is the maximum number of deer that can coexist with humans. The goal is to manage the deer population at the desired local cultural carrying capacity while maintaining a healthy and viable herd.

b. Habitat Goal. To manage deer habitats consistent with deer population objectives while maintaining a diverse and healthy floral and faunal landscape.

c. Damage Goal. To manage and reduce the urban, ecosystem, vehicular, forestry, and other deer damage.

d. Recreational Goal. To maximize the opportunity for all Service Members, family members, and retirees to safely enjoy deer hunting and other wildlife-related recreational experiences.

e. Educational Goal. To educate the Fort Lee community regarding hunting safety, ethics, and benefits of deer as a resource, and deer-related issues associated with ecology, management, and behavior.

f. Administrative Goal. To administer a financially self-supporting program.

2. Fort Lee DMAP Rules.

a. Harvest requirements are subject to change every season and will be published on iSportsman at the beginning of each season. These may involve mandatory harvesting of does during some periods. Conservation Law Enforcement Officer reserves the right to confiscate any deer harvested on post that does not meet the yearly harvest requirement(s) and/or give a written citation/fine that coordinates with the infraction.

b. DMAP antlerless deer tags may be issued by DPW Environmental Management Division.

c. The right side lower jawbone MUST be removed from each deer harvested on Fort Lee, tagged for biological data collection, and placed in the appropriate location in the DFMWR skinning shed. This is mandatory to remain in compliance with

Fort Lee hunting regulations. If the right side jawbone is damaged, remove both right and left sides and attach both to the data tag. The first violation of this rule will result in a 30-day suspension of hunting privileges on Fort Lee. A second violation results in permanent removal from the hunting program without refund. Temporary exceptions to this policy, such as for deer going to a taxidermist, may only be granted by the Conservation Law Enforcement Officer or EMD personnel.

d. Accurate weight and antler measurements of each deer must be recorded in the appropriate locations. Scales, measuring tapes, and calipers are provided in the skinning shed for data collection. The first violation of this rule will result in a 30-day suspension of hunting privileges on Fort Lee. A second violation results in permanent removal from the hunting program without refund.

e. Fawns (deer less than 1 year old) shall not be harvested. A 60 pound minimum live weight applies to all deer harvested on Fort Lee. First violation of this rule will result in a 1-week suspension. Second violation will result in a suspension for the rest of the season or 30 hunting days, whichever is greater. The 30-day suspension may carry over to the following deer season. EMD biologists can provide guidance and reference material on aging deer in the field. If you are unsure of your target, let it walk!

Game Dressing Facility

1. The game dressing facility is the only approved location for processing deer on post, although initial field dressing can be carried out on the range complex and in the Blackwater Swamp if the waste organs are not left in a wetland or area frequented by troops. Deer will not be dressed in housing, barracks, unit areas, motor pools, or any other facility on-post. After the deer has been skinned and quartered, the deer may be taken to quarters for final processing. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a one-week suspension of hunting privileges. Second violation will result in a suspension for the rest of the season or 30 hunting days, whichever is greater. The 30-day suspension may carry over to the following deer season.
2. Game dressing facility and cooler use is included in the cost of the hunting permit.
3. Game must be tagged while in the cooler with hunter's name, date of kill, check-in confirmation number, and whether it was killed on-post or off-post. All game must be removed from the walk-in cooler within 72 hours unless permission is received from EMD, DFMWR, or the CLEO. If game is not removed within 72 hours and no extension was granted, it will be donated at the discretion of the DFMWR recreation manager or EMD.
4. The game dressing facility may be used by permitted hunters to dress game legally harvested on-post or off-post.
5. Anyone using the game dressing facility is responsible for proper waste disposal and area clean up. This includes wiping and/or mopping blood from all surfaces of the skinning shed and walk-in cooler, cleaning cooler drip trays, removing any blood or scraps from the sink drain, and taking all trash/waste to the brown steel dumpster at the opposite end of the Outdoor Rec parking lot. Failure to maintain these areas in a neat and clean condition will result in them being locked for the remainder of the season.

Other Recreational Hunting

1. Turkey hunting. Turkey hunting is in accordance with Virginia and Prince George County regulations unless otherwise specified in this policy.

- a. Spring gobbler hunting may be conducted from the ground.
- b. Electronic calls and dogs are not permitted to hunt turkey.
- c. It is unlawful to possess any shot larger than number 2 fine while hunting turkey.
- d. Bag limit is in accordance with Virginia hunting regulations.

e. Hunting areas will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis during fall turkey season. If a turkey hunter checks in to an area, no deer hunting is authorized in that area via iSportsman.

2. Waterfowl and dove hunting.

a. Geese and doves may be hunted during open season in certain areas of the range complex. Hunters will remain at least 100 yards east of River Road and fire only eastward away from the road.

b. Waterfowl, as determined by state and federal regulations, may be hunted from designated blinds in the Blackwater Swamp, contingent on availability.

c. No decoys are allowed within 100 yards of a paved road.

d. Non-permanent blinds may be used on waterfowl hunting areas on the range complex. Blinds must be removed at the end of the hunting day.

e. Retrieving dogs may be utilized for waterfowl hunting, but only outside of deer hunting seasons (approximately 1 October – 7 January).

f. Hunters must have permission from adjacent landowners prior to retrieving game from private property. The Conservation Law Enforcement Officer/Game Warden must be contacted before tracking or retrieving off of Fort Lee property.

g. G-North is authorized for dove hunting, when available in iSportsman.

3. Small game hunting.

a. Rabbit and squirrel hunting is permitted on Fort Lee when those seasons concur with deer season.

b. No dogs are allowed to hunt small game.

c. All small game must be hunted from elevated stands using shotguns with shot not larger than #6, air rifles, or archery equipment only. All buffers and area weapon restrictions apply and are noted in iSportsman.

4. Other game species. No other game species may be hunted on Fort Lee. Coyotes (identified as a nuisance species) may be harvested during any other hunting season with any authorized weapon. Coyote harvests do not need to be checked in with the state but must be reported in iSportsman.

5. Hunters must remove all spent rounds, cases, and trash from the hunting area. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a two-week suspension of hunting privileges. Second violation will result in a suspension for the rest of the season or 30 hunting days, whichever is greater. The 30-day suspension may carry over to the following deer season.