



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BELVOIR
9820 FLAGLER ROAD, SUITE 213
FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA 22060-5928

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

IMBV-PW

21 October 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR US Army Fort Belvoir Personnel

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Instruction — Northern Long-eared Bat Protection on Fort Belvoir

1. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this memorandum is to disseminate the requirements for protecting northern long-eared bat (NLEB), a species recently listed as “threatened” under the Endangered Species Act. This memorandum summarizes the protection measures of the Endangered Species Act, as well as the Conservation Measures agreed upon between the US Army Environmental Command and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in the “Informal Conference & Management Guidelines on the Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) for Ongoing Operations on Installation Management Command Installations”, May 2015 (i.e., the Programmatic Consultation). This memorandum establishes DPW’s sole responsibility for conducting consultation with FWS when required for all activities and operations (projects) and project proponent responsibility for providing DPW all project-specific materials required for the consultation. This memorandum will be revised, as necessary, to reflect any changes resulting from Fort Belvoir’s ongoing installation-specific coordination with FWS’s Virginia Field Office, and to reflect bat survey results.

2. **APPLICABILITY.** This memorandum applies to all military, civilian, tenant, partner, and contractor activities on Fort Belvoir.

3. **SUMMARY OF NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS.**

The Endangered Species Act requires federal agencies to protect listed species and to consult with FWS (and/or National Marine Fisheries Services) on any action that “may adversely affect” a listed species. Activities at Fort Belvoir with the potential to affect northern long-eared bat include tree cutting or clearing; construction; pest control operations (e.g., pesticide application, removal, or exclusion, of animals from buildings); military training, firing and maneuvering activities; aircraft operations; forest management; and, development of new recreational areas.

Tree Cutting or Clearing.

The Programmatic Consultation establishes a time-of-year restriction (TOYR) prohibiting all tree cutting or clearing of trees 3 inches or greater in diameter at breast

“LEADERS IN EXCELLENCE”

IMBV-PW

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Instruction - Northern Long-eared Bat Protection on Fort Belvoir

height from 15 April through 15 September (see enclosed FWS message dated 28 May 2015) annually. An exception is possible for trees that pose a hazard to personnel or property, and for removal of individual non-hazardous trees. Such removals must be coordinated through the Fort Belvoir Directorate of Public Works (DPW). For those exceptions, Fort Belvoir must survey and document the absence of northern long-eared bat prior to authorizing removal of any trees during the TOYR period. Individual non-hazardous trees cannot be removed, if northern long-eared bat is present. Hazardous trees may be removed, but Fort Belvoir must initiate emergency consultation with FWS for trees to be removed during the TOYR period, if northern long-eared bat is present.

Consultation with FWS is required for the following actions any time of the year: clearing 10 acres or more of trees (unless the project is entirely within 100 feet of an existing road surface); or clearcutting within 0.25 mile and overstory roost tree removal within 100 meters of a documented maternity roost tree, or within 0.5 mile of a known hibernacula.

DPW has sole responsibility for conducting consultation with FWS when required for all activities and operations (projects). Project proponents will be responsible for providing DPW all project-specific materials required for the consultation.

Construction Activities, Other than Tree Removal.

Project-specific consultation with FWS is required if the project cannot angle the lighting away from a potential bat foraging area, or cannot provide a 100-meter buffer around areas of suitable bat habitat. Consultation is also required for projects within 0.25 mile of a known roost or within 0.50 mile of a known hibernacula. The Programmatic Consultation allows exemptions to these requirements for some situations, such as activities entirely within an existing road surface. All construction must be coordinated with DPW to assess Consultation requirements.

Pest Control Operations.

No glue traps/adhesive traps are to be placed where they could capture bats. No lethal control measures are permitted for bats unless there is a suspected human health risk for exposure to rabies or other disease. The Programmatic Consultation establishes a TOYR prohibiting installation of bat exclusions to buildings from 1 May through 31 August annually, and only allows the sealing of building cracks and crevices from late fall through early spring annually. Insecticides are to be used sparingly in buildings with

IMBV-PW

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Instruction - Northern Long-eared Bat Protection on Fort Belvoir

bats, and the use of foggers is prohibited. The Programmatic Consultation establishes a Military Training, Firing and Maneuver Activities, and Aircraft Operations.

Any changes to existing military training, firing, or maneuver activities, or to existing flight training activities or aircraft operations must be coordinated with DPW to determine if FWS consultation is required.

Recreational Activities.

Project-specific consultation with FWS is required for the development of new recreation areas.

Other Requirements.

No one is allowed to handle any bats on Fort Belvoir unless they are in possession of the appropriate state and/or federal permits. They also are required to be current on their rabies pre-exposure vaccinations.

4. PROPONENT. The Directorate of Public Works, Environmental and Natural Resource Division (DPW-ENRD) is the proponent for this memorandum. Point of contact for tree work is Brice Bartley at 703-806-4142; point of contact for pest control work is Steve Watters at 703-806-0684; and point of contact for northern long-eared bat Endangered Species Act consultation requirements is Dorothy Keough at 703-806-0049.

Encl


MICHELLE D. MITCHELL
Colonel, AG
Commanding