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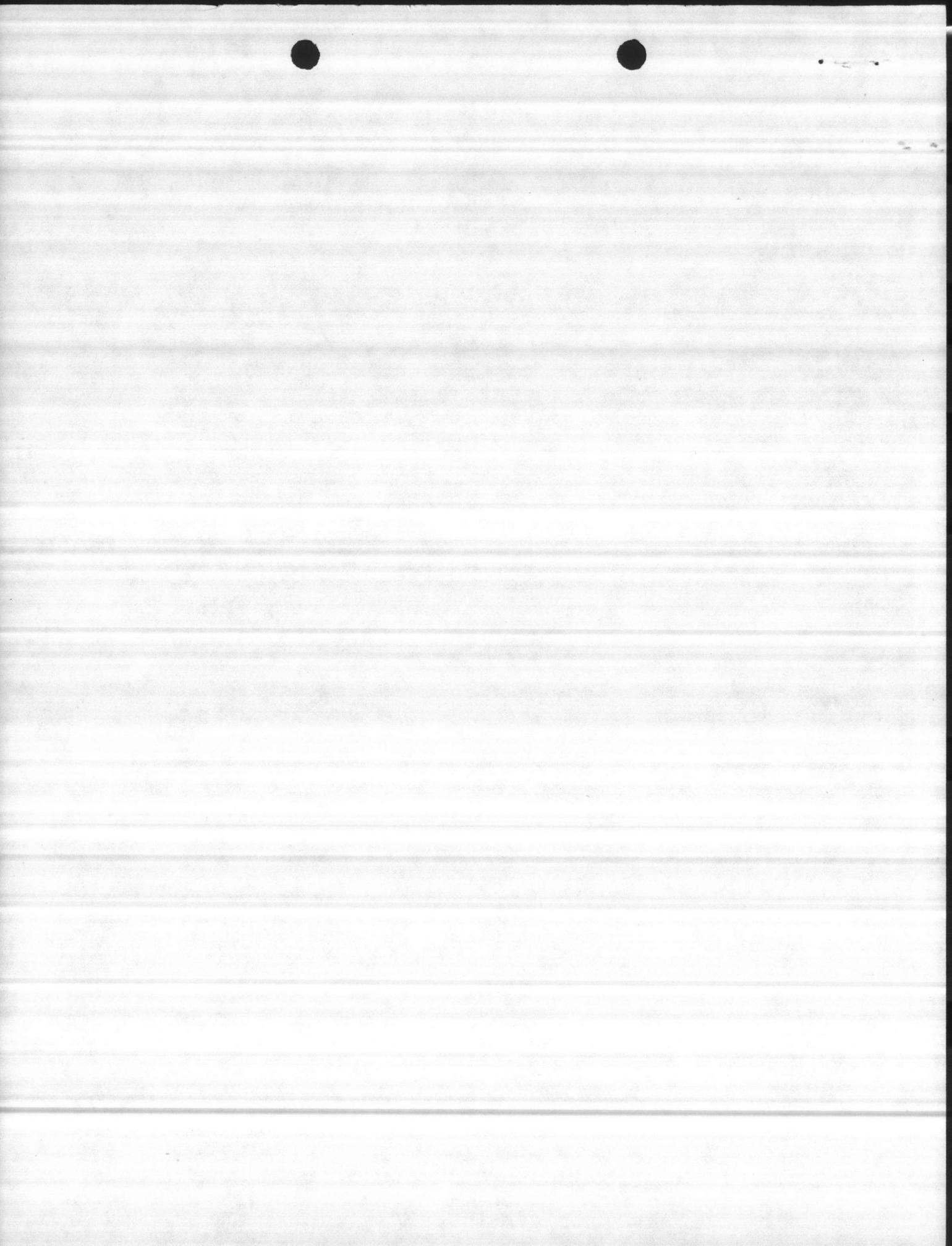
FORESTRY WILDLIFE COORDINATION

by

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File

As forest managers with the Department of Defense, we are required to manage under a multiple-use management system. Multiple-use management, as defined by the Department of Defense, applies to the conscious, coordinated management of all natural resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of land and water. Multiple-use is by no means an assemblage of single uses.

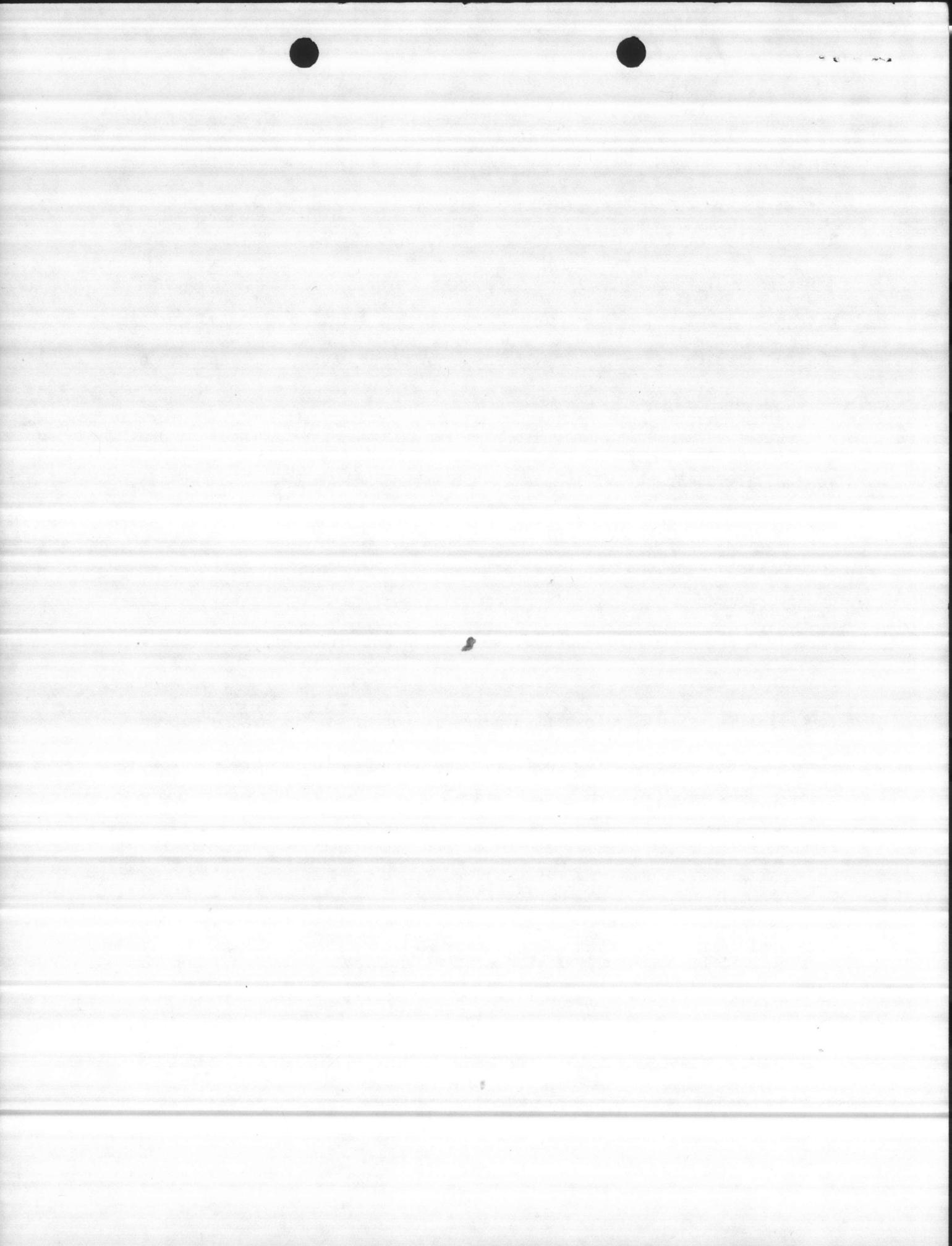
Real Property Facilities Manual, Department of Defense policy, Sustained Yield Multiple Use Act, National Environmental Policy Act and the Rare and Endangered Species Act all effect the management decisions which we make. But these acts and policies can not implement themselves. The implementation of multiple-use management boils down to you, your ideas, opinions, and attitudes in conjunction with those of the other resource managers located at your installation. Because of the Department of Defense definition of multiple-use management we are under order to "coordinate management of all natural resources."

This "coordination" is where the ideal of multiple-use management can become a "hair-pullin', eye-gougin', name-callin' problem," but it does not have to be. In spite of what some of us have been led to believe, you can get along with your wildlife manager, if he is willing to get along with you, and if he knows what is good for his program, he will. As forest managers we can do more than any other person to benefit his program, and he can do a great deal to benefit yours or he can be the biggest "pain in the ass" you have. There is nothing that



makes you feel as good as your wildlife manager coming to your defense in front of a "Rod and Gun Club" member. He can be the best public relations man you have, if you are willing to coordinate your functions in ways that will help his program. I am not saying that timber management should take a back seat to wildlife management, or any resource management, but neither can foresters look on wildlife managers as "second class citizens." They believe in their cause, just as much as we do ours.

The first step in coordination is to realize that neither you nor your wildlife manager will have it his way all the time. The key to coordination is compromise. If you are doing KG work take your wildlife manager with you. See if he wants to locate a foodplot or leave a clump of key hardwoods for wildlife benefit. See if he will locate the foodplot in a corner of your KG area so it will not interfere with your planting. Leave some good mast producing hardwoods in clumps or stringers for wildlife. You may lose five acres of potential timberland but is that such a large price to pay? Take an interest in his programs, find out his objectives, see what you can do to help him reach his goals. If you can help, do it. If you think your program will be damaged tell him, but explain why it would damage the program. Then listen to why he needs it. Compromise! There is usually a solution which will be agreeable to both of you. If there is no equitable solution, then you must keep your head and make a cold, hard, decision after all the facts are presented. But I do not believe that the blame for the long smouldering



battle between wildlifera and foresters can be totally blamed on the wildlife manager.

At Camp Lejeune we don't have to tolerate our wildlife manager. We see each others side and work very close with our wildlife manager and each takes an active part in the others programs. Our base forester has brought many good wildlife and forestry ideas to Camp Lejeune and we are doing our best to implement them into our programs.

Forestry wildlife coordination at Camp Lejeune starts at the very basic operation of forest management, the prescription. While a professional forester is doing field work for a compartment prescription and subsequent silvicultural treatments he notes areas which are particularly beneficial wildlife areas or areas which are unique, such as old house places, or large areas covered with muscadine, or fox grapes. These are recorded in the field and are noted on a map when the final draft of the prescription is written. When the draft is complete there is a prescription conference held where the base forester, Kenneth Harrison, the base wildlife manager, Charles Peterson, the base ecologist, Julian Wooten, and the natural resources director, Wendell Neal, who is a graduate wildlife biologist, and I discuss the prescription. The prescriber tells what the indicated needs are for each stand based on gathered field data and why he recommends the various treatments. At this time any special interest or needs are brought out. If there are endangered species or other special considerations, it is discussed and the decision is made. Then all sign and date the prescription. This



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does not mean that the prescription can't be changed if an unforeseen situation does arise.

We cooperate in almost every facet of natural resource management, from roll chop for timber stand improvement to wildlife inventories to soil management programs.

Forestry wildlife coordination is a necessary part of multiple-use management, and anyone who is in the conservation of natural resources, as we are, must be under multiple-use management. To be effective in multiple-use management coordination is not a luxury but a necessity.

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