

HEADQUARTERS, MARINE CORPS BASE
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA

DATE 1 July 1987

From: Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities

To: NREA MR WOOTEN

Subj: OPENING OF HENDERSON ROAD

Thank you and all your personnel
for a job well done.

T. J. Dalzell
Colonel USMC

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HENDERSON-HICKORY POND COMPLEX

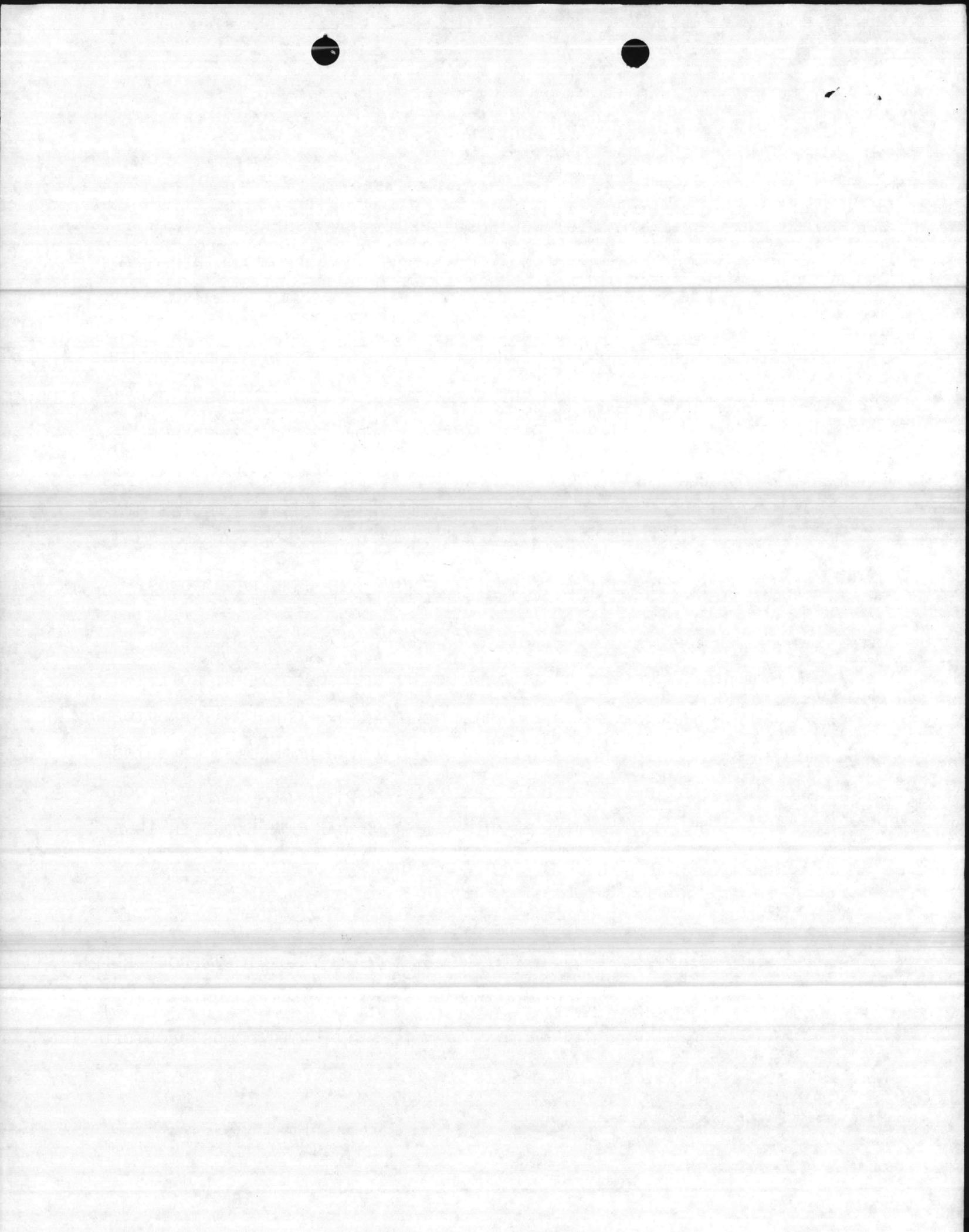
1 JULY 1987

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DISTINGUISHED GUEST AND FISHERMEN, IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE HERE TODAY TO REOPEN HENDERSON AND HICKORY PONDS FOR FISHING.

BEFORE I OPEN THE PONDS, I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A LITTLE BACKGROUND INFORMATION WITH YOU. FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF CAMP LEJEUNE, FRESHWATER STREAMS AND SEVERAL SMALL NATURAL PONDS INCLUDING PRINCE, WARD, HOG PEN, OAK, POWERLINE, MILE HAMMOCK AND COURTHOUSE BAY PONDS PROVIDED FOR FRESHWATER FISHING ACTIVITY ABOARD BASE. IN THE MID 1960'S, THERE WAS AN INCREASED INTEREST IN FRESHWATER FISHING AND PLANS WERE FORMULATED TO BUILD HICKORY AND HENDERSON PONDS.

IN 1968, THE ONSLOW COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATIONIST, JACKSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, AND THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE ENGINEER, GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, PROVIDED ASSISTANCE IN DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF BOTH PONDS. STANDING TIMBER WAS SOLD AND REMOVED BY CONTRACT FROM THE AREA TO BE FLOODED IN EACH POND. CONSTRUCTION OF HICKORY POND WAS COMPLETED IN 1968 AS A TROOP TRAINING PROJECT, AND CONSTRUCTION OF HENDERSON POND WAS COMPLETED IN 1972 BY THE BASE MAINTENANCE DIVISION.

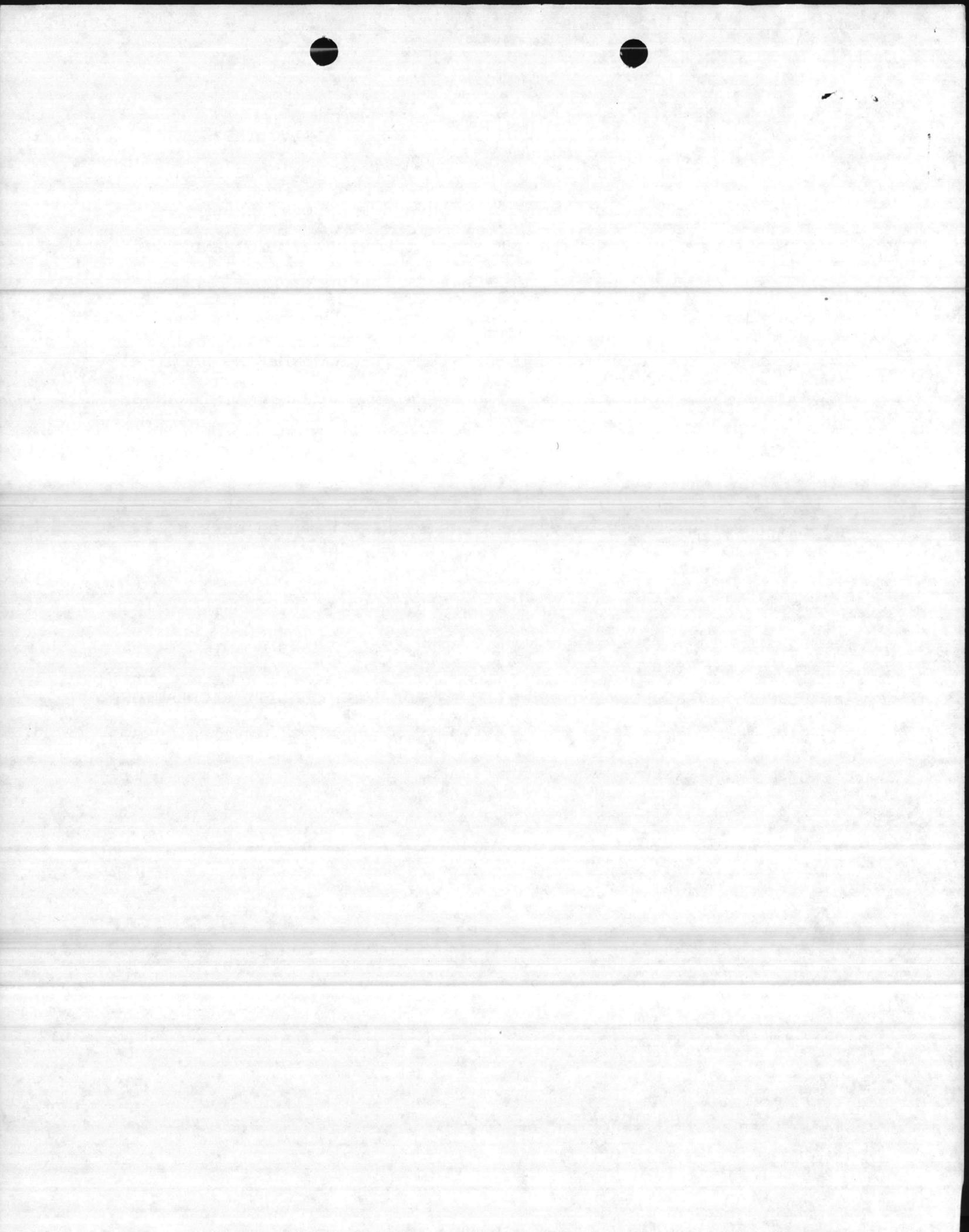
THE FISHERIES DIVISION, U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, PROVIDED PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE IN MONITORING WATER CHEMISTRY AND PROVIDED FISH FOR STOCKING THROUGH FEDERAL HATCHERIES. BOTH PONDS PROVIDED GOOD FISHING UNTIL THE MID 1980'S WHEN MAINTAINING WATER LEVELS IN BOTH PONDS BECAME A PROBLEM.

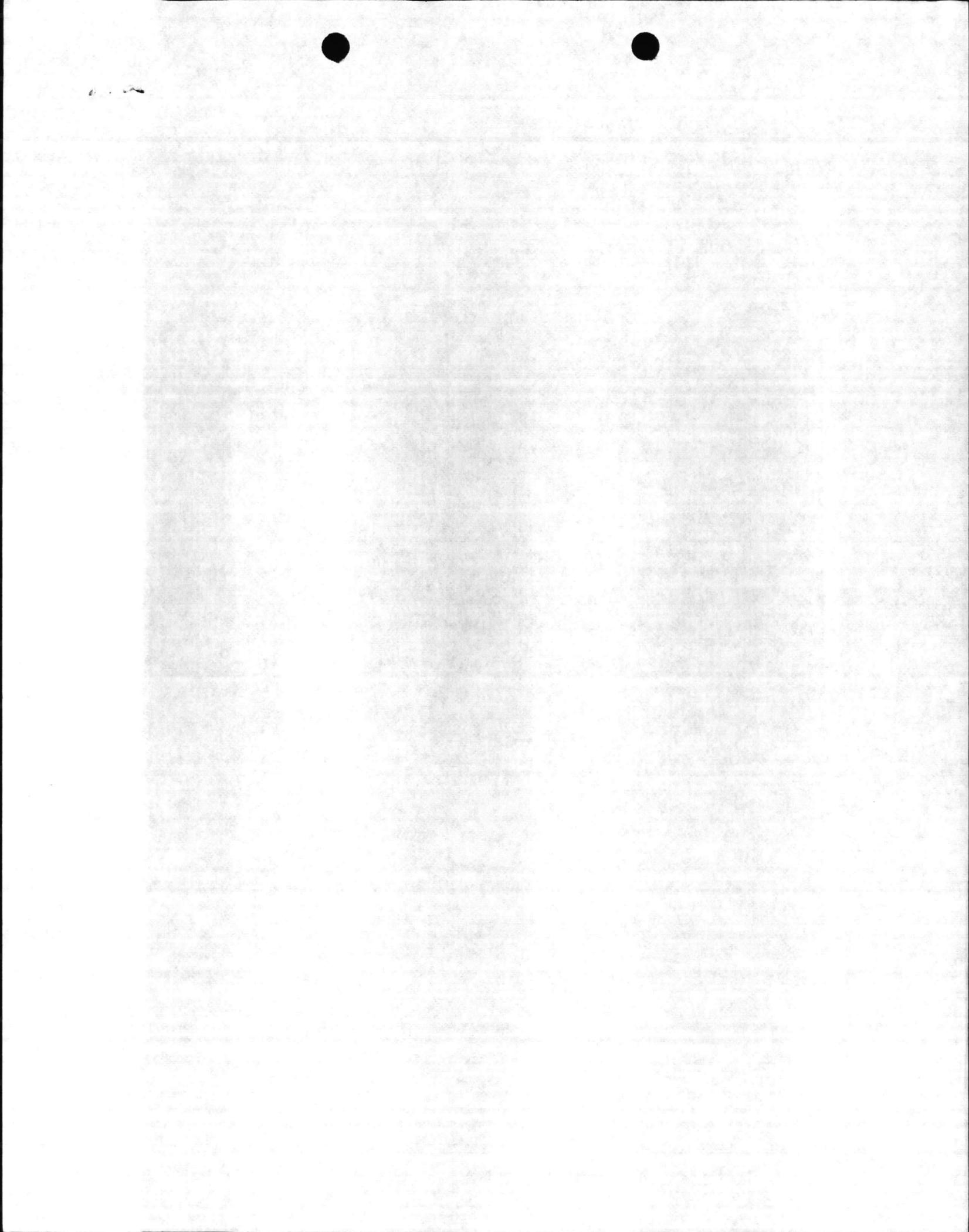


IN 1986, A WORK PROJECT WAS INITIATED FOR REPAIRING THE WATER CONTROL STRUCTURES, SHORELINE AND ACCESS ROADS TO BOTH PONDS. REPAIRS WERE NECESSARY PRIMARILY TO REPLACE UNSERVICEABLE DRAINPIPES THAT HAD BEEN IN USE SINCE THE HICKORY AND HENDERSON PONDS WERE CONSTRUCTED IN 1968 AND 1972, RESPECTIVELY. AGAIN, THE ONLSOW COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATIONIST AND THE U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE ENGINEER, DESIGNED THE ENGINEERING SPECIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR REPAIRING BOTH PONDS. BASE MAINTENANCE DIVISION PROVIDED HEAVY EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL TO DO THE CONSTRUCTION WORK.

ADULT BLUEGILL, LARGE-MOUTH BASS AND CHANNEL CATFISH WERE STOCKED IN BOTH PONDS IN NOVEMBER 1986. RECENT SEINE SAMPLE ANALYSIS INDICATE THAT THE FISH HAVE SUCCESSFULLY REPRODUCED IN BOTH PONDS, AND THEY CAN NOW BE OPENED FOR FISHING.

HENDERSON AND HICKORY PONDS WILL PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY RECREATIONAL FISHING OPPORTUNITY FOR MARINES, THEIR DEPENDENTS, INVITED GUESTS AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES FOR MANY YEARS.







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HENDERSON-HICKORY POND COMPLEX
1 July 1987

Ladies and Gentlemen, distinguished guest ^{and} fishermen, it is a pleasure for me to be here today to reopen Henderson and Hickory Ponds for fishing.

Before I open the ponds, I would like to share a little background information with you. From the early days of Camp Lejeune, freshwater streams and several small natural ponds including Prince Pond, Ward Pond, Hog Pen Pond, Oak Pond, Powerline Pond, Mile Hammock Pond and Courthouse Bay Ponds provided for freshwater fishing activity aboard base. In the mid 1960's, there was an increased interest in freshwater fishing and plans were formulated to build Hickory and Henderson Ponds.

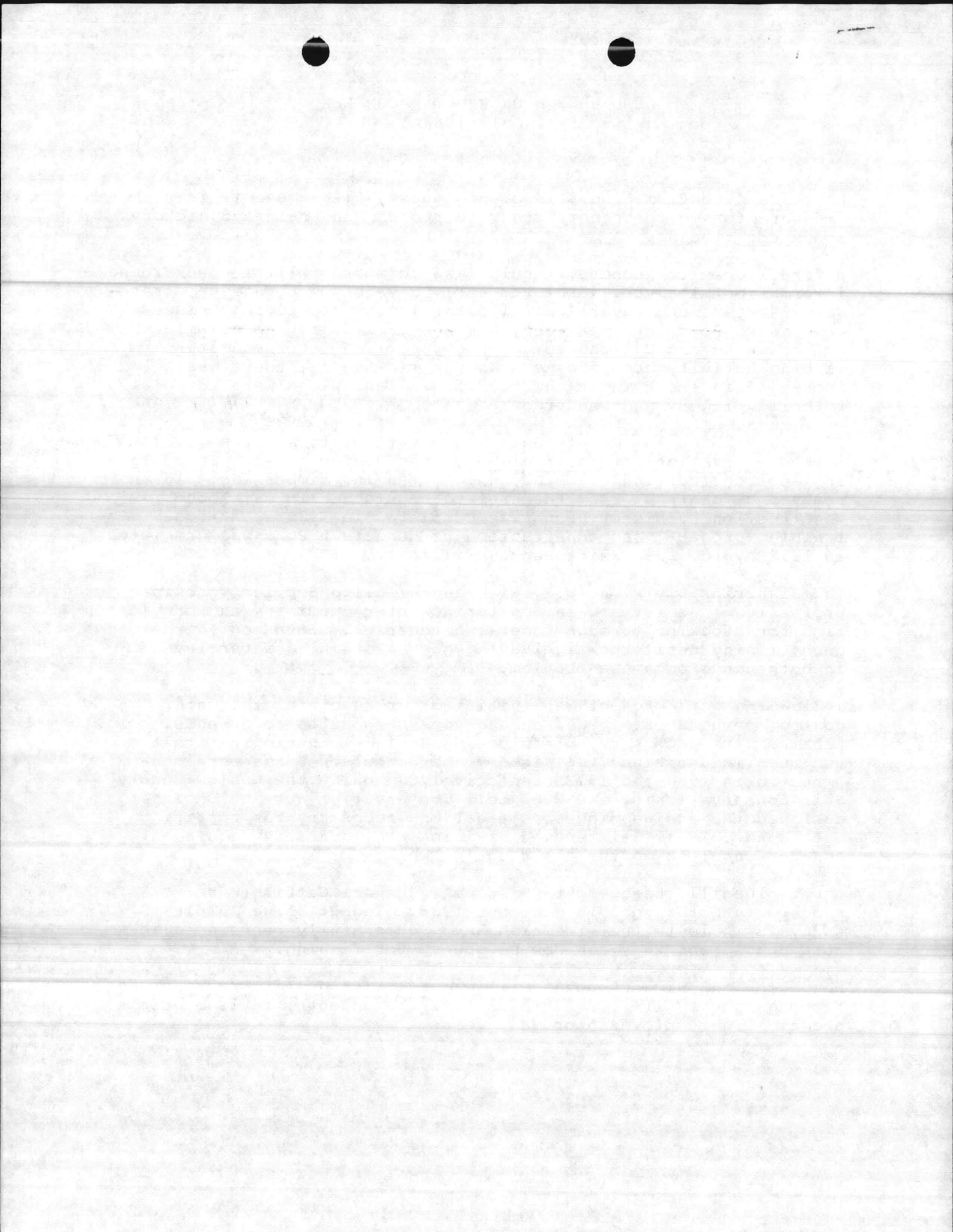
In 1968, the Onslow County Soil Conservationist, and the U.S. D. Agriculture ^{Jacksonville NC} Soil Conservation Service Engineer, ^{Soldersville NC} provided assistance in designing and construction of both ponds. Standing timber was sold and removed by contract from the area to be flooded in each pond. Construction of Hickory Pond was completed in 1968 as a troop training project, and construction of Henderson Pond was completed in 1972 by the Base Maintenance Division.

The Fisheries Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, provided professional assistance in monitoring water chemistry and provided fish for stocking through federal hatcheries. Both ponds provided good fishing until the mid 1980's when maintaining water levels in both ponds became a problem.

In 1986, a work project was initiated for repairing the water control structures, shoreline and access roads to both ponds. Repairs were necessary ^{primarily} to replace unservicable ^{drainpipes} that had been in use since the Hickory and Henderson ponds were constructed in 1968 and 1972 respectively. Again, the Onslow County Soil Conservationist and U.S. Soil Conservation Service Engineer, designed the engineering specifications necessary for repairing both ponds. Base Maintenance Division provided heavy equipment and personnel to do the construction work.

Adult Bluegill, Large-mouth Bass, and Channel Catfish were stocked in both ponds in November 1986. Recent seine sample analysis indicate that the fish have successfully reproduced in both ponds, and they can now be opened for fishing.

Henderson and Hickory ponds will provide high quality recreational fishing opportunity for Marines, their dependents, invited guests, and civilian employees for many years.



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