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JUL 28 1987

Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities, Environmental Engineer,  
Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune  
Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities

TRIP REPORT: NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
MEETING 23 JULY 1987 - REVIEW OF MILITARY ACTIVITIES IMPACTS ON  
COASTAL RESOURCES

Encl: (1) Draft proposed guidelines for military activities

1. The proposed guidelines were presented by the staff of the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management to members of the Planning and Standards Committee of the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC). The stated purposes of these rules were:

- A. To pull together a central policy on military activities.
- B. To get feedback from the military community.
- C. To provide guidance to the military planners on preparation of coastal consistency determinations.

2. As the discussion proceeded, there was evidence of the continuing controversy of the 2d Marine Air Wing airspace proposal. Opposition to the project was voiced by members of the staff, CRC members and citizens and environmental groups in attendance. Much of the opposition appeared to stem from the perspective of the Marine Corps "not listening to us and including us in your projects". One citizen spoke of a specific NEPA process problem with the lack of scoping and Cherry Point's reportedly making substantial changes to the draft EIS without additional public involvement.

3. After the proposed rules were reviewed, Mr. Doug Nelson, the Director of NREAD at Cherry Point, made a statement that their command preferred to use the existing NEPA process to review these ongoing activities. They also preferred not to have another layer of paperwork to go through. Several comments were made regarding the NEPA process versus the Coastal Zone Consistency process. One state staff member remarked that the NEPA process is to evaluate alternatives and impact as a decision-making tool in order to meet a certain set of

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Main body of the document containing several paragraphs of extremely faint, illegible text. The text appears to be a formal report or letter, but the characters are too light to transcribe accurately.

Subj: TRIP REPORT: NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
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standards. Whereas, the Coastal Zone process is to set the standards to be met. He felt that they were specifically different processes. At that point I made a suggestion to the committee chairman that if they desired to pursue these guidelines that we would be willing to meet with the State's staff to review these things jointly and recommend some wording of general policy agreeable to both the State and the military activities.

4. At the conclusion of the session, the committee chairman indicated that they would recommend to the Coastal Resources Commission that the State staff of the Division of Coastal Management arrange for discussions with the military activities prior to the next Coastal Resources Commission meeting in September.

5. Recommendation: Advise CM-LFL and LANTDIV of these proposed policies; seek their review and guidance.

R. E. ALEXANDER  
Environmental Engineer

Copies to:  
SJA  
NREAD ←  
JPAO





State of North Carolina  
Department of Natural Resources and Community Development  
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512 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

James G. Martin, Governor  
S. Thomas Rhodes, Secretary

David W. Owens  
Director

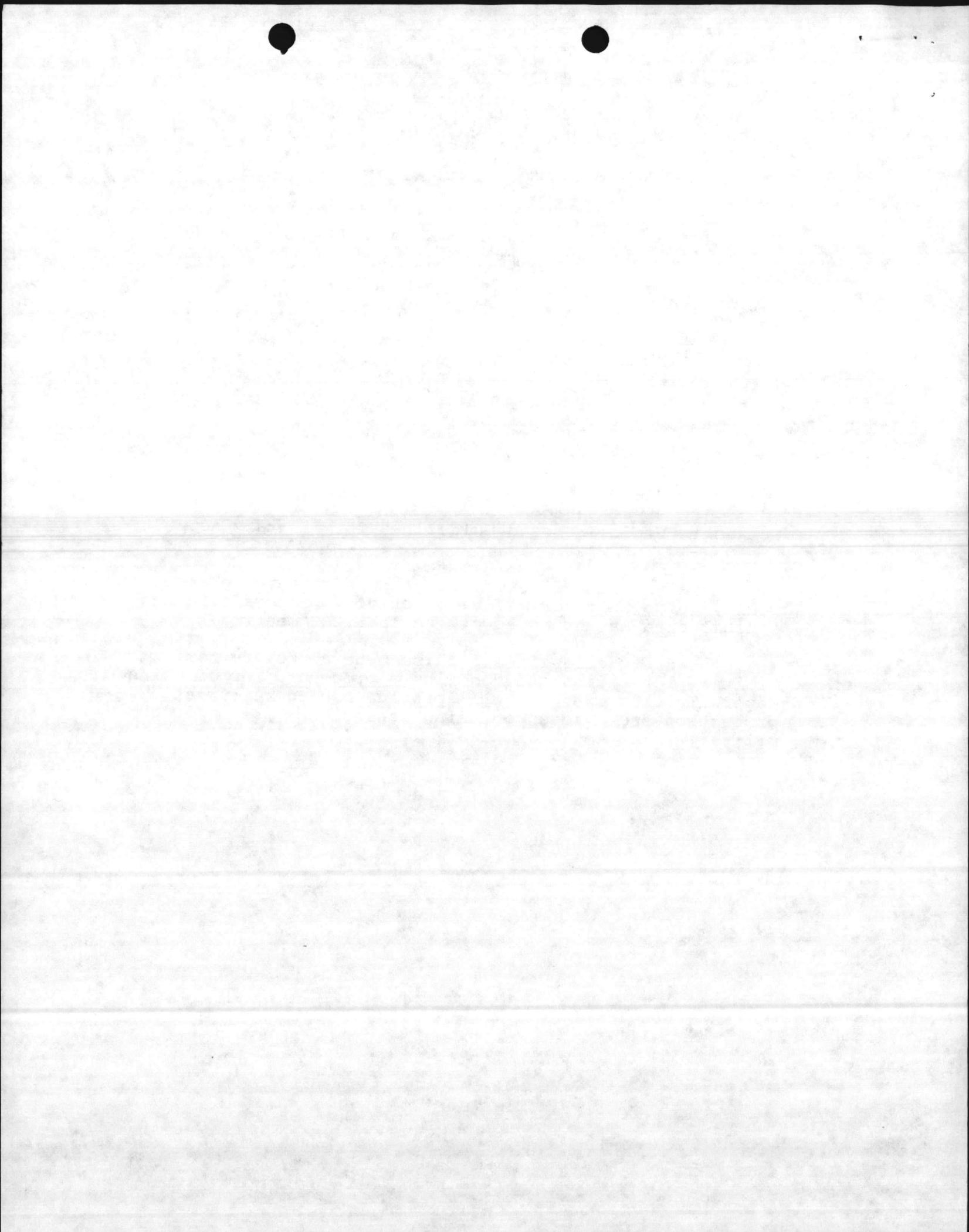
July 14, 1987  
I&S 198

MEMORANDUM

To: CRC  
From: Steve Benton  
Subject: Draft Proposed Guidelines for Military Activity

Attached is a first draft attempt to develop a set of policy guidelines for military activity proposals in the coastal area as requested at the last CRC meeting.

The draft guidelines outline general policy for military activities and describe a procedure for compliance. Hopefully this exercise will provide needed resource protection and a less confusing consistency arena for the military to attempt to operate in.



MILITARY ACTIVITY GUIDELINES  
DISCUSSION OUTLINE

The proposed draft guidelines for Military Activities are intended to provide guidance in the following four areas. An effort was made to use a broad general approach rather than to focus on a specific issue such as the recent airspace proposals.

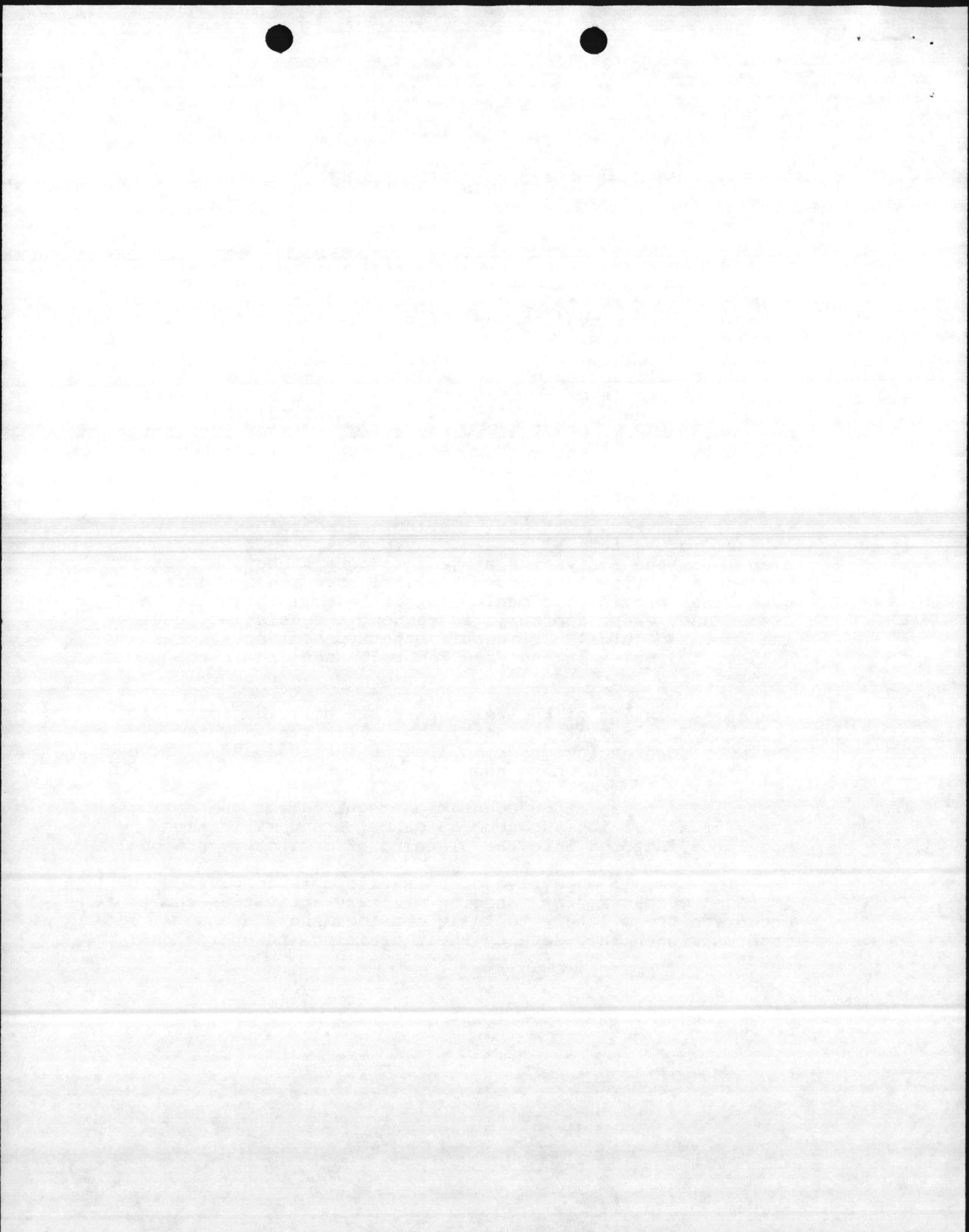
1) Clarification of how National Interest/National Security issues are viewed by the State of North Carolina. Our existing management plan clearly recognizes the national interest of military bases and training facilities. It is also clear that with proper planning, siting, impact analysis and mitigation both the state's and military's interests can be met.

2) Update the official listing of federal activities subject to the federal consistency process. Our management plan lists the activities subject to consistency in part to provide a service to affected federal agencies. The federal guidelines provide for monitoring of federal activities not listed and, where appropriate, request a consistency review. The proposed guidelines identify the types of activities subject to review on excluded federal lands and in the coastal area.

3) A listing of the relevant state policies for military development and operations activities. This includes referencing other applicable sections and a few new standards in areas where none existed before.

4) The types of documentation required for the various types of activities and some guidance on how mitigation should be factored into the planning of a military proposal.

The overall objective of this effort is to provide an improved mechanism for managing military activities and to encourage the military to fully consider the state's interests when they develop their training and operations plans.



SECTION .0900 - MILITARY ACTIVITIES

-----D R A F T -----

.0901 DECLARATION OF GENERAL POLICY

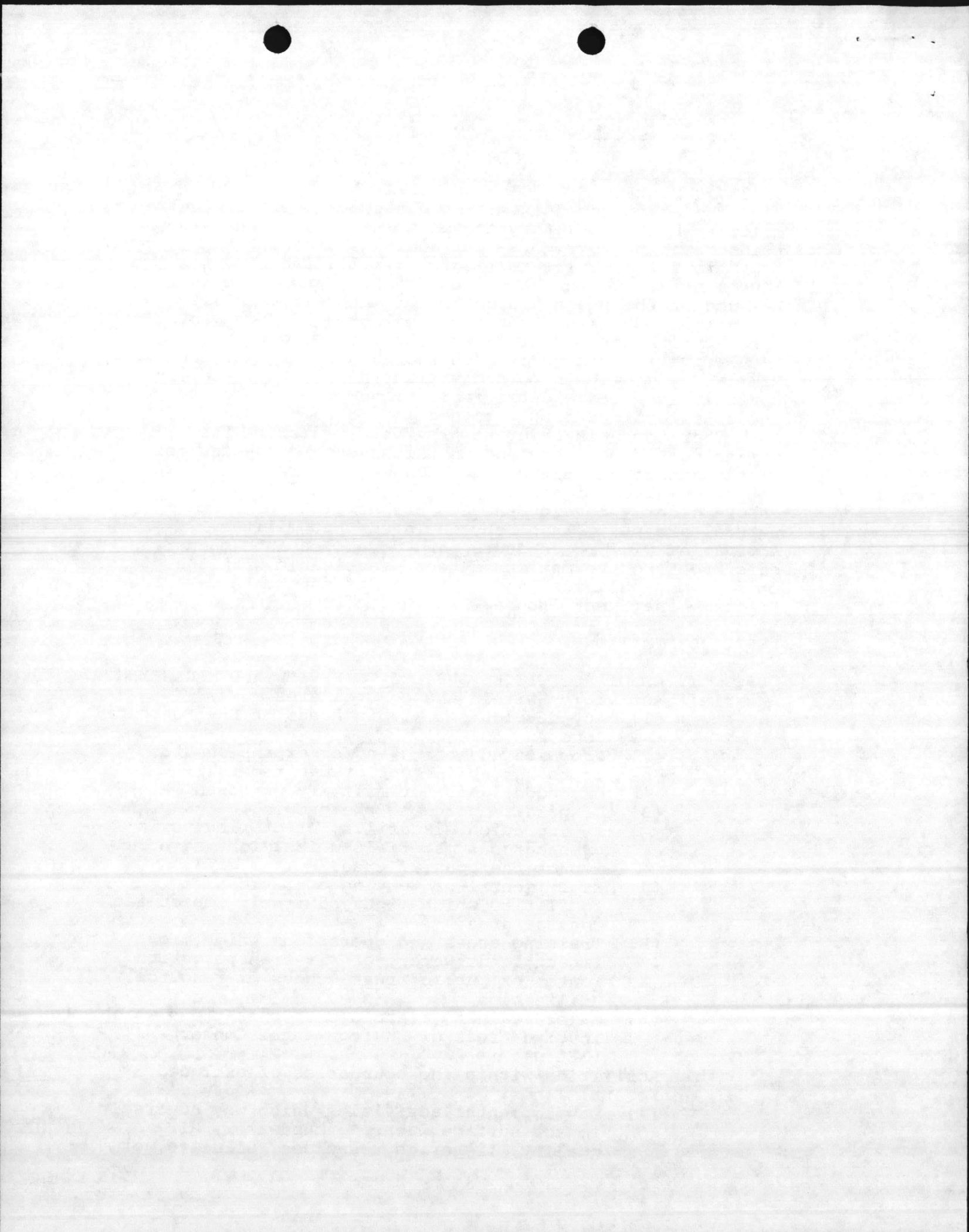
The State recognizes that national interest requires military bases, military access to air, land, and water transportation corridors, and adequate training and operations facilities to maintain skills and readiness levels needed to insure the national defense. However, because of the scale and nature of the various military activities occurring in the coastal area of North Carolina, there exists the potential for significant direct and cumulative impacts to it's character and natural resources. Similarly, growth in both civilian and military use of coastal resources creates increasing potential for resource use conflicts and danger to health and safety.

Therefore, in order to provide a framework for balancing the military and civilian resource needs, to protect and enhance the high economic, recreational, and esthetic values of the state's coastal lands and waters, and insure orderly development and preservation of coastal natural areas, it is hereby declared that military activities will be conducted and developed in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the goals, objectives, policies, and standards of the North Carolina Coastal Management Program.

.0902 DEFINITIONS

.0903 TYPES OF ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) Activities within the coastal area
  - (1) Any development within Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC's).
  - (2) Proposed additions and/or expansions to, or the establishment of new federally excluded lands for military purposes.
  - (3) Disposal, including the dumping, incineration, landfills, or storing toxic or hazardous materials which might adversely impact the coastal area.
  - (4) Experimental or testing operations or facilities which might adversely impact the coastal area.
  - (5) Training areas and operations which might impact land, water, or air transportation routes or public trust access or resource utilization.
  - (6) Major training exercises or operations which involve Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC's).
- (b) Activities within the boundaries of excluded federal lands.
  - (1) Developmental activities which may adversely impact surface water, groundwater, air quality, fisheries resources, wildlife, or



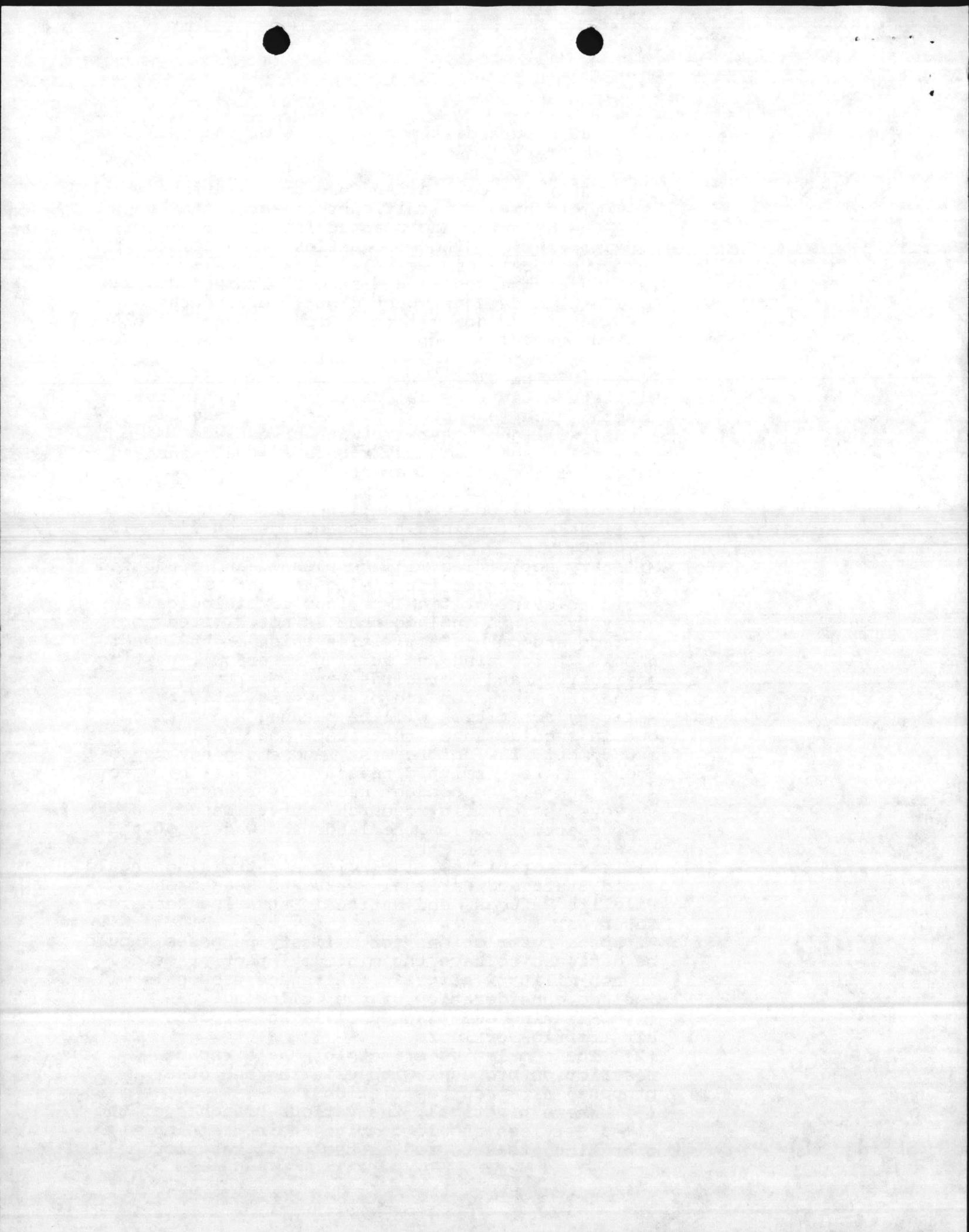
AEC's outside the boundaries of the excluded federal lands.

- (2) Major changes in land use or operations which might have a significant direct impact on the existing and planned infrastructure of the surrounding communities as described in the local land use plans.
- (3) Major changes in operations within federally excluded lands which might increase the hazard to non-military lands and public trust waters.

.0904

POLICY STATEMENTS

- (a) Military activities and development within the coastal area (except within excluded federal lands) will not interfere with or exclude common-law and statutory rights in the lands and waters of the coastal area.
- (b) Military development activities in areas of Environmental Concern shall be consistent with the applicable guidelines and standards set forth in 15 NCAC 7H.
- (c) Military activities will be planned and conducted with consideration for timing the activity to avoid relevant critical periods of biological activity. This includes but is not limited to surface and/or air activities which might impact flocks of roosting and resting waterfowl, nesting sea turtles and shorebirds, and important fisheries migration and/or spawning activity.
- (d) Military activities will be planned and carried out in such a manner that state and local resource management, law enforcement, and emergency medical agencies are permitted reasonable access by water, land, and air to conduct necessary resource surveys, scientific research, surveillance, and rescue activities on the lands and waters of the coastal area.
- (e) Military activities, including air training should avoid State and National Parks and Seashores, Wildlife Refuges, and National Estuarine Research Reserves.
- (f) Airspace restrictions for military purposes should be designed to have the minimum impact practical on non-military aircraft. Airspace proposals will include consideration of the following:
  - (1) Existing and planned civilian airports and air traffic corridors.
  - (2) The cumulative effects of the airspace restriction proposal with existing and other proposed airspace restrictions.
  - (3) Where practical, the various branches of the Armed Services should combine their training operation areas to reduce the total restricted



airspace which presently exists.

- (4) Restricted airspace should only be closed to civilian aircraft with appropriate notice, and when military training activity is actually scheduled.
- (g) Military development and activities in the coastal area will comply with all applicable federal and state water and air quality guidelines and standards.
- (h) The Department of Defense agencies with bases and operations areas within the twenty coastal counties should actively participate in the local land use planning process, both for their federally excluded land areas and in partnership with neighboring local government jurisdictions.

.0905

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

- (a) A consistency determination will be required for the activities listed in .0903 of this section. Other activities not listed will be monitored and may also require a consistency determination pursuant to 15 CFR 930.35(b). The content of a consistency determination is described in 15 CFR Part 930.
- (b) Most listed activities will also require NEPA documentation. Where NEPA Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments are involved, the consistency determination should be included in the final version.
- (c) Where no NEPA documentation is involved, the consistency determination should address the relevant issues and impacts of concern to the state identified in the Coastal Management Plan, state guidelines, and local land use plan(s).
- (d) Because of the national interest involved in most military activities, mitigation of identified impacts can be incorporated into the consistency determination to bring a proposed project into compliance with the Coastal Management Program without prior Coastal Resources Commission approval for mitigation candidacy provided all other relevant guidelines in 15 NCAC 7M are met. Mitigation proposals should be related to and commensurate with the unavoidable impacts of the proposed project.
- (e) When a change, expansion, or other action within the coastal area keys the requirement for a consistency review for an activity which is ongoing but never previously reviewed for consistency, the entire operation must be certified to be consistent.

