

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DIVISION  
BASE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT  
MARINE CORPS BASE  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA 28542

13 May 81

From: Director, NREA Division

To: *BMO*

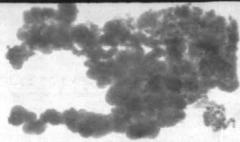
Subj: *attached GAO comments*

*M*

1.

*Larry Mizel sent attached to me. I am sending over for your info.*

*John  
OUE*



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COMP/LEM/In  
7500

11 MAY 1981

From: Commanding General  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code FDR)

Subj: General Accounting Office Visit, Feasibility of Increasing  
Multiple Use of Military Land

Ref: (a) MCO 7500.3B

1. In accordance with reference (a), a report of the subject visit is submitted. From 6-9 April 1981, Mr. Joseph Holland of the General Accounting Office (GAO) conducted a review of multiple use of military land controlled by Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune. While at MCB, the auditor examined and gathered information relating primarily to natural resources. Mr. Holland stated at the exit conference that MCB was one of approximately 16 Department of Defense Installations to be visited, four from each service.

2. Identification: Feasibility of Increasing Multiple Use of Military Land (GAO Assignment Code 945454).

3. Exit Conference: 9 April 1981

4. Resume of GAO Findings - Exit Conference:

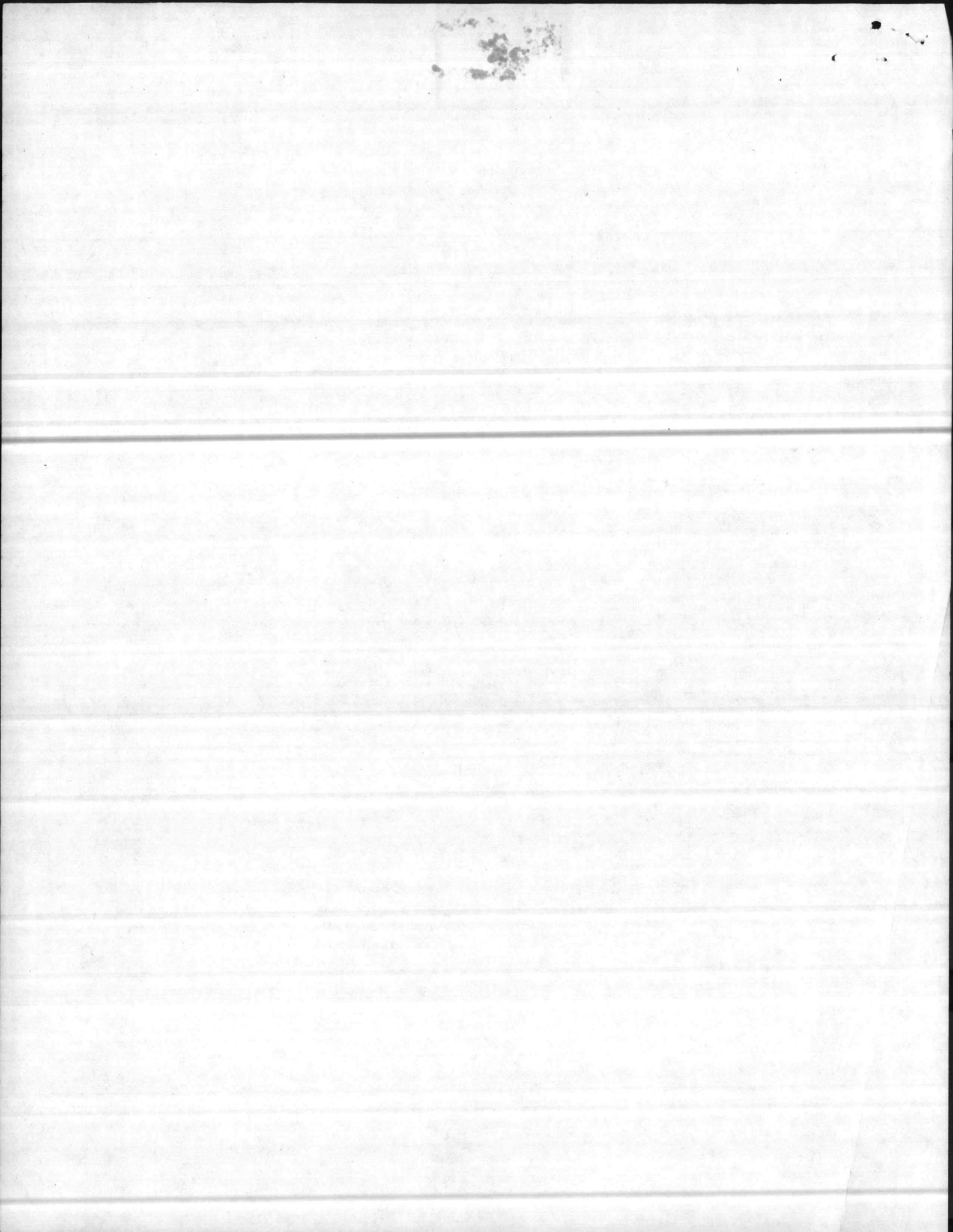
a. He recommended that a greater effort be made to get ideas from other installations on natural resources and environmental programs.

b. He indicated that it appeared that all open areas are being used concurrently for military, wildlife and forestry.

c. He stated that dirt access roads are in very poor condition. It would appear that those roads could be repaired through O&M Funds (military use), receipts from forestry operations (open access roads and fire breaks) and income derived from the fish and wildlife program (openings for wildlife).

d. The first settlers site (Towne Point) could become an excellent outdoor recreation area. At the present time, it seems to be going to waste because no one knows it is there, as signs don't exist.

e. Serious erosion problems exist. Mr. Holland indicated he personally felt that one objective (road maintenance) in the Base Natural Resources management Plan is not being carried out. Dirt roads are in such a state that forest fire fighting may not be possible. Wetlands and marsh areas are being filled in.



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f. Mr. Holland stated that Camp Lejeune has unlimited natural resources. However, it appears that public access to some of these are unnecessarily limited, i.e. firewood program, hunting and fishing. DOD regulations recommend that recreation be equitably distributed by impartial selection procedures, such as lottery, or first come-first served basis.

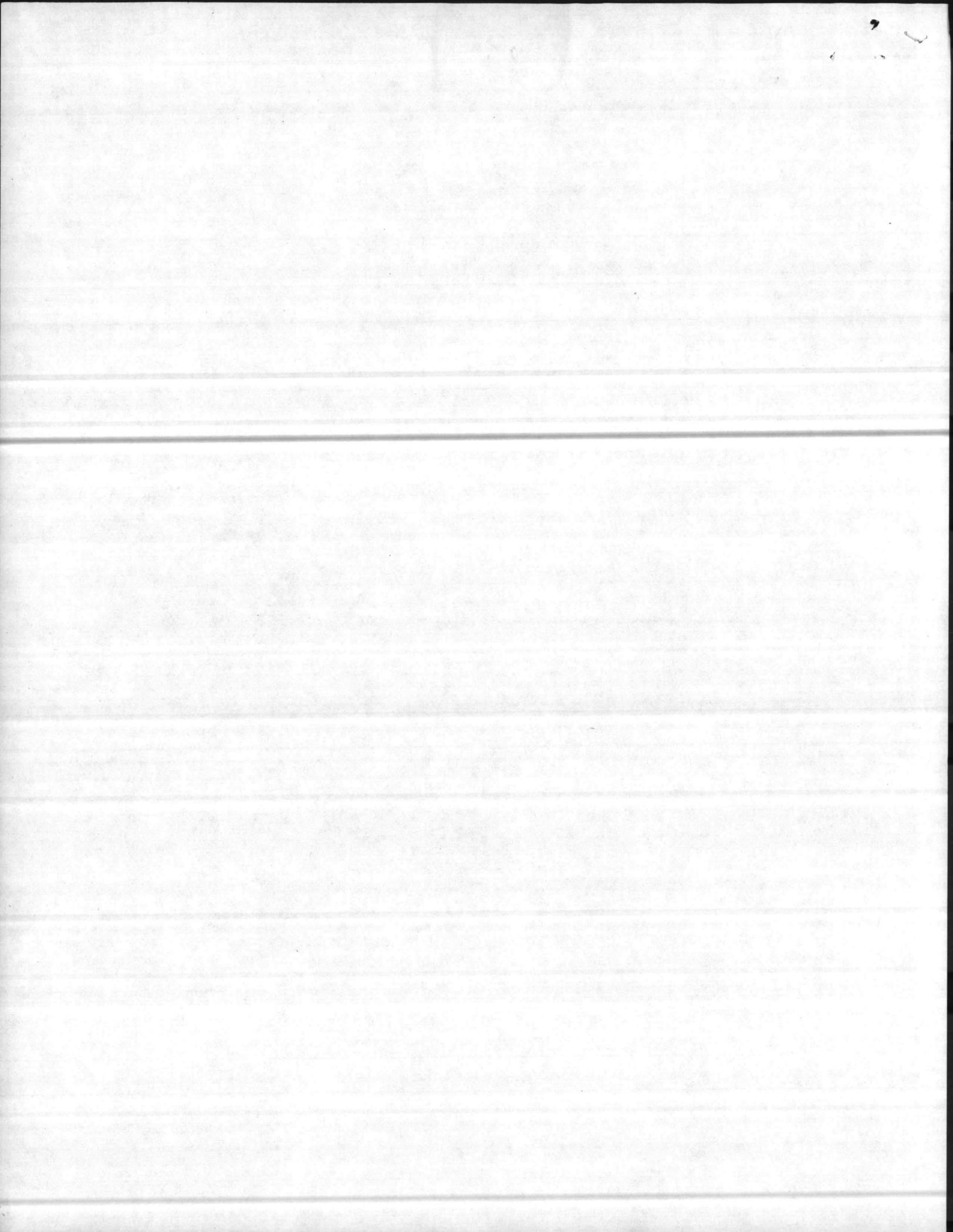
g. After having looked over Camp Lejeune staffing in Natural Resources, it was concluded that the forestry program could be more productive and would continue a sustained yield by increasing the staff to perform the necessary work. For example, during a tour of the forestry area, it was noted that there are several areas where trees are dying, are very thick (need thinning) and are a fire hazard due to a lack of controlled burning. He recommended additional forestry personnel, equipment operators and money to finance the operation.

h. Military personnel working in Natural Resources area should have some kind of identification to show they have this experience, otherwise it is lost. Wildlife and forestry discipline should be identified by adding a number or letter of the alphabet to the primary MOS, which would immediately identify a Marine with these capabilities.

5. Command Position on Adverse Comments:

a. Item 4a: An effort will be made to visit and review natural resources and environmental programs at other installations. Mr. Holland will submit a list of activities that the Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division staff might benefit by visiting.

b. Item 4c: Natural Resource Management Plan of March 1975 identified known erosion deficiencies throughout Marine Corps Base and Marine Corps Air Station (Helicopter), New River. A majority of the sites are located at training areas on tank trails and dirt roads concentrated at stream crossings and side slopes of drainageways. Each year approximately \$100,000 of work identified in the Natural Resources Management Plan of March 1975 has been included in the annual work plan. A pollution abatement project to correct serious erosion problems on base associated with stream crossings was submitted to Headquarters Marine Corps during FY 1980. This project will correct erosion situations as addressed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers on 22 June 1979. On 4 August 1980, engineering study requirements that would include base soil erosion problems was identified for funding. \$10,000 was identified in the FY 1982 Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division



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Annual Operational Plan to develop a dirt road and tank trail maintenance plan. The plan would provide a basis for allocating O&M and forestry funds to dirt road maintenance.

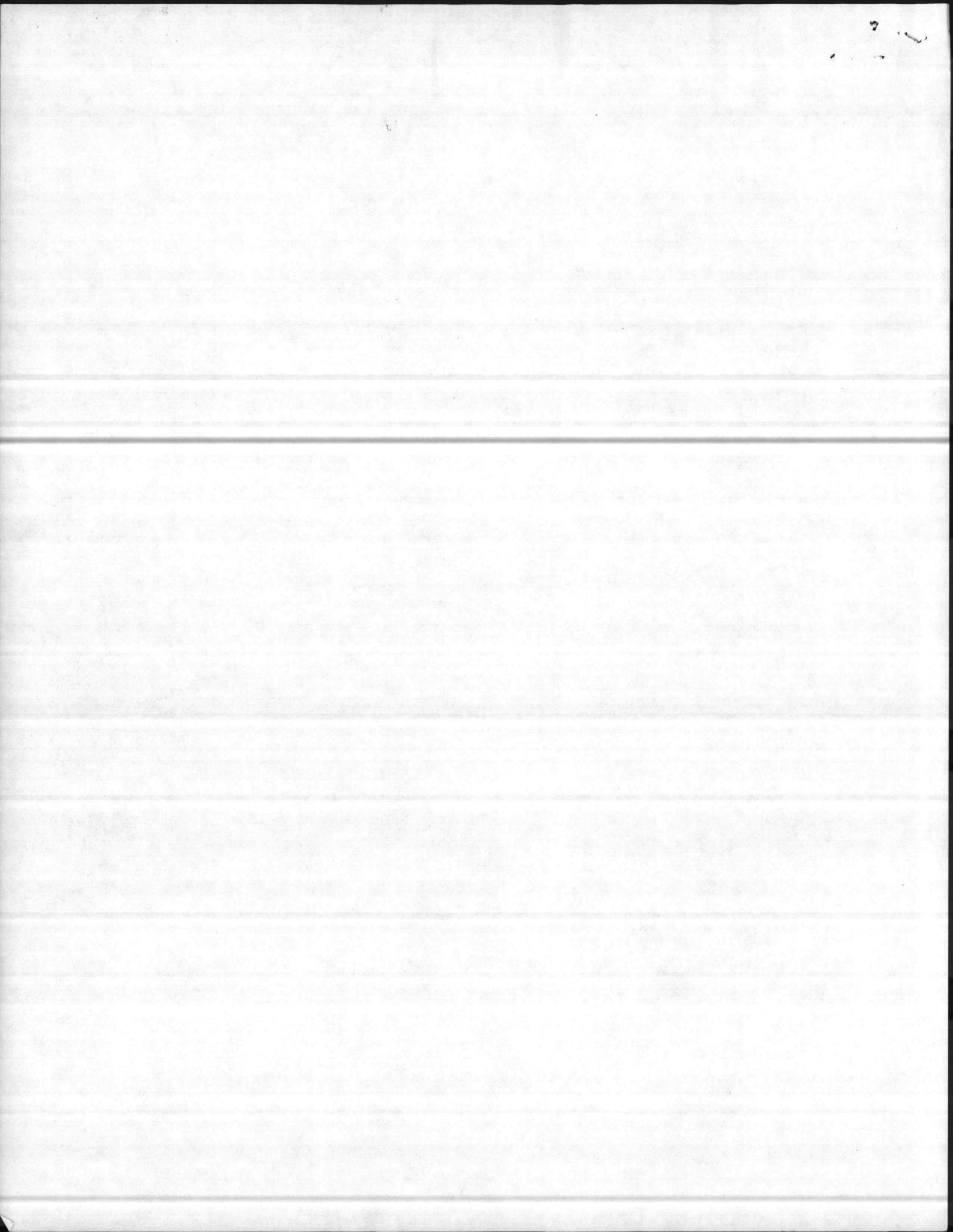
c. Item 4d: Towne Point is located in the K-Training Area in the vicinity of Range K-326. Due to safety considerations, the area has not been developed for recreation.

d. Item 4e: Comments contained in 5b are also applicable. The deteriorated dirt forest access road problem has been reviewed by MCB officials on several occasions. Some road conditions have improved, however, problem areas where forest fire suppression would be hampered and areas where wetlands are being filled, as a result of soil erosion, continue to exist. Action to increase maintenance effort on roads is being implemented.

e. Item 4f: Mr. Holland indicated the final report would recommend equal treatment of all individuals that hunt, fish and participate in firewood programs, including military, civilian employees and civilian guest. He stated fees should be equal and participation should be on first come-first serve basis. MCB will take this into account along with current directives in developing policies in the future.

f. Item 4g: Mr. Holland was provided documentation related to the expanded forestry program at MCB. He was advised that the expanded forestry program addressed officially on 16 July 1979 is only a beginning. However, it is not considered feasible to accurately project the asset requirements at this point to fully develop a balanced program. It has been recommended to the Headquarters Marine Corps Natural Resources staff specialist that a Volume of Business (VOB) study be conducted to determine the assets and financing needed to fully implement and support a balanced forestry program with long range objectives. Some areas that should be considered in addition to the increased timber sales program are as follows:

- (1) Forest access road development and maintenance program.
- (2) Increased fire prevention, suppression and prescribe burning program.
- (3) Increased timber stand improvement program.



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- (4) Insect and disease program.
- (5) Tree improvement program.
- (6) Employee training program to keep abreast of new  
development in the field.

g. Item 4h: ECB agrees with the concept, however, action would  
have to be initiated by CMC.

J. R. PRIDELL

Cppy to:  
CMC (Code LFF-2)

