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**FORT CAMPBELL ENVIRONMENTAL HANDBOOK**  
**Guidance and Instruction**  
**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES**

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1. **Purpose and Scope:**

Provide general information and guidance on Fort Campbell's threatened and endangered species (TES) and familiarize EQO's on federal laws and regulations regarding TES for installation compliance with applicable legislation.

2. **References:**

- a. AR 200-3, "Natural Resources - Land, Forest and Wildlife Management," Chapter 11, February 1995.
- b. Joint USFWS and NMFS regulations implementing the Endangered Species Act are contained in Title 50 CFR Part 402. The lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants are contained in Title 50 CFR Parts 17.11 and 17.12, respectively; the designated Critical Habitats are listed in Title 50 CFR Parts 17.95 and 17.96. A complete species list is published in the Federal Register.

3. **Definitions:**

- a. Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA): An act which protects fish, wildlife, and plants that have been determined to be threatened or endangered by the Secretary of Interior or Secretary of Commerce.
- b. Endangered species: those species which are in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range.
- c. Threatened species: those species that are likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.
- d. Conservation: the use of all methods and procedures which are necessary to bring endangered species or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided by the ESA are no longer required.
- e. "Taking" or "take": includes most activities that harass or harm listed fish and wildlife. Additionally, it is unlawful to remove or maliciously damage or destroy any listed plant in areas under federal jurisdiction.

4. **General:**

- a. Fort Campbell contains several state and federal listed species which occur throughout many habitat types. Three species, White Walnut, Rattlesnake Root, and Earleaf Foxglove, are federally listed as Category 2 species and require minimal management requirements. Several state listed species are listed as threatened or endangered and required no management action. However, limiting impact to these species and their associated habitats can be beneficial for the installation, as the DoD system has never been perceived by the civilian community as environmental stewards and protectors of rare species.
- b. The ESA requires all federal agencies to carry out programs for the conservation of listed species. The ESA also requires that federal agencies ensure that actions authorized, funded or carried out by such agencies are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat designated

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critical. Activities that adversely effect a TES population (i.e. taking species or impacting habitat) are prohibited unless authorized by USFWS and NMFS.

c. Department of Defense personnel who violate the provisions of the ESA or implementing regulations are subject to both civil and criminal penalties. The law imposes penalties for both the knowing failure to take required action and the commission of prohibited acts.

d. TES habitats are protected areas and are currently identified on the DPW GIS system. Any project or training activity which is scheduled to occur in designated areas should be referred to DPW Conservation Branch for analysis to determine if the activity can be carried out legally and , if so, whether a permit is required.

5. **Responsibilities:**

a. The Commander/Director is responsible for ensuring guidance and EQO instructions are followed during his/her tenure.

b. The EQO is responsible for initiating a unit program to disseminate information acquired during the Bi-monthly EQO meeting.

6. **Instruction:**

a. Plan military activities to avoid adverse effects on threatened and endangered species.

b. Avoid activities in and around TES sites that in all probability will produce extended impact to the habitat.

c. All personnel assigned to Fort Campbell, both military and civilian, are environmental stewards for this installation and are an integral part in protecting our threatened and endangered species.

7. **Additional Guidance:**

a. For additional guidance, information, and answers to your questions, contact Gene Zirkle, PWBC Environmental Division, Conservation Branch, 2616 or 2623.

b. For future reference, place this document behind Tab Number 10 in your Fort Campbell Environmental Handbook.