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**FORT CAMPBELL ENVIRONMENTAL HANDBOOK**  
**Guidance and Instruction**  
**FIELD WATER RELEASE**

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**1. Purpose and Scope:**

Provide information and guidance on water disposal on Fort Campbell during field training exercises.

**2. References:**

- a. Water Pollution Control Act (WPCA) Amendment of 1972 (PL 92-500)
- b. Clean Water Act (CWA) 1987
- c. Mobile Water Plant Discharge correspondence from the State of Tennessee
- d. U.S. Army Discharge correspondence from the State of Kentucky
- e. FM 10-52 Water Supply in the Theatre of Operations
- f. FM 10-52-1 Water Supply Point Equipment and Operations

**3. Definitions:**

- a. **BACKWASH WATER** – The reversal of flow through a filter to wash clogging material out of the filtering medium. Also called filter wash.
- b. **CHLORINATED WATER** – Treatment of water by the addition of chlorine either as a gas or liquid, or in the form of hypochlorite, usually for the purpose of disinfection and oxidation. Chlorine residual in water that is released to the environment must be no more than 3 ppm.
- c. **GRAY WATER** – Water that contains soaps, such as laundry and bath water and kitchen wastewater.
- d. **KITCHEN WASTEWATER** – Water that has been used in food preparation, such as for washing of fruits and vegetables and water that has been used to wash cooking pots, utensils, and equipment.
- e. **POTABLE WATER** – Water that is suitable for drinking.
- f. **RECOR SYSTEM or RECOR Pak** – Reticulated Electrochemical Oxidation Reduction Pak. Treatment with the RECOR system dechlorinates water so that it can be safely discharged to the environment. This system was developed for two applications: (1) PRETREATMENT STAGE (ALPHA) and (2) POSTTREATMENT STAGE (OMEGA).
- g. **ROWPU** – Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit. During field exercises ROWPU's treat water drawn from a well or stream to make it potable. Reverse osmosis is accomplished by applying pressure to a concentrated solution, which causes the passage of a liquid from the concentrated solution to a weaker solution across a semipermeable membrane. The membrane allows the passage of the water (solvent) but not the dissolved solids (solutes). The liquid produced is demineralized water, which is then disinfected by chlorination.
- h. **SIMULATED DECON OPERATION** – The process of simulating the decontamination or removal of contaminants from personnel and equipment as a training exercise. This process is accomplished using water with NO soaps or chemicals, either in a field setting or in garrison on a unit wash facility.

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- i. TREATED WATER – Water that has undergone processing such as sedimentation, filtering, disinfection, and is ready for human consumption.

**4. General:**

During field exercises, various tenant units from Fort Campbell, and non-tenant units at Fort Campbell for training, process potable water. The water is processed by drawing it from a well, stream, or river and treating it through a ROWPU. The treated water is stored in bladders and used for drinking, personal hygiene, field kitchen activities and simulated decontamination operations. Historically, unused treated water, treatment system backwash and gray wash water from showers and field kitchen activities has been hauled back to the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) on post for disposal. However, trucking large amounts of water back to the facility increases logistic concerns and severely limits training operations. Agreements with the states of Kentucky and Tennessee authorize the discharge of water from training exercises as follows: Units that have the mission of purifying water using ROWPU's, the RECOR system, laundry and bath units to include Australian shower, field kitchens and simulated decontamination operations, will be permitted to discharge water at the field location, provided it is done in accordance with the following guidance. Tenant and non-tenant units are subject to and required to comply with this guidance.

**5. Responsibilities:**

The unit EQO is responsible for ensuring the following occurs:

- a. At least ten (10) working days prior to the start of the water/field mission on this installation, the unit must contact Fort Campbell Environmental Division Compliance Branch, Water Quality contact the Environmental Division Water Quality Program at 798- 9641/9601/9598 for guidance. to request permission for field wastewater or gray water release and obtain a FIELD OPERATION WATER RELEASE FORM (enclosure 1). The unit POC must provide the location and date of the field training exercise, and the type of water operation that is scheduled.
- b. Units conducting water purification, field kitchen activities, laundry and bath operations, and decon missions must ensure the FIELD OPERATION WATER RELEASE FORM (enclosure 1) is on hand before departing on a mission and that a copy is on the operational site at all times.
- c. Upon completion of the field training mission, units conducting water purification, field kitchen activities, laundry and bath operations, and decon operations in the field must submit to the Environmental Division Water Quality Program a completed FIELD OPERATION WATER RELEASE FORM. The completed form must be submitted to the Environmental Division Water Quality Program at 798- 9641/9601/9598 Building 2182, 13 ½ St.

**6. Instructions:**

- a. ROWPU Treated water, RECOR Treated water, gray water (to include kitchen wastewater and laundry and bath water), or decon water cannot be discharged directly back into the waters of Tennessee or Kentucky. Water can be pumped from those sources, upon approval, but cannot be discharged back into the original source.
- b. ROWPU treated water, RECOR treated water, gray water (to include kitchen wastewater and laundry and bath water) and uncontaminated decon water may be released to the environment only by spraying the water onto ground covered with vegetation (grass, hay, etc.). Any such spraying must be done at least 200 yards away from any waters of Tennessee or Kentucky.

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Treated water, gray water or decon water must not be allowed to enter waters of Kentucky or Tennessee.

c. Units are not permitted to discharge chlorinated water (ROWPU or RECOR water) that exceeds 3 ppm chlorine residual. A unit that has water with chlorine residual in excess of this amount must contact the Environmental Division Water Quality Program at 798-9641/9601/9598 for guidance.

d. Backwash water must not be released to the environment. It must be transported to the 311<sup>th</sup> MI Motor Pool purge pit, upon approval from the Environmental Water Program.

e. Water that is contaminated with FUELS, WASTE OILS, HYDRAULIC FLUID, ANTIFREEZE, AND CONTAMINATED DECON WATER is NOT permitted to be discharged in any field environment. All CONTAMINATED WATER must be transported back to main post for instruction.

**7. Additional Guidance:**

a. For additional guidance and information regarding field water release, or answers to any questions you may have, please contact the Environmental Division Water Quality Program at 798-9641/9601/9598 for guidance.

b. This guidance is for all who are involved in field training exercises and for the particular attention of the following:

Chemical Units  
Food Service Personnel  
Water Purification Units.

c. For future reference, place this document behind Tab Number 20 in your Fort Campbell Environmental Handbook.