

Environmental Division (DPW)  
1 September 2025

**Facilities Engineering: Management of  
Natural Resources -- Hunting, Fishing, &  
Other Outdoor Recreation**

\*\*\* This regulation format is intended for  
recreational users on Fort Drum only \*\*\*

**All new major changes are in red text.**

**For the official regulation format and  
complete reference see:**

<http://FortDrum.isportsman.net>

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**\*This regulation supersedes HQS US Army  
Garrison Ft Drum Reg 420-3 dated 1 August 2024.**

**\*HQS US Army Garrison Fort Drum, NY  
Fort Drum Regulation 420-3**

**1. PURPOSE.** This regulation sets forth laws,  
restrictions and procedures for hunting, fishing, and  
other outdoor recreational activities on Fort Drum  
Military Installation.

**2. GENERAL INFORMATION & RESTRICTIONS**

a. Recreational use of Fort Drum is secondary to  
requirements of the military mission and a privilege for  
all persons. The actions and behavior of individuals  
will be considered when authorizing access.

b. Hunting, fishing, and other recreational use of  
Fort Drum is in accordance with federal laws, New  
York State laws, New York Environmental  
Conservation laws pursuant to provisions of Section  
11-0321, and Fort Drum regulations and  
supplemental orders issued by the Installation  
Commander. **It is the responsibility of the  
recreationist to know the regulations.** The most up-  
to-date Fort Drum regulations are available on the  
web site (<https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net>); recreation  
maps are available at all times outside of the Natural  
Resources Outreach Facility (Bldg. S-2507).

c. **Failure to comply with lawful orders,  
posted signs, or written notices is illegal.** Violation  
of this regulation may result in apprehension,  
prosecution, and/or loss of recreational privileges on  
Fort Drum.

d. **Individuals entering Fort Drum Military  
Installation may, on a showing of reasonable  
suspicion and/or probable cause, be subject to the  
inspection and/or search of their person or vehicles by  
law enforcement personnel, and the confiscation of all  
evidence of unauthorized activities.**

e. All observed violations of federal, state or Fort  
Drum regulations or laws must be reported to the  
Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157).

f. All recreationists must understand the life  
threatening hazards associated with touching  
unexploded ammunition that may be uncovered in the  
Training Area. No person shall touch suspected  
unexploded ammunition and will immediately report  
its location to Range Branch, Bldg. P-4855 (315-772-  
7152). If Range Branch cannot be reached, contact  
the Military Police, Bldg. P-10715 (315-772-5156 or  
315-772-5157). Recreationists who would like more  
information or a short briefing on the identification and  
hazards of unexploded ammunition should contact the  
Scheduling Section of Range Branch, Bldg. P-4855  
(315-772-5275) or view the 3Rs (Recognize, Retreat,  
Report) Explosives Safety Education Program online  
([www.denix.osd.mil/uxo/](http://www.denix.osd.mil/uxo/)).

g. Persons observing wildland fires must notify  
Range Branch, Bldg. P-4855 (315-772-7152). If  
Range Branch cannot be reached, contact the Military  
Police, Bldg. P-10715 (315-772-5156 or 315-772-  
5157).

h. Accidents and lost persons must be  
immediately reported to Range Branch (315-772-  
7152). If Range Branch cannot be reached, contact  
the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157).

i. **Blaze (Fluorescent) Orange Clothing. All  
recreationists in Fort Drum training areas from  
1 September – 30 March and 1 May – 31 May are  
required to visibly display a minimum of 144  
square inches of blaze orange on the front and  
back of their upper bodies, and also wear blaze  
orange headgear when in the field or engaged in a**

recreational activity outside their vehicle. Exceptions to this blaze orange requirement are:

- (1) Any activity between 1 June and 31 August.
- (2) Archery/crossbow hunters in Archery Hunting Only Areas (including the Cantonment Area except in Cantonment Hunting Areas 74, 75, 79, and 80 during the regular deer season).
- (3) Archery/crossbow hunters while in a stand at least 10 feet above the ground outside an Archery Hunting Only Area. Archery hunters in the Training Area outside the Archery Hunting Only Areas walking to a stand must wear blaze orange headgear.
- (4) Waterfowl hunters must wear blaze orange headgear while walking to and from their hunting areas, but do not have to wear blaze orange while sitting in a blind, retrieving a bird, or in a boat.
- (5) Turkey and predator hunters must wear blaze orange headgear while walking to and from their hunting areas or moving their hunting locations, but do not have to wear blaze orange while sitting if 144 square inches of blaze orange is placed in a tree within sight of their hunting location. Predator hunters at night (after one-half hour after sunset and before one-half hour before sunrise) do not have to wear blaze orange.
- (6) Anglers actively engaged in fishing from a boat, road, at a designated angler site, or on ice do not have to wear blaze orange. Anglers walking to and from their fishing areas or fishing along streams must wear blaze orange headgear.
- (7) New York State law requires big game firearm hunters age 14 and 15, and their mentors, to wear fluorescent orange or pink visible from all directions. The exposed shirt, jacket, or vest must have at least 250 square inches of solid or patterned fluorescent orange or pink (the pattern must be at least 50% orange or pink) OR a hat with at least 50% fluorescent orange or pink. On Fort Drum, the exposed shirt, jacket, or vest AND hat must be worn and can be either blaze orange or pink.
- j. No person shall discard, bury or dispose of any trash, waste or litter on Fort Drum. **This includes the use of flagging, cat's eyes, or other items used to mark trails or hunting locations.** Trail markers must be biodegradable or removed after use. Recreationists must carry out everything that is carried in. Entrails are biodegradable and do not constitute litter but must be discarded further than 50 feet from a road, trail, or permanent water body with no plastic bag, gloves, or other non-biodegradable materials included. See paragraph 9(p) for more information about gutting/field dressing deer in the Cantonment Area. Animal carcasses taken on Fort Drum can be dumped on Fort Drum, but must be out of sight of a range complex or building and further than 50 feet from a road, trail, or permanent water body with no plastic bag, ground cloth, gloves, or other non-biodegradable materials included. In the course of trapping, trappers may skin their catch along their trapline and leave carcasses in the field.
- k. Open fires are prohibited in the Cantonment Area with the exception of designated sites in

Remington Park or RV areas in accordance with park rules or with written permission by the Fort Drum Fire Chief. Caution shall be exercised in the use of warming or cooking fires in the Training Area and the following provisions must be followed:

- (1) The fire must be contained.
  - (2) All combustible materials surrounding the fire must be cleared for a distance of at least 10 feet.
  - (3) No cutting or limbing of trees is allowed.
- Only dead and down material or firewood brought with the recreationist can be used. All New York State regulations regarding the transportation of firewood apply on Fort Drum.
- (4) The fire must be attended at all times.
  - (5) The fire must be completely extinguished (i.e., cool to the touch) when not attended.
  - l. No person shall injure, deface, or disturb any part of a building, range structure, sign, equipment, or property found on Fort Drum.
  - m. Taking photographs of military training, security activities, buildings, and facilities including access control points is prohibited. The use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems for any reason including photography is prohibited. See *Fort Drum Regulation 190–13 Fort Drum Physical Security Program* for more information.
  - n. With the exception of intact projectile points (i.e., arrowheads) found on the ground surface, the collection of any artifact (such as old bottles, coins, etc.), disturbance of any feature related to past human activity, and the collection of paleontological specimens on Fort Drum is prohibited. The use of metal detectors on Fort Drum is prohibited. Violators will be prosecuted under both the civil and criminal provisions of the Archeological Resources Protection Act, 16 USC Sections 470ee-470ff. **Collectors of intact projectile points are encouraged to report the find to the Cultural Resources Office (315-772-4165).**
  - o. Unauthorized excavation or digging is prohibited, including removal of natural material (e.g., rocks, sand, etc.). Minor digging and temporary use of soil for the purpose of trapping or removing mushrooms and/or ramps/leeks is permitted.
  - p. The use of magnets on Fort Drum is prohibited. If the retrieval of recreation equipment is required using a magnet, Fort Drum Law Enforcement Officials must be notified before any attempts are made to use the magnet by calling the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157).
  - q. Cutting, digging up, removing, or defacing trees is prohibited. Removing live vegetation (other than fruit, mushrooms, ramps/leeks, asparagus, fiddleheads, dandelions, or rhubarb) for any purpose whatsoever is prohibited. Violators may be subject to monetary penalties based on the loss or damage to commercial timber or other resources.
  - r. Planting seeds or any vegetation for any purpose whatsoever is prohibited.
  - s. Feeding, harassing or molesting of any wildlife is prohibited.

t. Picking up, disturbing or taking government equipment, ordnance, munitions, or parts of the same is prohibited.

u. Disturbing, molesting, or removing traps and/or trapped animals of trappers is prohibited.

v. Persons recreating on Fort Drum are required to complete and return all surveys they receive from Fort Drum's Natural Resources Branch.

### 3. ACCESS PASSES

a. Recreational Activities. A recreational activity on Fort Drum in regards to this regulation is defined as the following: hunting (including scouting); fishing; boating (including canoeing and kayaking); trapping; camping; target shooting (see paragraph 15(c)); wildlife viewing and/or photography; harvesting fruit, mushrooms, ramps/leeks, asparagus, fiddleheads, dandelions, and/or rhubarb (for private use only and not for commercial purposes); picnicking; hiking; geocaching; dog walking or training; cross country skiing; snowshoeing; bicycling (including the use of e-bikes); horseback riding; snowmobiling (only in Training Areas 7E, 7F, and 7G); and ATV riding (on recreational roads around Training Areas 7E, 7F, and 7G).

b. Firewood cutting is not defined as a recreational activity, but a pass must be obtained through <https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net> and check-in/check-out procedures in paragraph 4 apply. See Fort Drum Regulation 420-6 for more information about firewood cutting.

c. Recreational Access Pass. In order to provide safe and compatible use of the Fort Drum Military Installation, **ALL persons utilizing the Fort Drum Training Area** for recreational use (including driving through the Training Area on a non-public or designated recreational road) must possess and display a valid Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass. **STARTING 01 March 2026: There will be one primary Recreational Access Pass required for any recreational activity on Fort Drum. The cost is \$25 per permit. Youth 17 years and younger are eligible for a free permit.** In the Cantonment Area, only persons engaged in hunting or game recovery must have an access pass in their possession—see Section 9 for information about hunting in the Cantonment Area. Recreational Access Passes are valid beginning January 1 and expire the following December 31. Fort Drum Recreational Access Passes are non-transferrable. **Recreational Access Passes are available on-line through the <https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net> web site.**

d. For 2026: Recreational access pass validations are required for special access and/or opportunities: Cantonment Area Hunting, Disabled Access Hunting, and First Time/Youth Hunting. These validations are free.

e. Recreational Access Pass Exceptions. A Recreational Access Pass is not required:

(1) To recreate in Mud Lake if access is gained via Lake Bonaparte, on the Black River or Indian Pond if access is gained off the installation. If the

recreationist sets foot on the shores of Fort Drum, a Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass is required.

(2) To recreate in the Cantonment Area for other purposes besides hunting.

f. By applying for an Access Pass on-line, registrants are acknowledging: the hold harmless agreement; requirement to register weapons (if applicable); the requirement to obtain and possess applicable New York State licenses; the applicant is eligible to obtain a permit and their access privileges are not currently revoked; and all information is truthful and accurate.

g. All recreationists on Fort Drum must have their valid Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass in their vehicle even if parked on a public highway. Upon entry into the Training Area, the Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass must at all times be clearly displayed with the pass numbers facing up, on the **driver** side dashboard, windshield, or window for every person in the vehicle. If entering Fort Drum without a vehicle, the pass must be on their person.

h. All recreationists 18 years of age or older must have a **Real ID-compliant government-issued photo I.D. (e.g., military I.D., driver's license) on their person** while engaged in any recreational activity on Fort Drum. New York State hunting, fishing and/or trapping licenses are required on Fort Drum. Government-issued documents must be produced upon demand to any Law Enforcement Officer or individual who provides identification as an official of Fort Drum.

i. Possession of a Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass does not give approval to enter the Training Area without following appropriate check-in procedures, in accordance with paragraph 4.

### 4. CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES

a. Recreational Access Passes or Forest Product/Firewood Permits must be obtained prior to check-in. See Paragraph 3 for access pass information.

b. **Sportsman's Hotline.** Recreational users/firewood cutters must check-in daily telephonically with Range Branch through the Sportsman's Hotline (**<https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net> or 1-855-267-9770**). Check-in must be done prior to entering the Fort Drum Training Area or Cantonment Area Hunting Areas. The Sportsman's Hotline is updated at approximately **3:00pm** and lists the training areas that are open for recreation/firewood cutting the following day. Recreationists may check into up to three areas at a time. If changing areas, recreationists must check-out and then check-in again listing the new areas. **Check-out is required at the end of the day and must be completed two hours after sunset.** Failure to comply with check-in/check-out procedures is grounds for terminating the individual's access to Fort Drum for recreation/firewood cutting.

c. **Night or Overnight Activities.** Recreationists engaged in nighttime fishing, predator hunting, and/or camping activities in the Fort Drum Training Area must obtain the appropriate pass (hunting-nighttime predator, fishing-nighttime, and/or camping) and check-in through the Sportsman's Hotline (<https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net> or 1-855-267-9770). These are the only recreational users authorized to be in the Fort Drum Training Area outside the hours in paragraph 5(p).

d. A Joint Access Policy allows recreationists to fish and trap in training areas that are otherwise closed if recreational activities do not interfere with military training. To determine if access is possible, anglers/trappers must check-in with Range Branch telephonically (315-772-7152) or physically (Bldg. P-4855) to speak to Range Branch personnel. The Joint Access Policy for hunting only exists for waterfowl hunting in Training Area 17B as part of a lottery hunt (see paragraph 10 for more information). If authorized by Range Branch personnel to access an area for fishing or trapping, check-in is still required via the Sportsman's Hotline—press "Joint Use" as an area option.

e. If recreating only along a road and not entering a specific subtraining area (e.g., scouting, birdwatching, driving, etc.), then check-in via the Sportsman's Hotline and select "Road Recreation" as the area option. The recreationist shall not leave the maintained portion of the road for "Road Recreation." Driving to and from a subtraining area for recreation, is not considered "Road Recreation."

f. For check-in/check-out requirements for Cantonment Area hunting, see paragraph 9(e).

## 5. RESTRICTED AREAS & TIMES

a. Fort Drum Military Installation, and any part thereof, may be closed without notice at the discretion of the Installation Commander.

b. Areas permanently closed to recreational use are posted with New York State yellow and green (Restricted Area) signs.

c. Recreationists are prohibited from entering environmental or archeological sensitive areas marked with Off-Limits By Order of the Commander signs or Seibert Stakes, either on foot or with motor vehicles. Seibert Stakes (a.k.a. Siber Stakes) consist of a 16 inch piece of PVC pipe with alternating rings of white, red, and yellow reflective tape mounted on a metal post approximately 4 feet above the ground. A black strip runs down the backside of each Seibert Stake. If this is visible, the recreationist is within a sensitive area and must leave immediately.

d. The Main Impact Area is off limits to all recreationists.

e. **All permanently maintained structures in the Training Area including ranges (e.g., towers, buildings, concrete bunkers, trenches, etc.) are off limits to all recreationists except latrines, docks, and designated hunting blinds.**

f. No hunting is allowed in cemeteries. On Fort Drum, cemeteries are denoted on the Fort Drum

Recreational Use Map (reference appendix B). Cemetery boundaries are defined as the mowed grassy areas around the gravesites.

g. No hunting or shooting is allowed on, from, or across any portion of the maintained railroad track right-of-way crossing Fort Drum.

h. The Black River that borders Fort Drum is off limits for all recreational activity by military personnel except fishing from the banks in accordance with **General Order 1A Fort Drum Pamphlet 600-5**.

i. The islands on the Black River between Training Areas 6A and 6C/Cantonment Hunting Area 44 are not part of Fort Drum Military Installation.

j. The reach of the Indian River adjacent to the Main Impact Area is off limits to all recreational activities. Fishing and boating is only permitted in the parts of the Indian River that are not adjacent to the Main Impact Area.

k. Training Area 20 and Range 48 are off limits at all times to recreationists.

l. Training Areas 4A, 4B, 4D, 5A, and 5D are open to all recreationists, but hunting is restricted to **archery and crossbow hunting only** during the big game season. These areas are NOT part of Fort Drum's Cantonment Area Hunting Area. Possession of firearms or muzzleloaders for any purpose in these training areas during the big game season is prohibited. Outside the big game season, small game hunters may use shotguns or archery/crossbow, and trappers are allowed to use .22 rimfire weapons to dispatch trapped animals.

m. Training Areas 6B and 6C are considered part of the Cantonment Area. See paragraph 9 for information regarding hunting in these areas.

n. Training Area 5E is open to all hunters eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a). No other recreational activities are allowed in this area. Refer to Paragraph 11(b) for more information to hunt in this area.

o. Training Area 6A is open to all recreationists, but no rifles (including .22 caliber) may be used. All other weapons including crossbows, muzzleloaders and shotguns are allowed for hunting.

p. Entry onto Fort Drum property by any means may begin two hours before sunrise. Recreationists must actively begin leaving Fort Drum at sunset and must be off the installation no later than two hours after sunset. Persons requesting to remain on or to enter the Fort Drum Training Area outside normal recreational hours listed above must notify Range Branch (315-772-7152) and/or the Military Police, (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157), or possess a valid recreation pass for night or overnight activities (see paragraph 4(c)).

q. Persons requesting to enter permanent or temporarily off limits areas for wounded game, lawfully taken big game, lost hunters, etc., must be accompanied by personnel from Range Branch (315-772-7152) and/or the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157). The use of ATVs and POVs are permitted to access trails and roads not designated as



recreational roads for the purpose of recovering lawfully taken big game in accordance with paragraph 6(i) through 6(k).

## 6. ROADS & MOTOR VEHICLES

a. It is unlawful to consume alcohol or other drugs, or be under the influence of the same, while operating a motor vehicle or boat.

b. Vehicles shall only be operated on roadways identified as recreational roads (Appendix B), or otherwise permitted in accordance with paragraphs 6(i) and 6(j). Signs stating “no civilian vehicles beyond this point” or “road closed” will be posted if a designated recreational road is closed. Roads closed for military training will be gated/barricaded.

c. No off-road use of vehicles for 4-wheeling, mudding, etc. is allowed anywhere on Fort Drum.

d. Use of recreational roads is permitted for the following:

(1) Traveling to any location in the Training Area open for recreation unless otherwise posted or barricaded.

(2) Certain recreational activities (e.g., wildlife viewing, biking, horseback riding, and scouting) as long as the recreationist does not leave the road and stops in a manner not obstructing traffic.

(3) Traveling to or from your residence in the most direct route possible.

e. Vehicle parking is restricted to designated recreational roads, in parking areas at Range facilities designated with a “P” on the Fort Drum Recreational Use Map (Appendix B), at angling sites or other recreational use parking areas, or within training areas not more than 50 feet and clearly seen from a designated recreational road. **All vehicles must be parked immediately next to training areas open for recreational use on that given day or in a designated parking area.** All vehicles must be parked in such a manner to allow other vehicles safe passage, **including not blocking access to other roads or trails not designated as recreational roads.**

f. The speed limit for all motor vehicles on Fort Drum roads/tank trails is 30 mph during daylight hours and 15 mph during hours of darkness. ATVs and snowmobiles will be operated during daylight hours only and the 30 mph speed limit applies everywhere including off-road areas where applicable. The speed limit for all motor vehicles is 10 mph when passing any pedestrian on the road.

g. Recreationists may use headlights while traveling on roads and trails although travel should be minimized during hours of darkness to reduce conflict with military operations.

h. Motorized vehicles (including snowmobiles and ATVs) are prohibited in environmentally or archeologically sensitive areas. See paragraph 5(c) for more information.

i. POVs (e.g., cars and trucks) may be used on trails and roads not designated as recreational roads for the following purposes:

(1) Recovering lawfully taken big game. **Range Branch must be contacted (315-772-7152) for approval BEFORE access on a non-recreational trail or road can occur.** The transport of weapons must be in accordance with paragraph 7(d).

(2) Hunters eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a). See paragraphs 11(d-f) for more information.

j. Restricted use of snowmobiles and ATVs is allowed. The use of ATVs must be in accordance with all applicable laws of New York State and Army Regulation 385–10, including paragraph 6(k) of this regulation. Ranger and other side-by-side vehicles that weigh more than 1000 lbs. are not considered ATVs under NYS Law and are prohibited from recreational use on Fort Drum. Motorbikes not allowed for use on NYS public roads are not considered motorcycles or ATVs and are prohibited from recreational use on Fort Drum. Snowmobiles and ATVs may be used for the following:

(1) Snowmobiles for recreational riding in training areas 7E, 7F, and 7G beginning December 15 after the big game hunting season. Snowmobiles must be transported into the Training Area by vehicle or trailer.

(2) ATVs for recreational riding on designated recreational roads around Training Areas 7E, 7F, and 7G only. ATVs must be transported into the Training Area by vehicle or trailer. No riding, parking or off-loading is permitted on State Highway 3A.

(3) ATVs and snowmobiles for Fort Drum approved trapping activities. ATVs and snowmobiles must be transported into the Training Area by vehicle or trailer, but they can be operated on roads and trails while following a trap line.

(4) ATVs and snowmobiles for ice fishing activities. ATVs and snowmobiles must be transported into the Training Area by vehicle or trailer. The most direct route possible from the parked vehicle to the waterbody must be taken.

(5) ATVs on trails and roads not designated as recreational roads for the purpose of recovering lawfully taken big game. ATVs must be transported into the Training Area by vehicle or trailer. **Range Branch must be contacted (315-772-7152) for approval BEFORE access on a non-recreational trail or road can occur in the Training Area.** No weapon can be carried on an ATV when recovering big game; otherwise, the transport of weapons must be in accordance with paragraph 7(d).

(6) ATVs on Cool, Pannels, and North Star Spring Roads (Appendix D) for the purpose of increasing access and recovering lawfully taken big game. ATVs must be transported to the designated parking areas by vehicle or trailer. ATVs may only be used on and parked next to Cool, Pannels, and North Star Spring Roads (Appendix D)—no off-road use is allowed. The transport of weapons must be in accordance with paragraph 7(d) and 11(d). The speed limit may not exceed 10 mph.

(7) ATVs on trails and roads in Training Areas 6A, 7E, 7F, 7G, and 17D not designated as recreational roads for the purpose of hunting for those eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a). See paragraph 11(f) for more information.

k. To use ATVs on Fort Drum, the following provisions must be followed:

(1) No persons younger than 18 years of age may operate an ATV without adult supervision—the supervising adult must remain within 500 feet of the youth. Youth six years of age and older can only operate an ATV with an engine size under 70CC; youth 12 years of age and older can operate an ATV with an engine size 70-90CC; and youth 16 years of age and older can operate an ATV with an engine size over 90CC.

(2) Passengers may not ride on ATVs unless the vehicle is designed to carry passengers.

(3) Riders must remain seated while riding.

(4) No “extreme” sport/riding. All four wheels will remain on the ground.

(5) All persons operating an ATV must have all items listed in Table 1 on their person and must show it if requested by Fort Drum authorities.

Table 1 Required Documentation

Item	Description
1	NYS proof of ATV Registration or valid out-of-state registration for non-residents or military members stationed at Fort Drum.
2	Proof of a valid minimum required liability insurance (\$50,000/\$100,000 for death, \$25,000/\$50,000 for injury, and \$10,000 for property damage in any one accident).

(6) All equipment listed in Table 2 must be worn while operating ATVs on Fort Drum.

Table 2 Required Equipment

Item	Description
1	Department of Transportation compliant helmet.
2	Eye protection that meets or exceeds ANSI Z87.1 Standards (goggles, goggles, or face shield).
3	Full-fingered gloves.
4	Long-legged pants.
5	Long-sleeved shirt (sleeves rolled down) or long-sleeved jacket.
6	Leather boots or over-the-ankle shoes.
7	A high visibility garment such as road guard type vest or PT belt.

## 7. WEAPONS

a. All persons entering Fort Drum Military Installation Cantonment Area (including the areas around Training Areas 6B and 6C/Cantonment Hunting Areas 41-44) for the purpose of hunting, skeet, shooting, etc., must first register the applicable weapons in their possession with the Directorate of Emergency Services. Persons with registered weapons will receive a Weapons Registration Card that is to be kept in their possession at all times while on the installation with those associated weapons. Weapons that require registration include: any cartridge-firing or muzzle-loading rifle, shotgun, or

handgun (pistol or revolver); pellet-firing rifles or handguns with muzzle velocity of 600 FPS or higher; and crossbows. Bows, paintball guns, etc. do not need to be registered. Weapons do NOT need to be registered for access into the Fort Drum Training Areas. See Fort Drum Regulation 190-13 Chapter 8 for more information.

b. It is unlawful to consume alcohol or other drugs, or be under the influence of the same, while actively engaged in hunting or target shooting.

c. No person shall discharge a firearm, bow, or crossbow so that the projectile shall pass over any part (to include from, on, or across) of a public highway or railroad. A public highway is defined as any road maintained by a state, county or town, or a Recreational Road designated on the Fort Drum Recreational Use Map, Appendix B.

d. **Most weapons including crossbows and compound bows transported in a vehicle must be unloaded and cased.** An unloaded weapon is a firearm without ammunition in the chamber and/or magazine, if the magazine is in the firearm. A muzzleloader is considered unloaded if the percussion cap or primer is removed from the firearm or the primer pan is empty. A crossbow is considered unloaded if it is uncocked and the bolt is removed. **A cased weapon is a weapon inside a case expressly made to contain and fully enclose that weapon in such a manner that no portion of the weapon is exposed when the case is zipped, snapped, buckled, tied, or otherwise fastened.** If parked on a public highway but hunting on Fort Drum, this regulation still applies. Exceptions include: (1) pistols and revolvers in accordance with paragraph 7(f); (2) weapons on ATVs for disabled hunting in accordance with paragraph 11(d); and (3) long and recurve bows that are uncased and unstrung while being transported.

e. Transporting weapons (to include firearms bows, and crossbows) is legal only if the weapons are in your possession at all times (i.e., not in your vehicle if you are not also present). Weapons may not be left unattended anywhere on Fort Drum including the Training Area. See Fort Drum Regulation 190-13 Chapter 8 for more information.

f. Carrying a pistol or revolver is permitted when the person is in possession of a New York State pistol permit and in compliance with the requirements of Fort Drum Regulation 190-13. Handguns may not be carried in a concealed manner on Fort Drum. See Fort Drum Regulation 190-13 Chapter 8 for more information.

g. Carrying a firearm in the Training Area outside of a regulated hunting season is allowed, but all applicable New York State and Fort Drum regulations apply. A hunting license is required even if unprotected animals (e.g., porcupines) are hunted.

h. No person shall possess a firearm, bow, or other hunting implement while engaged in wood cutting or other activities requiring a Forest Products Permit.

i. Crossbows are allowed in the Training Area and Cantonment Area in accordance with New York State regulations including otherwise restricted areas as stated in paragraphs 5(l), 5(m), and 5(n).

## 8. HUNTING IN TRAINING AREA

a. Hunting on Fort Drum will be in accordance with Environmental Conservation Laws of New York, applicable federal laws, and Fort Drum regulations. To determine seasons, bag limits, shooting times, and other information, Fort Drum is Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 6H in the Northern Zone and Northeast Waterfowl Zone in the NYSDEC Hunting Regulations. **Harvested game should be reported in accordance with NYSDEC Hunting Regulations.**

b. No feeding or baiting of wildlife is allowed.

c. Refer to paragraphs 5(l), 5(m), and 5(n) for areas with designated hunting restrictions in Training Areas 4, 5, and 6.

d. Tree Stands. If using a tree stand, only commercially-available portable tree stands or tripod stands may be used on Fort Drum. Damage to trees must be minimized which includes **no** cutting of vegetation for shooting lanes and **nothing can be screwed or nailed into a tree (including screw-in pegs)**. Stands may be placed in hunting areas from 1 September – 30 December and 16 April – 31 May. Stands outside this period will be considered abandoned property and removed unless prior arrangements have been made with Fort Drum's Natural Resources Branch (315-955-5173) which will consider requests on a case-by-case basis. All unattended stands must be permanently marked with the name and permit or phone number of the owner **in such a way to be visible and legible from the ground**. Stands may be left overnight, but placing a stand in an area does not guarantee or reserve that site for the hunter. Stands are left overnight at your own risk -- Fort Drum is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged stands. If a stand is missing, it should be reported to the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157).

e. Blinds. Blinds are allowed, but must be temporary. All unattended blinds must be permanently marked with the name and permit or phone number of the owner **in such a way to be visible and legible from outside**. Blinds may be left overnight, but placing a blind in an area does not guarantee or reserve that site for the hunter. Blinds may be placed in hunting areas from 1 September – 30 December and 16 April – 31 May. Blinds not marked or outside this period will be considered abandoned property and removed unless prior arrangements have been made with Fort Drum's Natural Resources Branch (315-955-5173) which will consider requests on a case-by-case basis. Blinds are left overnight at your own risk -- Fort Drum is not responsible or liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged blinds. If a blind is missing, it should be reported to the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157).

f. Use of remote/trail cameras is allowed only in areas that are designated as hunting areas. Leaving a

camera overnight is at your own risk. Fort Drum is not responsible or liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged cameras. All cameras and their security cases must be permanently marked with the full name and permit or phone number of the owner in such a way to be visible and legible. Permanently marked means with a permanent marker, etching, riveting a metal tag, or other means that cannot be readily removed. Restrictions in Paragraph 2(m) also apply.

g. Hunters must make every effort to trail and recover wounded deer/bear. However, hunters may not violate the two hours after sunset restriction (see Paragraph 5(o)) because of wounded game. The tracking of wounded game into closed hunting areas requires the hunter to contact Range Branch (315-772-7152) and the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157). If wounded game goes off of Fort Drum, it is the responsibility of the hunter to obtain permission from the private landowner to enter the privately owned land.

h. Hunting for predators/furbearers is permitted at night beginning the day after the late muzzleloading deer season ends. Hunters engaged in nighttime hunting activities must obtain a Fort Drum Hunting Nighttime Predator Recreation Pass and follow check-in procedures in accordance with paragraph 4(c). The use of spotlights is allowed only when actively engaged in predator hunting. No running of dogs is allowed.

i. The use of hunting dogs is allowed on Fort Drum for day-time hunting only (to include waterfowl hunting) and in accordance with New York State regulations. Dogs must remain under the control of the owner/handler at all times. Dog owners/handlers should be aware of the danger of concertina wire in the Training Area. Fort Drum is not responsible for any injuries sustained by the dog while on Fort Drum.

j. Waterfowl hunting in the designated area in Training Area 17B off of Matoon Creek Road is restricted. No other waterfowl hunters are allowed within the boundary of this waterfowl hunting area (see Appendix E) between 1 October and the end of the waterfowl season in mid-December. See paragraph 10 for more information.

k. See paragraph 11 for information regarding disabled access hunting opportunities.

**l. See paragraph 12 for information regarding First Time Hunter/Youth Hunter opportunities.**

## 9. HUNTING IN CANTONMENT AREA

a. This section pertains to areas primarily within or adjacent to the Fort Drum Cantonment Area or Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield (Appendix C and D), but they are collectively considered the "Cantonment Area" for the purpose of this regulation. If not specifically stated below, all regulations for Fort Drum and New York State apply.

b. Deer, bear, and turkey may be hunted in the Cantonment Area—hunting for any other small game species is not allowed. Hunting season in the Cantonment Area is during the spring turkey season (May including youth weekend in April), and from the

beginning of the archery deer season (27 September) until the last day of the late bowhunting deer season (mid-December). Hunting in the Cantonment Area during the early bear season is not allowed. Spring turkey hunting with shotguns is allowed in designated areas only; fall turkey hunting with shotguns is not allowed. Consult NYSDEC regulations for exact dates for archery and crossbow seasons, and regular seasons for shotgun use for deer.

c. Hunting in the Cantonment Area is limited to only those persons possessing one of the following:

- (1) Military I.D.
- (2) Military Dependent or Family Member I.D.
- (3) Retired Military I.D.
- (4) Civilian Department of Defense (DoD) I.D. (i.e. CAC card)
- (5) Retired Civilian Department of Defense (DoD) I.D.
- (6) Contract personnel with DoD I.D. (i.e. CAC card with green stripe and magnetic strip).
- (7) Junior Hunters (age 12-15) with a NYS

hunting license accompanied by an individual in one of the above categories.

d. To hunt in the Cantonment Area, all hunters must view and acknowledge an information/safety briefing. After successful completion of the Safety/Information briefing, the hunter will be validated to obtain a Recreational Access Pass for Cantonment Area Hunting. **For 2026: This validation is free.**

e. **Cantonment Area hunters must check-in daily through the Sportsman's Hotline (<https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net> or 1-855-267-9770)** prior to hunting. Scouting in the Cantonment Area is allowed at any time the same as other activities (e.g., hiking, jogging, etc.) and check-in/check-out procedures are not required. The check-in/check-out system on [FortDrum.iSportsman.net](https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net) is applicable only to hunting—all areas will be “closed” except during the hunting season although other non-hunting activities are allowed at any time.

f. Use of remote/trail cameras are allowed only in areas that are designated as hunting areas. Trail cameras can not be used in Remington Park or along the Remington Park Trail or other trails where hunting is not allowed. Leaving a camera overnight is at your own risk. Fort Drum is not responsible or liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged cameras. All cameras and their security cases must be permanently marked with the full name and permit or phone number of the owner in such a way to be visible and legible. Permanently marked means with a permanent marker, etching, riveting a metal tag, or other means that cannot be readily removed. Restrictions in Paragraph 2(m) also apply.

g. All vehicles must be parked on the shoulder of roads or designated areas in such a manner to allow other vehicles to pass and not cause an obstruction to traffic. Vehicles may not be parked on trails or blocking access to trails. Vehicles may be parked on the shoulder of roads after November 1, but not during heavy snow or when snow plow operations are

occurring. Recreational Access Passes must be clearly displayed with the pass numbers facing up, on the driver side dashboard, windshield, or driver side window of the vehicle. Parking for areas 31-34 outside the perimeter fence must be immediately next to Fort Drum (i.e. no parking on private property, school property, etc.). Parking for Hunting Area 31 and 32 must be along Co. Rte 129, Co. Rte. 283, or Military Road; parking for Hunting Area 33 and 34 must be at the intersection of Rte. 971V and First St.

h. There are 30 designated hunting areas. There is no hunting in Remington Park or the skeet range. Hunters must not hunt closer than 150 feet from designated recreational trails or Pannels Road and North Star Spring Road behind Guthrie Ambulatory Health Care. All hunting must occur within the unmaintained portions (i.e. unmowed areas) of the hunting areas and hunters should minimize their visibility from roads. **Hunters must not hunt closer than 250 feet from occupied dwellings whether using archery or a crossbow.** See Appendix C and D. Cantonment Hunting: Areas for hunting area locations and designated recreational trails; and Table 3 for descriptions of the areas.

Table 3 Cantonment Hunting Areas

Areas	Availability & Restrictions
31 - 34	Open daily for archery and crossbow only. These areas are outside of the perimeter fence and have designated parking areas (paragraph 6g). DMAPs can NOT be used. Hunting must be conducted at least 10 feet from the ground.
41	Open daily for archery and crossbow only. These areas are inside the perimeter fence adjacent to Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield. DMAPs can NOT be used. Hunting can be conducted from a ground blind or elevated structure.
42-43	Open on weekends, federal holidays, and training holidays only for archery and crossbow only. This area is inside the perimeter fence adjacent to Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield and part of Training Area 6C. DMAPs can NOT be used. Hunting can be conducted from a ground blind or elevated structure.
44	Open to hunters eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a) on weekends, federal holidays, and training holidays only for archery and crossbow only. This area is inside the perimeter fence and part of Training Area 6C. There are four designated sites on a first come-first served basis when checking into iSportsman. These areas are available daily to one hunter (and an assistant). DMAPs can NOT be used. Hunting can be conducted from an elevated structure or from the ground in a blind, vehicle, ATV, or other mechanical device in designated areas (Appendix D.)
52, 54, 55, 57-59, 63, 64, 66, 68-73	Open daily for archery and crossbow only. DMAPs are available to use. Hunting must be conducted at least 10 feet from the ground.
53	Open daily for archery and crossbow only. DMAPs are available to use. Hunting can be conducted from a ground blind or elevated structure.



76	Open on weekends, federal holidays, and training holidays only for archery and crossbow only. DMAPs are available to use. Hunting can be conducted from a ground blind or elevated structure.
78	Open on weekends, federal holidays, and training holidays only for archery and crossbow only. DMAPs are available to use. Hunting must be conducted at least 10 feet from the ground.
74, 75, 79, & 80	Open on weekends, federal holidays, and training holidays only. During archery and crossbow seasons, hunting can be conducted from the ground or elevated structure—wearing blaze orange is not required. During the regular season, shotguns, archery and crossbow can be used ONLY from at least 10 feet from the ground and all hunters must follow the blaze orange requirements. DMAPs are available to use. Turkey hunting with shotguns is allowed during the spring season from the ground; turkey hunting with shotguns during the fall season is NOT allowed.

i. ATV use is allowed to access hunting areas and retrieving game in Hunting Areas 78-80 only on Pannels Road and North Star Spring Road behind Guthrie Ambulatory Health Care and Cool Road. (See Appendix D.) ATVs must be transported by vehicle or trailer and parked at the designated areas in the back parking lot of Guthrie Ambulatory Health Care or the parking area near the utility substation/hazardous waste/pest control facilities (Bldg. P-11144). To access Pannels/North Star Spring roads, ATVs must follow the designated trail from the back parking lot to Pannels Road. ATVs must be parked next to the designated roads and not driven off-road; ATVs can not drive on Bedlam Road beyond the Cool Road access point. The use of ATVs must be in accordance with paragraph 6(k) and the speed limit may not exceed 10 mph.

j. Accessible hunting locations in Area 44 are available to hunters that meet the requirements in paragraphs 9(c) and 11(a). Eligible hunters may check in to these locations on iSportsman on a first come-first served basis and may hunt from an elevated structure or from the ground in a blind, a vehicle, ATV, or other mechanical device. See Appendix D for locations. ATVs must be transported by vehicle or trailer and must be used in accordance with paragraph 6(k). The transport of weapons must be in accordance with paragraph 7(d). The engine of the vehicle must be turned off while hunting, and before the weapon is uncased. Hunting from vehicles must be in accordance with New York State regulations.

k. Hunting from blinds or stands is allowed depending on the area (see Table 3 for more information). **Still-hunting, stalking, or deer drives are NOT allowed.** When hunting from a stand, **all hunters are required to hunt from commercially-available portable elevated tree stands, harnesses, or tripod stands.** Stands are defined to include the platform and climbing device if it is affixed to the tree.

(1) Arrows may not be nocked until bowhunters are safely in their treestands. Crossbows should be

cocked before entering a stand, but not loaded until the hunter is in the stand. Crossbows must be cocked and unloaded and decocked within 10 feet of the stand. The only exception to have an arrow nocked or bolt loaded on the ground is to dispatch a wounded animal -- see paragraph 9(o).

(2) The use of a safety belt is required while in a stand.

(3) When required to hunt at least 10 feet from the ground (Areas 31-34, 54, 55, 57-59, 63, 64, 66, 68-73, and 78 all season; and Areas 74-75 and 79-80 during the regular season), a stand must be a minimum of ten feet off the ground and must be portable.

(4) Damage to trees to be hunted from must be minimized which includes no removal of more than ten branches and none greater than 2 inches in diameter. No cutting of vegetation for shooting lanes is allowed. **Nothing can be screwed or nailed into a tree (including screw-in pegs, bow hangers, or any other equipment or hardware).**

(5) All unattended stands and blinds must be permanently marked with the name and permit or phone number of the owner **in such a way to be visible and legible from the ground.** Permanently marked means with a permanent marker, etching, riveting a metal tag, or other means that cannot be readily removed.

(6) **An individual hunter may not have more than two stands and two blinds in the Cantonment Area at any given time.** Placing a stand in an area does not guarantee or reserve that site for the hunter. Stands are left overnight at your own risk -- Fort Drum is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged stands. If a stand or blind is missing, it should be reported to the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157).

(7) Stands and blinds may be placed in hunting areas from 1 September – 30 December and 16 April – 31 May. Stands or blinds outside this period will be considered abandoned property and removed unless prior arrangements have been made with Fort Drum's Natural Resources Branch (315-955-5173) which will consider requests on a case-by-case basis.

l. No feeding or baiting of wildlife for the purpose of hunting is allowed.

m. Deer Management Area Program (DMAP) permits are available to be signed out from the Natural Resources Outreach Facility (Bldg. S-2507). The DMAP will be held by the hunter for the duration of the season. If available, additional DMAPs will be provided after a DMAP tag is filled by a hunter. All harvested deer (males and females) must be checked-in with the Natural Resources Branch (see paragraph 9(r)). DMAP permits are valid **only** within the Cantonment Area—DMAP permits can not be used in Hunting Areas 31-34 or 41-44. Any harvested deer can be donated through the Natural Resources Branch to a foodbank if desired. Unused DMAP tags must be returned to the Natural Resources Branch at the end of the season.

n. Hunters are allowed to harvest deer with colored ear tags or neck collars, but the ear tag number must be reported through

FortDrum.iSportsman.net and neck collars must be dropped off at the self-check station in the kiosk outside of Bldg. 1255 off of Restore Hope Ave.

o. Hunters with wounded game that leave the designated Cantonment Archery Hunting Area (Appendix C) and/or beyond authorized access or shooting times must notify Fort Drum Law Enforcement Officials before tracking the animal by calling the Military Police (315-772-5156 or 315-772-5157) or stopping at the Directorate of Emergency Services (Bldg. P-10715). Licensed leashed tracking dog handlers may be contacted whose activities are in accordance with paragraph 15(g).

p. Deer must be gutted (field dressed) in an area not readily observable to the general public. Deer must not be gutted within 50 feet of trails, roads, sidewalks, recreational facilities (including the skeet range, parks, campground, and ballfields), etc.

q. Hunters must tag a harvested animal per New York State regulations. For deer harvested in the Cantonment Area during the regular season, the regular season tag must be used even if archery/crossbow are the only legal weapons. During the designated archery seasons, the archery/muzzleloader tag must be used. DMPs or DMAPs can also be used any time when authorized.

r. Hunters harvesting game in the Cantonment Area are required to report it through FortDrum.iSportsman.net during the daily check-out. Although no physical check-in of deer is required, **a tissue sample or blood swab must be submitted at the self-check station in the kiosk outside of Bldg. 1255 off of Restore Hope Ave.** Supplies are available in the kiosk.

## 10. SPECIAL WATERFOWL HUNTING AREAS

a. This paragraph applies only to the designated waterfowl hunting area in Training Area 17B off of Matoon Creek Road (Appendix E); the previous hunting area in Training Area 13A is no longer included—but hunting is allowed when the area is open. The area in 17B is a prime location for waterfowl on Fort Drum and restricting access is meant to increase hunting opportunities throughout the season. In October – December, hunting in this area is available ONLY to hunters drawn in a lottery system during the regular waterfowl and goose seasons. There are no restrictions for hunting waterfowl or other recreational activities in 17B outside this designated area.

b. Matoon Creek Road Hunting Area in Training Area 17B

(1) See Appendix E for the boundaries of this area.

(2) This special waterfowl hunting area has accessible blinds and a “waterfowl refuge” established on and around the peninsula at Matoon Creek Marsh off of Matoon Creek Road in Training Area 17B. Two universally accessible waterfowl hunting blinds are

available, but hunting does not have to occur from the blind.

(3) Starting in 2022, **the entire special area is available to a single hunting party via lottery for a specified morning**—there is no longer an East and West side like previous years. **There are four levels of preference for the lottery drawing: first preference are hunters with accessibility needs (see paragraph 11(a)); second preference are Soldiers currently assigned to a Warrior in Transition Unit or disabled hunters with a 100% Rating Decision in a VA Award Letter; third preference is First Time Hunters or Youth Hunters (see paragraph 12a); if no hunters apply in the first three preference levels, then the lottery is conducted with all other applicants.** There is no limit to the number of hunters in a hunting party, but the hunter chosen in the lottery must be present. To reserve blinds and for more information on the lottery system, go to <https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net>.

c. Hunting in this special waterfowl hunting areas is open from a half hour before sunrise to noon on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. All hunters must be out of the area by 2:00 pm on hunting days.

d. To determine seasons, bag limits, and other information, Fort Drum is Wildlife Management Unit 6H in the Northern Zone and Northeast Waterfowl Zone in the NYSDEC Hunting Regulations.

e. In September, there are no restrictions or lottery during the Canada Goose Season and hunting for geese can occur throughout the designated areas. There is no lottery during the youth waterfowl weekend; however, hunting is allowed only on the Saturday of the youth weekend and is restricted to the designated hunting areas only (see Appendix E).

f. All hunters are still required to check-in/check-out to the Sportsman’s Hotline per paragraph 4(b).

g. The Joint Access Policy allows lottery waterfowl hunters to access this area even when Training Area 17B is closed to recreation. Hunters that are selected through the lottery must contact Range Control (315-772-3152) to utilize the Joint Access policy on the hunting day. If closed to recreation, access to the hunting area in Training Area 17B **must** occur from the northern end of Matoon Creek Road (see Appendix E) and vehicles can go no further than the parking area. All vehicles must be parked in such a way to not obstruct the road. If no Joint Access is allowed due to training activities, hunters will be informed as soon as possible.

h. Hunters must have a dog, boat or other means to retrieve birds and minimize the loss of wounded animals.

i. Each hunter may not use or possess more than 25 non-toxic shells per day.

j. No other waterfowl hunters are allowed within the boundary of the waterfowl hunting area (see Appendix E) between 1 October and the end of the waterfowl season in mid-December.

## 11. DISABLED ACCESS HUNTING

a. Hunters eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraphs 9(j), 10(b), 11(b), 11(d), and 11(e) include: hunters possessing a New York State Non-Ambulatory Hunter Permit; persons with severe permanent disabilities eligible for a New York State Parking Permit or License Plate; or persons with a life-threatening illness participating through a non-profit organization. See <https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net> (Disabled Access Opportunities) for more information and how to register and be validated to obtain a Recreational Access Pass for Disabled Access Hunting. This validation is free.

b. Training Area 5E is open **only** to hunters defined in paragraph 11(a). Training Area 6C/Cantonment Hunting Area 44 is open to hunters defined in paragraph 11(a) and eligible to access the Cantonment Area for hunting in paragraph 9(c). Specific hunting sites are designated in these areas. Information about these sites and areas can be found at <https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net>. Hunters wanting to access these designated areas can check into the Sportsman's Hotline on a "first come, first served" basis. See paragraph 11(h) for information about assistants.

c. A special waterfowl hunting area with accessible blinds and "waterfowl refuge" has been established on the peninsula at Matoon Creek Marsh off of Matoon Creek Road in Training Area 17B. See Appendix E for the boundaries of this area and paragraph 10 for more information.

d. Hunters eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a) may hunt from an ATV or POV parked in a sub-training area open to recreational use for that day. Vehicles that are hunted from must be parked off designated recreational roads (reference Appendix B, Fort Drum Recreational Use Map) in such a manner as to not obstruct traffic (i.e., all four wheels off the road), but within 50 feet and visible from the road. ATVs must be transported into the Training Area by vehicle or trailer and must be used in accordance with paragraph 6(k). The transport of weapons must be in accordance with paragraph 7(d); weapons on ATVs must be in a scabbard. The engine of the vehicle must be turned off while hunting, and before the weapon is uncased. Hunting from vehicles must be in accordance with the New York State regulations.

e. Hunters eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a) and eligible to access the Cantonment Area for hunting in paragraph 9(c) may hunt from an ATV, POV, or other mechanical device parked in Cantonment Hunting Area 44. Only archery and crossbow hunting is allowed. See paragraph 9(j) and Appendix C and D for more information.

f. Hunters eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a) may hunt from an ATV on any trail/road not designated as a recreational road in Training Areas 6A, 7E, 7F, 7G, and 17D open to recreational use for that day. See

Appendix F for these trails/roads. Hunting from vehicles must be in accordance with the New York State regulations.

(1) ATVs must be transported into the Training Area by vehicle or trailer which must be parked off designated recreational roads (reference Appendix B, Fort Drum Recreational Use Map) in such a manner as to not obstruct traffic and only next to or within the sub-training area open to recreational use for that day.

(2) ATVs must be used in accordance with paragraph 6(k). The engine of the vehicle must be turned off while hunting, and before the weapon is uncased.

(3) The transport of weapons must be in accordance with paragraph 7(d); weapons on ATVs must be in a scabbard.

g. Archery/crossbow hunters must possess a valid New York State Handicapped Archer Permit or Modified Crossbow Permit to use modified bows per New York State regulations.

h. Other persons may assist hunters that are eligible for accessible accommodations in paragraph 11(a). To assist in hunting, those persons must have a NYSDEC hunting license and Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass. Assistants may hunt at the same time, but may not hunt from a vehicle or ATV and must be in reasonable proximity to the hunter they are assisting.

## 12. FIRST TIME & YOUTH HUNTING AREAS

a. Designated areas have been established for use by First-Time Hunters and Youth Hunters. First Time Hunters are those hunters that have received their NYS hunter education certificate on or after 01 September of the previous year. Youth hunters are ages 12-15. See <https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net> (First Time Hunter & Youth Hunter Opportunities) for more information and how to register and be validated to obtain a Recreational Access Pass for First Time/Youth Hunting. This validation is free.

b. All New York State youth hunting laws and regulations apply to Youth Hunters and their mentors.

c. Hunters wanting to access these designated areas can check into the Sportsman's Hotline on a "first come, first served" basis.

d. First Time Hunters & Youth Hunters have a preference to utilize a special waterfowl hunting area with accessible blinds and "waterfowl refuge" established on the peninsula at Matoon Creek Marsh off of Matoon Creek Road in Training Area 17B. See Appendix E for the boundaries of this area and paragraph 10 for more information.

e. Training Area 5E is open **only** to hunters defined in paragraph 11(a) and 12(a). Cantonment Hunting Area 44 is open to hunters defined in paragraph 11(a)/12(a) and eligible to access the Cantonment Area for hunting in paragraph 9(c). Specific hunting sites are designated in these areas. Information about these sites and areas can be found at <https://FortDrum.iSportsman.net>. See paragraph 12(g) for information about assistants.

f. The northern end of Training Area 13B between Antwerp Tank Trail and US Military Hwy including the wetland mitigation area. See Appendix G for the boundaries of this area. There are no specific hunting sites—the entire designated area is open for hunting.

g. Mentors that are assisting First Time Hunters and/or Youth Hunters may also hunt, but must have a NYSDEC hunting license and Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass.

### 13. FISHING & BOATING

a. Fishing on Fort Drum will be in accordance with Environmental Conservation Laws of New York, applicable federal laws, and Fort Drum regulations. Fishing regulations for seasons, daily limits, minimum fish lengths, and gear restrictions differ by county and waterbody. In the NYSDEC Fishing Regulations, Fort Drum is in Region 6 in Jefferson and Lewis counties (including the Black River and Indian River).

b. All boating must be conducted under the provision of New York State Navigational Laws. **All motorboat operators must possess/carry proof of a completed NYS-approved safe boating certificate. Boats used on Fort Drum waters must be equipped with personal floatation devices** and other safety equipment as required by state and federal laws.

c. It is unlawful to consume alcohol or other drugs, or be under the influence of the same, while operating a boat.

d. The use of jet skis or other motorized personal watercraft is prohibited on Fort Drum.

e. Fishing is permitted on Fort Drum 24 hours a day except in permanently restricted areas (see Paragraph 5) and Remington Pond where fishing is permitted in accordance with park operating hours. A Joint Access Policy exists on Fort Drum to allow anglers access to training areas when military training is occurring. See paragraph 4(d) for more information. Recreationists engaged in nighttime fishing activities must obtain a Fort Drum Fishing-Nighttime Recreation Pass and follow check-in procedures in accordance with paragraph 4(c).

f. Ice fishing is allowed on all waterbodies unless otherwise posted. No motorized vehicles are allowed on the ice at any time except ATVs or snowmobiles for ice fishing purposes only in accordance with paragraph 6(j) and 6(k). Recreationists are responsible for their own safety while on the ice.

g. Remington Pond. No Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass is required to fish in Remington Pond and check-in/check-out is not required. Fishing and boating is allowed only during the posted operating hours of Remington Park. No motorized (gas or electric) boats are permitted on Remington Pond. Remington Pond is a catch-and-release only fishery except for trout which are stocked annually.

h. **HEALTH ADVISORY.** Based on an evaluation of contaminant levels (Mercury) in fish, a fish consumption advisory is in effect for all species of fish found in Indian Lake. It is recommended that

persons eat no more than one meal (one-half pound) per month. In addition, women of childbearing age, infants, and children under the age of 15 should not eat any of the fish species from Indian Lake. There are other fish consumption advisories for the entire Adirondack Region which includes Fort Drum. See the NYS Department of Health publication *Health Advice on Eating Sportfish and Game* for more information.

### 14. TRAPPING

a. Trapping on Fort Drum is in accordance with Environmental Conservation Laws of New York, applicable federal laws, and Fort Drum regulations. To determine seasons, bag limits, and other information, Fort Drum is Wildlife Management Unit 6H in the NYSDEC Trapping Regulations. **Harvested furbearers should be reported in accordance with NYSDEC Trapping Regulations.**

b. Recreational trapping is not permitted in the Cantonment Area.

c. A Joint Access Policy exists on Fort Drum to allow trappers the ability to utilize training areas when military training is occurring. The Joint Access Policy may also be utilized by trappers for trapping in more than three subtraining areas and not more than 150 feet from the side of the road. See paragraph 4(d) for more information.

d. Use of ATVs and snowmobiles is authorized for trapping purposes in accordance with paragraphs 6(j) and 6(k).

e. While engaged in trapping activities, only a .22 caliber rimfire pistol/rifle may be used or lawfully possessed, but **not** in Training Areas 4A, 4B, 4D, 5A, and 5D during the big game hunting season.

f. In the course of trapping, trappers may skin their catch along their trapline and leave carcasses in the field.

g. It is illegal to disturb another person's legally set trap, remove a lawfully trapped animal from another person's trap, or possess an animal so removed without the owner's permission.

### 15. CAMPING

a. Camping includes, but shall not be limited to, any form of temporary shelter such as a tent, motor home, travel trailer, mobile home or the use of any vehicle for shelter or sleeping.

b. Camping in the Fort Drum Cantonment Area is allowed at designated RV areas at Remington Park. Anyone interested using these RV sites may contact DFMWR Outdoor Recreation Bldg. P-11115 Iraqi Freedom Drive or phone 315-772-5169/8222 or go to [drum.army.mwr.com](http://drum.army.mwr.com) and select Outdoor Recreation. Recreationists using the RV Park are not required to possess a Fort Drum Recreation Access Pass or check-in or check-out at Range Branch.

c. Overnight camping in the Fort Drum Training Area is allowed year-round. All camping in the Training Area is primitive. Recreationists engaged in overnight camping must obtain a Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass for Camping and follow



check-in procedures in accordance with paragraph 4(c). Camping is authorized in any subtraining area open for recreation. There are also designated campsites with a designated marker, parking area, and fire ring. **Recreationists can check into designated campsites through the Sportsman's Hotline on a "first come, first served" basis. Per paragraph 4c, campers must contact Range Branch (315-772-7152) and confirm their location and the number of campers in their party upon reaching their destination in the Training Area.**

d. No person shall discard, bury or dispose of any trash, waste or litter on Fort Drum. Trash receptacles are not provided, so recreationists must carry out what they carry in. Camping areas must be returned to their original condition before departing. See paragraph 2(j) for more information.

e. Recreationists are responsible for providing their own portable latrines and proper disposal of human waste. However, recreationists may use permanent latrines in the Training Area.

f. See paragraph 2(k) for information regarding campfires.

g. Law enforcement officers will make periodic checks on overnight users of Fort Drum to assure their safety and to ensure compliance with all applicable regulations.

## 16. OTHER OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

a. Swimming in any body of water in the Training Area that is not otherwise restricted is done so at your own risk. All waters within and adjacent to Fort Drum are off limits to Active Duty Soldiers for swimming, except Remington Park and approved public swimming areas, which have lifeguards on duty per General Order 1A ~~Fort Drum Pamphlet 600-5, Fort Drum Pamphlet 600-5, Off Limits Areas.~~

b. SCUBA diving is prohibited in all bodies of water within Fort Drum.

c. Target shooting (all weapons) is allowed in the Cantonment Area in facilities under the direction of the Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) personnel. Target shooting with archery/crossbow is allowed in the Training Area. Target shooting with firearms or other non-archery/crossbow weapons is not allowed in the Training Area.

d. Capture of any raptor (e.g., hawk, falcon) on Fort Drum Military Installation for falconry is prohibited. However, the use of raptors for falconry purposes on Fort Drum is permitted with the appropriate federal, state, and Fort Drum licenses and permits.

e. The capture of any wildlife species for the purpose of dog training is prohibited on Fort Drum.

f. Dog training is allowed on Fort Drum during the day time only and in accordance with New York State regulations. Training of dogs on black bears is prohibited on Fort Drum. Dogs must remain under the control of the owner/handler at all times. New York State regulations for dog ownership (e.g., registration, vaccinations, etc.) applies on Fort Drum.

Dog owners/handlers should be aware of the danger of concertina wire in the Training Area. Fort Drum is not responsible for any injuries sustained by the dog while on Fort Drum.

g. Use of tracking dogs by licensed leashed tracking dog handlers is allowed in the Cantonment Area and Training Area per NYSDEC regulations including the use of artificial lights. The handler is not required to obtain a Fort Drum Recreation Permit or check-in on the Sportsman Hotline, but the handler must be accompanied by either a Fort Drum official or authorized recreationist in accordance with this regulation. Licensed leashed tracking dog handlers are not authorized to possess or use firearms in the Cantonment Area, but may use a collapsible spear to dispatch a wounded animal; possession and use of firearms in the Training Area must be in accordance with paragraph 7.

h. Angling and hunting for frogs is allowed in the Training Area in accordance with Environmental Conservation Laws of New York; only angling is allowed for frogs in the Cantonment Area.

i. Capture of baitfish and crayfish is allowed on Fort Drum for private use only and not for commercial purposes. The use of baitfish and crayfish must be in accordance with Environmental Conservation Laws of New York. In general, the use of baitfish or other legally taken fish species intended to be used as bait may only be used in the same water body from which they were caught for bait in hook-and-line fishing. Transportation of personally harvested baitfish over land by a motorized vehicle is prohibited.

## 17. PENALTIES

a. Violations of this regulation or any New York State statutes are subject, but not limited, to prosecution under 10 U.S.C., 2671, 18 U.S.C. 13, 41 C.F.R. 102-74.385, N.Y. ECL Sections 11-0321, 71-0919 and/or Section 71-0921. Military personnel are also subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice and Fort Drum Pamphlet 600-5. For serious offenses, New York State and Fort Drum officials will be involved concurrently, and all offenders may be subject to Local, State and Federal penalties. Violations or assisting in violations of these types of offenses could result in but not limited to a revocation of New York State hunting/fishing/trapping privileges, temporary or permanent loss of recreational privileges on the installation, seizure, and potential destruction of equipment used, as well as possibly court-assessed confinement, fines or other penalties.

b. Immediate Suspension. Any person cited with a violation, misdemeanor and/or felony of any provision of New York State statutes, applicable federal laws, Army and Fort Drum regulations, by New York State Conservation Officers, Federal Conservation Law Enforcement Officers or Military Police Conservation Law Enforcement Officers, shall immediately surrender his/her access pass to the citing official if requested.

c. Temporary or Permanent Revocation. Issuance of a Fort Drum Recreational Access Pass

and Forest Product Harvesting Permit is an administrative function to allow privileges on Fort Drum Military Installation. Temporary or permanent revocation of these privileges for recreation and/or forest products harvesting will be based on the police report, seriousness of the violation, number of violations, and any extenuating circumstances. Revoking privileges for recreation violations will also revoke privileges for forest product harvesting and vice versa. The date of revocation will start based on the date of adjudication (not the date of violation). A letter of revocation will be provided to the violator by Fort Drum's Natural Resources Branch if the violator wants to appeal the decision to the Garrison Commander. Revocations can be appealed to the Garrison Commander in writing (Address: Fort Drum Garrison Commander, 10100 North Riva Ridge Loop, Fort Drum, NY 13602) explaining the reason why the revocation should be reduced or overturned.

d. All evidence of unauthorized hunting, fishing, trapping, or other forms of recreational activities to include but not be limited to suspected unlawfully killed or caught game or fish, unauthorized weapons, snares, traps, illegal fishing contraptions or devices, explosives, nets, or seines will be confiscated and may be released to the NYSDEC with report of offense. A receipt of the confiscated items will be furnished to persons from whom the items are seized.

**OFFICIAL:**

//original signed//  
**JASON N. ADLER**  
**Colonel, IN**  
**Garrison Commander**

**APPENDIX A  
REFERENCES**

**RELATED PUBLICATIONS.** A related publication is an additional source of information. Users of this regulation do not have to read related publications to understand the contents of this regulation.

**50 CFR, Part 17**  
Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants

**50 CFR, Part 20**  
Migratory Bird Hunting

**50 CFR, Part 23**  
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

**6 NYCRR, Chapter 1, Part 4, Subchapter G, Part 55**  
Public Use in the Fort Drum Cooperator Area

**16 USC 703-711**  
Migratory Bird Treaty

**16 USC 718(A)**  
Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Tax Act

**16 USC 1538-1543**  
Endangered Species

**16 USC, Section 470ee**  
Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979

**16 USC, Section 670 et. seq. PL 86-797**  
Sikes Act

**Army Regulation 385-10**  
The Army Safety Program

**Fort Drum Pamphlet 600-5**  
Basic Standards

**Fort Drum Regulation 190-13**  
Fort Drum Physical Security Program

***Fort Drum Installation Policy Memorandum 21-18, Off-Limits Locations***

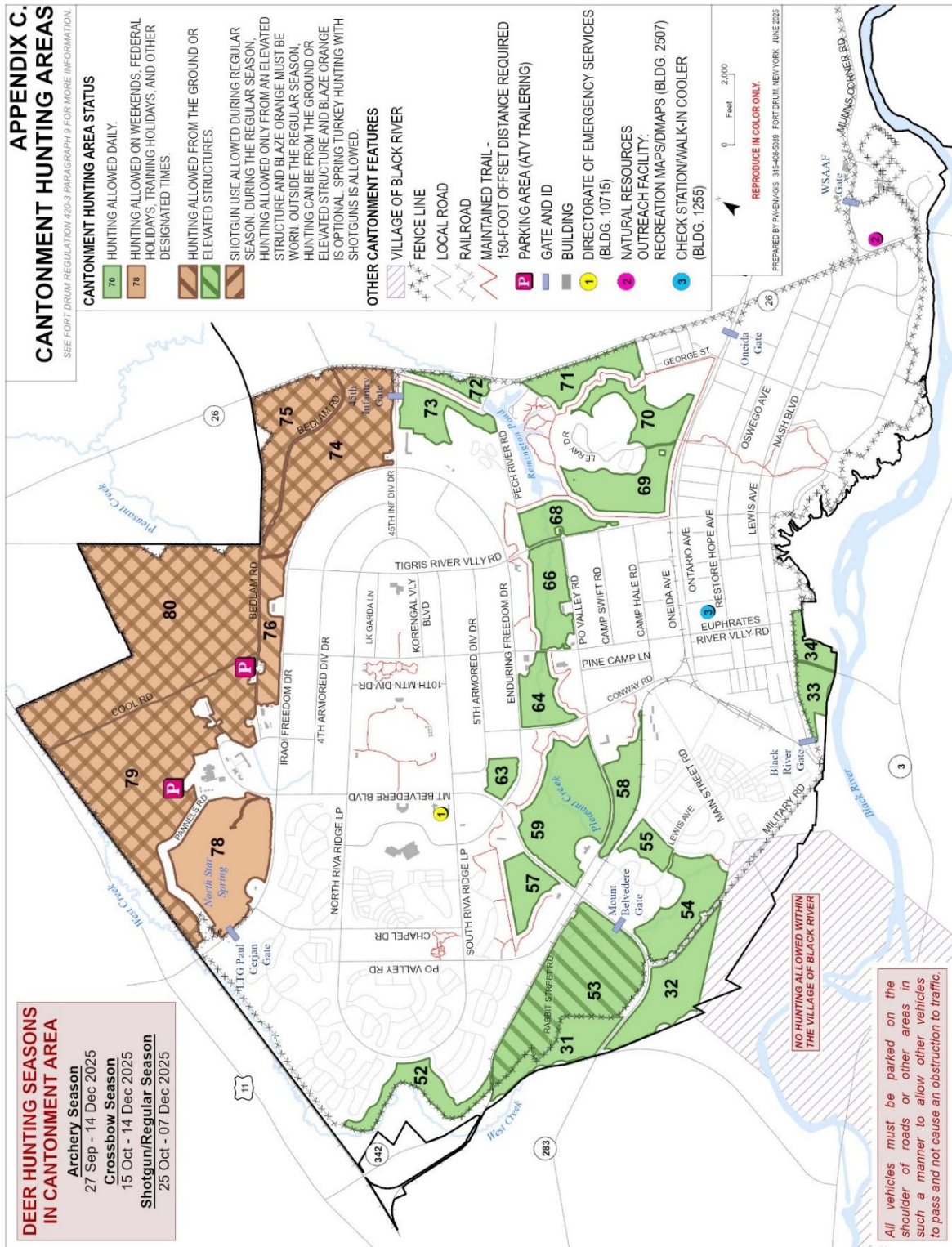
**Public Law 97-79**  
Lacey Act Amendments of 1981

**New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law**

**APPENDIX B  
FORT DRUM RECREATIONAL USE MAP**

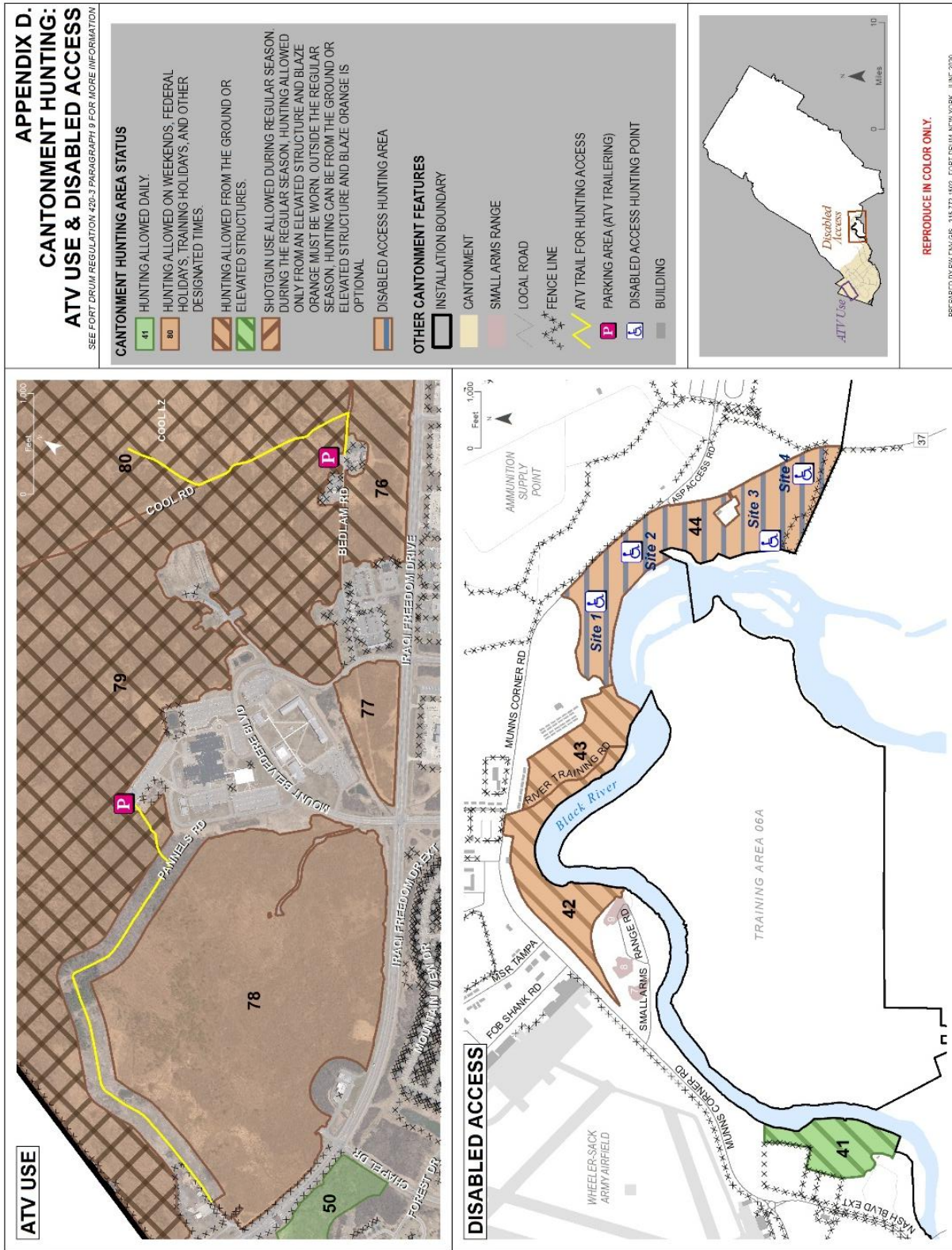
(Copies are available from the Fort Drum Natural Resources Branch, Bldg. S-2507 and Bldg. T-4000)

## APPENDIX C CANTONMENT HUNTING: AREAS



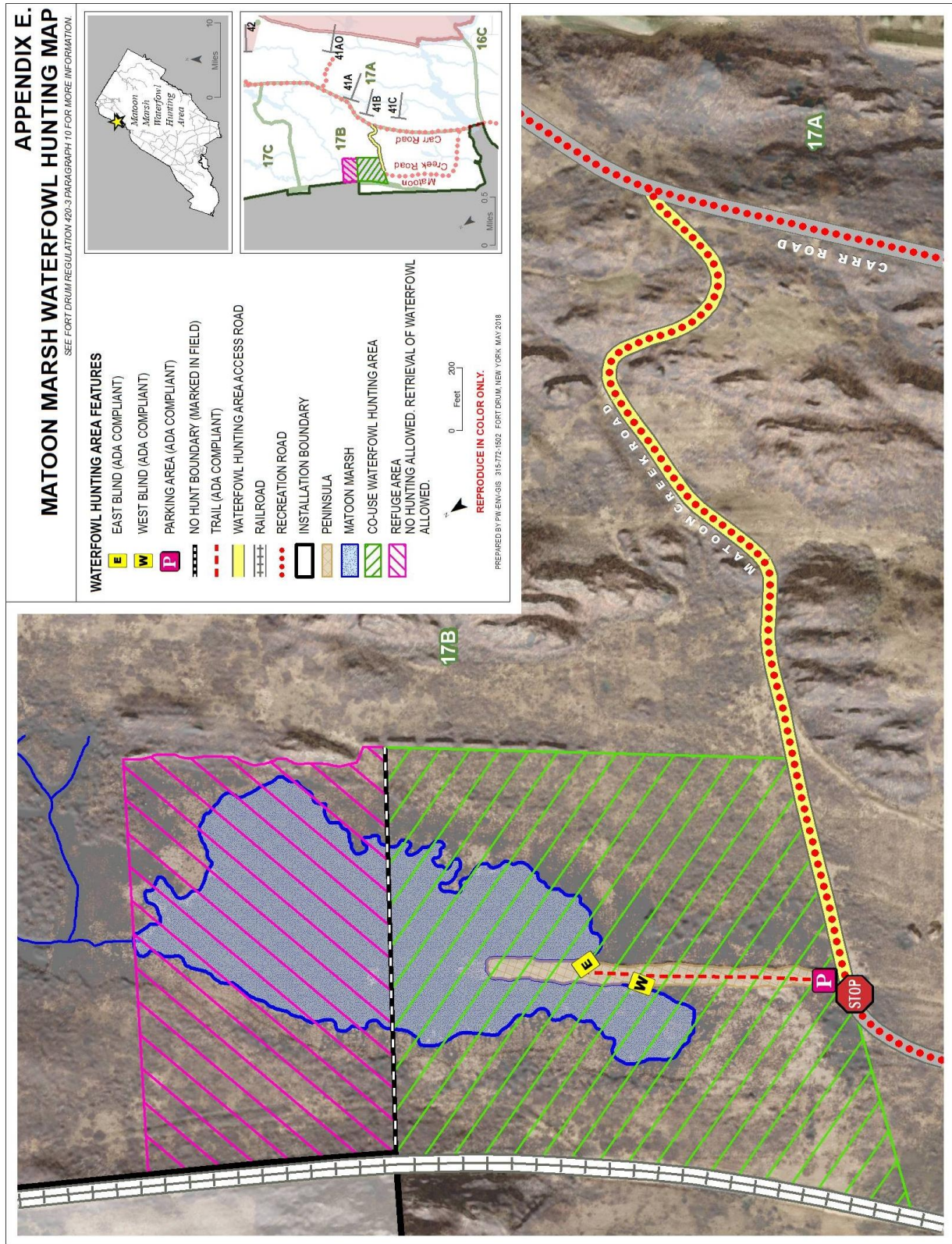


# **APPENDIX D** **CANTONMENT HUNTING: ATV USE, AREAS, & DISABLED ACCESS**



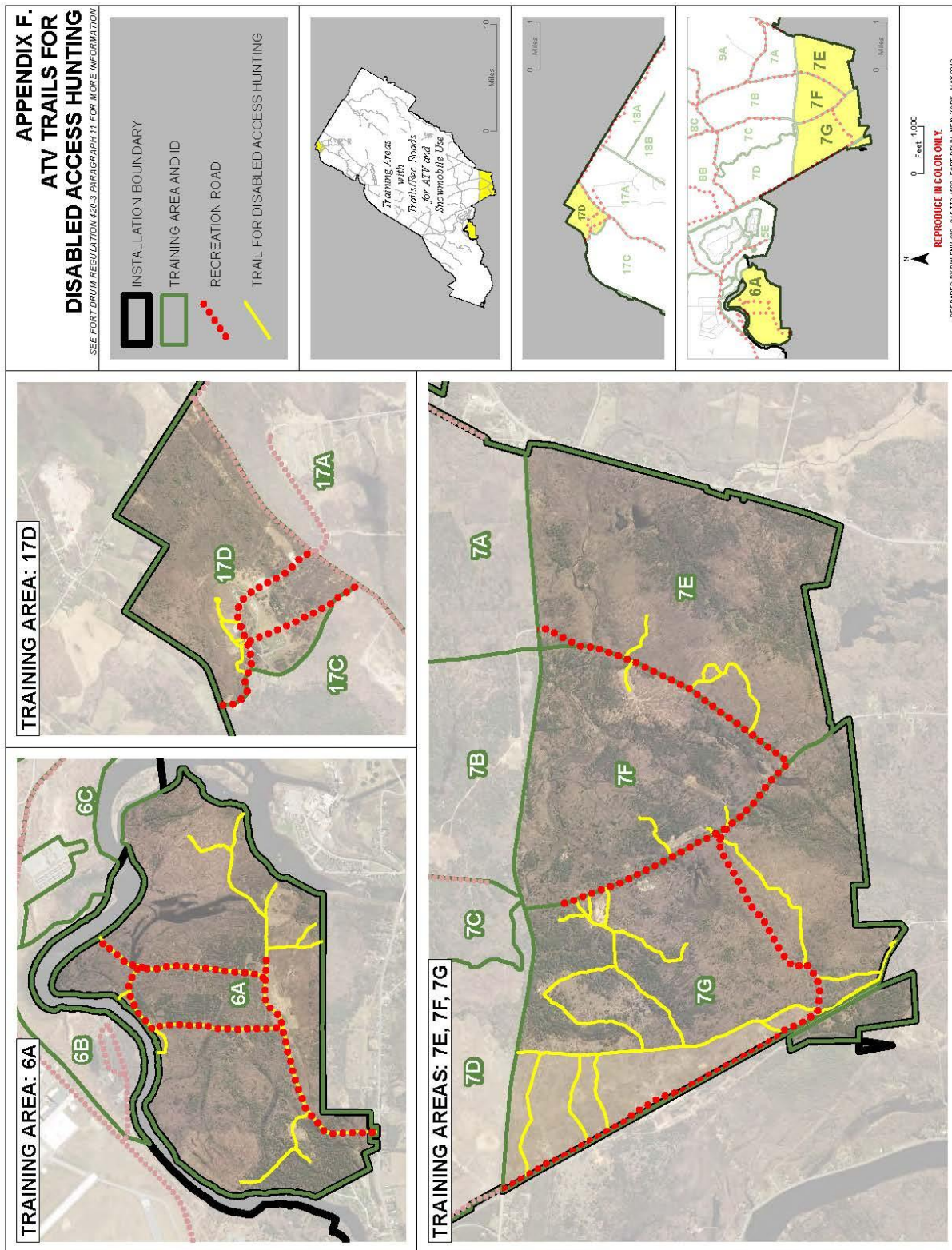


## APPENDIX E MATOON MARSH WATERFOWL HUNTING AREA MAP





# **APPENDIX F** **ATV TRAILS FOR DISABLED ACCESS HUNTING IN TRAINING AREAS 6A, 7E, 7F, 7G, & 17A**





APPENDIX G  
FIRST TIME AND YOUTH HUNTING IN TRAINING AREA 13B

