



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON FORT HUACHUCA
2837 BOYD AVENUE BUILDING 41402
FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA 85613

AMIM-HUG-ZA (385-10aa)

7 August 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR All Fort Huachuca Personnel

SUBJECT: POLICY 25-94, Prohibition of Magnet Fishing on Fort Huachuca

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 385-10 (The Army Safety Program), 24 July 2023.
- b. Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA Pam) 385-64 (Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards), 24 July 2023.
- c. Title 10, United States Code (10 U.S.C), Armed Forces (1956)

2. Purpose: To protect the environment, cultural heritage, public safety, and explosive safety by prohibiting magnet fishing on the Fort Huachuca Installation, due to the risks associated with unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other explosive hazards, in accordance with AR 385-10 and DA Pam 385-64.

3. Scope: This policy applies to all personnel, including military, civilian, and contractors, who are present on Fort Huachuca.

4. Background: Magnet fishing, also known as magnetic fishing, is a recreational activity where individuals use strong magnets to retrieve metal objects from waterways. While it may seem harmless, magnet fishing can pose significant risks to explosive safety, public safety, and the environment, particularly in areas where UXO may be present. This policy aims to prevent these risks by prohibiting magnet fishing on the Fort Huachuca Installation, consistent with the requirements outlined in AR 385-10 and DA Pam 385-64.

5. Prohibited Activities:

- a. Using magnets or other magnetic devices to retrieve metal objects from any waterway, including ponds, and streams, on the Fort Huachuca Installation.
- b. Removing any objects, including historical artifacts, from the water or surrounding areas on the Fort Huachuca Installation.
- c. Damaging or disturbing the natural environment, including aquatic habitats and

ecosystems, on the Fort Huachuca Installation.

d. Interfering with or obstructing navigation, fishing, or other legitimate uses of the waterways on the Fort Huachuca Installation.

6. Reasons for Prohibition:

a. Explosive Safety: Magnet fishing can pose a significant risk to explosive safety, as it can disturb or retrieve UXO, such as unexploded bombs, grenades, or other munitions, which can detonate and cause serious injury or death, as outlined in AR 385-10, Chapter 3, "Explosive Safety".

b. UXO Risks: UXO can be present in waterways on the Fort Huachuca Installation, particularly in areas with a history of military training or testing. Magnet fishing can increase the risk of UXO detonation, which can have catastrophic consequences, as highlighted in DA Pam 385-64.

c. Public Safety: Magnet fishing can pose a risk to public safety, particularly if individuals are retrieving sharp or heavy objects that can cause injury.

d. Environmental Protection: Magnet fishing can damage aquatic habitats, disrupt ecosystems, and harm wildlife on the Fort Huachuca Installation.

e. Cultural Heritage Preservation: Magnet fishing can result in the removal of historical artifacts, which are an important part of our cultural heritage.

7. Explosive Safety Considerations:

a. UXO Identification: UXO can be difficult to identify, and magnet fishing can increase the risk of disturbing or retrieving these explosive hazards.

b. Detonation Risk: UXO can detonate if disturbed, handled or retrieved, posing a significant risk to individuals and the surrounding environment.

c. Explosive Safety Protocols: Authorized explosive safety protocols must be followed in areas where UXO may be present, and magnet fishing can compromise these protocols.

8. Enforcement:

a. Authority: The Fort Huachuca Garrison Commander and Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) will be responsible for enforcing this policy.

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b. Penalties: Individuals found to be engaging in magnet fishing on the Fort Huachuca Installation may be subject to fines, penalties, or other enforcement actions.

c. Education and Outreach: Educational materials and outreach programs will be developed to inform the public about the prohibition and the risks associated with UXO and explosive safety, consistent with the requirements outlined in DA Pam 385-64.

9. Exceptions:

a. Authorized EOD Activities: The Davis-Monthan EOD Team may conduct authorized explosive safety operations, including UXO removal, subject to approval from the Fort Huachuca Garrison Commander.

b. Emergency Response: In emergency situations, such as responding to a UXO incident or retrieving a hazardous object, authorized personnel may engage in magnet fishing or other retrieval activities, subject to approval from the Fort Huachuca Garrison Commander and compliance with relevant explosive safety protocols, as emphasized in DA Pam 385-64.

10. Review and Revision: This policy will be reviewed and revised as necessary to ensure its effectiveness on protecting explosive safety, public safety, and the environment, consistent with the requirements outlined in AR 385-10 and DA Pam 385-64.

11. Effective Date: This policy will come into effect on the date of release of this policy and will be enforced thereafter.

12. PROPONENT for this policy is the Explosive Safety Office at 520-533-5191.

MICHAEL J. CHILDS
COL, MI
Commanding