MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy # 27, Prohibition on Feeding of Feral Cats and Wildlife


2. Purpose: This memorandum establishes command policy to prohibit the feeding of feral cats and wildlife on the Presidio of Monterey (POM) and Ord Military Community (OMC).

3. Applicability: This policy applies to all service members, civilians, contractors, tenants, family members and guests at the POM and OMC. This policy supersedes the previous command policy dated 28 May 2010.

4. Proponent: The proponent for this Policy is the Directorate of Public Works, IMPMPW, at (831) 242-6736/4132.

5. Background:

   a. The Presidio of Monterey and Ord Military Community is inhabited by feral cats, raccoons, and other wildlife that can cause property damage and human health/safety concerns. Providing food or water for these animals results in population increases and encourages the animals to reside in close proximity to our facilities and people. This increases risk of injury to the animals as well as the risk of property damage, personal injury and disease. Interactions with these animals can be greatly reduced by eliminating their unnatural food sources such as intentional feeding and refuse.

   b. Feral cats usually live in close association with humans but they are no longer under human control. They live and reproduce in the wild. People have neglected these animals, which live exposed to disease, hunger, weather and attack from other animals. Failure to control a feral cat population results in the inhumane treatment of the cats.

   c. Feral cats and raccoons can harbor and transmit a variety of fatal and non-fatal diseases to domestic pets. These diseases include rabies, plague, and parasitic worms, external parasites such as fleas and mites, and bacterial infections.
IMPM-PW
SUBJECT: Command Policy # 27, Prohibition on Feeding of Feral Cats and Wildlife

Additionally, feral cats can transmit feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV), feline leukemia virus (FeLV), feline distemper or panleuopenia and feline infectious peritonitis (FIP).

d. Feral cats and raccoons can also harbor and transmit fatal and non-fatal diseases to humans. These include rabies, plague, ringworm, internal and external parasites, and secondary bacterial infections from scratches and bites. Feral cats can also transmit toxoplasmosis, bartonellosis (formerly known as cat scratch fever).

e. Feral cats and raccoons living in close association with people can damage buildings, contaminate food supplies, and harm pets. Parasites such as fleas are often a problem in areas inhabited by feral cats and raccoons.

6. Policy:

a. Feeding or providing water for feral cats, raccoons and other wildlife on the POM and OMC community is prohibited. This prohibition is established to promote the health and safety of our personnel and to prevent the inhumane treatment of animals.

b. Dumpsters and garbage cans shall be kept closed except when trash is being deposited into them. This is especially necessary in areas where scrap food is disposed. Dumpsters and garbage container locations shall be kept clean.

c. Pets should be fed indoors whenever possible. Pet owners should remove excess food immediately after feeding their pets outdoors. Water should be provided indoors or brought inside in the evenings when feral cats and wildlife are more active.

d. Requests to remove raccoons that are causing property damage or health/safety concerns shall be directed to the DPW Natural Resource Program Manager at (831) 242-6736.

e. All animals, including feral cats and raccoons are protected from inhumane treatment by California Penal Code section 597. All suspected incidents involving mistreatment of animals, feeding of feral cats or knowledge of such acts, shall be reported to the POM Police at (831) 242-7851. Any reported incident of animal treatment will be considered a serious issue by this command.

GREGORY J. FORD
COL., MI
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
G