

CGNRAC Meeting Minutes – 13 June 2012

Location: Conference Room, Conservation Branch, Bldg 5888

Roll Call: Sec'y Burt Davis – Quorum declared.

Officers Present:

Chairman – COL House

1st VP – Tommy Garnett

2nd VP – Tom Siter

Secretary – Burt Davis

MSU's Represented:

11th EN BN

198th IN BDE

14th CSH

316th CAV BDE

192nd IN BDE

75th Ranger Regiment

194th AR BDE

DENTAC

197th IN BDE

WTC

MSU's Not Represented:

199th IN BDE

MEDDAC/MACH

3rd BDE, 3rd ID

NCOA

AMU

RTB

HQ MCOE

WHINSEC

Staff/Directorates Represented:

Conservation Branch – Mark Thornton

Chief, Range Division – Doug Greenway

MWR, Outdoor Rec – Cliff Hughes

MWR, TELTRACK – Tony Kuykendall

G-3, Range Division – Michael Carder

Visitors:

James Neville, USMC

Opening Remarks: COL House

Welcome new members:

14th CSH – CPT Christopher Johnson

192nd IN BDE – 1SG Michael Stow

DENTAC – MAJ David Nelson

We have important topics to discuss this meeting.

Old Business:

Open House – Cliff Hughes

Raffle tickets for Open House are available at Outdoor Rec. Request members pick up to sell within your commands. This is MWR sanctioned raffle. OK to sell to your soldiers.

Prizes – Scope, Treestand, GPS, Rod and Reel, Game Camera.

Tickets \$2.50/Each

Open House is set for 23 August. Venue is not determined at this time.

COL House – Suggest if venue becomes an issue return to Uchee Creek.

Trap/Skeet Range – Cliff Hughes

No update. Currently in stalemate over erosion control. Bugged down at present.

Does have command emphasis by CG.

Expect no progress until October.

MWR has already purchased most of the equipment.

AMU will assist with hunter zero days again this year.

QDM Marking – Mark Thornton

Have not started marking areas yet.

Brent Widener has worked on revisions to existing signs.

Will need volunteers to post signs when ready.

COL House – Good project for offenders to work off violations. 8 Sept target for completion.

Charter – COL House

Final draft will go to CoS for signature with MCOE 200-3.

Weapons Policy – COL House

Ugly at this point.

COL House has talked to Provost Marshall General office. PMG said exception to policy not approved at this time. No stopping policy may remain in effect.

Urges voting reps talk to their commanders regarding policy.

Exception to policy w/CG signature was submitted but MG Brown is now gone. CoS will re-engage with new CG and start process again.

Will definitely be required to register weapons prior to hunting season.

New Business:

Harvest Card – COL House

Council has agreed to consider reinstatement of Harvest Card and link to Post Permit.

Harvest card would allow 10 does, 2 bucks and 3 turkeys harvested on Ft Benning with separate reporting from State.

Card would be a stamped, controlled document.

Will be required to punch card to report harvest. Also, still required to report harvest through TELTRACK but do not report harvest on GA State license.

Many hunters have mistakenly reported AL harvest on their GA Hunting License.

Would clear confusion on bag limits.

Will eliminate/replace post permit sticker on license.

Reduces opportunities to print another license and start over. Is a controlled document. If lost or destroyed must go to Brent Widener to obtain authorization for replacement. Will compare harvest data with TELTRACK to issue replacement with appropriate harvest info to date.

Disadvantages: May cause some people to lose minimal money by replacing existing permit before expired. If purchased existing permit before 1 March must pay again. If purchases after 1 March is free. High end monetary loss would be \$12 for senior grades.

GA harvest does not report on state license; separate reporting. Could feasibly harvest 12 deer and 3 turkeys on post and 12 deer and 3 turkeys off post. AL harvest must go on Ft Benning Harvest Card and continue to be reported on AL Harvest Record for persons with AL license.

Cards would expire 15 June annually.

Must also report all harvest through TELTRACK.

AL per day restrictions would still apply.

Cooperative agreement will be modified to reflect changes.

194th Rep – Command supports.

This does not apply to fishing permits. Harvest card info will not print on fishing permits.

Vote taken – Implement use of Harvest Card and new Post Permit system? Result of vote: Yes-9, No-0. Approved. Harvest Card and new Post Permit will be implemented.

MCOE Reg 200-3 – COL House

Please review/proof draft reg. Discuss with your commander. Provide feedback.

QDM has been approved for all areas north of Buena Vista Road.

Harvest Card information is now incorporated into draft reg.

Still has some cosmetic issues and redundancy. Please proof and provide feedback.

Please look at violations page.

6 months suspension for unplugged gun.

Tried to rank order violations, i.e. safety issues vice non-safety.

Mandatory check days - Non-compliance was a serious issue last year. Data will be compared to TELTRACK system. If reported on TELTRACK but not checked in at check station will now result in 45 day suspension and cannot be worked off. No exceptions.

Bottom line – Educate hunters on mandatory check days. Dates will be published in 200-3 and posted on kiosks.

Season dates will be published/updated as soon as available from states.

Garrison Issues – CSM Moore – Not present

MSU Comments:

COL Madison – PCS. This is his last meeting. Replacement is MAJ Nelson.

CPT Lessman – Is his last meeting. Replacement is identified.

SFC Vanlaningham – Question; Is it possible for TELTRACK to be programmed to require special code to check into QDM area?

Tony Kuykendall – Is possible. Would require a drop dead date to change over and implement. System may be down that day.

COL House – Will look into it.

MAJ Bolar – How would that effect signing into Archery Concurrent and QDM area simultaneously?

Cliff Hughes – Expects to see large influx of archery hunters based upon area availability and influx of additional troops.

Doug Greenway – Chief, Range Division

Supports Council initiatives. Appreciates participation and input.

Stressed training takes first priority. He supports hunting/recreational use as much as possible.

Working to de-conflict resources.

Proposes reviewing/updating map range by range.

Closing Remarks – COL House

Land availability – Voting reps please work with S-3's for better land usage/stewardship. Coordinate with OPS NCO's.

Large vehicles – Please avoid pivot steers. Causes safety issue as well as environmental damage.

Meeting Adjourned

COL House' Notes Follow:

Team,

First, I appreciate those who attended the meeting but was somewhat disappointed in the overall attendance. Really need the team to commit to this one meeting every other month. The next one is in August.

Here are my notes:

1. Eight of the voting reps were present w/ HQ, MCOE rep voting via email.
2. Open House update- Scheduled for the evening of 23 August and just found out it will be on main post at the Ft Benning Conf Center and NOT at Uchee Creek. Ms Brittany Beadle (CCd) is the lead for this effort, and she needs help with selling raffle tickets to support very good prizes: - \$500 Bass

Pro Shops gift card

- \$380 Scope (Leupold VX-II 3x9x50)
- \$280 Treestand (Summit Viper SD climber)
- \$200 GPS (Garmin eTrex 20)
- \$200 Rod & Reel (Abu Garcia, 7' med heavy)
- \$200 Game Camera (Primos TRUTH Cam BLACKOUT)

Raffle tickets can be picked up at Outdoor Rec and are sold for \$2.50. This has been approved by SJA, so Soldiers can sell them in unit areas.

3. Trap/Skeet Range- still lots of environmental issues, and it's not likely to open before 1 Oct. AMU has agreed to host range zero days again, so Soldiers will still have the opportunity to zero their firearms on Post before the season.

4. QDM update- QDM expansion has been approved and will be implement this season! QDMA will be EVERYTHING north of Buena Vista Road. We will explore the idea to add the #4 before the area number code to ensure folks who sign in know they are signing in to a QDMA. If a prefix is limited to either "4"

for QDMA or "9" for archery concurrent with training, then archery concurrent with training will supersede the QDMA prefix. Need to work this quickly with Tony K and make sure Brent gets it into the MCOE Reg before it is staffed. EMD still needs to mark the QDM with signs per the same standard applied to the previous QDMA. They may need volunteers. Brent has this action to be completed before 8 Sep 12.

5. CGNRAC Charter- DRAFT has been circulated several times and final version will be formally staffed as part of the MCOE 200-3 staffing. Remember, this charter empowers the Council and becomes an official tasking from the MCOE CoS to units/directorates to provide representation.

6. Weapons Policy Update- still waiting on the official reply from PMG on the exception to policy request to allow Soldiers/hunters/shooters to stop for gas, lunch, etc. Current staffed version prohibits any stopping. Hunters must go from their residence to their hunting area and back to their residence...period. Hope to have the final policy signed by 1 July, so we can start registering firearms IAW the new policy. Reminder, EVERYONE will be required to register their firearms they plan to use on Post, regardless if they live on or off post. The new MCOE 190-11 will be covered by DES at the 23 August Open House. It's important that the community is educated on this new policy when signed.

7. Harvest Card/Post Hunting/Fishing Permits- Council approved the plan by a 9-0 vote, so the new Hunting Permit/Harvest Card system will be included in the new MCOE Reg 200-3. Members have the details, but all hunters will be required to have this new Harvest Card before they deer hunt this season. These Permits/Harvest Cards will expire every year on 15 June. New ones will be made available 16 May each year; the day after GA turkey season ends. Review the new MCOE 200-3 for details, and this will be covered at the Open House.

8. MCOE Reg 200-3. Council has been provided a DRAFT of the new MCOE 200-3

and encouraged to provide feedback. Highlighted a couple of revisions to include new violations/punishments for unplugged shotguns and failure to check deer during mandatory check days. The new Harvest Card language will be included. Brent expects to begin staffing this when he returns next week. Send feedback to him please. You can also CC me if you'd like.

9. No Garrison issues presented.

10. Mr Greenway, new Chief, Range Division, attended and expressed his intent to work with the Council to improve land availability and support other initiatives that supports outdoor recreation while emphasizing that safety and training remain the priority. Appreciate his attendance!

Future topics:

1. Mandatory qualification for all archery hunter- Issue to be formalized and presented at a future meeting.

2. Execution of Cantonment Archery Hunt 2012; expects some changes from last year.

3. Special hunt opportunities.

Again, thanks to those who attended last night, and I am hopeful that those who did not make it will make it to the next one.