



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
NBVCINST 5090.14B
N46VCS
4 Jun 21

NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY INSTRUCTION 5090.14B

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Base Ventura County

Subj: BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR AIR AND BARGE
TRANSPORT OF ALL CARGO TO SAN NICOLAS ISLAND

Ref: (a) Endangered Species Act
(b) Federal Noxious Weeds Act
(c) Alien Species Prevention and Enforcement Act
(d) National Invasive Species Act
(e) Sikes Act
(f) OPNAV (M-5090.1)
(g) NBVC San Nicolas Island Biosecurity Plan

Encl: (1) Biosecurity requirements for all cargo being transported to San Nicolas Island via
Barge or Aircraft

1. Purpose. To establish policy, guidelines, and responsibility for reducing potential introduction of ecologically harmful non-native flora or fauna to San Nicolas Island (SNI) via barges or aircraft flights.

2. Cancellation. NBVCINST 5090.14A.

3. Background. When non-native, invasive species are introduced, there are detrimental effects to the ecosystem. Impacts are especially severe when introduced to island environments. These detrimental effects can have an adverse effect to Navy mission by damaging property, reducing mission capabilities, impacting training areas, introducing human and animal disease, contaminating food, impacting federally listed or sensitive species, and destroying habitat and ecosystem diversity and functions.

4. Policy. To comply with references (a) through (g) and in support of the Navy's environmental program set forth by reference (f) and the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan for Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) San Nicolas Island (SNI). To support these policies, protective measures outlined in reference (g) are being enacted by the Commanding Officer (CO) of NBVC to reduce the potential of introductions.

5. Definitions

a. Non-native species: 'Non-native species' or 'alien species' means, with respect to a

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particular ecosystem, an organism, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that occurs outside of its natural range.

b. Biosecurity: Measures used to protect an area from biological invasion of non-native species.

c. Grounded: Any equipment or cargo not allowed to be transported to SNI following an inspection that resulted in an observed occurrence or significant threat of a non-native species to SNI.

d. Shipping Party: Any Navy command, department, contractor, government employee, or other individual shipping materials to SNI via barge or aircraft.

e. Other transport methods: Any federal agency or other party utilizing alternative methods to move cargo to SNI, such as small aircraft, landing craft, and helicopters.

f. Stowaway: A living creature that was not purposefully placed on board a ship or plane, hiding in cargo containers within the vessel or aircraft.

g. Invertebrate: Animal species that do not have a backbone, such as insects, spiders, snails, pill bugs, scorpions, etc.

h. Invasive Species: Executive Order 13112 - defines an invasive species as "an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health." In the Executive Summary of the National Invasive Species Management Plan the term invasive species is further clarified and defined as "a species that is non-native to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health."

6. Responsibilities and actions

a. NBVC Environmental Division (ENV DIV):

(1) Responsible to inspect or contract inspections of staged cargo for aircraft or barge transport in order to detect potentially invasive species on equipment and materials. Barge is currently inspected under contract by a National Park Service biosecurity technician (EV representative).

(2) Preliminary barge inspections (for early arriving cargo) should occur two to three days before the barge is set to leave to give shipping parties time to remedy any biosecurity threats identified. A final inspection will occur the morning of shipping, to inspect any late arriving cargo, to re-inspect threats identified during prior survey to ensure the threat was removed, as well as ensure no stowaways moved into cargo previously inspected. Air cargo will typically be

inspected the day before it is transported to SNI, as cargo is loaded at Point Mugu the day before. ENV DIV may also spot-check cargo on passenger flights. This will not involve opening any personal bags.

(3) Responsible to initiate contact with shipping party (if known) or barge coordinator if a biosecurity threat is identified. Shipping party will be notified they are required to remedy threat and cargo cannot go to SNI until biosecurity requirements are met. If threat is minimal and easily remedied, ENV DIV or ENV representative may remove threat. Threats can include plant material, fungus, soil, insects, small mammals, etc., that may be transported in cargo. If threats are identified the morning of loading and cannot be easily remedied, ENV DIV is responsible to immediately contact the Public Works Officer (PWO) and appropriate Navy Point of Contact (POC) in which the cargo belongs or supports their project/contract. ENV DIV will provide information to the PWO on the threat and potential biosecurity impacts if cargo is allowed to be transported. ENV DIV will also provide any known information (from Barge Coordinator or Navy POC) on what project or activity the cargo supports and potential mission impacts from not allowing cargo to be transported. The PWO will make determination if cargo should remain or can be transported to SNI. If PWO or Assistant Public Works Officer (APWO) cannot be reached, the ENV DIV Director will attempt to contact the NBVC CO, SNI Officer in Charge (OIC), and/or NBVC Chief Staff Officer (CSO) to discuss grounding of cargo and make a determination on if it should be allowed to transport. If leadership is not available to authorize grounding, ENV DIV Director will make determination.

(4) Support the biosecurity educational effort by providing the biosecurity presentation and biosecurity plan to required parties. Keep biosecurity presentation and SNI's biosecurity plan current. Print and maintain biosecurity posters and handouts at SNI and Point Mugu air terminals.

(5) Ensure biosecurity requirements are placed in all SNI contracts and explained during project review board to ensure project leads are well aware of biosecurity requirements and potential grounding if cargo is not in compliance. Attend all SNI project kick-off meetings to ensure parties are aware of biosecurity requirements.

(6) Set traps and biosecurity cameras to identify and reduce presence of potential stowaway animals in the barge and air cargo staging areas.

(7) Set and check biosecurity cameras on SNI to detect any recent arrivals of stowaway animals.

(8) Monitor for new plant species transported to the island, focusing on cargo destination sites (i.e., Nicktown, operational sites, and contractor laydown areas).

(9) Provide footwear cleaning stations and associated signs for placement at Point Mugu terminal.

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(10) Pursue habitat modification or other projects that will reduce the potential harborage of animal and plant species near cargo staging areas on the mainland.

b. PWO, APWO, CO, CSO, OIC:

(1) Be familiar with SNI's Biosecurity Program

(2) Will make determination if cargo with a known biosecurity threat can be transported to SNI or must remain on mainland until threat is resolved.

c. Shipping party:

(1) Follow any biosecurity language written in the contract or in their Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) (PRB).

(2) Review enclosure (1) received by the barge coordinator and ensure requirements are met and followed.

(3) Clearly mark all cargo with a contact number and Navy POC, so the shipper and Navy POC can be notified in the event their cargo contains a biosecurity threat.

(4) Bring cargo to staging area two to three days before the barge is set to leave to give shipping parties time to remedy any biosecurity threats identified. Avoid bringing cargo the morning of barging.

(5) Must power wash all vehicles, heavy equipment (including undercarriage), dumpsters, or any other dirty cargo to remove soil or other debris. If water is damaging to cargo, soil and debris must be swept or blown out.

(6) Must inspect cargo and vehicles for invertebrates and stowaway animals, or evidence of animals (such as feces) before cargo is brought to Port Hueneme, removing all threats encountered. ENV DIV must be notified if feces or other evidence found at COMM: (805) 989-3808.

(7) When notified by ENV DIV or barge coordinator of a biosecurity threat of staged cargo, must resolve threat as soon as possible and follow through with any recommendations on how to resolve threat before loading.

(8) Must contact ENV DIV when threat is resolved to schedule a follow-up inspection.

(9) When shipping via non-regularly scheduled aircraft or barge, or from an air terminal or wharf not on NBVC property (i.e., Long Beach), the shipping party or Navy POC must contact ENV DIV at COMM: (805) 989-3808 in advance to schedule any necessary inspections.

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(10) Any projects that have cargo departing from other ports (such as Curtain Maritime yard in Long Beach) are financially and solely responsible for contracting their own "ENV DIV approved" biological inspections before any cargo departs to SNI, following all of the same biosecurity requirements from cargo departing Port Hueneme.

d. Barge Operations (NAVAIR):

(1) Ensure any staff involved in barge loading has reviewed the biosecurity presentation and are familiar with biosecurity requirements.

(2) Responsible for immediately (within 24 hours) reporting to ENV DIV any plant, insect, or animal species observed on barge during transport, loading and unloading, or observed in staging areas.

(3) Forward enclosure (1) with each barge shipping request form sent to shipping parties, so party will be aware in advance of requirements. Must make clear cargo will not be transported if requirements are not met.

(4) Contact shipping party if ENV DIV identifies a threat during inspection to notify shipper of requirements to resolve issue to allow transport.

(5) Will not load specified cargo if deemed a biosecurity threat by NBVC leadership.

e. Barging Company:

(1) Allow the placement of traps and bait stations on the barge and ensure rodent barriers are in place along mooring lines when docked on mainland.

(2) Ensure any staff involved in barging or working at cargo staging areas reviewed the Biosecurity presentation and familiar with biosecurity requirements.

(3) Keep barge free of trash and pile of debris that may provide cover or attract animals to barge.

(4) Perform integrated pest management to reduce pest species on their property where cargo is staged and barge is docked and loaded.

(5) Immediately contact ENV DIV before landing on SNI if a stowaway invertebrate or animal is observed on the barge during transport to SNI.

(6) Track and isolate any live animal seen on barge and not unload infected cargo on SNI until ENV DIV is contacted and unloading is approved.

(7) Contact ENV DIV if a dead animal is found on the barge or if a live animal is observed in a trap placed by ENV DIV within 48 hours of discovery or before landing on SNI if in-route to island.

f. Flight Operations (Air cargo operations, personnel air carrier):

(1) Responsible to ensure cargo planes are free from plant or animal species and report any observations to the ENV DIV.

(2) Ensure no animals including "service" pets are allowed on flights, with the exception of Navy K-9 scent/train detection program dogs.

(3) Provide enclosure (1) in advance to personnel requesting to land on SNI for SNI non-regularly scheduled flights. Air Operations must contact ENV DIV and provide a POC for landing requests to allow for ENV DIV to schedule potential inspections before arrival to SNI or after arrival if aircraft not taking off from Point Mugu.

(4) Any cargo and passenger terminal staff involved in cargo plane loading, unloading, maintenance, and flights must review the biosecurity presentation and be aware of biosecurity requirements.

(5) Report any observations of animals and/or insects seen in the cargo staging area to the ENV DIV.

(6) If evidence of plants, animals, and insects are seen in baggage or cargo, do not allow passengers to embark on passenger plane or cargo plane bound for SNI, and contact ENV DIV.

(7) Do not allow any cargo that is grounded due to a biosecurity threat found during inspection to be placed on cargo plane.

(8) Ensure air cargo bins are adequately secured (steel bars are in place) to keep stowaway animals from entering bins and ensure laminated biosecurity signage is displayed on bins.

(9) Contact ENV DIV if insects, animals, or feces are detected inside cargo bins.

g. Naval Supply Fleet Logistics Center:

(1) Responsible to ensure packed items going through supply are free of plants, soil, stowaway insects, or animals before being sealed and taken to the air terminal.

(2) Contact ENV DIV if shipping material does not meet biosecurity requirements.

(3) Responsible to put in a service call and contact ENV DIV if any pests are observed in

supply staging area or building.

(4) Responsible to ensure all personnel working in supply department review biosecurity presentation and are familiar with biosecurity requirements.

(5) Provide enclosure (1) to all shipping parties bringing in SNI cargo, to increase awareness and requirements for subsequent arrivals of cargo by individuals to be packaged by office.

7. Barging requirements, process, responsibilities, and actions

a. Shipping party will have received biosecurity requirements before bringing cargo for shipment from various sources (i.e., contract, PRB, kick off meetings, shipping request).

b. Shipping party inspects and cleans cargo before transport to staging area.

c. ENV DIV will be notified by NAVAIR barge coordinator or project manager (for privately contracted barges) when a barge is scheduled, so ENV DIV can plan schedule for inspections. There shall be at least 72 hours' notice given for staged cargo to be surveyed for initial barge embarkation date. If barge embarkation time is delayed due to inclement weather, at least 24 hours' notice should be given to schedule a re-inspection.

d. During pre-loading day inspection (for early arriving cargo), shipping items are inspected and if a threat is identified, ENV DIV will notify barge coordinator and/or shipper of the threat and requirement to remove before transported to island. If there is no contact information on the cargo, barge coordinator will be notified and he will contact the shipper and inform them of the biosecurity violation.

e. During inspection of cargo the morning of loading, previously inspected and recently arrived cargo are inspected by ENV DIV or EV representative (cargo). If a threat is present in recently arrived cargo or remains from cargo previously inspected and it cannot be easily removed, ENV DIV will contact leadership to request cargo to be grounded.

f. Leadership will then determine if mission impacts of cargo not being transported to island supersedes the biosecurity risk.

g. Cargo is then loaded (if approved) or shipper and Navy POC is notified that cargo will remain on mainland until biosecurity threat is resolved.

8. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

9. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, the Environmental Department

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Director will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.



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**BIOSECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CARGO BEING TRANSPORTED
TO SAN NICOLAS ISLAND VIA BARGE OR AIRCRAFT**

NBVC Biosecurity Program Information

1. The below requirements are set forth to establish policy, guidelines, and responsibility for reducing potential introduction of ecologically harmful non-native flora or fauna to SNI via barges or aircraft flights. When non-native species are introduced into new areas, there are almost always detrimental effects to the ecosystem. Impacts are usually more severe when introduced to island environments. These detrimental effects can have an adverse effect to Navy mission by damaging property and reducing mission capabilities, impacting training areas, introducing human and animal disease, contaminating food, impacting federally endangered or sensitive species, and destroying habitat and ecosystem diversity and function.
2. To reduce chances of accidental introductions, cargo will be inspected for biosecurity threats (presence of plants, animals, invertebrates, and soil) at Point Mugu and Port Hueneme staging areas before transport, or for non-regular cargo that departs elsewhere. Inspections may also occur on SNI prior to offloading when cargo cannot be inspected before departing. Inspections may involve lifting of tarps or some movement of material if view obstructed, lifting up hood of vehicles, and checking inside vehicles. If the below biosecurity requirements have not been met by the shipping party, cargo will be grounded and will not be allowed to be loaded on barge or aircraft or will have to be immediately be taken off SNI. The shipping party will be contacted if below requirements are not met and cargo inspections have identified a threat to biosecurity that needs to be removed before shipping to SNI. The shipping party must then ensure all biosecurity requirements below are met and biosecurity threat is removed before Environmental Division will authorize for transport to SNI. Cargo will be re-inspected by the Environmental Division and if the threat is removed, cargo will be authorized for transport to SNI. All of the below requirements must be completed by all shipping parties.
3. Any costs incurred by delays due to cargo being unfit for transport, delayed shipment to island, or from required cleaning or pest extermination are the sole responsibility of the shipping party.

Shipping Party Requirements

1. A contact information tag (or written on cargo) must be prominently displayed on barge shipping materials. Information must include name and phone of shipping party and Navy POC.
2. Before cargo is brought to Port Hueneme, Point Mugu, or Long Beach, all cargo must be cleaned prior to arrival at staging areas and inspected by shipping party to ensure no plant material, stowaway animals, or invertebrates (e.g. ants, spiders, snails, etc.) are present. If invertebrates (insects, snails, etc.) are found during inspection before transportation to staging areas, they must be removed or sprayed with insecticide. Any animals must be removed from cargo. Flashlights should be used to search in dark corners for eye-shine of mammals or

presence of animal droppings. All cargo must be clean and free of soil, plant material, or debris, as soil may harbor plant seeds and soil-borne pathogens. Dumpsters, truck-beds, or heavy equipment buckets must be power-washed or completely swept out.

3. Vehicles and heavy equipment, including flatbed trailers, must be power-washed throughout, including underneath frame and wheel wells to remove excess dirt or debris that may harbor invasive seeds. Check under hood and remove plant material that builds up at base of windshield and hood.
4. Before cargo is transported to Port Hueneme, all spiders and spider webs should be removed as soon as cargo/vehicle is identified to be transported. Any new webs that show up a few days later when cargo is re-inspected by shipper would then indicate a live spider and then can be removed by shipping party (killed if spider visible). If spider eludes removal, notify NBVC Biosecurity Team ((805) 989-3808) and team can assist in removing spider upon arrival of cargo at staging area.
5. All base material such as gravel for road or airfield repair projects may be required to be certified "weed free", with no soil/sediment allowed to be transported to the island. Contact Environmental Division to determine if weed free base is available and required.
6. Cargo material openings (such as open pipes) must be closed if feasible, so no animals may find refuge while awaiting transport in staging areas.
7. If feces are found (such as mouse droppings) during inspection and/or cleaning by shipping party, Environmental Division must be notified ((805) 989-3808 or (805) 989-4740) so an intensive search of cargo can be completed at staging area to ensure cargo is free of any stowaway animals.
8. The shipping party is responsible to remove any threat identified during an inspection before loading to SNI, contacting Environmental Division to arrange for a re-inspection of cargo once issues are remedied.
9. Shipping party should avoid bringing cargo to staging area the morning of loading, as this does not provide time to survey and address any biosecurity threats and may lead to grounding of cargo. Bring cargo to staging areas at least 48 hours before loading day to allow time to resolve any identified biosecurity threats and avoid grounding of cargo and project/operational delays.
10. Shipping via non-regularly scheduled barges or cargo flights must be arranged in advance with Environmental Division at (805) 989-3808 to arrange inspection on or before transport to SNI.