

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****36 CFR Part 327****Public Use of Water Resources Development Projects Administered by the Chief of Engineers**

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has amended the rules and regulations governing public use of water resources development projects administered by the Chief of Engineers. This final rulemaking supersedes the regulation dated September 3, 1985 and is designed to ensure safe, enjoyable and environmentally sound visitation on the public lands, free from unwarranted disturbances. This is accomplished by setting minimum standards of conduct for individuals using the public lands and establishing penalties that may be imposed for failure to obey the regulations.

These rules and regulations apply to water resources development projects completed or under construction, which are administered by the Chief of Engineers, and to those portions of jointly administered water resources development projects, which are under the administrative jurisdiction of the Chief of Engineers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Stephen Austin, Outdoor Recreation Planner, 202-761-1796.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Comments on the Proposed Rule**

Thirteen responses were received pertaining to the following six paragraphs of the regulation:

36 CFR 327.1(e) Policy. One commentator questioned the use of the word "outgranted", stating that it should not be used since it is not included in the Webster Collegiate Dictionary.

The word outgranted is an appropriate and legally acceptable term as defined in Army Regulation 405-80 (10 October 1997) as "a legal document which conveys or grants the right to use Army-controlled real property". No changes are necessary to this paragraph.

36 CFR 327.3(k) Vessels. One commentator expressed concern as to whether the Corps would still have authority to enforce boating regulations under the proposed new language.

Enforcement responsibility will remain unchanged under the revised

regulation. The language is essentially the same as the previous edition (Sept. 3, 1985) and is exactly the same as paragraph 327.2h (Vehicles) which also specifies that the operation of a vehicle must be "in accordance with applicable Federal, state and local laws, which shall be regulated by authorized enforcement officials as prescribed in Sec. 327.26." No changes are necessary to this paragraph.

36 CFR 327.7(c). Camping. One commentator questioned the elimination of the "overnight occupancy" requirement, stating that the new language could allow reserved sites to be unoccupied for up to 14 days without penalty.

The intent of Corps policy is to encourage the actual occupancy of all reserved campsites. Based on this comment, the phrase "without daily occupancy" has been inserted between the words "campsite" and "for the purpose."

One commentator also questioned the use of the word "unauthorized", stating that the word could be interpreted to mean that authorized placement of equipment or personal appearance (for the purposes of reserving a campsite) is acceptable.

The term "unauthorized" acknowledges that there may be instances where there are "authorized" placement of equipment at a site depending on local management policies. For example, when an entrance station is closed, many projects place a sign in the window instructing the camper to select an unoccupied site, set up camp and report back when the entrance station reopens. Eliminating the term "unauthorized" would cause this management practice to be in violation of 36 CFR 327. The term "unauthorized" will remain in this paragraph.

36 CFR 327.7(e) Camping. One commentator suggested that the words "is posted" be removed from the paragraph, stating that this phrase could be interpreted to mean that campsites must be physically posted by a sign, site marker, etc.

For the safety and convenience of all visitors, a method of indicating that a site has been reserved (either by physical posting or by other means) is necessary to avoid possible user conflicts. As a result of this comment, the phrase "or otherwise marked or indicated" has been inserted between the phrase "is posted" and before the phrase "as reserved".

36 CFR 327.20 Unauthorized Structures. Several commentators expressed concern about adding the words "hunting stands or blinds" to the

list of items that can only be placed on project lands or waters with a prior permit or other appropriate written authorization by the District Commander.

As a result of these comments, the language has been changed to allow for the use of *portable* hunting stands or blinds without having to obtain a permit or other written approval by the District Commander. The term "non-portable" will be inserted between the words "signs" and "hunting stands". A second sentence will be added to state, "Portable hunting stands, climbing devices, steps, or blinds, that are not nailed or screwed into trees and are removed at the end of the day's hunt may be used".

36 CFR 327.21(a). Special Events. Several commentators expressed concern over adding "fishing tournaments" to the list of special events items that are prohibited unless written permission has been granted by the District Commander. Some of these commentators requested that a size limit be set, allowing tournaments under 30 boats to be conducted without a permit. Upon further review, fishing tournaments will remain in the regulation as stated due to the size and other variations of Corps projects nationwide. However, to increase flexibility, the following sentence has been added after the first sentence of the paragraph: "Where appropriate, District Commanders can provide the state a blanket letter of permission to permit fishing tournaments while coordinating the scheduling and details of tournaments with individual projects".

II. Amendments

The following amendments to 36 CFR Chapter III Part 327, as further revised based on the comments received through the Proposed Rule process, are necessary to clarify and strengthen selected regulations for more effective management and to enhance public safety and enjoyment of Corps water resource development projects. Some of the sections have been reworded and/or have had information added or deleted to clarify the regulations. These minor changes are editorial in nature and have been made to express the intent of the regulation more concisely, and to maintain consistency with existing Public Laws.

Discussion of Specific Rule Changes

In Part 327, Secs. 327.1 through 327.26, all references to "District Engineer" have been changed to read "District Commander."

36 CFR 327.0 Applicability

Section 327.0 is republished with no changes.

36 CFR 327.1 Policy

Section 327.1, paragraph (h), is revised to better define the responsibility of an operator or owner of any vehicle, vessel, or aircraft. Paragraph (i) is added to define the responsibility of a registered user of a campsite, picnic area, or other facility.

36 CFR 327.2 Vehicles

Section 327.2, paragraphs (b) and (d), is edited for consistency. A portion of a sentence has been moved from paragraph (d) into a new paragraph (h) to emphasize the laws and regulating authority for the operation of vehicles. Paragraph (e) is revised by removing the word "project" and paragraph (f) is revised by using the word "designated" to define the recreation area.

36 CFR 327.3 Vessels

Section 327.3, paragraph (a), is revised to substitute the term "personal watercraft" for "jetskis" and to add navigation on ice. A portion of a sentence has been moved from paragraph (c) into a new paragraph (k) to emphasize the laws and regulating authority for the operation of vessels. Paragraph (d) is rewritten for ease of readability and to include environmental features. Paragraph (e) has been edited for clarity and to include requirements of enforcement for non-compliance. Paragraph (h) has been modified to include a restriction about mooring vessels to project structures.

36 CFR 327.4 Aircraft

Section 327.4 is revised to include environmental features in paragraph (c), and the retrieval of person or material or equipment from project lands, and the use of balloons in paragraph (e). Paragraph (f)(3) is revised to be consistent with other sections, and to more concisely define navigation rules. Paragraph (f)(6) is revised to remove repetitiveness.

36 CFR 327.5 Swimming

Section 327.5, paragraph (a), is updated to include wading and public docks, and the last sentence is removed to eliminate repetitiveness with paragraph (c) of this section. Paragraph (b) is revised to include appropriate terminology. Paragraph (c) is revised to include the activity of swinging, and to include trees and structures which are adjacent to project waters.

36 CFR 327.6 Picnicking

Section 327.6 is revised for consistency with current Corps of Engineers terminology.

36 CFR 327.7 Camping

Section 327.7 is revised to comply with the National Recreation Reservation Service.

36 CFR 327.8 Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping

Section 327.8 is revised by breaking out each activity into separate paragraphs for better clarification.

36 CFR 327.9 Sanitation

Section 327.9, paragraph (a), is revised to include gray water. Paragraph (b) is revised to clarify the responsibility of the owner of garbage as defined in this section. Paragraph (c) is revised to include disposal of wastes for consistency with other paragraphs in this section.

36 CFR 327.10 Fires

Section 327.10, paragraph (b), is revised to include floatation materials and to clarify the regulation of open burnings for environmental considerations.

36 CFR 327.11 Control of Animals

Section 327.11, paragraph (a), is revised to include waters adjacent to developed recreation areas; to include a sentence which provides enforcement for animals which unreasonably disturb other people; to include the prohibition of animals and pets on playgrounds; and to include a sentence on the prohibition of abandoning any animal on project lands or waters. Paragraph (b) is revised to remove the words, "in sanitary facilities". The word "trails" is added to paragraph (c) for clarification on the types of recreation areas at Corps projects. Paragraph (g) is added to this section to restrict the presence of wild or exotic pets and animals, or any pets or animals displaying vicious or aggressive behavior or posing a threat to public safety or deemed a public nuisance on project lands and waters unless authorized by the District Commander.

36 CFR 327.12 Restrictions

Section 327.12 is revised by adding resource protection to the list of reasons that a District Commander may close or restrict the use of a project or portion of a project. Paragraph (c) has been modified by changing the phrase "the safety of another person" to "the safety of any person". The list of audio producing devices has been removed in paragraph (d) and is now generalized to

read as a "sound producing device" and generators have been added to the examples of motorized equipment. Paragraph (e) is added to clarify the potential prohibition of alcohol on project lands. Paragraph (f) is added to reflect requirements in E.O. 13058, August 9, 1997.

36 CFR 327.13 Explosives, Firearms, Other Weapons and Fireworks

Section 327.13 is revised by adding the words "other weapons" to paragraph (a). Information on explosives and fireworks is moved from paragraph (a) into a new paragraph (b) for clarification purposes.

36 CFR 327.14 Public Property

Section 327.14 is revised to include paleontological resources, and boundary monumentation or markers in paragraph (a). Paragraph (c) is revised to include clarification on site specific prohibitions. Paragraph (d) is added for clarification on metal detectors and is in conformance with existing Corps regulations.

36 CFR 327.15 Abandonment and Impoundment of Personal Property

Section 327.15, paragraph (a), is revised to include public safety or resource protection to the reasons for closure of a public use area. Paragraphs (b) and (c) are switched for better readability. Paragraph (b) is revised to include private facilities, and to include the impoundment of property for consistency with paragraph (c). Paragraph (c) is revised to increase the fair market value of property which may be disposed of after 90 days, and to correct the word "covered" to "conveyed."

36 CFR 327.16 Lost and Found Articles

Section 327.16 is revised for consistency with current Corps of Engineers terminology.

36 CFR 327.17 Advertisement

Section 327.17 is revised for consistency with current Corps of Engineers terminology.

36 CFR 327.18 Commercial Activities

Section 327.18 is revised by adding the words "project lands or waters", to clarify where the solicitation of business is prohibited.

36 CFR 327.19 Permits

Section 327.19, paragraph (b), is revised for consistency with current Corps of Engineers terminology. The words "Rivers and Harbors" are added to paragraph (c) for clarification of the

referenced Act. The words "Water Quality" are added to paragraph (d) for clarification on the type of required certification.

36 CFR 327.20 Unauthorized Structures

Section 327.20 is revised to include non-portable hunting stands or blinds, buoys, and docks in the list of structures for purposes of clarification. The section is also revised by changing the word "agreement" to "authorization" for consistency within the document.

36 CFR 327.21 Special Events

Section 327.21, paragraph (a), is revised to include fishing tournaments in the list of special events. The following sentence has been added to the paragraph: "Where appropriate, District Commanders can provide the state a blanket letter of permission to permit fishing tournaments while coordinating the scheduling and details of tournaments with individual projects". Paragraph (b) is revised to include the restoration of an area to pre-event conditions for consistency with Corps of Engineers regulations.

36 CFR 327.22 Unauthorized Occupation

Section 327.22 is revised for consistency with current Corps of Engineers terminology.

36 CFR 327.23 Recreation Use Fees

Section 327.22 is revised by removing paragraph (b) and incorporating the information contained in this paragraph into paragraph (a) for better readability. Paragraph (c) is redesignated as paragraph (b) and a new paragraph (c) is added to include a prohibition on the failure to pay day use fees and to properly display the day use pass. A prohibition about the fraudulent use of a Golden Age or Golden Access Passports is added to paragraph (d). Paragraph (e) is removed for consistency with the National Recreation Reservation Service.

36 CFR 327.24 Interference With Government Employees

Section 327.24, paragraph (a), is revised to include the words "attempt to kill, or kill," for consistency with Title 18, United States Code. Paragraph (b) is revised to include the words "information deemed necessary for," to provide clarification on type of other identification which may be required by a Federal employee in the performance of issuing citations.

36 CFR 327.25 Violations of Rules and Regulations

Section 327.25 is revised to increase the amount of the maximum fine in accordance with 18 USC, section 3571, and to remove duplicate words.

36 CFR 327.26 State and Local Laws

Section 327.26 is revised to include the "possession" of firearms or other weapons, and "alcohol or other controlled substances" to the list of examples which are governed by state and local laws and ordinances. The paragraphs in this section have been renumbered for consistency and better readability.

36 CFR 327.30 and 327.31

These sections are not amended in this proposed rule.

III. Required Determinations

Executive Order 12291

This final rule is not a major rule as defined by Executive Order 12291.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Determination (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)

As required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers certifies that these regulatory amendments will not have a significant impact on small business entities. This rule is an update to the current regulations governing public use on Corps of Engineers Water Resources Development Projects.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)

This final rule does not contain information collection requirements that require approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (2 U.S.C. 1502 et seq.)

This rulemaking will not impose unfunded mandates under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995. It will not result in costs of \$100 million or more on State, local, or tribal governments or private entities.

Dated: February 3, 2000.

Approved:

Eric R. Potts,

Colonel, Corps of Engineers, Executive Director for Civil Works.

List of Subjects in 36 CFR Part 327

Natural resources, Penalties, Public lands, Recreation and recreation areas, Resource management, Water resources.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, amend Part 327 of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 327—RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING PUBLIC USE OF WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ADMINISTERED BY THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

1. The authority citation for Part 327 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 460d; 16 U.S.C. 4601–6a; Sec. 210, Pub. L. 90–483, 82 Stat. 746.; 33 U.S.C. 1, 28 Stat. 362.

2. Sections 327.0 through 327.26 are revised to read as follows:

§ 327.0 Applicability.

The regulations covered in this part 327 shall be applicable to water resources development projects, completed or under construction, administered by the Chief of Engineers, and to those portions of jointly administered water resources development projects which are under the administrative jurisdiction of the Chief of Engineers. All other Federal, state and local laws and regulations remain in full force and effect where applicable to those water resources development projects.

§ 327.1 Policy.

(a) It is the policy of the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to manage the natural, cultural and developed resources of each project in the public interest, providing the public with safe and healthful recreational opportunities while protecting and enhancing these resources.

(b) Unless otherwise indicated in this part, the term "District Commander" shall include the authorized representatives of the District Commander.

(c) The term "project" or "water resources development project" refers to the water areas of any water resources development project administered by the Chief of Engineers, without regard to ownership of underlying land, to all lands owned in fee by the Federal Government and to all facilities therein or thereon of any such water resources development project.

(d) All water resources development projects open for public use shall be available to the public without regard to sex, race, color, creed, age, nationality or place of origin. No lessee, licensee, or concessionaire providing a service to the public shall discriminate against any person because of sex, race, creed, color, age, nationality or place of origin in the conduct of the operations under the lease, license or concession contract.

(e) In addition to the regulations in this part 327, all applicable Federal,

state and local laws and regulations remain in full force and effect on project lands or waters which are outgranted by the District Commander by lease, license or other written agreement.

(f) The regulations in this part 327 shall be deemed to apply to those lands and waters which are subject to treaties and Federal laws and regulations concerning the rights of Indian Nations and which lands and waters are incorporated, in whole or in part, within water resources development projects administered by the Chief of Engineers, to the extent that the regulations in this part 327 are not inconsistent with such treaties and Federal laws and regulations.

(g) Any violation of any section of this part 327 shall constitute a separate violation for each calendar day in which it occurs.

(h) For the purposes of this part 327, the operator of any vehicle, vessel or aircraft as described in this part, shall be presumed to be responsible for its use on project property. In the event where an operator cannot be determined, the owner of the vehicle, vessel, or aircraft, whether attended or unattended, will be presumed responsible. Unless proven otherwise, such presumption will be sufficient to issue a citation for the violation of regulations applicable to the use of such vehicle, vessel or aircraft as provided for in § 327.25.

(i) For the purposes of this part 327, the registered user of a campsite, picnic area, or other facility shall be presumed to be responsible for its use. Unless proven otherwise, such presumption will be sufficient to issue a citation for the violation of regulations applicable to the use of such facilities as provided for in § 327.25.

§ 327.2 Vehicles.

(a) This section pertains to all vehicles, including, but not limited to, automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, mini-bikes, snowmobiles, dune buggies, all-terrain vehicles, and trailers, campers, bicycles, or any other such equipment.

(b) Vehicles shall not be parked in violation of posted restrictions and regulations, or in such a manner as to obstruct or impede normal or emergency traffic movement or the parking of other vehicles, create a safety hazard, or endanger any person, property or environmental feature. Vehicles so parked are subject to removal and impoundment at the owner's expense.

(c) The operation and/or parking of a vehicle off authorized roadways is prohibited except at locations and times designated by the District Commander. Taking any vehicle through, around or beyond a restrictive sign, recognizable

barricade, fence, or traffic control barrier is prohibited.

(d) Vehicles shall be operated in accordance with posted restrictions and regulations.

(e) No person shall operate any vehicle in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger any person, property or environmental feature.

(f) At designated recreation areas, vehicles shall be used only to enter or leave the area or individual sites or facilities unless otherwise posted.

(g) Except as authorized by the District Commander, no person shall operate any motorized vehicle without a proper and effective exhaust muffler as defined by state and local laws, or with an exhaust muffler cutout open, or in any other manner which renders the exhaust muffler ineffective in muffling the sound of engine exhaust.

(h) Vehicles shall be operated in accordance with applicable Federal, state and local laws, which shall be regulated by authorized enforcement officials as prescribed in § 327.26.

§ 327.3 Vessels.

(a) This section pertains to all vessels or watercraft, including, but not limited to, powerboats, cruisers, houseboats, sailboats, rowboats, canoes, kayaks, personal watercraft, and any other such equipment capable of navigation on water or ice, whether in motion or at rest.

(b) The placement and/or operation of any vessel or watercraft for a fee or profit upon project waters or lands is prohibited except as authorized by permit, lease, license, or concession contract with the Department of the Army. This paragraph shall not apply to the operation of commercial tows or passenger carrying vessels not based at a Corps project which utilize project waters as a link in continuous transit over navigable waters of the United States.

(c) Vessels or other watercraft may be operated on the project waters, except in prohibited or restricted areas, in accordance with posted regulations and restrictions, including buoys. All vessels or watercraft so required by applicable Federal, state and local laws shall display an appropriate registration on board whenever the vessel is on project waters.

(d) No person shall operate any vessel or other watercraft in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger any person, property, or environmental feature.

(e) All vessels, when on project waters, shall have safety equipment, including personal flotation devices, on

board in compliance with U.S. Coast Guard boating safety requirements and in compliance with boating safety laws issued and enforced by the state in which the vessel is located. Owners or operators of vessels not in compliance with this section may be requested to remove the vessel immediately from project waters until such time as items of non-compliance are corrected.

(f) Unless otherwise permitted by Federal, state or local law, vessels or other watercraft, while moored in commercial facilities, community or corporate docks, or at any fixed or permanent mooring point, may only be used for overnight occupancy when such use is incidental to recreational boating. Vessels or other watercraft are not to be used as a place of habitation or residence.

(g) Water skis, parasails, ski-kites and similar devices are permitted in nonrestricted areas except that they may not be used in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger any person, property or environmental feature.

(h) Vessels shall not be attached or anchored to structures such as locks, dams, buoys or other structures unless authorized by the District Commander. All vessels when not in actual use shall be removed from project lands and waters unless securely moored or stored at designated areas approved by the District Commander. The placing of floating or stationary mooring facilities on, adjacent to, or interfering with a buoy, channel marker or other navigational aid is prohibited.

(i) The use at a project of any vessel not constructed or maintained in compliance with the standards and requirements established by the Federal Safe Boating Act of 1971 (Pub. L. 92-75, 85 Stat. 213), or promulgated pursuant to such act, is prohibited.

(j) Except as authorized by the District Commander, no person shall operate any vessel or watercraft without a proper and effective exhaust muffler as defined by state and local laws, or with an exhaust muffler cutout open, or in any other manner which renders the exhaust muffler ineffective in muffling the sound of engine exhaust.

(k) All vessels or other watercraft shall be operated in accordance with applicable Federal, state and local laws, which shall be regulated by authorized enforcement officials as prescribed in § 327.26.

§ 327.4 Aircraft.

(a) This section pertains to all aircraft including, but not limited to, airplanes, seaplanes, helicopters, ultra-light aircraft, motorized hang gliders, hot air

balloons, any non-powered flight devices or any other such equipment.

(b) The operation of aircraft on project lands at locations other than those designated by the District Commander is prohibited. This provision shall not be applicable to aircraft engaged on official business of Federal, state or local governments or law enforcement agencies, aircraft used in emergency rescue in accordance with the directions of the District Commander or aircraft forced to land due to circumstances beyond the control of the operator.

(c) No person shall operate any aircraft while on or above project waters or project lands in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger any person, property or environmental feature.

(d) Nothing in this section bestows authority to deviate from rules and regulations or prescribed standards of the appropriate State Aeronautical Agency, or the Federal Aviation Administration, including, but not limited to, regulations and standards concerning pilot certifications or ratings, and airspace requirements.

(e) Except in extreme emergencies threatening human life or serious property loss, the air delivery or retrieval of any person, material or equipment by parachute, balloon, helicopter or other means onto or from project lands or waters without written permission of the District Commander is prohibited.

(f) In addition to the provisions in paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section, seaplanes are subject to the following restrictions:

(1) Such use is limited to aircraft utilized for water landings and takeoff, in this part called seaplanes, at the risk of owner, operator and passenger(s).

(2) Seaplane operations contrary to the prohibitions or restrictions established by the District Commander (pursuant to part 328 of this title) are prohibited. The responsibility to ascertain whether seaplane operations are prohibited or restricted is incumbent upon the person(s) contemplating the use of, or using, such waters.

(3) All operations of seaplanes while upon project waters shall be in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard navigation rules for powerboats or vessels and § 327.3.

(4) Seaplanes on project waters and lands in excess of 24 hours shall be securely moored at mooring facilities and at locations permitted by the District Commander. Seaplanes may be temporarily moored on project waters and lands, except in areas prohibited by the District Commander, for periods less than 24 hours providing:

(i) The mooring is safe, secure, and accomplished so as not to damage the rights of the Government or members of the public, and

(ii) The operator remains in the vicinity of the seaplane and reasonably available to relocate the seaplane if necessary.

(5) Commercial operation of seaplanes from project waters is prohibited without written approval of the District Commander following consultation with and necessary clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and other appropriate public authorities and affected interests.

(6) Seaplanes may not be operated at Corps projects between sunset and sunrise unless approved by the District Commander.

§ 327.5 Swimming.

(a) Swimming, wading, snorkeling or scuba diving at one's own risk is permitted, except at launching sites, designated mooring points and public docks, or other areas so designated by the District Commander.

(b) An international diver down, or inland diving flag must be displayed during underwater activities.

(c) Diving, jumping or swinging from trees, bridges or other structures which cross or are adjacent to project waters is prohibited.

§ 327.6 Picnicking.

Picnicking and related day-use activities are permitted, except in those areas where prohibited by the District Commander.

§ 327.7 Camping.

(a) Camping is permitted only at sites and/or areas designated by the District Commander.

(b) Camping at one or more campsites at any one water resource project for a period longer than 14 days during any 30-consecutive-day period is prohibited without the written permission of the District Commander.

(c) The unauthorized placement of camping equipment or other items on a campsite and/or personal appearance at a campsite without daily occupancy for the purpose of reserving that campsite for future occupancy is prohibited.

(d) The digging or leveling of any ground or the construction of any structure without written permission of the District Commander is prohibited.

(e) Occupying or placement of any camping equipment at a campsite which is posted or otherwise marked or indicated as "reserved" without an authorized reservation for that site is prohibited.

§ 327.8 Hunting, fishing, and trapping.

(a) Hunting is permitted except in areas and during periods where prohibited by the District Commander.

(b) Trapping is permitted except in areas and during periods where prohibited by the District Commander.

(c) Fishing is permitted except in swimming areas, on boat ramps or other areas designated by the District Commander.

(d) Additional restrictions pertaining to these activities may be established by the District Commander.

(e) All applicable Federal, State and local laws regulating these activities apply on project lands and waters, and shall be regulated by authorized enforcement officials as prescribed in § 327.26.

§ 327.9 Sanitation.

(a) Garbage, trash, rubbish, litter, gray water, or any other waste material or waste liquid generated on the project and incidental to authorized recreational activities shall be either removed from the project or deposited in receptacles provided for that purpose. The improper disposal of such wastes, human and animal waste included, on the project is prohibited.

(b) It is a violation to bring onto a project any household or commercial garbage, trash, rubbish, debris, dead animals or litter of any kind for disposal or dumping without the written permission of the District Commander. For the purposes of this section, the owner of any garbage, trash, rubbish, debris, dead animals or litter of any kind shall be presumed to be responsible for proper disposal. Such presumption will be sufficient to issue a citation for violation.

(c) The spilling, pumping, discharge or disposal of contaminants, pollutants or other wastes, including, but not limited to, human or animal waste, petroleum, industrial and commercial products and by-products, on project lands or into project waters is prohibited.

(d) Campers, picnickers, and all other persons using a water resources development project shall keep their sites free of trash and litter during the period of occupancy and shall remove all personal equipment and clean their sites upon departure.

(e) The discharge or placing of sewage, galley waste, garbage, refuse, or pollutants into the project waters from any vessel or watercraft is prohibited.

§ 327.10 Fires.

(a) Gasoline and other fuels, except that which is contained in storage tanks of vehicles, vessels, camping

equipment, or hand portable containers designed for such purpose, shall not be carried onto or stored on the project without written permission of the District Commander.

(b) Fires shall be confined to those areas designated by the District Commander, and shall be contained in fireplaces, grills, or other facilities designated for this purpose. Fires shall not be left unattended and must be completely extinguished prior to departure. The burning of materials that produce toxic fumes, including, but not limited to, tires, plastic and other floatation materials or treated wood products is prohibited. The District Commander may prohibit open burning of any type for environmental considerations.

(c) Improper disposal of lighted smoking materials, matches or other burning material is prohibited.

§ 327.11 Control of animals.

(a) No person shall bring or allow dogs, cats, or other pets into developed recreation areas or adjacent waters unless penned, caged, on a leash under six feet in length, or otherwise physically restrained. No person shall allow animals to impede or restrict otherwise full and free use of project lands and waters by the public. No person shall allow animals to bark or emit other noise which unreasonably disturbs other people. Animals and pets, except properly trained animals assisting those with disabilities (such as seeing-eye dogs), are prohibited in sanitary facilities, playgrounds, swimming beaches and any other areas so designated by the District Commander. Abandonment of any animal on project lands or waters is prohibited. Unclaimed or unattended animals are subject to immediate impoundment and removal in accordance with state and local laws.

(b) Persons bringing or allowing pets in designated public use areas shall be responsible for proper removal and disposal of any waste produced by these animals.

(c) No person shall bring or allow horses, cattle, or other livestock in camping, picnicking, swimming or other recreation areas or on trails except in areas designated by the District Commander.

(d) Ranging, grazing, watering or allowing livestock on project lands and waters is prohibited except when authorized by lease, license or other written agreement with the District Commander.

(e) Unauthorized livestock are subject to impoundment and removal in

accordance with Federal, state and local laws.

(f) Any animal impounded under the provisions of this section may be confined at a location designated by the District Commander, who may assess a reasonable impoundment fee. This fee shall be paid before the impounded animal is returned to its owner(s).

(g) Wild or exotic pets and animals (including but not limited to cougars, lions, bears, bobcats, wolves, and snakes), or any pets or animals displaying vicious or aggressive behavior or otherwise posing a threat to public safety or deemed a public nuisance, are prohibited from project lands and waters unless authorized by the District Commander, and are subject to removal in accordance with Federal, state and local laws.

§ 327.12 Restrictions.

(a) The District Commander may establish and post a schedule of visiting hours and/or restrictions on the public use of a project or portion of a project. The District Commander may close or restrict the use of a project or portion of a project when necessitated by reason of public health, public safety, maintenance, resource protection or other reasons in the public interest. Entering or using a project in a manner which is contrary to the schedule of visiting hours, closures or restrictions is prohibited.

(b) Quiet shall be maintained in all public use areas between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., or those hours designated by the District Commander. Excessive noise during such times which unreasonably disturbs persons is prohibited.

(c) Any act or conduct by any person which interferes with, impedes or disrupts the use of the project or impairs the safety of any person is prohibited. Individuals who are boisterous, rowdy, disorderly, or otherwise disturb the peace on project lands or waters may be requested to leave the project.

(d) The operation or use of any sound producing or motorized equipment, including but not limited to generators, vessels or vehicles, in such a manner as to unreasonably annoy or endanger persons at any time or exceed state or local laws governing noise levels from motorized equipment is prohibited.

(e) The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages on any portion of the project land or waters, or the entire project, may be prohibited when designated and posted by the District Commander.

(f) Unless authorized by the District Commander, smoking is prohibited in

Visitor Centers, enclosed park buildings and in areas posted to restrict smoking.

§ 327.13 Explosives, firearms, other weapons and fireworks.

(a) The possession of loaded firearms, ammunition, loaded projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other weapons is prohibited unless:

(1) In the possession of a Federal, state or local law enforcement officer;

(2) Being used for hunting or fishing as permitted under § 327.8, with devices being unloaded when transported to, from or between hunting and fishing sites;

(3) Being used at authorized shooting ranges; or

(4) Written permission has been received from the District Commander.

(b) Possession of explosives or explosive devices of any kind, including fireworks or other pyrotechnics, is prohibited unless written permission has been received from the District Commander.

§ 327.14 Public property.

(a) Destruction, injury, defacement, removal or any alteration of public property including, but not limited to, developed facilities, natural formations, mineral deposits, historical and archaeological features, paleontological resources, boundary monumentation or markers and vegetative growth, is prohibited except when in accordance with written permission of the District Commander.

(b) Cutting or gathering of trees or parts of trees and/or the removal of wood from project lands is prohibited without written permission of the District Commander.

(c) Gathering of dead wood on the ground for use in designated recreation areas as firewood is permitted, unless prohibited and posted by the District Commander.

(d) The use of metal detectors is permitted on designated beaches or other previously disturbed areas unless prohibited by the District Commander for reasons of protection of archaeological, historical or paleontological resources. Specific information regarding metal detector policy and designated use areas is available at the Manager's Office. Items found must be handled in accordance with §§ 327.15 and 327.16 except for non-identifiable items such as coins of value less than \$25.

§ 327.15 Abandonment and impoundment of personal property.

(a) Personal property of any kind shall not be abandoned, stored or left unattended upon project lands or

waters. After a period of 24 hours, or at any time after a posted closure hour in a public use area or for the purpose of providing public safety or resource protection, unattended personal property shall be presumed to be abandoned and may be impounded and stored at a storage point designated by the District Commander, who may assess a reasonable impoundment fee. Such fee shall be paid before the impounded property is returned to its owner.

(b) Personal property placed on Federal lands or waters adjacent to a private residence, facility and/or developments of any private nature for more than 24 hours without permission of the District Commander shall be presumed to have been abandoned and, unless proven otherwise, such presumption will be sufficient to impound the property and/or issue a citation as provided for in § 327.25.

(c) The District Commander shall, by public or private sale or otherwise, dispose of all lost, abandoned or unclaimed personal property that comes into Government custody or control. However, property may not be disposed of until diligent effort has been made to find the owner, heirs, next of kin or legal representative(s). If the owner, heirs, next of kin or legal representative(s) are determined but not found, the property may not be disposed of until the expiration of 120 days after the date when notice, giving the time and place of the intended sale or other disposition, has been sent by certified or registered mail to that person at the last known address. When diligent efforts to determine the owner, heirs, next of kin or legal representative(s) are unsuccessful, the property may be disposed of without delay except that if it has a fair market value of \$100 or more the property may not be disposed of until 90 days after the date it is received at the storage point designated by the District Commander. The net proceeds from the sale of property shall be conveyed into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

§ 327.16 Lost and found articles.

All articles found shall be deposited by the finder at the Manager's office or with a ranger. All such articles shall be disposed of in accordance with the procedures set forth in § 327.15.

§ 327.17 Advertisement.

Advertising by the use of billboards, signs, markers, audio devices, handbills, circulars, posters, or any other means whatsoever, is prohibited without written permission of the District Commander. Vessels and vehicles with

semipermanent or permanent painted or installed signs are exempt as long as they are used for authorized recreational activities and comply with all other rules and regulations pertaining to vessels and vehicles.

§ 327.18 Commercial activities.

(a) The engaging in or solicitation of business on project land or waters without the express written permission of the District Commander is prohibited.

(b) It shall be a violation of this part to refuse to or fail to comply with any terms, clauses or conditions of any lease, license or agreements issued by the District Commander.

§ 327.19 Permits.

(a) It shall be a violation of this part to refuse to or fail to comply with the fee requirements or other terms or conditions of any permit issued under the provisions of this part 327.

(b) Permits for floating structures (issued under the authority of § 327.30) of any kind on/in waters of water resources development projects, whether or not such waters are deemed navigable waters of the United States but where such waters are under the management of the Corps of Engineers, shall be issued at the discretion of the District Commander under the authority of this section. District Commanders will delineate those portions of the navigable waters of the United States where this provision is applicable and post notices of this designation in the vicinity of the appropriate Manager's office.

(c) Permits for non-floating structures (issued under the authority of § 327.30) of any kind constructed, placed in or affecting waters of water resources development projects where such waters are deemed navigable waters of the U.S. shall be issued under the provisions of section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act approved March 3, 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403). If a discharge of dredged or fill material in these waters is involved, a permit is required under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). (See 33 CFR parts 320 through 330.)

(d) Permits for non-floating structures (issued under the authority of § 327.30) of any kind in waters of water resources development projects, where such waters are under the management of the Corps of Engineers and where such waters are not deemed navigable waters of the United States, shall be issued as set forth in paragraph (b) of this section. If a discharge of dredged or fill material into any water of the United States is involved, a permit is required under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33

U.S.C. 1344) (See 33 CFR parts 320 through 330). Water quality certification may be required pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1341).

(e) Shoreline Use Permits to authorize private shoreline use facilities, activities or development (issued under the authority of § 327.30) may be issued in accordance with the project Shoreline Management Plan. Failure to comply with the permit conditions issued under § 327.30 is prohibited.

§ 327.20 Unauthorized structures.

The construction, placement, or existence of any structure (including, but not limited to, roads, trails, signs, non-portable hunting stands or blinds, buoys, docks, or landscape features) of any kind under, upon, in or over the project lands, or waters is prohibited unless a permit, lease, license or other appropriate written authorization has been issued by the District Commander. The design, construction, placement, existence or use of structures in violation of the terms of the permit, lease, license, or other written authorization is prohibited. The government shall not be liable for the loss of, or damage to, any private structures, whether authorized or not, placed on project lands or waters. Unauthorized structures are subject to summary removal or impoundment by the District Commander. Portable hunting stands, climbing devices, steps, or blinds, that are not nailed or screwed into trees and are removed at the end of a day's hunt may be used.

§ 327.21 Special events.

(a) Special events including, but not limited to, water carnivals, boat regattas, fishing tournaments, music festivals, dramatic presentations or other special recreation programs are prohibited unless written permission has been granted by the District Commander. Where appropriate, District Commanders can provide the state a blanket letter of permission to permit fishing tournaments while coordinating the scheduling and details of tournaments with individual projects. An appropriate fee may be charged under the authority of § 327.23.

(b) The public shall not be charged any fee by the sponsor of such event unless the District Commander has approved in writing (and the sponsor has properly posted) the proposed schedule of fees. The District Commander shall have authority to revoke permission, require removal of any equipment, and require restoration of an area to pre-event condition, upon failure of the sponsor to comply with terms and conditions of the permit/

permission or the regulations in this part 327.

§ 327.22 Unauthorized occupation.

(a) Occupying any lands, buildings, vessels or other facilities within water resource development projects for the purpose of maintaining the same as a full-or part-time residence without the written permission of the District Commander is prohibited. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the occupation of lands for the purpose of camping, in accordance with the provisions of § 327.7.

(b) Use of project lands or waters for agricultural purposes is prohibited except when in compliance with terms and conditions authorized by lease, license or other written agreement issued by the District Commander.

§ 327.23 Recreation use fees.

(a) In accordance with the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l) and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Pub. L. 103-66, the Corps of Engineers collects day use fees, special recreation use fees and/or special permit fees for the use of specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services related to outdoor recreation furnished at Federal expense.

(b) Where such fees are charged, the District Commander shall insure that clear notice of fee requirements is prominently posted at each area, and at appropriate locations therein and that the notice be included in publications distributed at such areas. Failure to pay authorized recreation use fees as established pursuant to Pub. L. 88-578, 78 Stat. 897, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l-6a), is prohibited and is punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.

(c) Failure to pay authorized day use fees, and/or properly display applicable receipt, permit or pass is prohibited.

(d) Any Golden Age or Golden Access Passport permittee shall be entitled, upon presentation of such a permit, to utilize special recreation facilities at a rate of 50 percent off the established use fee at Federally operated areas. Fraudulent use of a Golden Age or Golden Access Passport is prohibited.

§ 327.24 Interference with Government employees.

(a) It is a Federal crime pursuant to the provisions of sections 111 and 1114 of Title 18, United States Code, to forcibly assault, resist, oppose, impede, intimidate, or interfere with, attempt to kill or kill any civilian official or employee for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers engaged in the performance of his or her official duties, or on account of the performance of his or her official duties. Such actions or interference

directed against a Federal employee while carrying out the regulations in this part are violation of such regulations and may be a state crime pursuant to the laws of the state where they occur.

(b) Failure to comply with a lawful order issued by a Federal employee acting pursuant to the regulations in this part shall be considered as interference with that employee while engaged in the performance of their official duties. Such interference with a Federal employee includes failure to provide a correct name, address or other information deemed necessary for identification upon request of the Federal employee, when that employee is authorized by the District Commander to issue citations in the performance of the employee's official duties.

§ 327.25 Violations of rules and regulations.

(a) Any person who violates the provisions of the regulations in this part, other than for a failure to pay authorized recreation use fees as separately provided for in § 327.23, may be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than six months or both and may be tried and sentenced in accordance with the provisions of section 3401 of Title 18, United States Code. Persons designated by the District Commander shall have the authority to issue a citation for violation of the regulations in this part, requiring any person charged with the violation to appear before the United States Magistrate within whose jurisdiction the affected water resources development project is located (16 U.S.C. 460d).

(b) Any person who commits an act against any official or employee of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that is a crime under the provisions of section 111 or section 1114 of Title 18, United States Code or under provisions of pertinent state law may be tried and sentenced as further provided under Federal or state law, as the case may be.

§ 327.26 State and local laws.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this part or by Federal law or regulation, state and local laws and ordinances shall apply on project lands and waters. This includes, but is not limited to, state and local laws and ordinances governing:

- (1) Operation and use of motor vehicles, vessels, and aircraft;
- (2) Hunting, fishing and trapping;
- (3) Use or possession of firearms or other weapons;
- (4) Civil disobedience and criminal acts;
- (5) Littering, sanitation and pollution; and

(6) Alcohol or other controlled substances.

(b) These state and local laws and ordinances are enforced by those state and local enforcement agencies established and authorized for that purpose.

[FR Doc. 00-3185 Filed 2-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-41-P

POSTAL SERVICE

39 CFR Part 111

Substantially Related Eligibility Requirements for Nonprofit Standard Mail Rate Matter

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends the Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) to clarify "substantially related" eligibility requirements for mail matter entered by authorized nonprofit customers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 10, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerome M. Lease, (202)268-5188.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 5, 1995, the Postal Service published a final rule in the *Federal Register* (60 FR 22270-22274) implementing provisions of Public Laws 103-123 and 103-329. Those laws restrict the eligibility of certain mailings for the Nonprofit Standard Mail rates to those containing advertisements for products and services that are substantially related to the nonprofit customer's qualifying purpose.

On two occasions in the early 1990s, Congress enacted laws that place limitations on the content of advertising matter eligible for the nonprofit rates. The first of these, codified to a large extent as 39 U.S.C. 3626(j)(1)(A-C), limited solicitations for credit cards and similar financial instruments, insurance, and travel. The second, codified as 39 U.S.C. 3626(j)(1)(D), limited solicitations for all other products and services. This notice concerns the second limitation, specifically the standards regarding substantially related advertisements.

The standards implementing 39 U.S.C. 3626(j)(1)(D) are contained in Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) section E670. Section E670.5.4d provides that the Nonprofit Standard Mail rates may not be used for the entry of material that advertises, promotes, offers, or, for a fee or consideration, recommends,