

Fort Campbell Water Sports Safety Briefing



# Fort Campbell Navigable Waterways

Fort Campbell provides the opportunity for recreational kayaking and canoeing in selected waterways across the installation. Waterways opened for such activity were selected for their capacity to hold water through the hottest parts of the year and were in no way selected for their ability to be safely navigated. All users must understand that by participating in this activity they are doing so AT YOUR OWN RISK. The included safety slides are in no way completely comprehensive of the dangers associated with kayaking and canoeing on Fort Campbell; however, some precautions are recommended to increase safety while

afloat.





# **Participation Requirements**

#### Requirements

- Read the PW Policy Letter 139-055
- Sign liability waiver (Participation is at your own risk!)
- Complete watersports safety briefing
- Abide by all Installation rules and regulations
- Abide by all state laws regarding boating, kayaking, and, canoeing





### Hazards

Hazards include but are not limited to:

- Drowning
- UXOs
- Inclement Weather
- Lack of Communications





# **Drowning**

- According to the CDC drowning ranks fifth as the leading cause for unintentional injury death in the U.S.
- Tennessee State Law requires that each person on board a watercraft have a approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD)
- Children under the age of 13 are required to wear a PFD at all times while on the water
- For state regulations regarding PFDs, refer to the Tennessee Boating Safety Guide. (boating guide can be found on iSportsman under Forms and Regulations.









# **Unexploded Ordnance (UXOs)**

 While the majority of UXOs are found in the Impact Area, UXOs can turn up anywhere including the streams and lakes of Fort Campbell. Remember the 3Rs when participating in recreation in the rear area.







### **Inclement Weather**

- Weather events can greatly increase the risk of water sports. The following recommendation can help you avoid an accident.
  - Check the Weather forecast before making plans to boat or float
  - Never go out immediately after a rain when water levels up and currents are swift
  - Easiest most effective way to stay safe in an electrical storm is to not get caught in one (check the forecast before you go). If you get caught in an electric storm remember the following
    - Retreat to land immediately
    - Return to your vehicle if at all possible
    - If vehicle access is not possible move to the lowest point away from ridges, hilltops, and trees
    - Retreat to a clearing away from tall objects, trees, or metal
    - Minimize body to ground contact (crouch with feet on top of insulating objects, foam pad, rubber etc.)





#### **Lack of Communications**

- When participating in recreational activities in remote areas it is important to remember cell phone service may not always be available
- Many of the recreation areas on Fort Campbell do not have cell phone service. You are participating at your own risk!
- Absence of communications may reduce or inhibit rescue or medical evacuation
- A float plan is highly recommended (let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return)
- In addition, it is mandatory that you check-in and check-out of iSportsman for this activity









### **Hazards Identified**

#### Little West Fork Creek

- Low water dam approximately 100ft from take-out area
- Must take out before this hazard!





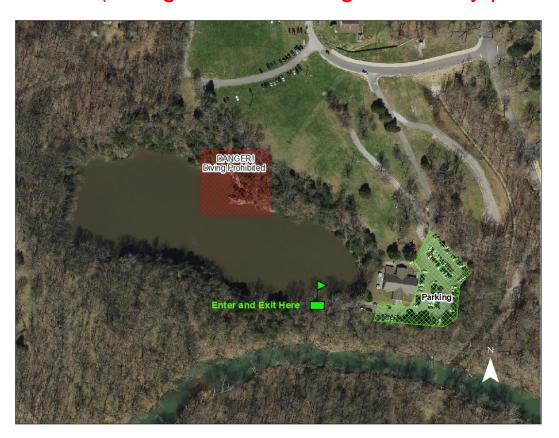




### Hazards Identified

### Joe Swing Quarry

- Deep Water Hazard (immediate drops of 80ft or greater
- Rock cliffs (diving and swimming are strictly prohibited)







## **Acknowledgment of Review**

By Signing this form you are acknowledging that you have read and understand the content presented in this briefing. You also acknowledge that this safety briefing is not all inclusive and only highlights some of the hazards posed while participating in recreation activities on Fort Campbell.

Name: Date:
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