



**Commanding Officer
Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz
Environmental Policy Statement**



As the Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Blaz, I am personally committed to ensuring that all our Marines, Sailors, and other military and civilian teammates are good stewards of the environment. As we strive every day to improve the readiness of our installation, remember that environmental compliance is key to sustaining and enhancing our mission readiness and access to our training areas.

I am directing all Marines, Sailors, and civilians aboard MCB Camp Blaz to do all that you can to protect our environment – do our utmost to prevent pollution of land, water, and air; protect the health of base personnel and our neighbors; sustain our natural and cultural landscapes for the benefit of protected species as well as Guam's unique cultural heritage while protecting mission capability. We will continue to improve environmental performance through an effective and efficient Environmental Management System (EMS). MCB Camp Blaz will implement EMS to achieve full compliance with environmental laws, standards, and policy. To achieve an effective EMS, our actions must include the following:

- Build partnerships with Federal and local organizations to meet the environmental goals of the DoN;
- Provide appropriate support to maintain agreements between Joint Region Marianas, MCB Camp Blaz, and the Government of Guam related to environmental compliance and stewardship. These include the Four Pillars policy statement and other commitments, such as the 2015 Record of Decision for the Marine Corps Relocation, the 2011 Programmatic Agreement and the 2017 Biological Opinion; and
- Provide direction and empower MCB Camp Blaz departments and tenants to allow them to fulfill mission requirements while preserving, protecting, and improving current and future environmental conditions in their respective areas of responsibility in a professional and cost-effective manner.

Leaders at all levels must ensure they become familiar with our environmental regulations, standards, and policy. Developing and fostering a culture of being good stewards of the environment is a team effort and the responsibility of every member of this command. We must ensure that we conduct appropriate reviews of existing and new work activities that have the potential for environmental impacts. As an installation, we must incorporate environmental compliance, efficient natural resources and cultural resources management practices, and meaningfully consideration of host community cultural values into our mission planning and execution. Continual improvement in EMS performance means regularly ensuring the oversight system is fully integrated with applicable installation activities, environmental measures are performed and checked on schedule, and leadership are fully and timely apprised of policy and regulatory risks leading to environmental issues. For EMS implementation assistance, please contact my Environmental Director, Mr. Al Borja, at (671) 362-7157 or albert.borja@usmc.mil.

Environmental protection is not only a vital interest by which the local community builds and sustains its vitality and livelihood, but it is also an issue that is extremely sensitive at various government levels. I challenge you to uphold the highest standards of environmental stewardship, on and off installation.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ernest Govea".

Ernest Govea

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer
Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz