



Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation

Salisbury Plain Training Area
Newsletter
July 2018

www.gov.uk/government/publications/salisbury-plain-training-area-spta-newsletter

This Newsletter can be found at the above link

The DIO runs a Twitter account for news and updates on the Salisbury Plain Training Area using the Twitter hashtag #modonthepain. This account now has over 6000 followers. If you'd like to follow us go to:
www.twitter.com/mod_dio

July 2018 Newsletter

Although the Field Training Unit Ex WESSEX STORM finishes on 1 July 18, the first two weeks in July will be a very busy month on the Plain. EX GREEN CANON, a multi-national artillery and mortar camp will be firing and manoeuvring during the first weeks of the month. In addition the plain will see the largest armoured exercise in the calendar Ex LIONS STRIKE involving the Combined Arms Tactics Course using the Imber Ranges and Copehill Down village. The final two weeks will see a gradual reduction in training before the annual leave period in August. The public should be aware that tank crossings over the A360, A345, A338, B390, and the C22 (Tilshead to Chitterne) roads will be very busy and if conditions are wet mud clearance parties will be working on the crossings. In dry weather conditions dust clouds may produce a hazard at these crossings. Notice is given that the training areas in the Copehill Down and Bourne Valley (SPTA East) areas will be heavily used by tracked and wheeled armoured vehicles over this period and that recreational use of the Salisbury Plain military lands is to be restricted to public rights of way only as per the byelaws.

Please report all concerns to the Complaints Help Desk on 01980 620819 in the first instance.

Related Links - Gov.uk/DIO

NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The legal impulse noise level is 140dB, but MoD self-impose a 130dB limit. All ranges have been directed to ensure that no impulse noise greater than 130dB is heard outside the range boundary in populated areas or on main routes. If there is an operational imperative STSO HQ DIO SD Trg SP may authorise an increase to 137 dB. Gunfire noise is predicted using the Gunfire Noise Analysis Tool (GNAT) and traces from the Met Office Noise Evaluation Tool (MONET) at Larkhill Met Office. Range Operations monitors noise from both the guns and the impact area using fixed microphones linked to the Gunfire Noise Assessment Tool (GNAT) computer in Westdown Camp and staff may deploy with hand-held noise monitors.

SAFETY NOTICE – HORSE RIDERS

Individual horse riders are NOT permitted to ride freely anywhere on Salisbury Plain and must stay on Bridal Paths, Byways and Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT), unless they are part of an MOD licenced event. As part of an effort to mitigate the problems caused when horses react to aircraft, the Joint Helicopter Command in conjunction with the BHS, has created a safety leaflet for horse-riders; the key message is as follows:

MOD flight trials have shown that high-visibility clothing significantly increases the range at which riders can be seen in open countryside. Whilst wearing high-visibility clothing may not prevent an over-flight, it does enhance rider safety. Information about low flying is available from the MOD Low Flying Advisory Service (0845 600 7580) or on line at www.gov.uk/low-flying-in-your-area

TRAINING ESTATE PUBLIC SAFETY

There are two recent Defence Infrastructure Organisation blogs that relate to keeping safe whilst legally using the Military Lands on Salisbury Plain, they are worth a read - the links can be found below:

<https://insidedio.blog.gov.uk/2018/04/19/how-to-risk-your-life-on-the-military-training-estate/>

<https://insidedio.blog.gov.uk/2018/04/24/six-ridiculous-excuses-for-risking-your-life-on-the-training-estate/>

Monthly firing calendar for July 2018 (subject to change)

1. Artillery live firing days from areas 6, 7 and 8 (east of Chitterne):
03, 04, 05, 10, 11, 12.
2. Artillery live firing days on Salisbury plain (east) (north of Bulford & west of Tidworth):
Nil
3. Late firing days on Larkhill/Westdown danger area (north of Larkhill):
03, 05, 07, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31
4. Non-firing days on Larkhill/Westdown danger area:
01, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29
5. Non-firing days on Bulford fixed firing ranges:
01, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29
6. Late firing days on Imber ranges, areas 1, 2, 3, 4 (east of Warminster)
05.

Byelaw Governance – Antisocial Behaviour

Parish members are encouraged to report all illegal activity on Salisbury to the Wiltshire Police. If serious crime is experienced the 999 should be dialled, and for all other reports including: illegal off-roading, illegal motor biking, drone use, poaching, hare coursing, petty theft, camping on MoD land, kite flying please call 101 and list the call as 'antisocial behaviour' and a Byelaw violation. Once reported please inform Range control on the Plainwatch number: 01980 674700 or email PLAINWATCH@landmarc.mod.uk.

Access

Access to SPTA is regulated by Salisbury Plain Military Lands, Bulford, Larkhill and Imber Range Byelaws. Always comply with local signs and flags. Rights of way in Range Danger Areas are closed when red flags are flying. This Newsletter is published up to 6 weeks before the event and changes may occur. Access timings for the next week can be found on the SPTA Walks Line: (01980) 674763.

Imber Ranges. The public are excluded at all times, except when the roads are specifically opened. Planned opening dates for 2018 are as follows

Event	Open	Closed
Summer	1800hrs Fri 17 Aug 18	0800hrs Fri 24 Aug 18
Christmas	1800hrs Thur 27 Dec 18	0800hrs Wed 02 Jan 19

A leaflet on public access to Imber is available online and should be read in advance of any visit:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/435909/Imber_A5_Leaflet-final_Online_version.pdf

Note. Dates may change if operational training needs dictate.

What Can You Do To Reduce Crime On Salisbury Plain?

There has been an increase of thefts from motor vehicles that have been left unattended on the Training Area. Owners are reminded not to leave valuables in plain sight. **If any crime is taking place call 999, (or 101) and do not under any circumstances challenge the offenders.**

Health and Safety reminder for ALL Military Training Areas and Ranges:

- Do not touch or tamper with Military debris.
- Wash your hands before you eat.
- Clean your footwear before you enter your car or home.

Ewan R Smith
Major (Training Safety Officer)
for
Senior Training Safety Officer
Salisbury Plain Training Area