

## ADMIRAL PITKA RECON CHALLENGE 2021

RULES ON USE OF AREAS1. SITUATION

a. The reconnaissance (competition) is an international military-sports competition where the competitors (recon patrols) and an opposing force scenario is given for competition assignments to compete as well as perform oppositional activities necessary to carry out fictional situation. During the competition the teams and their individual members are reviewed for their performance and military knowledge as applied to the competition and their competence in a reconnaissance patrol situation. 30 recon teams consisting of 4 members each in the competition. Environmental protection is a key value in the Defence League as is the respect towards the rights of residents and landowners. Environmental protection and acknowledgement of local land restrictions are important aspects in exercise planning as well as during the competition. Main factors taken into account when planning are: conservation restrictions, prevention of pollution, containing waste, cultural values and avoiding any potential damage. In the course of performing their duties, protecting the environment contributes in the preservation of natural resources, reduces the number of environmental accidents, avoids potential damage to the environment and maintains the Defence League as a trustworthy and consistent partner.

## b. Restrictive factors

The main restrictions on land area usage are:

## (1) Forbidden:

- a) to conduct and develop activities that are contrary to the conservation rules of the protected area;
- b) contaminating groundwater, surface waters as well as contaminating the surface with oil products and other environmentally hazardous substances and their residues that could endanger the population, flora and fauna;
- c) activities, that may cause a forest fire. If the state forest ranger has not forbidden the exercise, the Defence Forces have the right to conduct an exercise in the forest even if the Rescue board has declared a forest fire threat period and a forest area under threat whereby said forest is declared a forbidden area;
- d) conducting an imitation explosion exercise in a forbidden area without the approval of the state forest ranger;
- e) conducting an exercise without permission from the state forest ranger using weapons, live fire and other resources in an area designated for public recreation;
- f) conducting a live fire exercise outside a designated practice area or fire range;

- g) harming more than a ¼ of tree roots while constructing a trench;
- h) activities that can be perceived as hunting game animals.

A map outlining environmental restrictions L-3 (reconnaissance competition hazard- and restricted area map) will be prepared for the reconnaissance competition.

- (2) Private property – A large amount of the exercise takes place on private property and can only take place with permission from the owner of the property;
- (3) State land – The exercise will be using mostly State forestry (RMK) managed land. The use of these lands are allowed according to formally signed agreements between RMK, Defence Forces and the Defence League. (30.04.2015 the use of state owned land for national defence) The Defence League must formally notify the RMK representative at least 7 days prior to the reconnaissance competition.
- (4) Settlements / towns – activities in settlements / towns are restricted by various regulations and conducting reconnaissance competition activities in a settlement area must be coordinated with the city or county administration.