

# National Park Service Historic Weapons Safety Program



## PROGRAM MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- \_\_\_\_\_ All historic weapons demonstrations and displays are described in the park's approved Comprehensive Interpretive Plan before implementation (xx.2.1).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Programs (firing & non-firing) utilizing historic weapons are supervised by an officially trained and certified Historic Weapons Supervisor who is a career, career-conditional, term, or Pathways NPS employee, 21 years of age or older. (xx.2.2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Superintendent has authorized the park certified Historic Weapons Supervisors to carry out their function by signing the certificate. (xx.3.1.3)
- \_\_\_\_\_ All historic weapons demonstrations are in compliance with the Director's Orders regarding Living History Interpretive Programs and any related NPS Management Policies including the prohibition of battle reenactments. (xx.2.3)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrations do not adversely impact the natural or cultural features of the area (xx.2.4).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Weapons procured by government funds are reproductions except for post-1898 weapons which may be military surplus. No NPS museum property weapons are used (xx.2.5).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Artillery pieces, vehicles and equipment are full-scale reproductions meeting approved specifications using same base materials as the original. (xx.2.6).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Original weapons used in non-firing demonstrations pass an inspection performed by the Historic Weapons Supervisor. (xx.2.7)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Human powered weapons demonstrations are performed under a park plan/SOP that is approved in writing by the superintendent. Plan/SOP is reviewed and approved in writing at least once every four years. (xx.2.8)
- \_\_\_\_\_ All employees and volunteers demonstrating or supervising the use of post-1898 weapons have successfully completed a National Agency Check with Inquiries (NACI). (xx.2.9)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Any variations from NPS standards are approved through the exemption process (xx.2.10).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discharge of weapons during ceremonial firings are regulated through volunteer agreement or special use permit and comply with all NPS standards. Exemptions for U.S. military units and organizations are approved in writing by the Historic Weapons Supervisor and Superintendent. (xx.2.12)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Media and commercial filming activities involving the use of historic weapons are regulated under a special use permit and comply with all NPS standards. (xx.2.13)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pyrotechnic displays are regulated under a special use permit and are supervised by licensed technician. (xx.2.14)

### RANGE SAFETY

- \_\_\_\_\_ Local zoning codes, authorities and local sentiment regarding noise are considered/consulted prior to designing a demonstration range. (xx.7.1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Natural or man-made physical barriers are used to keep visitors at a safe distance. (xx.7.3)
- \_\_\_\_\_ All appropriate minimum range distances to the side, front and rear of the demonstration are observed. (xx.7.4 & 7.6)
- \_\_\_\_\_ If a downrange barrier is used, it is located at least 25 yards from the muzzle. (xx.7.5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ At least one employee or volunteer is stationed to ensure no one enters the range from behind a downrange barrier. (xx.8.6)

### DEMONSTRATION SAFETY

- \_\_\_\_\_ All demonstrations follow the approved NPS manual(s) for the weapon(s) involved. (xx.8.1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Only weapons listed on the Historic Weapons Supervisor's certificate are used in demonstrations. (xx.8.2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Only NPS owned post-1898 weapons are used in firing demonstrations. (xx.4.1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ All historic weapons are inspected by the park's historic weapons supervisor using the appropriate checklist(s) prior to beginning the day's demonstrations. (xx.8.3 & xx.11.6)
- \_\_\_\_\_ A Demonstration Interpreter, separate from the demonstration, controls each demonstration in which two or more demonstrators are involved. (xx.8.4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ A certified Historic Weapons Supervisor is on duty and in the park during small arms demonstrations presented by employees and volunteers who have documented training. (xx.8.5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ A certified Historic Weapons Supervisor is present at all

demonstrations involving artillery and/or event volunteers. (xx.8.5 & xx.11.7)

\_\_\_\_\_ All demonstrator to supervisor limits are observed. (xx.8.7)

\_\_\_\_\_ The Demonstration Interpreter warns visitors to remain behind barriers, beware of loud noise, caution to people with hearing aids and request control of children and pets prior to the demonstration. (xx.8.8)

\_\_\_\_\_ Artillery pieces are not fired at a rate greater than once every ten (10) minutes. (xx.8.9)

\_\_\_\_\_ The park has and follows a written misfire plan approved by a Regional Inspector. (xx.8.10)

\_\_\_\_\_ Visitors are not permitted to handle or touch any loaded weapon. (xx.8.11)

\_\_\_\_\_ Visitors are not permitted to handle or touch any edged weapon. (xx.8.11)

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrators maintain physical control when allowing visitors to handle an empty weapon. (xx.8.11)

\_\_\_\_\_ All demonstrators firing historic weapons wear natural fiber or skin, long-sleeved outer garments or full uniforms appropriate to the historical period. (xx.9.1)

\_\_\_\_\_ All demonstrators wear approved hearing protection during a firing demonstration. (xx.9.2)

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrators performing the duties at the muzzle of a cannon wear leather gauntlets. The cannoneer handling the sponge rammer wears welder's gauntlets. (xx.9.3)

\_\_\_\_\_ The cannoneer tending the vent of a cannon wears a leather thumbstall.

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrations held outside NPS boundaries adhere to all NPS policies. (xx.10.5)

\_\_\_\_\_ If applicable, all reduced light firing procedures are observed. (xx.8.12)

## **DEMONSTRATOR REQUIREMENTS**

\_\_\_\_\_ All Historic Weapons Demonstrators are at least 16 years old. (xx.3.2.1)

\_\_\_\_\_ Historic weapons demonstrators will adhere to all NPS rules and regulations and only present programs in accordance with the themes and approaches approved by the park. (xx.3.2.2)

\_\_\_\_\_ All persons involved in demonstrations of historic weapons in NPS areas demonstrate their competency in the use of the weapon to the satisfaction of the park Historic Weapons Supervisor. (xx.3.2.3 & xx.11.2)

\_\_\_\_\_ NPS employees and park volunteers successfully complete documented training provided by the park Historic Weapons Supervisor prior to participation in demonstrations, (xx.3.1.2)

\_\_\_\_\_ All demonstrators receive documented training in the proper use and care of all personal protective equipment. (xx.9.2)

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstration Interpreter(s) demonstrate competency regarding knowledge of NPS range safety requirements, misfire procedures, appropriate demonstration techniques and any park specific requirements to the documented satisfaction of the park's Historic Weapons Supervisor. (xx.3.3.2)

## **EVENT VOLUNTEERS**

\_\_\_\_\_ All event volunteers who demonstrate using historic weapons will operate as volunteers or under a special use permit. (xx.11.3)

\_\_\_\_\_ Event volunteers are provided with a copy of the *Standards For Historic Weapons Firing In Areas Administered By The NPS* and the appropriate approved weapon manual(s) at least 30 days prior to the program and agree in writing to adhere to NPS standards. (xx.11.3)

\_\_\_\_\_ Individually owned weapons used in demonstrations or displays pass an inspection by the Historic Weapons Supervisor (xx.8.3 & xx.11.4)

\_\_\_\_\_ Individually owned post-1989 weapons are used only for display purposes (xx.4.1 & xx.11.4)

\_\_\_\_\_ Blank ammunition brought into the park by event volunteers meets NPS standards and is placed under NPS supervision for storage and issue. (xx.11.5)

\_\_\_\_\_ Bulk or loose powder is prohibited. (xx.11.5)

## **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ A Lead Supervisor is designated in writing in parks that have more than one certified Historic Weapons Supervisor. (xx.10.1)

\_\_\_\_\_ Requests for Historic Weapons Supervisor assistance from other parks are made in writing and signed by the superintendent. (xx.10.3)

\_\_\_\_\_ Assistance to non-NPS organizations is in the form of information and technical assistance only. (xx.10.4)

\_\_\_\_\_ Accidents are reported in SMIS within 24 hours and to the Regional Inspector within 48 hours. (xx.10.6)

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual Historic Weapons Program Summary is submitted on time. (xx.10.7)

\_\_\_\_\_ Program self-inspection materials are submitted to the Regional Inspector annually. (xx.10.8)

\_\_\_\_\_ Regional Inspector has conducted an on-site program and facilities inspection in the last four years. (xx.10.8)