Marines Remind Recreational Boaters of UXO Threat

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MCB Camp Lejeune, North Carolina With the increase in recreational boat traffic in Pamlico sound, officials at MCB Camp Lejeune are reminding the public of the no trespassing policy in effect at Browns Island, a former bombing target.

A press release issued by the Base reiterates the waterway restrictions for creeks and tributaries leading to and around Browns Island due to frequent live-fire exercises conducted near the area as well as UXO in and around Browns Island.

The public release references Base Order 3570.1A that strictly restricts civilians and military personnel from entering the island unless they have pre-arranged permission from the Base to be there.

The following rules have been established for the area:

- No unauthorized people on any part of the island.
- Boaters in close proximity to the island may not stop, tie up or disembark.
- No crab-pots, fishing with bottom dragging nets, anchoring, or any bottom-disturbing activities are allowed anywhere in the vicinity of Browns Island.
- All navigable waters between the south bank of Bear Creek and the north bank of Browns Inlet are strictly off-limits due to highly sensitive UXO in this area.
- Bear Creek and Muddy Creek are open to unrestricted navigation; however, an unknown element of risk exists in this area due to the possible presence of unexploded projectiles.
- Boaters may proceed through Browns Inlet without stopping during periods of nonmilitary use. For safety reasons, any contact with the bottom of the waterways or any bottom-disturbing activity is strictly prohibited. Caution should be used through these waters.

The announcement reminded the public that violators could face imprisonment up to six months and a maximum fine of $5,000.