



THE PROSPECTOR

Vol. 16, No. 7

Serving the Corps since 1943
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

June 30, 2026



General Reed Yermo Rail Visit
It's Getting Hot Out MCLB Barstow!
Fire Safety for Summer Trips & Fun

WORKPLACE CHARGING FOR PRIVATELY OWNED PLUG-IN VEHICLES

NEW LEVEL 2 CHARGERS & WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Charging Time Limit*: The chargers are now available for use with paid program enrollment.

Monday – Thursday: 6 hours

Friday – Sunday: 8 hours



Enrollments & Payment: FY26 enrollments must be paid no later than 31 July 2026 for services through 30 Sept 2026. FY27 enrollment begins 1 Oct 2026.



Housekeeping: After use, the charging cord should be placed back on the charging cord hanger. Failure to do this may result in damage to the cord increasing the risk of electrical hazard.



Issues & Questions: If you're have any difficulty charging or experience any other issue, please contact us at the Maximo Help Desk at (760) 577-6220 or MCLB Barstow Energy mclb_barstow_energy@usmc.mil



For more information see

BO 11240.3 Workplace Charging for Privately-Owned Plug-In Vehicles or contact:

Asset Management Branch Manager, Rockefeller Hayag at (760) 577-6608 or Rockefeller.Hayag@usmc.mil

MCLB Barstow Energy Manager, Anthony Mesa at (760) 577-6327 or anthony.mesa@usmc.mil

*Charging hours may change based on government electric vehicle charging needs.

COVER

Cover photo by: Kristyn Galvan

Civilian personnel warm up for a softball tournament during the Employee Recognition Day at Sorenson Field where four other teams competed for the first place trophy aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, June 4.

*This edition features the new MCLB Barstow base logo in the Propsector banner just approved late June 2026.



THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Russell W. Savatt IV, commanding officer
Sgt. Maj. Mario R. Virto, base sergeant major

Communication Strategy and Operations Office

CommStrat Officer: Laurie Pearson

Public Affairs Chief: Kristyn Galvan

Public Affairs Specialist: Katherine Cortez

Multimedia Specialist: Leo Ritualo

Multimedia Specialist: Anthony Plummer

The editorial content of this magazine is prepared, edited and provided by the Communication Strategy and Operations Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer, Attn: CommStrat Office, Box 110130, Barstow, CA 92311-5050. The CommStrat is located in Building 204.

Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6449, 577-6061, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282.

This magazine is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of THE PROSPECTOR are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Marine Corps.

Social Links and Website

OUR OFFICIAL BASE SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE
CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS:

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MCLBBarstow>

Instagram: [mclb_barstow_official](https://www.instagram.com/mclb_barstow_official)

X: [MCLB_Barstow](https://twitter.com/MCLB_Barstow)

LinkedIn: <http://mclbbarstow.marines.mil>



BACK TO SCHOOL BRIGADE

4th of July
11 AM – 1 PM
MajGen James L. Day
Conference Center,
Bldg 38



Photo by: Kristyn Galvan

The 2nd Quarter Awards and 3rd Quarter Length of Service Recognition were conducted, along with several other awards, to acknowledge various personnel and departments for their dedication, hard work, and the appreciation shown for their contributions not just for a single day but

throughout the entire year at the James L. Day Conference Center aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, 4 June. Congratulations to the NMCRS MCLB Barstow Thrift Store, winners of the Bottles Up! Recycling Challenge 2026!

CONTENTS



General Reed Rail Visit 4



Heat Hazards in the High Desert 5



Navy Achievement Medal & Veteran's Connection Fair 6-7



New Front Gate Safety Measures 8



Route 66 Centennial Caravan & Pizza with Pops! 9



Fire Safety Message 11

General Randall Reed (USTRANSCOM) Visit

Photos by: Kristyn Galvan and Katherine Cortez



Colonel Russell Savatt, base commanding officer, Sgt. Maj. Mario Virto, base sergeant major, Maj. Grant Burnett, director of operations, Antonio Flores, Railhead Operations Group Train Course lead instructor, along with other operation leaders welcomed General Randall Reed, commanding general U.S. Transportation Command, for a tour and look into rail operations, daily battle rhythms, and supporting elements at the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, 3 June.



Heat Hazards in the High Desert

Story by: Katherine Cortez

Public Affairs Specialist

The months from May through early September are known as the 101 days of summer, and for many Marines, civilians, and families these months mark a time of activities, off-duty periods, and outdoor fun. Aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, and throughout the surrounding desert, summer brings scorching temperatures and an increased risk of heat-related injuries and illnesses.

Any improper heat related mistakes like the lack of acclimatization make individuals more susceptible to heat-related illnesses such as heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and dehydration. There are various ways to mitigate heat related injuries and illness. Fire Chief Ryan Tworek, with fire and emergency services explained how he and the FES team work together in mitigating the heat to perform on demand.

“Operating in a hot, dry desert environment demands a hyper-vigilant approach to heat mitigation. At emergencies we implement work-rest cycles to allow crews doff their heavy PPE to cool down and hydrate. We have also obtained CoolMitt devices to cool the palms of responders providing systemic core temperature cooling,” Tworek said.

Aside from humans, animals’ tolerance to heat differs based on their size, body condition, coat type, health status, and other factors. The American Veterinary Medical Association suggests avoiding the hottest part of the day when taking dogs on walks during warm weather.

“Brachycephalic (short-nosed) and overweight dogs seem to have a tougher time than others in hot weather and may require more frequent rests, shorter walks, or a change in walk schedule to avoid the hottest hours of the day. In general, if you’re warm, the dog likely is much warmer.”

It is important to know your pet and recognize the signs of heat stress. Researchers at the AVMA state that signs of heat exhaustion in dogs may include “unexpected anxiety or weakness, being less responsive than usual, heavy or frequent panting, excessive drooling, and discolored, dry, and/or sticky gums.”

Similarly, humans are highly susceptible to heat-related illnesses and must take precautionary measures to remain healthy and hydrated. MCLB Barstow and Base Safety Office personnel have systems in place to protect Marines, civilians, and families from heat-related injuries and illnesses.

“The 101 Days of Summer Safety Standdown, active tracking of heat flag conditions, heat safety banners posted throughout the base, and recurring training that takes place not only during the summer months but also throughout the cooler parts of the year are some of the systems in place today,” Nick Perez, base safety specialist said.

emphasizes that prevention is the most effective way to reduce the occurrence of heat-related injuries and illnesses. The ability to acclimate to the heat before training activities is pivotal for decreasing the risk of heat illness.

“We implement incident rehabilitation in accordance with NFPA 1584, establishing a dedicated (often the back of an ambulance) area, where personnel drop their heavy PPE, undergo active cooling and receive medical monitoring by EMS. By combining physical preparation, hydration, and vigilant peer monitoring for early symptoms of heat stress, we treat heat mitigation as a core tactical priority to ensure our personnel can safely execute the mission and return home to their family,” Tworek said.

Heat-related illness remains one of the most common and preventable medical concerns during the summer months. In environments such as Barstow, where triple-digit temperatures are routine, proper prevention measures are critical to maintaining the health and readiness of personnel.

“Before a heat wave hits, everyone should understand the importance of easing into their activities, being mindful of heat hazards, and properly acclimating to the weather. It is also critical to ensure that proper emergency medical procedures are implemented in the event of a heat-related injury and that personnel undergo regular refresher training,” Perez said.

Dehydration, heat illness, and summer hazards may be difficult to identify or respond to, it is crucial that everyone is aware of the resources available on base. For more information on how to mitigate heat illness or fire prevention resources please contact Base Safety Office at (760)577-6266. If you or someone around you are experiencing heat related injury/illness, please contact 911 or Dispatch at (760)577-6666.



HEAT FLAG CONDITIONS



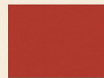
GREEN FLAG (WBGTI of 80 °F to 84.9°F)

Heavy exercise for un-acclimatized personnel will be conducted with caution and under constant supervision.



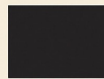
YELLOW FLAG (WBGTI of 85 °F to 87.9°F)

Strenuous exercise, such as marching at standard cadence, will be suspended for un-acclimatized personnel in their first two or three weeks. Outdoor classes in the sun are to be avoided.



RED FLAG (WBGTI of 88 °F to 89.9°F)

All physical training will be halted for those personnel who have not become thoroughly acclimatized by at least 12 weeks of living and working in the area. Personnel who are thoroughly acclimatized may carry on limited activities not to exceed six hours per day.



BLACK FLAG (WBGTI of 90° and above)

All nonessential physical activity will be halted for all personnel.

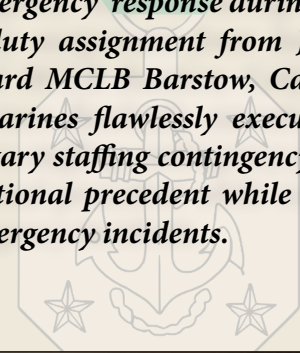
ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES Essential activities are activities associated with scheduled exercises or other major training evolutions where the disruption would cause undue burden on personnel or resources, be excessively expensive, or significantly reduce readiness. Essential outdoor physical activity will be conducted at a level that is commensurate with personnel acclimatization. All efforts should be made to schedule major hot weather training activities to occur during cooler periods of the day.

Navy Achievement Medal Ceremony

Photos by: Leo Ritualo



Corporals Anthony Andrusewech, Luke Hine, and Ivan Roloncalderon with Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Fire and Emergency Services were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for their outstanding professionalism and lifesaving emergency response during a temporary authorized duty assignment from Jan. 5 to July 3, 2026 aboard MCLB Barstow, California, June 23. These Marines flawlessly executed a critical civilian-military staffing contingency plan, setting a new operational precedent while responding to dozens of emergency incidents.



Veteran's Connection Resources Fair

Photos by: Kristyn Galvan



Captain Maria Hurtado, headquarters company commander, delivered opening remarks, along with Walking Color Guard presenting the colors at the Veteran's Connection Resources Fair at the Cora Harper Community Center in Barstow, California, June 25. Multiple vendor representatives from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Barstow Community College, Barstow Chamber of Commerce, San Bernardino County, City of Barstow, among others, offered information to veterans, their families, and community members seeking various forms of assistance.



New Gate Safety Measures Reinforce Security at MCLB Barstow

Story by: Kristyn Galvan
Public Affairs Chief

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow continues to strengthen installation security measures through enhanced entry control procedures designed to support force protection, maintain readiness and ensure the safety of personnel aboard the installation.

Current security measures include one-hundred percent identification checks at installation entry points, random vehicle inspections, also called Random Antiterrorism Measures, and heightened security protocols during increased threat conditions. The procedures are conducted by personnel assigned to the Provost Marshal's Office and are part of ongoing efforts to maintain a secure environment for Marines, sailors, civilian employees, family members and visitors.



Photo by: Katherine Cortez

Nebo Annex front entry gate showcases new double stop signs with added lights and signage to provide additional traffic control measures aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, June 18.

“These measures create a more controlled and predictable environment at the gates. For drivers, the stop signs provide a clear visual cue on where to stop and what is expected when approaching the entry control point,” Maj. Vicente Huerta, Interim Base Executive Officer and Provost Marshal, said. “For our officers, they create additional reaction time and a safer standoff from approaching vehicles. That separation is important because our officers are often working outside, near moving traffic, while conducting identification checks and inspections.”

Installation officials emphasize that entry point security serves as the first layer of defense in protecting personnel and resources aboard the base.

The RAMs are conducted to deter unauthorized activity and reinforce installation security standards while ensuring compliance with Department of War and Marine Corps force protection requirements.

“Gate operations are the absolute first line of defense,” Lt. Jesus Jasso, Accident Investigations Division chief, said. “By strictly controlling who and what enters the base, the Provost Marshal's Office protects the installation's personnel, families, and critical assets. This secure environment is what allows MCLB Barstow to maintain uninterrupted logistics and maintenance support, directly enabling broader Marine Corps mission

readiness.”

In addition to security screening procedures, new stop signs have recently been installed at the Nebo and Yermo gates to improve traffic control and enhance the safety of both drivers and security personnel operating at the entry control points.

The added signage is intended to reinforce safe driving practices and ensure all vehicles come to a complete stop before proceeding through gate checkpoints.

“The installation of the stop signs was prompted by a gap in our layered security posture, specifically the lack of a final denial barrier at the entry control points,” Maj. Huerta said. “A final denial barrier serves as a last line of defense to prevent an unauthorized vehicle from gaining access to the installation. Since that capability is not currently in place, the stop signs provide an additional traffic control measure to clearly require vehicles to stop before entering. This improves officer safety, reinforces access control procedures, and reduces the risk of unauthorized vehicles entering MCLB Barstow.”

During periods of elevated threat conditions or high-threat alerts, additional security measures may be implemented to increase vigilance and strengthen protection of the installation. Officials encourage all personnel to remain patient and cooperative during these periods, understanding that enhanced procedures are implemented with safety and mission readiness in mind.

“The overarching message is that security and safety are a shared responsibility. While traffic control and identification checks might occasionally require a few extra minutes of your time, they are not optional,” Lt. Jasso said. “These regulations exist solely to protect the lives and well-being of every Marine, civilian employee, contractor, and family member aboard the installation.”

All PMO personnel continue to work closely with installation leadership to assess security conditions and ensure entry control procedures remain effective, efficient and aligned with current force protection requirements.

The continued emphasis on gate security reflects MCLB Barstow's commitment to safeguarding personnel, protecting critical resources and maintaining operational readiness across the installation.

For the safety of everyone and to keep the lines moving as efficiently as possible, drivers should follow this quick checklist every time they approach the gate:

- Control Your Speed - Adhere strictly to the reduced speed limits and come to a full, complete halt at all stop signs.
- Prepare IDs Early - Roll down your window and have your DoW ID (and those of your passengers) in your hand *before* you pull up to the officer.
- Eliminate Distractions - End phone calls and turn down the radio so you can communicate clearly with the Military Police. Phones should always be out of reach, as drivers are only allowed to use hands-free devices while driving.
- Manage Your Lights - If arriving at night or in the early morning, drop your headlights to parking lights as you approach the guard shack to protect the guards' vision.



Route 66 Centennial Caravan

Photos by: Leo Ritualo & Courtesy of City of Barstow



Colonel Russell Savatt, base commanding officer, and the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Walking Color Guard joined the Route 66 Mother Road Museum along with The Big Texan for the Route 66 Centennial Caravan in Barstow, California, June 7. The event included a 72-ounce steak eating contest, alongside notable representation from the City of Barstow, as well as various vendors who came together to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Route 66 and the historical significance it has contributed to the city.



Pizza with Pops!

Photos by: Katherine Cortez

The Child Development Center hosted a "Pizza with Pops!" event for children and parents to celebrate an early Father's Day with pizza, soda, and treats aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow California, June 18.





Summer Safety Tips



Keep these tips in mind as you and your family enjoy summer vacations, camping, family reunions, picnics and the Fourth of July.

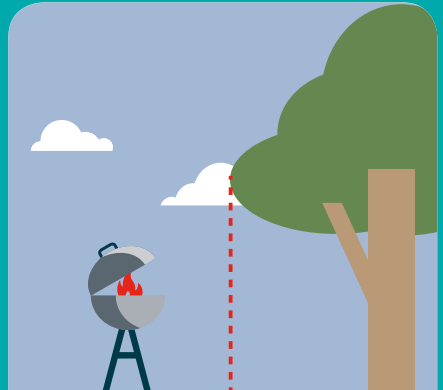
Fire safety



Build campfires at least 25 feet away from tents, shrubs and anything that can burn.



If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts. Sparklers can reach 1,200 F and cause third-degree burns.



Use propane, charcoal and wood pellet barbecue grills outdoors only. Indoor use can cause a fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.

Place your grill well away from siding and deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Do not store or use a grill on a porch or balcony.



Use chimineas, outdoor fireplaces, and fire pits outdoors only and at least 10 feet away from your home or anything that can burn.



FEMA



U.S. Fire Administration



Summer Safety Message 2026

Story submitted by: Michelle Bledsoe
Fire Prevention Chief

As the summer season brings rising temperatures and extremely dry conditions to the Mojave Desert, maintaining rigorous fire safety standards is critical to protecting personnel, equipment, and mission readiness at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow. In accordance with Base Order 11320.5J, which outlines the installation's comprehensive fire protection and prevention regulations, all service members, civilian employees, and residents must remain highly vigilant against fire hazards.

The dry climate significantly elevates the risk of rapid fire spread, making strict adherence to established protocols mandatory. BO 11320.5J serves as the foundational directive for mitigating these risks, ensuring that all base operations and personal activities are conducted with maximum fire safety in mind.

A primary focus of summer safety under BO 11320.5J is the strict prohibition of personal fireworks and the regulation of common summer recreational activities. The following protocols must be strictly observed by all personnel:

- **Strict Fireworks Prohibition:** The use, possession, or storage of consumer fireworks poses an unacceptable risk of unintended ignition and is explicitly forbidden across all base housing and operational areas.
- **Approved Barbecue Practices:** Utilize approved barbecue grills only in designated areas. Ensure coals are completely extinguished and properly disposed of in designated metal containers.
- **Heat Source Perimeters:** Maintain clear, debris-free perimeters around any heat sources, machinery, or outdoor equipment to prevent accidental ignition.
- **Community Celebrations:** To celebrate summer holidays safely, personnel are strongly encouraged to attend officially sanctioned, professionally managed public

fireworks displays in the surrounding communities.

By following these fire safety guidelines, the MCLB Barstow community can enjoy a safe summer while preserving the integrity, security, and operational readiness of the installation.

Beyond recreational safety, BO 11320.5J mandates proactive measures in daily operations and facility management to mitigate wildfire threats. Personnel must actively manage their surroundings by maintaining defensible space around structures and removing dry brush, dead leaves, and highly flammable vegetation from immediate perimeters to prevent fire encroachment into housing and operational zones.

Additionally, vehicle operations require extra caution; personnel must avoid driving or parking vehicles over dry grass or brush, as hot catalytic converters and exhaust systems can quickly ignite dry Mojave vegetation. Furthermore, any hot work such as welding, cutting, or grinding must only be conducted with appropriate base permits and a designated fire watch present to monitor for accidental sparks.

Ensuring continuous readiness and rapid emergency response is also vital to minimizing fire damage across the installation. All personnel must verify that fire extinguishers in workspaces, motor pools, and housing areas are highly visible, accessible, and possess current inspection tags. In the event of smoke or fire, personnel must immediately contact the base Fire Department via 911 or the designated base emergency dispatch line, providing clear location details rather than attempting to fight large fires independently. Ultimately, fire prevention is a shared responsibility that directly impacts mission assurance, and leadership at all levels must ensure their personnel are briefed on these hazards and strictly enforce BO 11320.5J directives.



