

PUBLIC USE OF THE MILITARY LANDS

Differences in Byelaws. There is much duplication between the various Range Byelaws and the Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaws but the easiest way to consider them is that Range Byelaws allow the Ministry of Defence to “interfere” with PROW when a range is in use. Whilst nothing in the Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaws affects the lawful use of a public right of way.

Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaws. Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaws lay down the rules for the public when they are on the Military Lands. A précis of the Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaws is attached to this Newsletter. The full Byelaws can be found on the Byelaw signs at entry points to SPTA or by using a search engine on the Internet.

Offences Causing Most Trouble to Users of SPTA. Currently the greatest problems are:

- a. Theft of and from vehicles and theft of metal. Secure your possessions!
- b. Criminal damage.
- c. “Off Roothing” by 4WD and motor cycles.
- d. Poaching (including hare coursing).
- e. Dog fouling.

What You Can Do to Reduce Crime. You can help by reporting suspicious activity to **PLAINWATCH (01980 674700)** (a Ministry of Defence Police intelligence gathering project). The more information given the better e.g. time place, vehicle registration, description of individuals and vehicles. If a crime is taking place call 999 and do not challenge the offenders.

Dog Fouling. The Plain is beautiful and many people use it to exercise their dogs. However, some areas are very heavily used by dog walkers and are badly contaminated with dog excrement. The problem is so bad in some areas e.g. **Parsonage Field Barn** at Warminster that MOD is considering denying vehicular access.

We have no funds to provide or empty “dog bins” and in large quantities faeces become hazardous waste but in small amounts can be placed in any rubbish bin if “bagged”. All we ask is that:

- a. Dog walkers stay away from military training.
- b. Owners pick up faeces, bag them, take them home and put them in their own bin.

RIGHTS OF WAY

Signs. HQ Defence Training Estate Salisbury Plain is keen to improve signs marking PROW on SPTA. Parishes are encouraged to report faded and missing signs to Wiltshire Council.

Repairs to Roads, Tracks and PROW. SPTA has a network of more than 240 Km of stone tracks. All are termed “military roads” and maintained by MOD. Some military roads follow the routes of PROW and others do not. All are maintained on a rolling basis but may not be up to “saloon car” standard. Where military use may have damaged PROW over the years we also conduct repairs to other routes. During the summer the Landmarc team repaired the following PROW:

- a. Chirton Byway 22.
- b. Easterton Byway 27.
- c. Market Lavington Byway 33.
- d. Orcheston Bridleway 10.
- e. Tilshead Byway 12.
- f. Rushall Footpath 9.
- g. Urchfont Byway 39.