

MLPD Military Equipment Use Annual Update 2025

Assembly Bill 481 enacted Government Code Sections 7070-7073, establishing certain requirements pertaining to the acquisition and use of “military equipment” by California law enforcement agencies. This code defines “military equipment” as consisting of 15 categories of items, most of which the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) does not have, has never had, and is not likely to have in the foreseeable future (such as tracked armored vehicles or armed aircraft).

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department owns pepperball launchers and munitions, beanbag shotguns and rounds, and rubber slugs which are defined as “military equipment” under Code Section 7070. All these items were used for non-lethal wildlife diversion. The department responded to 90 bear-related calls for service from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. Wildlife diversion tactics are used on these calls to condition bears away from problem areas such as campgrounds and residences where they have become accustomed to gaining an easy meal. The department is now looking to acquire (8) Defense Technology 40mm less lethal projectile launchers, also known as kinetic energy weapons, including accessories and munitions. 40mm launchers are utilized by department personnel as a tool to deploy less lethal, impact sponge munitions. Kinetic energy weapons and munitions may be used as an option to de-escalate potentially dangerous or deadly situations. The 40mm launchers will also replace the department’s existing less lethal shotguns.

MLPD also owns one unarmed drone with a camera known as an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS). The UAS was not deployed from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, due to staffing shortages. However, the UAS will be utilized in 2025 to survey for illegal campfires using new infrared software.

As of June 30, 2025, MLPD has received no complaints or concerns regarding our use of military equipment. Additionally, the department has had no internal audits or violations of the military equipment use policy.

The total annual cost for each type of military equipment is detailed on the graph below. Funds to purchase pepperball munitions, shotgun bean-bag rounds, rubber slug rounds, and the 40mm launcher with munitions are allocated from the Town of Mammoth Lakes Annual Budget under the Mammoth Lakes Police Department’s Firearms account. Annual maintenance on pepperball launchers, bean-bag shotguns, 40mm launchers, and the UAS are covered by the Contractual Services account. The quantity possessed and the quantity sought for each type of military equipment in the next year is also detailed on the graph below.

AB481 Military Equipment Inventory 2025

DESCRIPTION (Military Item Per AB 481)	QUANTITY (Sought or Possessed)	CAPABILITIES	EXPECTED LIFESPAN	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION (MANUFACTURER)	PURPOSE (AUTHORIZED USE)	FISCAL IMPACT (INITIAL & YEARLY)	LEGAL RULES	TRAINING (REQUIREMENTS)	COMPLIANCE (OVERSIGHT)	COMPLAINT PROCEDURE
Pepperball Launcher	Existing: 3	Less Lethal Force Option	5-8 Years	Pepperball Inc.	Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: N/A Yearly: \$200 (Maintenance)	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
Pepperball Munitions	Existing: 25 Sought: 1500	Less Lethal Force Option	3 Years	Pepperball Inc.	Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$1290 (Re-Stock) Yearly: N/A	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
Bean-Bag Shotguns	Existing: 4	Less Lethal Force Option	30,000 Rounds	Remington	Less Lethal force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: N/A Yearly: \$250 Maintenance	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
Shotgun Bean-Bag Round	Existing: 59 Sought: 100	Less Lethal Force Option	5 Years	Defense Technology Corporation	Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$500 (Re-Stock) Yearly: N/A	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
Rubber Slugs Round	Existing: 67 Sought: 100	Less Lethal Force Option	5 Years	Lightfield	Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$2500 (Re-Stock) Yearly: N/A	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
DJI Matrice 30T (Drone)	Existing: 1	Drone – Remote Piloted	2-5 Years	DJI Technologies	Enhance MLPD's Mission of Protection of Lives and Property	Initial: \$N/A Yearly: \$2,780	Federal Aviation Administration Regulations	Initial Pilot Training and Routine In-House Training	Team Supervisor Oversight / Monthly Reporting to Federal Aviation Administration	MLPD Policy 1010
40mm Less Lethal Launcher w/Folding Stock Conversion Kit & Rogers Super-Stock Caddy	Existing: 0 Sought: 8	Less Lethal Force Option	10 Years	Defense Technology	Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$12,640 Yearly: \$400	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010

DESCRIPTION (Military Item Per AB 481)	QUANTITY (Sought or Possessed)	CAPABILITIES	EXPECTED LIFESPAN	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION (MANUFACTURER)	PURPOSE (AUTHORIZED USE)	FISCAL IMPACT (INITIAL & YEARLY)	LEGAL RULES	TRAINING (REQUIREMENTS)	COMPLIANCE (OVERSIGHT)	COMPLAINT PROCEDURE
40mm Smokeless Powder Exact Impact Sponge Round #6325	Existing: 0 Sought: 50	Less Lethal Force Option	5 Years	Defense Technology	Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$1329.50 Yearly: N/A	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
40mm Extended Range Sponge Round #6325LE	Existing: 0 Sought: 10	Less Lethal Force Option	5 Years	Defense Technology	Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$290.00 Yearly: N/A	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
Exact Impact 40mm Reloadable 24-shot Training Kit	Existing: 0 Sought: 3	Training for Less Lethal Force Option	5 Years	Defense Technology	Training for Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$1179.72 Yearly: N/A	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010
Direct Impact LE Extended Range 40mm Reloadable 50shot Training Kit	Existing: 0 Sought: 1	Training for Less Lethal Force Option	5 Years	Defense Technology	Training for Less Lethal Force Compliance Wildlife Diversion	Initial: \$302.47 Yearly: N/A	835a PC & Federal and State Case Law	California Peace Officers Standards & Training Certified Less Lethal Instructor led Training	Use of Force Review, Internal Affairs Investigation - Policy 1010	MLPD Policy 1010