



TARP

TEMPORAL RUT POLICE

FIELD MANUAL

Official Handbook for Temporal Enforcement Officers

Formerly debated as TRP, TRAP, and TRIP.

ACRONYM DISPUTE

After months of lettering, forms, and sore heads, London insisted on TARP. Officers remain annoyed but now have matching insignia.

FILED & SETTLED (UNHAPPILY)

1 BUTTERFLY LAWS

Time is delicate. Butterflies are delicate. Treat both with extreme respect.

- Thou shalt not meddle with the past.
- Prevent paradoxes before they hatch.
- No unauthorized rescues or interventions.
- Do not stomp butterflies (literal or metaphorical).
- All direct interference requires a valid Butterfly Exception.
- When in doubt—do nothing and file a report.



A single flap may become a storm. Treat flaps, not fists.

3 RUT CLASSIFICATIONS

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	ANGER LEVEL	EXAMPLES
I	MINOR LOOP	Mild	Repeated conversations, minor delays.
II	NOTABLE RUT	Moderate	Same day repeats, stuck events.
III	SIGNIFICANT RUT	High	Escalating loops, memory bleed.
IV	SERIOUS RIFT	Severe	Timeline divergence, missing people.
A	EXISTENTIAL RIFT	Catastrophic	Reality collapse, paradox cascade.

When in doubt, treat it as one class higher. Your future self will thank you.

COMMON CAUSES OF A RUT

- Unresolved grief or obsession.
- Powerful emotional anchors.
- Temporal residue (botched jumps).
- Interference by non-authorized parties.
- Stubbornness. (Mostly harmless, usually.)



OFFICER CONDUCT

- Remain neutral, polite, and British.
- No tea-leaf readings on the job.
- Do not become emotionally invested.
- File everything. Twice.
- If a citizen offers biscuits, accept. Refusing causes suspicion.



REMEMBER: TIME DOESN'T HEAL. IT MERELY FILES.

TEMPORAL JUMP CHECKLIST

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ License verified? | ☐ Paradox plan ready? |
| ☐ Coordinates locked? | ☐ Kit calibrated? |
| ☐ Anchor point set? | ☐ Colleague informed? |
| ☐ Return window open? | ☐ Tea packed? |



4 TEMPORAL TURBULENCE

Indicators of a developing rut. Report early, report often.



REPEATING HOURS
Clocks stall, reset, or appear suspiciously determined.



DUPLICATE FOOTSTEPS
Same footsteps, twice—or thrice. Check for deja-boots.



DÉJÀ VU SPIKES
Unnatural familiarity with the present.



DRIFTING OBJECTS
Items out of place, and out of explanations.



TIMELINE INSTABILITY
Events blur, memories smear, or vanish like pudding.

WARNING

Ignoring turbulence may result in temporal nosebleeds, existential dread, or unintended fatherhood.



6 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

When the rut is active, follow the steps.

- IDENTIFY TARGET**
Confirm individual is the source of the rut.
- VERIFY RUT**
Cross-check indicators and witness reports.
- SECURE CIVILIANS**
Move bystanders to safe temporal distance.
- DEPLOY CONTAINMENT**
Use appropriate tool for rut class.
- CONFIRM LICENSE STATUS**
Verify your authorization and exceptions.
- ASSESS PARADOX RISK**
Consider short-term and long-term impacts.
- EXTRACT SUBJECT SAFELY**
Return timeline to stability. Log everything.

If steps conflict, default to safety and paperwork.

5 PROHIBITED MEDDLING

These actions are strictly forbidden. Don't be that officer.



DO NOT ALTER HISTORY WITHOUT APPROVAL.



DO NOT IMPERSONATE HISTORICAL FIGURES.



DO NOT USE TIME JUMPS FOR PERSONAL ERRANDS.



DO NOT SAVE PEOPLE WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION.



DO NOT GAMBLE WITH FUTURE KNOWLEDGE.



DO NOT BRING BANANAS TO DINOSAUR SITUATIONS.

Violations may result in demotion, paradox lecture, or reassignment to paperwork.

SERIOUSLY. DON'T.

7 MAJOR FARROW'S MODIFIED BILLY CLUB

Standard issue. Heavily customized. Handle with respect (and gloves).



BLUE SETTING: ENERGY WALL / FREEZE CONTAINMENT
Creates a stationary field to halt target movement and stabilize the moment.

YELLOW SETTING: STRONGER INTERVENTION
Increases force output. Use for higher-class ruts and resistant subjects.

RED SETTING: RESTRICTED / EMERGENCY ONLY
High-output temporal pulse. May cause wipe, branch, or existential regret.

8 MOCK INCIDENT REPORT

CASE FILE: TARP-2015-03-15-WOLFE



SUBJECT: Sir Reginald Wolfe
DATE OF INCIDENT: March 15, 2015 (Repeated Day)
ASSIGNMENT DATE: August 10, 2031

MOTIVE: Closure after wife Cynthia's fatal accident. Obsessive loop to correct the past.

NOTES: Subject possesses a rare Butterfly Exception signed by the Prime Minister.

"If I cannot change the past, at least I shall understand it."
—S. R. Wolfe

LICENSE ATTACHED:

H. W. Pembroke

FIELD ACTIVE. STATUS: COMPLICATED

9 FIELD SCENE: LONDON, THEN & NOW



Note: Helmet labelling error is a recurring supply issue. Try not to laugh.

THE PAST ISN'T SET IN STONE. IT'S WRITTEN IN PENCIL.
OUR JOB IS TO KEEP THE RUBBER HANDY.



NEW FRONTIERS
TEMPORAL RUT POLICE

PRESERVE • PREVENT • PERSIST