

MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS  
DIRECTOR

August 19, 2022

AST1 Donnie Walker  
U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah  
1297 N. Lightning Road  
Savannah, GA 31409

**Re: Letter of Permission (LOP), U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah Survival Training in the State's Shore Protection Act (SPA) Jurisdiction, North Beach Area, Tybee Island, Chatham County, Georgia**

Dear Mr. Walker:

This letter is in response to your request to host U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah Survival Training on the north beach area, seaward of the sand dunes at the Gulick Street Beach Access, Tybee Island. The project will begin no sooner than Wednesday, September 7, 2022, and be completed the same day.

Your request includes the placement of not more than four (4) 10 ft. x 10 ft. tents with associated tables & chairs, as well as a life raft, lecture placards, two (2) kayaks, and gear bags seaward of the sand dunes on the North Beach area. Handheld pyrotechnic flares will be discharged in association with the survival training exercise. All equipment will be hand carried to and from the training site. In the event of an emergency, Gulick Street vehicular access may be utilized by an emergency vehicle, if needed. All equipment associated with the survival training operation will be removed as soon as the session is complete.

Because spent flares can create environmental hazards through leaching chemicals when disposed of at sea, recovery of spent pyrotechnics is required to minimize marine debris. Please dispose of all debris in an appropriate manner at an approved upland facility.

The Department authorizes the temporary activities in SPA jurisdiction in conjunction with the training activities as depicted in the attached description and has no objection to the activities. Any deviations from the current project description, equipment list or location footprint may require further review.

The Department may inspect all areas as described above during and at the termination of the temporary activities to ensure that those areas are in a condition consistent with the authorization granted by this LOP. All persons associated with the event must remain off the dunes and dune vegetation during setup and breakdown at the approved location. No vegetation is to be disturbed during approved activities. Any incidental impacts to the dunes or vegetation must be restored to pre-activity vegetated and topographic conditions as determined by the Department.

Since training activities will occur during the period of May 1st to October 31st, all areas in SPA jurisdiction must be surveyed by a person in possession of a DNR Sea Turtle Cooperators Permit prior to commencement of any activities. All sea turtle nests must be avoided and no activity may occur within 20ft. of a nest area. Additionally, an individual in possession of a DNR Sea Turtle Cooperators Permit must provide the USCG with an inspection report prior to commencing with training activities for the day.

This authorization does not relieve you from obtaining any other required federal, state, or local permits including an executed Marine Event Permit from Georgia Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division.

Thank you for working with the Department on this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Deb Barreiro, 912.266.3695, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Jill Andrews  
Chief, Coastal Management Section

Enclosures: Event Description & Site Plan

cc: Mark Carson  
GA DNR LE  
1 Conservation Way  
Brunswick, GA 31520

Robyn Rosner  
City of Tybee Island  
P.O. Box 2749  
Tybee Island, GA 31328

Ronald Kendrick  
City of Tybee Island  
P.O. Box 2749  
Tybee Island, GA 31328

LOP20220073

U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah is requesting permission to hold our annual survival training on Tybee Island's North Beach. We will be instructing on first responder, life raft, water survival, land survival, and pyrotechnics handling and safety to our CG aircrew. Set up on the beach will require tables (folding x 3), life raft, lecture placards, 2 kayaks, and gear bags. We will be shooting off handheld pyrotechnic flares from the beach, this will be coordinated with our Operation Center at Sector Charleston, Sector Jacksonville and City of Tybee. Our Rescue Swimmers are also nationally Registered EMT's and would like permission to use the Beach Access road in the event of an emergency situation with any of our members. We would also like permission for use of the Beach Access road to unload tables and gear required for training. Our Aircrew members will drive to the site and park in the North Beach parking lot and place a parking pass approved and on file with the City of Tybee in the windshield of their POV.

V/R

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