



COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

ONE CONSERVATION WAY · BRUNSWICK, GA 31520 · 912-264-7218

WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS
DIRECTOR

February 5, 2024

Melissa Memory
Fort Pulaski National Monument
41 Cockspur Island Road
Savannah, GA 31410

RE: Letter of Permission (LOP), Use of Equipment in Coastal Marshland Protection Act (CMPA) Jurisdiction, Fort Pulaski National Monument, Cockspur Island, South Channel, Chatham County, Georgia (SAS 2023-00625)

Dear Ms. Memory,

This Letter of Permission is in response to your request on behalf of National Park Service (NPS) to use mechanical equipment in CMPA jurisdiction to remove gravel and fill associated with previous construction projects on site. The work will begin no sooner than 15 days from the date of this letter and be completed within six months.

The project area within CMPA jurisdiction is located to the east of the main entrance road to Fort Pulaski. The project area has been impacted by previous road projects, including the Federal Highway Administrations replacement of the Cockspur Island Bridge and GDOT maintenance of US 80. NPS staff will remove the existing thin layer of gravel and fill while using existing topography to maintain current flow patterns in the area. NPS staff will work with the existing topography to slope elevations towards the marsh, seaward of the CMPA jurisdiction line, adjacent to US 80 West and the NPS entrance road and maintain existing flow of the tidal waters within the project area. The removal of fill from the area will be minimal. All material removed from the impacted project area will be placed on NPS upland within Fort Pulaski. This project is designed to eliminate ponding water in the area, while beautifying the entrance to the Fort Pulaski National Monument and potentially promoting the re-establishment of marsh vegetation in the project area. The Department authorizes the maintenance dredging activities as depicted in the attached plans and description. This LOP is not meant to exempt the above referenced activity from future environmental laws. Any change in the use, location, dimensions, or configuration of the approved project, without prior notification and approval from this office could result on the revocation of this license and in required removal of the materials and related structures.

No unauthorized equipment, materials or debris may be placed, disposed of, or stored in jurisdictional areas. Any incidental impacts associated with this project must be rectified by fully restoring areas to their pre-operational topographic and vegetative states.

This authorization does not relieve you from obtaining any other required federal, state, or local permits. Tidal water bottoms and marshlands of coastal Georgia are public trust lands controlled by the State, except for such lands where a validated Crown Grant or State Grant exists. Future maintenance activities that occur within tidal waters and have the potential to cause adverse impact,

either temporary or permanent, or that will be in the public's interest shall be reported to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Coastal Resources Division.

Please feel free to contact Deb Barreiro at 912.266.3695 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jill Andrews", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jill Andrews
Chief, Coastal Management Section

Enclosures: Project Description, Plans, Photos

cc: Jefferson Kirkland, Chatham County Department of Engineering

LOP20230049



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE
Fort Pulaski National
Monument
41 Cockspur Island Road
Savannah, GA 31410



IN REPLY REFER TO:
1.A.2 (FOPU)

6/22/2023

Memorandum

To: Deb Barreiro, Coastal Permit Coordinator, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

From: Melissa Memory, Superintendent, Fort Pulaski National Monument

Subject: Application for Letter of Permission for Entrance Station Marsh Restoration

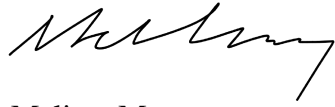
Dear Ms. Barreiro,

Fort Pulaski staff want to restore a triangular-shaped area directly east of the FOPU entrance station. This area has been used as a parking lot and staging area for construction projects such as the FOPU bridge replacement. The goal is to return the area to marsh, as it was historically, prior to the Civilian Conservation Corps building the road, bridge, and entrance station in the 1930s.

To do this, FOPU staff will scrape off the top veneer of soil and rock to slightly lower the elevation and enhance the ebb and flow of the tide in the project area. The scraping will allow the area to gently slope from the roads towards the marsh and will create a channel leading to marsh so water can drain to prevent standing water. The soil removal will be minimal, as the area already floods during larger tides. The excess gravel will be placed in the secondary inbound lane to make it even with the pavement. This lane is an extra inbound lane that allows staff access to Cockspur Island when the park is closed, and the barrier is in place. The gravel will also be used to build a berm to prevent water intrusion onto the road. This berm will replace the logs that currently restrict cars from parking in the project area. The secondary location for placing fill will be the Lazaretto boat ramp area, where the gravel will be used to even out and maintain existing parking surfaces, maintain emergency access including ambulance staging areas, and facilitate storm water runoff.

The area will be monitored monthly to observe revegetation and tidal floods, especially at the new moon when tides are higher. We expect this project to result in minimal impacts and the restoration of the marsh where there is currently a gravel parking lot.

Sincerely,

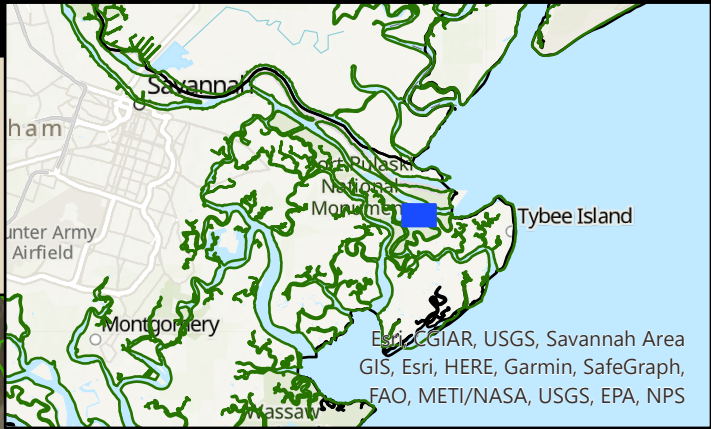
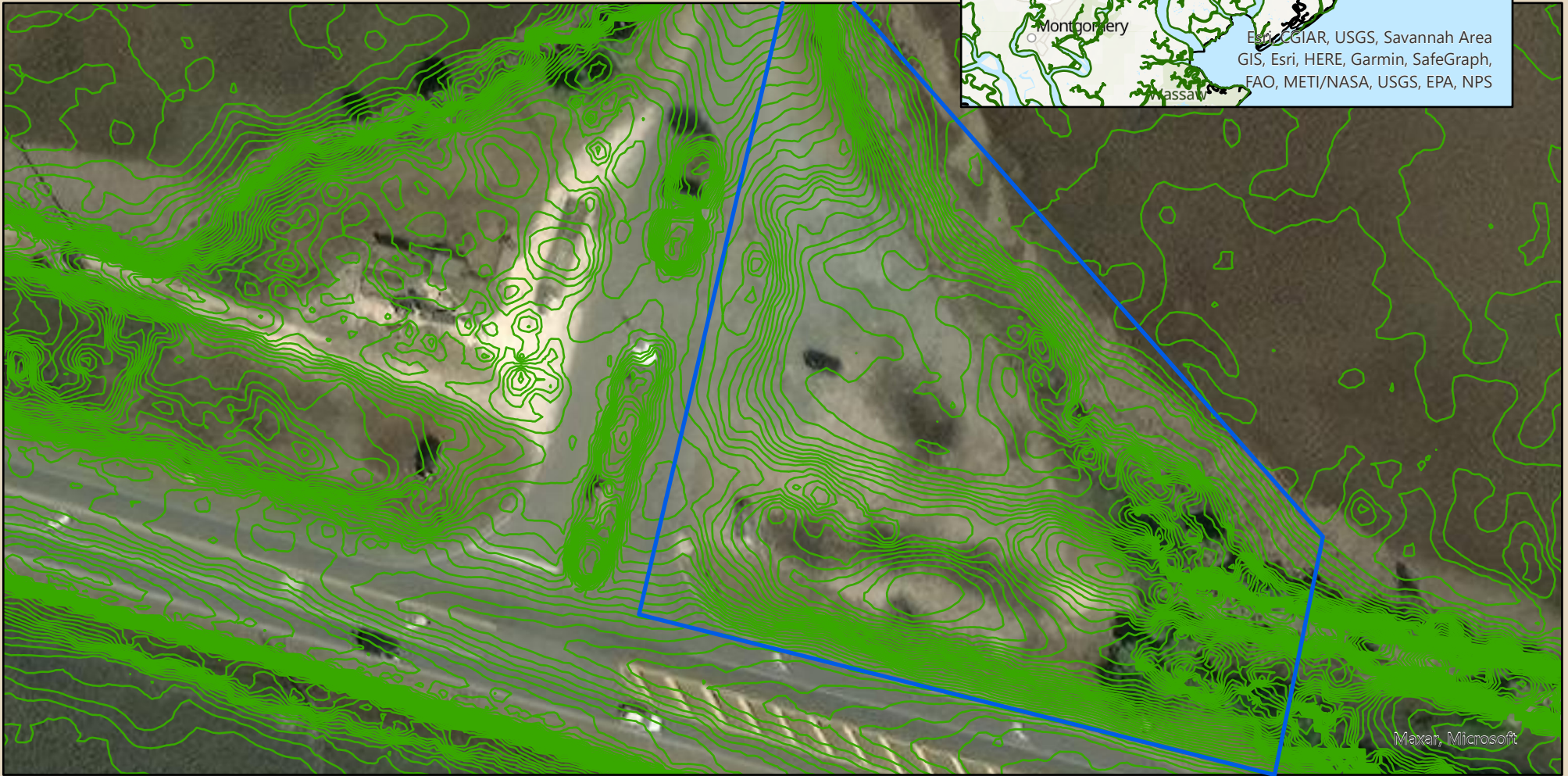
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Memory', with a stylized, cursive script.

Melissa Memory
Superintendent

Enclosures:

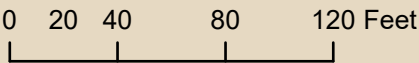
Current Conditions map

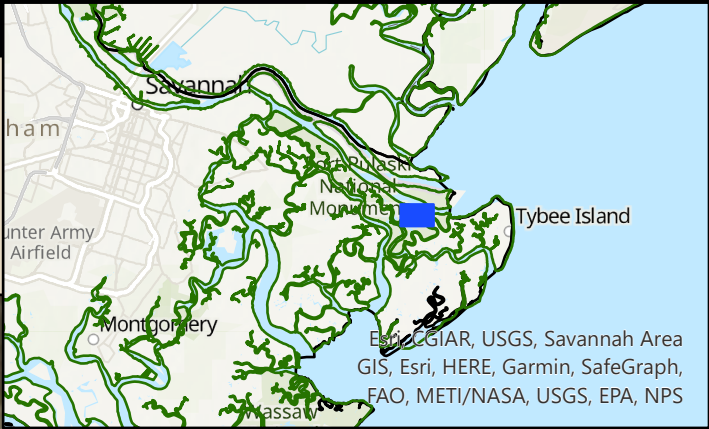
Desired Conditions map



Fort Pulaski National Monument
Entrance Station Marsh Restoration Project

Current conditions Contour Map, 10cm intervals
Blue line indicates project area





Fort Pulaski National Monument
Entrance Station Marsh Restoration Project

Desired conditions Contour map
Blue line indicates project area

