



COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

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

WALTER RABON  
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS  
DIRECTOR

December 31, 2024

Kevin Hayes  
Chatham County Department of Engineering  
P.O. Box 8161  
Savannah, Georgia 31412

**RE: Letter of Permission (LOP) and Revocable License (RL), Drainage Maintenance Activities Within Coastal Marshlands Protection Act (CMPA) Jurisdiction, Chatham County Department of Engineering, Chatham County, Georgia. (NWP 41)**

Dear Mr. Hayes:

This LOP is in response to your request on behalf of the Chatham County Department of Engineering to maintain existing tidally influenced stormwater drainage infrastructure within CMPA jurisdiction. The work within the Chatham County Right of Way (ROW) will begin no sooner than 15 days from the date of this letter and be completed within six months of the letter's issuance.

The existing stormwater infrastructure on Barnett Drive outfalls into a tidal canal that services a substantial drainage basin on the northeastern side of Isle of Hope. This existing residential development is densely populated and low in elevation. Street and yard flooding is a frequent issue due to the low elevations of the area and the limited capacity of the drainage system. The shoaling and accumulation of sediment within the drainage canal has restricted flows during rain events resulting in slow drainage for residential areas.

Within CMPA jurisdiction, the project includes maintenance of approximately 600 linear feet of existing tidally influenced stormwater canal within its current alignment, removal of sediment from the bottom of the ditch to reestablish original contours, and removal of vegetative debris. Downstream of the pipe, the County will restore the original canal dimensions by removing accumulated sediments and blockages and re-grading the banks. This will not only facilitate drainage but will also provide greater retention. The final cross section will include a 4-5ft. wide flat bottom with 2(H):1(V) side slopes. Equipment will work on mats within the County's drainage easement. All material removed from the canal will be placed in trucks and/or deposited in an approved facility or on the upland, and all. No discharge of fill material will occur as part of this project. Impacts total 0.27 acre of canal maintenance within CMPA jurisdiction. It is expected that marsh vegetation will colonize along the re-established banks of the canal.

The Department authorizes the maintenance of the existing stormwater infrastructure as described in the attached project description and site plans. This LOP is not meant to exempt the above referenced activity from future environmental laws. **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. The construction of the project proposed for this license must be completed 6 months from the date of issuance of the Revocable License. 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 regarding this or any other authorizations.

Sincerely,



Doug Haymans  
Director

Enclosures: Infrastructure Maintenance Request; Site Photos; Revocable License; Federal Consistency

cc: [Kenneth.D.Hayes@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kenneth.D.Hayes@usace.army.mil)

Brandon Wall  
Sligh Environmental Consultants Inc.  
31 Park of Commerce Way Suite 200B  
Savannah, GA 31405

LOP20240136

STATE OF GEORGIA

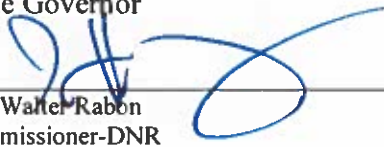
REVOCABLE LICENSE FOR THE USE OF TIDAL WATERBOTTOMS

APPLICANT NAME(S): Chatham County Dept. of Engineering. Attn: Mr. Kevin Hayes  
 MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 8161, Savannah, GA 31412  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)  
 PROJECT ADDRESS/LOCATION: Barnett Drive Isle of Hope  
 COUNTY: Chatham WATERWAY: Unnamed tributary of Fiddler Creek  
 LOT, BLOCK & SUBDIVISION NAME FROM DEED: NA

The State of Georgia hereby grants you a revocable license not coupled with an interest<sup>1</sup>. This area may now or in the future be utilized by boats employing power drawn nets under the provisions for commercial or sport bait shrimping. In its occupancy and use of the premises, licensee shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, gender, color, national origin, religion, age, or disability. This covenant by licensee may be enforced by termination of this license, by injunction, and/or by any other remedy available at law to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Attached hereto as Attachments A and B and made a part of this license are the project description, drawing(s), and terms and conditions that are the subject of this license. The project approved for this license must be constructed and completed within the specified timeframe noted in the terms and conditions and must be maintained in serviceable condition. Otherwise, action will be initiated to revoke this license and all structures must be removed immediately at the licensee's expense.

STATE OF GEORGIA  
 Office of the Governor

By:   
 For: Walter Rabon  
 Commissioner-DNR

Date: December 31, 2024

Enclosures: Attachment A: Project Description, Terms and Conditions  
 Attachment B: Project Drawing(s)

LOP20240136

<sup>1</sup> Tidal water bottoms and marshlands of coastal Georgia are public trust lands owned by the State, except where ownership of such lands is demonstrated through an unbroken chain of title to a valid Crown or State Grant, which explicitly conveys the beds of such tidewaters. The Revocable License authorizes use of lands presumed to be owned by the State of Georgia, and which are under control of the State. This Revocable License is issued with the understanding and condition that it could be rendered invalid should another person demonstrate ownership to such lands pursuant to a valid Crown Grant or State Grant. This Revocable License is issued with the understanding that such lands are subject to the public trust doctrine.

## FEDERAL CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Printed Name of Applicant(s): Chatham County Engineering - attn. Suzanne Cooler

Applicant Email: svcooler@chathamcounty.org Phone: (912) 652-7800

Agent Name (if applicable): Sligh Environmental Consultants - Brandon Wall Phone: (912) 232-0451

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that I have made application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for authorization to impact Waters of the United States and that such proposed work is, to the best of my knowledge, consistent with Georgia's Coastal Management Program.

I understand I must provide this Consistency Certification Statement, along with a copy of my permit application submitted to USACE, to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division (CRD) before they can begin evaluating my proposed project for consistency with Georgia's enforceable policies. I understand additional information may be required to facilitate review.

Once any required authorizations or permits from CRD have been issued, and CRD has concurred with my findings by signing this Consistency Certification Statement, CRD must submit it to USACE in order for them to issue any required federal permits or authorizations, or to validate any provisional authorizations they have already issued. A USACE provisional authorization or permit will not be valid until they receive this Certification Statement signed by CRD.

Attached is a copy of my application to USACE (required)

Signature of Applicant: Suzanne Cooler Date: 12/2/24

FOR AGENCY INTERNAL USE ONLY:	Date Received (Commencement Date):	12.3.2024
USACE Authorization/Permit Number (assigned by USACE):	NWP 41	
USACE Authorization Type (select one):	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> General Permit # <u>41</u>
USACE Project Manager:	Kenneth Hayes	
CRD Authorization/Permit Number (assigned by CRD):	LOP20240136	
CRD Project Manager:	Deb Barreiro	

CRD CONCURS WITH THIS CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION STATEMENT TO THE EXTENT THAT USACE AUTHORIZATION IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROJECT AS DESCRIBED IN ANY CRD AUTHORIZATION.

CRD Signature: [Signature] Date: DEC 3 1 2024  
Printed Name: Doug Allynans Title: Director

For questions regarding consistency with the Georgia Coastal Management Program, please contact the Federal Consistency Coordinator at (912) 264-7218 or visit [www.CoastalGADNR.org](http://www.CoastalGADNR.org).

PROJECT NARRATIVE  
Channel Maintenance of Chriswoodelle Canal  
Barnett Drive to McIntosh Drive Tide Gate

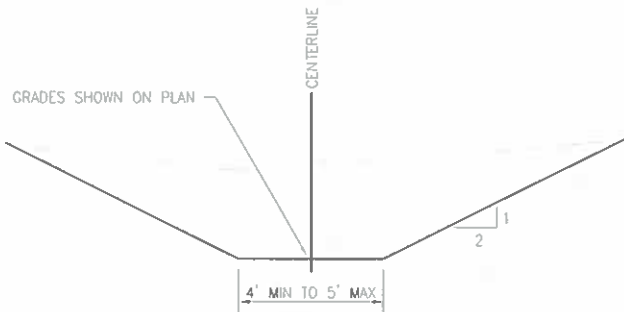
The Chriswoodelle Canal is a storm drainage conveyance owned and operated by Chatham County. The canal begins at Barnett Drive between Leary Drive and Denmark Drive extends to the tide gate at McIntosh Drive before flowing into the Skidaway River. The ditch drains a significant portion of the Isle of Hope in Chatham County and is open channel downstream of Barnett Drive.

The section of the channel included in this project begins at the outlet end of double 30" pipe under Barnett Drive and extends approximately 1200 feet to the tide gate. Only approximately 600 feet of this length consists of saltwater marsh. This canal has not been maintained due to access and other issues. As a result, this section has sediment buildup causing water to not drain from the system. This results in a restriction of the flow capacity and retention of water in the entire channel reach.

The project consists of the removal of the accumulated sediment from the channel as shown on the project plans. Material will be removed to create a 4 to 5-foot-wide channel bottom, 2 to 2.5 feet on each side of the channel centerline. Material to either side will be sloped up to match existing ground. A 2:1 side slope is preferred, but the final configuration will be dependent on material characteristics. Material removed from the channel will be removed from the site and transported for disposal in an approved upland area.

Access to the channel will be from an existing drainage easement along the canal. It is expected that the material removal will be done by a small excavator with the use of mats. Following excavation, the material will be moved to a secure and stabilized central location where it will be temporarily stockpiled to allow the soil to dry. The material will then be loaded onto trucks for transport to the disposal area.

The channel is subject to tidally influenced flows. To complete the work in a timely manner, the downstream end at the tide gate will be blocked to flow in a manner acceptable to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The barrier will be maintained during the construction period, which is estimated to be 30 days, and will be completely removed when the work is complete. The contractor will be responsible for removing the blockage before rain events to prevent flooding upstream.



TYPICAL CANAL SECTION

NOTES:

1. ALL DEBRIS SHALL BE REMOVED BY THE CONTRACTOR AND DISPOSED OF PROPERLY.
2. 2:1 SIDE SLOPES ARE DESIRED. ACTUAL SIDE SLOPE TO BE DEPENDENT ON MATERIAL CHARACTERISTICS.