



COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

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

WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS
DIRECTOR

February 25, 2026

Ms. Beth Palmer
Tybee Island Marine Science Center
P.O. Box 1879
Tybee Island, GA 31328

Re: Letter of Permission (LOP), Tybee Island Marine Science Center 2026 Turtle Trot, Shore Protection Act (SPA) Jurisdiction, North Beach Area, Atlantic Ocean, Tybee Island, Chatham County, Georgia

Dear Ms. Palmer:

This Letter of Permission (LOP) is in response to your request to host the 2026 Turtle Trot on the North Beach area seaward of the Tybee Island Marine Science Center (TIMSC) of Tybee Island. The one-day event combines a 5k race and a sea turtle release that will occur Saturday April 25, 2026, and be completed the same day.

The event includes the placement of directional signage, traffic cones and race amenities to identify the 5k course on the beach seaward of the Tybee Island Marine Science Center for approximately 1.55 miles. The race will begin and end on the hard packed sand seaward of the Taylor Street dune crosswalk on North Beach. A rubber mat with remote sensors will be placed directly on the sand at the starting line. There will also be a battery powered time clock to display race times at the finish line. A hydration station will be placed on the beach near 11th Street. All equipment will be set up the day of the event and removed as soon as the race is complete. A City of Tybee Island Public Works vehicle will deliver race equipment and supplies to the beach. The vehicle will use the DNR-approved vehicular access point at Gulick Street to access the area. Race committee will be responsible for clean-up along the 5k course.

The Department authorizes the temporary activities associated with the event as depicted in the attached project description and location map. **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-construction topographic and vegetative states.

This LOP is valid for the above referenced project. 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 permission and in the required removal of the materials and related structures. This project must comply with all other Federal, State, and local statutes, ordinances and regulations.

If you have any further questions or concerns in regard to this or any other projects please feel free to contact Deb Barreiro at 912.266.3695.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jill Andrews".

Jill Andrews
Chief, Coastal Management Section

Enclosures: Description & Site Plan

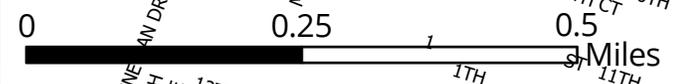
cc: Robyn Rosner
City of Tybee Island
P.O. Box 2749
Tybee Island, GA 31328

LOP20260019



Turtle Trot Map

-  Marine Science Center
-  Trot Starting Point
-  Turn Around Point (Water Table)
-  Turtle Trot Route
-  Science Center Boardwalk



Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community

From: beth@tybeemarinescience.org
To: [Barreiro, Deb](#); [Tammie Smith](#); [turtletammy](#)
Subject: DNR LOP for Turtle Trot 4/25/26
Date: Friday, February 6, 2026 11:12:28 AM
Attachments: [Turtle Trot Run of Show.pdf \(1\).pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Deb,

We are planning to hold the Turtle Trot on April 25, 2026 but we will not be releasing a sea turtle.

The 5K beach run will start at the Taylor Street crossover. Runners will run south to 11th Street, turn around the water station and finish at Taylor Street. I have attached the map showing the route. Runners will run on the hard packed sand.

Set up will begin at 6:30 AM and the beach will be clear by 12:00. The race will start at 9:00 AM. Participants will enter the beach from the Taylor Street crossover. On the parking lot side of the crossover, we will have an inflatable arch showing participants where to go to reach the start/finish line. We will clear the beach by noon on April 25th.

The following is part of our request for the Trot set up:

1. Start/finish line on the hard packed sand at Taylor Street. Removable mat for runners to run across to activate the timing device
2. Removable canopy with table to hold computer and speaker. Both are battery operated
3. A battery operated clock to show run times
4. A water station with table and box water at 11th Street. All materials will be disposed of properly. DPW or Code Enforcement assist with transportation of the water station supplies via pickup truck or mule

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks Deb!

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Beth Palmer She/Her
Operations Director Tybee Island Marine Science
Center - Georgia Association of Marine Education
[912-786-5917](tel:912-786-5917)
beth@tybeemarinescience.org

tybeemarinescience.org



Create your own signature

A large rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for creating a signature. In the center of the box is a small blue square icon with a white question mark.

Our mission is to cultivate a responsible stewardship of coastal Georgia's natural resources through education, conservation, and research.

NMEA Chapter Rep, Georgia Association of Marine Education