CAMP TOLOCHEE DOCK

COASTAL MARSHLANDS PROTECTION ACT & SECTION 10 OF THE RIVERS & HARBORS ACT PERMIT APPLICATION

SEPTEMBER, 2020

APPLICANT: COASTAL GEORGIA COUNCIL, INC.
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA





SEP 15 2020 GA DNR

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Attachments:

A: State of Georgia Revocable License Request & CESAS Form 19

B: Warranty Deeds and Ownership Information

C: Site Plan Drawings

D: Zoning Letter

E: Adjacent Landowners

F: CMPA Jurisdiction Determination & Site Survey

G: New Marina Checklist

1.0 Introduction

The Coastal Georgia Council, Inc. of The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is seeking authorization under Section 10 of the Rivers & Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA) and the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act of 1970 (CMPA) to construct a community dock to service the BSA Camp Tolochee, located on the South Brunswick River, on Little Blythe Island, in Brunswick, Glynn County, Georgia (31.19166 N, -81.57111 W).

The proposed community dock will provide water access for BSA campers for recreational and educational purposes. The upland component of the project consists of a 300 ft² pervious walkway to access the marshlands component of the project. The marsh component of the project consists of a pile-supported dock that would occupy 2,462 ft² (0.05-acre) of tidal waters, and thus qualifies as a minor alteration under O.C.G.A. § 12-5-282(9). We respectfully request that authorization of the project be granted by the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in accordance with O.C.G.A. §12-5-283(d).

2.0 Existing Conditions

The subject property is approximately 314 acres in size and is located on the eastern shoreline of the South Brunswick River, on Little Blythe Island. The subject property was deeded to the Executive Committee of the Okefenokee Are Council of Boy Scouts of America by Union Bag & Paper corporation on April 3, 1953. On March 1, 2014 the Coastal Empire and Okefenokee BSA Councils merged to form The Coastal Georgia Council (CGC), which collectively have served southeast Georgia since 1910. The CGC serves over 5,000 youth and families annually from twenty-two counties at three facility locations, including Camp Tolochee.

The subject property is wooded, surrounded by tidal marsh and is accessed by an existing earthen causeway. Numerous buildings, camp sites, and amenities are dispersed across the island. The CMPA jurisdiction limits at the upland terminus of the proposed dock were verified by CRD staff via letter of October 3, 2019.

3.0 Project Description

The proposed community dock will provide water access for BSA members to access the South Brunswick River for recreational and educational purposes. The dock will be constructed from floating barge and from land-based equipment on matting where necessary to minimize secondary impacts during construction. Applicant will restore any areas incidentally impacted during construction.

4.0 Marshlands Component

The proposed dock will consist of a 6'x 302' (1.812 ft^2) walkway, a 10' x 10' (100 ft^2) fixed deck, a 3' x 20' (60 ft^2) gangway, and a 45.5' x +/-10' (490 ft^2) floating dock. The proposed structure would occupy 2,462 ft² of tidal marshland and would occupy +/-13% of

the waterway at MLW. The dock would extend +/-40' beyond MLW at a location on the river that is +/-300' wide from MLW to MLW. The dock would be located +/-114.9' east of the upstream extended property line and +/-183.7' west of the downstream extended property line. The nearest upstream dock is located approximately 3,635' to the north. The nearest downstream dock on this waterbody is located approximately 22,656' south of the proposed dock.

5.0 Upland Component

The upland component of the project consists of a 6' x 50' (300 ft²) pervious walkway providing access through uplands to the marshlands component of the project. The upland component consists of existing mowed walking trails and forested and scrub-shrub uplands. No direct discharge of stormwater into coastal marshlands would result from construction of the upland component of the project.

6.0 Alternative Sites Considered

The applicant considered utilization of existing off-site alternative water access facilities to provide BSA members the opportunity to access coastal waters, specifically the South Brunswick River, which borders the facility property. The closest public boat ramp on the South Brunswick River is approximately 3.1 miles downstream of Camp Tolochee, on the west bank of the river at SR 303. While this option could afford access for members utilizing small watercraft, it would require trailering of watercraft and transportation of members and staff to an off-site location. With limited parking, regular BSA use of the site could lead to over-crowding at the ramp and displacement of other users that routinely utilize this facility. Given the number of campers that frequent Camp Tolochee, staggered use of available watercraft by age or other group identification characteristics necessitates that a water access facility be located on the subject property itself to minimize travel to off-site locations and provide a more controlled environment that would limit interaction with individuals not associated with the camp. On site, the location proposed represents the shortest distance from the upland to the South Brunswick River. There are no other water access locations on the property.

7.0 Project Justification

The proposed project would provide water access for a large number of youth campers at an on-site location that would minimize travel outside of the camp property and would provide for a safer, controlled environment for the campers and staff. The project as designed is located at the shortest distance from the upland to the South Brunswick River and is minimal in size and would only occupy 2,462 ft² (0.06 acre) of tidal waters.

8.0 Supplemental Information

This additional information is provided for compliance with Coastal Marshlands Protection Act of 1970 information requirements:

OCGA 12-5-286. Permits to fill, drain, etc., marshlands.

(b) Each application for such permit shall be properly executed, filed with the department on forms as prescribed by the department, and shall include:

(1) The name and address of the applicant-Coastal Georgia Council, Inc. Attn: Clif Morris 11900 Abercorn Street Savannah, Georgia 31419

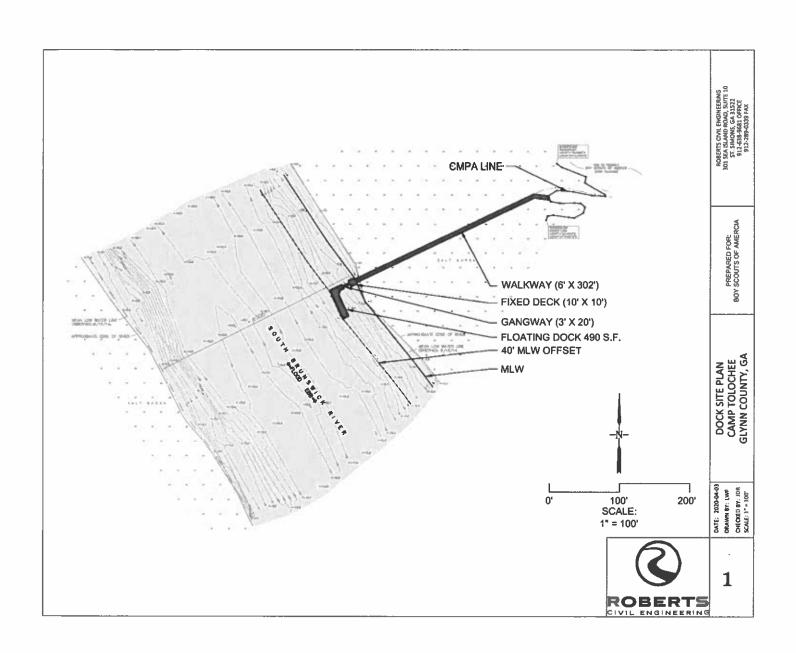
- (2) A plan or drawing showing the applicant's proposal and the manner or method by which such proposal shall be accomplished. Such plan shall identify the coastal marshlands affected- Please refer to attached drawings produced by Roberts Civil Engineering titled Dock Site Plan, Camp Tolochee, Glynn County, Georgia, Sheets 1 through 3, dated April 3, 2020 (Attachment C). The work will be accomplished by equipment located on floating barge and equipment operated on matting where necessary to minimize temporary impacts to the marsh.
- (3) A plat of the area in which the proposed work will take place- Attachment F contains a plat produced by Shupe Surveying Company, P.C. titled CMPA Jurisdiction Line Survey Of: A Portion of Camp Tolochee, dated 05/20/2019.
- (4) A copy of the deed or other instrument under which the applicant claims title to the property or, if the applicant is not the owner, then a copy of the deed or other instrument under which the owner claims title together with written permission from the owner to carry out the project on his land. In lieu of a deed or other instrument referred to in this paragraph, the committee may accept some other reasonable evidence of ownership of the property in question or other lawful authority to make use of the property; The committee will not adjudicate title disputes concerning the property which is the subject of the application; provided, however, the committee may decline to process an application when submitted documents show conflicting deeds- Deed for subject property is included in Attachment B.
- (5) A list of all adjoining landowners together with such owners' addresses, provided that if the names or addresses of adjoining landowners cannot be determined, the applicant shall file in lieu thereof a sworn affidavit that a diligent search, including, without limitation, a search of the records for the county tax assessor's office, has been made but that the applicant was not able to ascertain the names or addresses, as the case may be, of adjoining landowners— Adjacent landowner information is provided in Attachment E.
- (6) A letter from the local governing authority of the political subdivision in which the property is located, stating that the applicant's proposal is not in violation of any zoning law; A request has been made to the local zoning authority (Attachment D). Approval will be provided upon receipt.

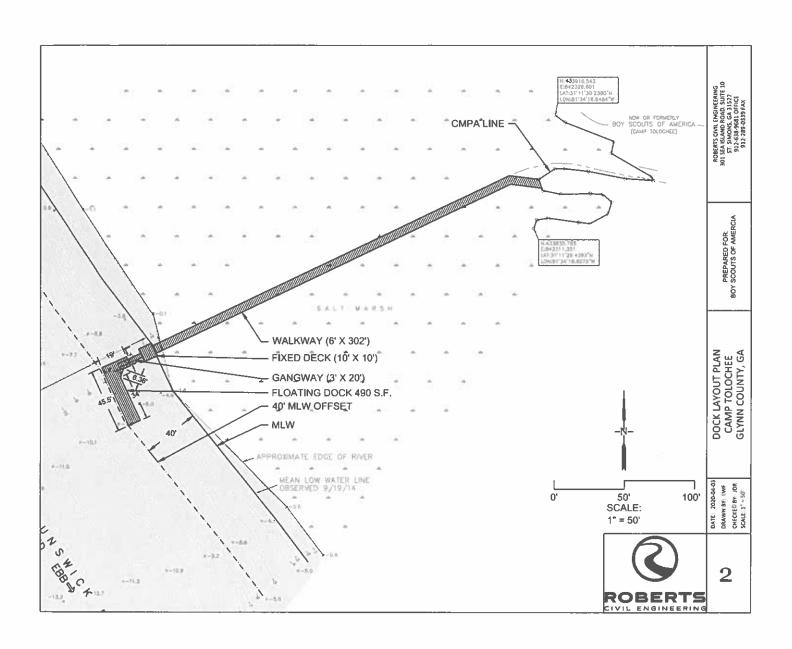
- (7) A non-refundable application fee to be set by the board in an amount necessary to defray the administrative cost of issuing such permit. Renewal fees shall be equal to application fees, which shall not exceed \$1,000.00 for any one proposal and shall be paid to the department. Check for \$250.00 is attached.
- (8) A description from the applicant of alternative sites and why they are not feasible and a discussion of why the permit should be granted. Please refer to Section 5.0 for discussion of alternative sites considered.
- (9) A statement from the applicant that he has made inquiry to the appropriate authorities that the proposed project is not over a landfill or hazardous waste site and that the site is otherwise suitable for the proposed project. A review of the Hazardous Site Index for Glynn County, Georgia indicates that the subject property does not contain hazardous waste sites or landfills.
- (10) A copy of the water quality certification issued by the department if required for the proposed project. It is the Applicant's opinion that Water Quality Certification (WQC) is not required since no fueling facilities are proposed and no discharge of fill material is proposed as regulated under the Clean Water Act. If required, WQC will be initiated during processing of the Section 10 permit by the USACE.
- (11) Certification by the applicant of adherence to soil and erosion control responsibilities if required for the proposed project. The project will conform to all required building, land disturbing, and stormwater management permits as required by Glynn County.
- (12) Such additional information as is required by the committee to properly evaluate the application- This application has been prepared with consideration for the interests of the general public of the State of Georgia as defined in OCGA 12-5-286(g):

OCGA 12-5-286. Permits to fill, drain, etc. marshlands.

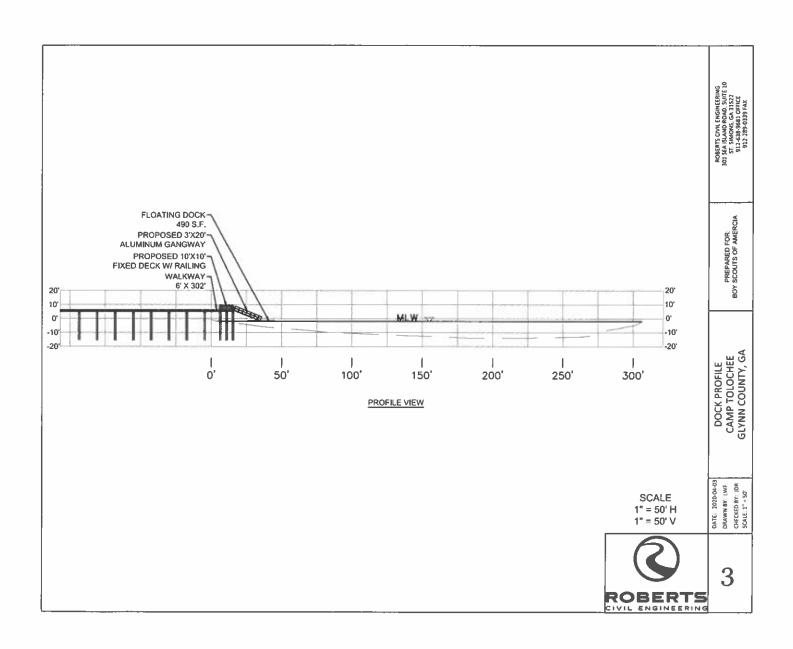
- (g) In passing upon the application for permit, the committee shall consider the public interest, which, for purposes of this part shall be deemed to be the following considerations:
- (1) Whether or not unreasonably harmful obstruction to or alteration of the natural flow of navigational water within the affected area will arise as a result of the proposal. The proposed structure is pile-supported and will not alter natural flow of navigable waters or obstruct public navigation. The structure would occupy 13% of the waterway at MLW, extending +/-40' beyond MLW at a location on the river that is +/-300' wide from MLW to MLW. Adequate depth and width is available for navigation around the proposed structure.

- (2) Whether or not unreasonably harmful or increased erosion, shoaling of channels, or stagnant areas of water will be created. The proposed facility will be pile-supported and will allow tidal waters to ebb and flood around and through the structure. The piles will not divert water in a manner that would increase erosion, cause shoaling of channels, or create areas of stagnant water.
- (3) Whether or not the granting of a permit and the completion of the applicant's proposal will unreasonably interfere with the conservation of fish, shrimp, oysters, crabs, clams, or other marine life, or wildlife, or other resources, including but not limited to water and oxygen supply. The proposed structure will not interfere with the conservation of fish, shrimp, oysters, crabs, clams, or other marine life, or wildlife, or other resources, nor affect water and oxygen supply. Standard manatee protection measures will be implemented during and after construction.





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