DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3604

August 31, 2022

Regulatory Division
SAS-2006-01154

PUBLIC NOTICE
PROPOSED ISSUANCE
REGIONAL PERMIT 100
Construction, Maintenance and Modification
Recreational Dock Facilities
Tidal Navigable Waters of the United States
State of Georgia

The Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) is proposing issuance of Regional Permit 100 (RP 100), to authorize the construction, maintenance, and modification of private, non-commercial recreational dock facilities in tidal navigable waters of the United States, pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

Scope: Regional Permits (RP) are a type of General Permit which may be issued by the District Commander to authorize activities which are substantially similar in nature and cause only minimal individual and cumulative environmental impacts (33 C.F.R. Parts 322.2(f), 325.2(e), and 330). The scope of the RP would include only those activities considered to be minor in nature and that would result in minimal individual and cumulative environmental impacts.

Locations Where RP 100 Would be Authorized for Use: In tidal, navigable waters of the United States within the following eleven (11) coastal Georgia counties: Effingham, Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Wayne, Glynn, Brantley, Camden, and Charlton.

Purpose: The proposed RP would consolidate review and permitting of private recreational dock projects that are currently authorized by: Nationwide Permits (NWP) 3(a) and Letters of Permission (LOPs). Consolidation of NWPs and LOPs under one RP would provide a more consistent and predictable process for the regulated public, as well as for the state and federal agencies that review these projects. The RP would also provide a uniform set of general and special permit conditions that are applicable to private docks.

Description of Activities Proposed for Authorization: The proposed RP would authorize the construction, installation, modification, maintenance and/or repair of non-commercial, private recreational single-family, and multi-family dock facilities and associated floating and/or pile-supported structures. Associated water-based structures include, but are not limited, to fixed walkways, fixed decks, boat hoists, connecting

ramps, floating docks, pilings, screened dock houses, boat/jet ski floats, mooring piles and/or dolphins.

Background: In 1979, the Corps began issuing Regional Permits (RPs) to authorize construction of recreational dock facilities in each of the of the coastal Georgia counties. The Corps administered these RPs by reviewing and approving proposals for recreational docks. Individuals that constructed dock facilities under authority of these RPs were also required to obtain consent from the State of Georgia, concerning State-owned lands (Revocable License).

In 1996 the Corps first issued PGP 83, to authorize construction of recreational dock facilities in the eleven coastal Georgia counties. The Corps also delegated authority to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division (GDNR), to administer PGP 83. As administrator of PGP 83, GDNR had the discretion to either verify that proposed recreational dock facilities meet the terms and conditions for authorization under the PGP, or to refer proposed dock facilities to the Corps for further review and authorization.

The dock size limitations and walkway length restrictions that were included in the original PGP 83 were the same as those contained in the previously issued RPs. The PGP was re-issued in 2001, 2007 and 2012, with various modifications to dock size and walkway length, as shown in Table 1 below. The Corps' primary responsibility under Section 10 of the RHA is to ensure minimal impacts to navigation with regard to proposed recreational dock facilities. The dock size and walkway length restrictions contained in the PGP 83 that concern issues other than navigation were incorporated into the PGP to address GDNR concerns, and to make PGP 83 consistent with GDNR's recreational dock permitting program at that time.

In 2012, the Corps entered into an agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's, Hollings Marine Laboratory (NOAA), for NOAA to analyze the past, present and future cumulative environmental impacts associated with the construction and use of recreational dock facilities in coastal Georgia. The legal authority for the Corps and NOAA to enter into this agreement is the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. § 1535). Using best available data, NOAA completed this analysis, and provided the Corps with a report entitled, "Cumulative Impact Analysis for Private Recreational Docks in Coastal Georgia." The Corps utilized the information in this report in its evaluation of the re-issuance of PGP 83 in 2012 and 2017. The Corps also plans to use the information in this report in its evaluation of the current proposal to issue RP 100.

TABLE 1 – PGP 83 History for Recreational, Single Family Docks

Date	Walkway	Fixed Dock (SqFt)	Float Dock (SqFt)	Channel Extension	Boat Hoist
RPs 1979 to 1996	Maximum 6’ wide. No length or square foot restriction	576	288	25’, or 15% channel width MLW to MLW, whichever is less	N/A
PGP 83 1996 to 2001	Maximum 6’ wide. No length of square foot restriction	576	288	40’, or 25% channel width MLW to MLW, whichever is less	12’ x 25’
PGP 83 2001 to 2007	Maximum 6’ wide. No length of square foot restriction	864	576	40’, or 25% channel width MLW to MLW, whichever is less	16’ x 30’
PGP 83 2007 to 2012	Maximum 6’ wide. Maximum 3,000 square feet with wood decking. Greater than 3,000 square feet with grate decking or monorail.	400	576	40’, or 25% channel width MLW to MLW, whichever is less	16’ x 30’
PGP 83 2012 to 2016	Maximum 6’ wide. Maximum 1,000’ length. Maximum 3,000 square feet with wood decking. Greater than 3,000 square feet with grate decking or monorail.	300	576	40’ or 25% channel width MLW to MLW, whichever is less	16’ x 30’
PGP 83 2017 to 2022	Maximum 6’ wide. Maximum 1,000’ length. Maximum 3,000 square feet.	300	600	40’ or 25% channel width MLW to MLW, whichever is less	16’ x 30’
RP 100	Maximum 6’ wide. Maximum 1,000’ length. Maximum 3,000 square feet.	300	600	40’ or 25% channel width MLW to MLW, whichever is less	16’ x 30’

STATE OF GEORGIA

State-owned Property and Resources: The applicant may also require assent from the State of Georgia, which may be in the form of a license, easement, lease, permit or other appropriate instrument.

Georgia Coastal Management Program: Prior to the Savannah District Corps of Engineers making a final permit decision on this application, the project must be certified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division, to be consistent with applicable provisions of the State of Georgia Coastal Management Program (15 CFR 930). Anyone wishing to comment on Coastal Management Program certification of this project should submit comments in writing within 30 days of the date of this notice to the Federal Consistency Coordinator, Coastal Management Program, Coastal Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, One Conservation Way, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-8600 (Telephone 912-264-7218).

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Savannah District must consider the purpose and the impacts associate with dock facilities that would be authorized by RP 100, prior to a decision on whether to issue the RP.

Cultural Resources Assessment: The Corps will review the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and the Georgia Natural, Archeological and Historic Resources GIS (GNARGIS) database to determine if a registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion are located on the project site for each request received for use of RP 100. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical or historical data may be located at the site and could be affected by the proposed work.

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH): This notice initiates the EFH consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Corps' determination is that recreational dock facilities that would be authorized by the issuance of RP 100 would not result in the destruction or alteration of EFH utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, bluefish or snapper-grouper management complexes. We have also determined that use of RP 100 to authorize recreational dock facilities would not have an individual or cumulatively substantial adverse impact on EFH or Federally managed fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean. Our final determination relative to impacts to EFH by specific RP 100 authorized project's, is that there would be no more than minimal adverse impact to EFH associated with such a project, and that there would be no resulting need for mitigation measures.

Endangered Species: Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the Corps and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Georgia Ecological Services office (FWS-GA) jointly developed Effect Determination Guidance for Endangered and Threatened Species (EDGES) to improve

coordination on projects that may affect species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This document and the species-specific EDGES are living documents and may be altered at any time. Applicants must include in their PCN a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service "Initial Project Scoping (IPaC)" printout identifying federally-listed threatened and endangered species that may occur in the vicinity of the project site. http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/. In addition, the applicant must complete the Savannah District Edges Applicant Coordination Slip (enclosed) to verify they have evaluated the EDGES found at https://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Regulatory/Permitting/EDGES/. Based on the information submitted in the PCN and internal review, the District Engineer shall determine whether the proposed activity has the potential to cause an effect on listed species.

Public Interest Review: The decision whether to issue RP 100 will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the recreational dock facilities that would likely be authorized by the RP. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Consideration of Public Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the proposed issuance of RP 100. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. The decision whether to hold a public hearing is at the discretion of the District Engineer, or his designated appointee, based on the need for additional substantial information necessary in evaluating the proposed project.

Comment Period: Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed issuance of

RP 100 should submit comments by email to skye.h.stockel@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Skye H. Stockel, 100 W. Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah, Georgia 31401-3604, no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the issuance of RP 100 and File Number SAS-2006-01154 in your comments.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact Ms. Skye H. Stockel, Project Manager, Coastal Branch at 912-652-5690 or skye.h.stockel@usace.army.mil.

Enclosure:

1. Draft RP 100

Regional General Permit 100
SAS-2006-01154

Issued: DRAFT
Expiration: DRAFT

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT
REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT (RGP) 100
FOR RECREATIONAL DOCK FACILITIES IN TIDAL WATERS
WITHIN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

AUTHORITIES: On the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), authority is hereby given for the construction, maintenance, and modification of private, non-commercial docks within tidal, navigable waters of the United States, within the geographic limits of the State of Georgia. Associated structures include, but are not limited to fixed walkways, fixed decks, boat hoists, connecting ramps, floating docks, pilings, screened dock houses, boat/jet ski floats, mooring piles, and dolphins.

APPROVED LOCATIONS: In tidal, navigable waters of the United States within the following eleven (11) coastal Georgia counties: Effingham, Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Wayne, Glynn, Brantley, Camden, and Charlton. See Appendix A for a map of the upstream limits where RGP 100 is approved for use.

SPECIAL NOTES: Projects authorized by this RGP may also require other state or local authorizations. A copy of the Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) with project plans must be submitted to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR), Coastal Resources Division (CRD). This form can be found at the following link: https://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Portals/61/docs/Regulatory/DIGITAL%20EAPPLICATION/ENGFORM_6082_UNLOCKED.pdf?ver=gadZU5i5tcqlsREx3Hirog%3d%3d. In most instances, the dimensions and configuration of a structure receiving State authorization will meet the terms and conditions of this RGP without a written waiver or special modification. If a State permit has been issued for your structure or work, please submit a copy of the State permit and authorized plans along with the other documents required in the sections below.

ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED: The construction, installation, modification, maintenance and/or repair of non-commercial, private recreational single-family, and multi-family dock facilities and associated floating and/or pile-supported structures. Associated water-based structures include, but are not limited to fixed walkways, fixed decks, boat

hoists, connecting ramps, floating docks, piling, screened dock houses, boat/jet ski floats, mooring piles and/or dolphins.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

1. For the purposes of this RGP, the Applicant is a private property owner who submits a PCN, requesting the Corps to verify that a proposed private recreational dock meets the terms and conditions for authorization under RGP 100.

2. For the purpose of this RGP, the Permittee is any Applicant who receives written verification from the Corps that a private recreational dock is authorized by RGP 100.

3. Activities which are not specified in this RGP or which exceed the RGP limitations would require authorization under a Department of the Army individual permit from the Corps. The Corps may also require Department of the Army individual permit authorization on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that authorization under the RGP for a specific project might be contrary to the public interest. For additional information on permits, please visit http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

4. A project that is verified by the Corps to be authorized by this RGP will remain authorized until the scheduled RGP expiration date. When a project is verified by the Corps to be authorized by RGP, and authorized work is not initiated or completed prior to the RGP expiration date, the project will be conditionally re-authorized if and when the RGP are re-issued by the Corps for a subsequent five-year period, provided: (a) the expired and re-issued RGP used to authorized the project are substantively the same; and (b) the RGP authorized project is unchanged. In such cases, the Permittee is not required to request verification from the Corps that a project that was previously verified by the Corps to be authorized by RGP continues to be authorized by the re-issued RGP. A RGP authorized project can only be conditionally re-authorized once. For any RGP authorized project not initiated or completed by the end of the second five-year RGP authorization period, the Permittee must submit a new PCN to the Corps and request verification of use of RGP to complete the project; which will require re-evaluation of the project by the Corps.

5. A project previously verified by Programmatic General Permit 83 (PGP 83) with an expiration date of August 3, 2022, that has not initiated or completed the authorized work, will be conditionally re-authorized when the RGP issued by the Corps for a subsequent five-year period, provided: (a) the expired PGP 83 and issued RGP used to authorize the project are substantively the same; and (b) the RGP authorized project is unchanged. In such cases, the Permittee is not

required to request verification from the Corps that a project that was previously verified by PGP 83 continues to be authorized by the re-issued RGP. A RGP authorized project can only be conditionally re-authorized once. For any RGP authorized project not initiated or completed by the end of the second five-year RGP authorization period, the Permittee must submit a new PCN to the Corps and request verification of use of RGP to complete the project; which will require re-evaluation of the project by the Corps.

6. You must maintain the activity authorized by this permit in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this permit. You are not relieved of this requirement if you abandon the permitted activity, although you may make a good faith transfer to a third party in compliance with General Condition (4) below. Should you wish to cease to maintain the authorized activity, or should you desire to abandon it without a good faith transfer, you must obtain a modification of this permit from this office, which may require restoration of the area.

7. If you discover any previously unknown historic or archeological remains while accomplishing the activity authorized by this permit, you must immediately notify this office of what you have found. We will initiate the federal and state coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

8. If you sell the property associated with this permit, you must obtain the signature of the new owner in the space provided and forward a copy of the permit to this office to validate the transfer of this authorization.

9. If a conditioned water quality certification has been issued for your project, you must comply with conditions specified in the certification as special conditions to this permit. For your convenience, a copy of the certification is attached if it contains such conditions.

10. You must allow representatives from this office to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that it is being or has been accomplished in accordance with the terms and conditions of your permit.

11. Use of the permitted activity must not interfere with the public's right to free navigation on navigable waters of the United States.

12. The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the permittee will be

required, upon due notice from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim shall be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

1. The dock facility must be for water-dependent activities that access a channel with defined banks and not ponded areas or mudflats.

2. No fixed docks, floats, or boat hoists shall be approved in waterways having a channel width of less than 20 feet. However, one “L” or “T” shaped walkway extension up to 6 feet wide by 14 feet long and parallel to the channel is allowable. If there is a vessel associated with the dock facility, it must be stored over the walkway extension. Channel width is measured from Mean Low Water (MLW) to MLW. For waterways that are dry at MLW, provide the width between marsh grass lines on opposite sides of the bank.

3. The fixed walkway maximum width is 6 feet, and the maximum length is 1,000 linear feet. The walkway width shall be measured from the outer edge of each handrail or the width of the decking if the walkway lacks handrails. All handrails, support bracing, and bumpers must be clearly indicated on the drawing. Support bracing and bumpers will count towards the total square footage of the walkway. The fixed walkway maximum area may not exceed 3,000 square feet. Walkways must be built at such a height as to clear all vegetation. Walkways across tributaries that can be bridged (those less than 20 feet wide between marsh grass lines) must have a minimum clearance of 6 feet above the mean high-water line to the bottom of the bridge and be clearly described on the drawing. Walkway height and piling spacing must provide for safe navigation in the channel of the bridged tributary. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division may, on an individual basis, increase or decrease the clearance restrictions as appropriate.

4. Only one fixed deck with a maximum area (including screened and/or roofed sections) of 300 square feet is permissible. Sections of walkway and catwalk do not count towards the total of 300 square feet of fixed deck. Landings used for the sole purpose of gangway placement do count towards the total 300 square feet. Measurements are taken from the outer edge of the handrails or decking if there are no handrails. All support bracing must be clearly indicated on the drawing. All sinks, benches, or other cantilevered components do count toward the total 300 square feet and must be clearly indicated on the drawing.

5. A fixed dock house may be open-sided, partially or totally covered, and enclosed with screen. The covered portions may be constructed either with walls of a single layer of woven screen wire or wainscot (lower 3 feet of the wall finished with wood, upper section finished in woven screen wire). The dock house shall not be fully enclosed with wood, glass, fiberglass, metal, or any other solid type of material. The square footage of any dock house counts towards the square footage of the fixed deck.

6. The floating dock maximum area is 600 square feet for a single-family structure and 1,000 square feet for a shared-family structure, and is inclusive of personal watercraft floats, run-up floats, modular floats, and jet docks which must be indicated on the drawing. Floating docks may not rest on the water bottom at low tide and must be supported on pilings or by a cradle at least two feet above the mud. No floating dock shall be located over marsh vegetation.

7. The channelward face, or any other portion of the structure(s), may be located channelward from the MLW line or vegetation line, a maximum distance of 40 feet or 1/3 of the channel width, whichever is less.

8. Only the fixed deck and boat hoist may be roofed. Roofs must be indicated on the drawing, and do not count towards total square footage of structures. All roofs are limited to a maximum height of 12 feet above the decking at the lowest deck height. This includes any decorative components on top of the roof (i.e., copulas). Roof overhang (eaves) may not extend more than 18 inches beyond the structure to be covered by this RGP. The use of the roof as a second story and/or storage and stairs to access a second story are prohibited.

9. One boat hoist (roofed or open) with a maximum dimension of 16 feet by 30 feet is permissible. The hoist is measured from piling to piling, not the roof dimensions. Over-dock storage systems, such as davits, are not considered boat hoists but must be indicated on the drawing. One catwalk, whose exclusive use is to service a hoist, may not exceed 3 feet x 30 feet. If the hoist area is decked, it must be clearly indicated on the drawing. For an additional boat hoist justification must be provided.

10. The use of utilities to service the dock facility (such as water and electricity) must be noted and location identified on the submitted drawing. Lighting for non-navigation purposes must be minimal in nature with light source capped and shielded. Freshwater outlets are permitted so long as routine monthly maintenance checks are performed. Any unattended free running fresh water is prohibited.

11. All equipment used within the marsh for the construction of the dock must be operated from construction mats laid in single file immediately adjacent to the dock. Equipment and mats must only be operated on one side of the structure.

12. Permittee hereby recognizes the possibility that the structure permitted herein may be subject to damage by natural forces and by wave wash from passing vessels. The issuance of this permit does not relieve the permittee from taking all proper steps to ensure the integrity of the permitted structure permitted herein and the safety of boats moored thereto from damage by wave wash and natural forces, and a permittee shall not hold the United States liable for any such damage.

13. The flotation units of floating facilities shall be constructed of material that will not become waterlogged or sink when punctured or deteriorate over time creating a navigational hazard or water quality issue. Styrofoam billets or equivalent must be encapsulated. Barrels or similar devices are not permitted.

14. The dock facility shall not be used for human habitation and there shall be no fuel or sewage discharge from the dock into the water. There shall be no toilet or fueling facilities allowed on the structures.

15. The permittee shall not construct a structure or cover that is not specifically authorized by this permit; such an addition would require prior Department of the Army authorization.

16. The permittee must install and maintain, at his expense, any safety lights and signals prescribed by the United States Coast Guard (USCG), through regulations or otherwise, on the authorized facilities. The USGC may be reached at the following address and telephone number:

    Commander
    7th Coast Guard District (OAN)
    Brickell Plaza Federal Building
    909 S.E., First Avenue
    Miami, Florida 33131-3050
    Tel. (305) 415-6730

17. The permittee shall consider the use of less toxic alternatives to CCA pressure treated wood for construction of the facility.

18. Floating facilities shall be securely attached in accordance with the approved plans by means of pilings, which do not obstruct general public use of shoreline or

adversely affect the natural terrain of vegetation. Anchoring to vegetation is prohibited.

19. The permittee shall not moor a vessel(s) at the permitted facility in such a manner as to cause an encroachment into the navigation channel or to interfere with navigation.

20. This permit does not authorize prop dredging.

21. The permittee shall notify the Corps, in writing, at least 10 days in advance of commencement of work authorized by this permit.

22. The permittee will fill out and sign the enclosed certification and return it to our office within 30 days of completion of the activity authorized by this permit.

23. All wood piles and wooden exterior pile-supported structures must be pressure-treated with wood preservatives in strict compliance with the Registration/Registration Documents issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act for use in or above fresh water or marine environments, and in accordance with standards established by the American Wood Protection Association or evaluation reports issued by the International Code Council Evaluation Service.

24. The permittee must make every reasonable effort to conduct the work authorized herein in a manner so as to minimize any adverse impact to fish, wildlife, and other environmental resources, including shellfish beds.

25. Structures located on or adjacent to federally authorized waterways shall extend no closer than 100 feet from the edge of the federal channel unless a variance has been granted by the Savannah District. For projects located on a federal project, plans shall show all proposed structures in tidal areas relative to the mean high water (MHW) and mean low water (MLW). Distance to the federal channel must be included on plan and profile view drawings. Plan view and cross- section diagrams are both required (all diagrams must be drawn to scale or include dimensions of all proposed structures). Plans must include the State Plane Coordinates (NAD 1983) for a minimum of two corners of each structure where it is closest to the federal channel. Federal projects within the 11 coastal counties include all or portions of the following waterways:

    Flood control projects:
        1. Tybee beachfront,
        2. Peacock Creek in Liberty County
        3. Dunn Branch in Camden County

River and Harbor Projects:

4. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW)
5. AIWW alternates which include the following:
   Portions of the south Savannah River Channel in Chatham County;
   North River and other smaller creeks to Buttermilk Sound in Mcintosh County;
   Frederica River, Back River and Dover Cut in Glynn County; and, portions of Todd Creek in Camden County.
6. Savannah Harbor
7. Sapelo Harbor (included on AIWW route)
8. Belleville Harbor
8. Darien Harbor
9. Altamaha River
10. Brunswick Harbor (including portions of Turtle River, East River, Terry Creek and Back River),
11. Fancy Bluff Creek (between the South Brunswick River and Little Satilla River)
9. Satilla River,
10. St. Marys River

PCN Processing: Within 30 calendar days of receipt of a PCN package, the Corps will determine if it is complete for processing; and if incomplete, the Corps will notify the Applicant of additional information needed to complete the PCN. Once the Corps determines a PCN to be complete, it will be coordinated with USFWS, NMFS, EPA, EPD, and if applicable CRD. The Corps initiates PCN coordination with the resource agencies by email, on Friday of each week. The resource agencies have 10 calendar days from receipt of the Friday email to notify the Corps if they intend to provide substantive, project-specific comments; and request a copy of the complete PCN package. If a resource agency requests a copy of the PCN, the agency will have an additional 15 calendar days to provide comments (25 total days from receipt of the Friday email). The Corps will fully consider agency comments received within this specified time frame; and document the administrative record regarding how resource agency concerns, and comments were considered. If an agency does not contact the Corps within 10 calendar day of receipt of the Friday email, the agency has no comments on the project. Within 60 calendar days of receipt of a complete PCN, the Corps will complete its review and notify the Applicant by letter concerning whether a proposed project qualifies for authorization under this RGP. Applicants shall not begin work on a proposed project until after receipt of the Corps' letter verifying that a project is authorized by RGP.

Regarding compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act:

The Army Corps of Engineers' Savannah District (Corps) and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Georgia Ecological Services office (FWS-GA) jointly developed Effect Determination Guidance for Endangered and Threatened Species (EDGES) to improve coordination on projects that may affect species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This document and the species-specific EDGES are living documents and may be altered at any time. Applicants must include in their PCN a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service "Initial Project Scoping (IPaC)" printout identifying federally-listed threatened and endangered species that may occur in the vicinity of the project site. http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/. In addition, the applicant must complete the Savannah District Edges Applicant Coordination Slip (enclosed) to verify they have evaluated the EDGES found at https://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Regulatory/Permitting/EDGES/. Based on the information submitted in the PCN and internal review, the District Engineer shall determine whether the proposed activity has the potential to cause an affect on listed species. Authorization of an activity by this RGP does not authorize the "take" of threatened or endangered species. In the absence of separate authorization, both lethal and non-lethal "takes" of protected species are in violation of the Endangered Species Act. See Part (C) of 86 FR for more information.

Regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act: Applicants must include in their PCN if the authorized activity may have the potential to cause effects to any historic properties listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties. For such activities, the PCN must state which historic properties may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic properties or the potential for the presence of historic properties. Assistance regarding information on the location of or potential for the presence of historic resources can be sought by using the Georgia's Natural, Archeological, and Historical Resources GIS database (https://www.gnahrgis.org/gnahrgis/main.do), as appropriate, and the National Register of Historic Places. Based on the information submitted in the PCN and internal review, the District Engineer shall determine whether the proposed activity has the potential to cause an effect on the historic properties.

The District Engineer will notify the prospective permittee within 30 days of receipt of a complete PCN whether the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation is required. A Section 106 consultation is not required when the Corps determines that the activity does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties. If NHPA Section 106 consultation is required and will occur, the District Engineer will notify the applicant that he or she cannot begin work until Section 106 consultation is completed. If the applicant has not heard back from the Corps within 30 days, the applicant must still wait for notification from the Corps.

Prospective permittees of this General Permit should be aware that Section 110k of the

NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(k)) prevents the Corps from granting a permit or other assistance to an applicant who, with intent to avoid the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA, has intentionally significantly adversely affected a historic property to which the permit would relate, or having legal power to prevent it, allowed such significant adverse effect to occur, unless the Corps, after consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), determines that circumstances justify granting such assistance despite the adverse effect created or permitted by the applicant. If circumstances justify granting the assistance, the Corps is required to notify the ACHP and provide documentation specifying the circumstances, the degree of damage to the integrity of any historic properties affected, and proposed mitigation. This documentation must include any views obtained from the applicant, SHPO/THPO, appropriate Indian tribes if the undertaking occurs on or affects historic properties on tribal lands or affects properties of interest to those tribes, and other parties known to have a legitimate interest in the impacts to the permitted activity on historic properties.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

1. Congressional Authorities: Authorization to undertake the activities described above are issued pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

2. Limits of this authorization.

a. This permit does not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local authorizations required by law.

b. This permit does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.

c. This permit does not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

d. This permit does not authorize interference with any existing or proposed federal project.

3. Limits of Federal Liability. In issuing this permit, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for the following:

a. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of other permitted, unpermitted activities, or from natural causes.

b. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of current or future activities undertaken by or on behalf of the United States in the public interest.

c. Damages to persons, property, to other permitted or unpermitted activities, or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit.

d. Design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work.

e. Damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit.

4. Reliance on Applicant's Data. The determination of this office that issuance of this permit is not contrary to the public interest was made in reliance on the information you provided.

5. Re-evaluation of Permit Decision. The Corps may re-evaluate its decision on an activity authorized by this RGP at any time the circumstances warrant. Circumstances that could require a re-evaluation include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. The permittee's failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit.

b. The information provided by the permittee in support of his permit application proves to have been false, incomplete, or inaccurate.

c. Significant new information surfaces which the Corps did not consider in reaching the original public interest decision. Such a reevaluation may result in a determination that it is appropriate to use the suspension, modification, and revocation procedures contained in 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 325.7, or enforcement procedures such as those contained in 33 CFR Part 326.4 and 326.5. The referenced enforcement procedures provide for the issuance of an administrative order requiring you to comply with the terms and conditions of your permit and for the initiation of legal action where appropriate.

d. The permittee will be required to pay for any corrective measures ordered by the Corps, and if the permittee fails to comply with such directive, the Corps may in certain situations (such as those specified in 33 CFR 209.170) accomplish the corrective measures by contract or otherwise and bill the permittee for the cost.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES: All work that exceeds the terms and conditions specified herein is prohibited unless an Individual Department of the Army Permit or Nationwide Permit authorization has been obtained from the Corps of Engineers. All work for purposes other than those specified herein is expressly not authorized by this document.

REVOCATION OF THE RGP: This RGP may be revoked by issuance of a Public Notice at any time the District Engineer determines that the cumulative effects of the activities authorized herein have an adverse effect on the public interest. Following such

revocation, any future activities in areas covered by this RGP will be processed as an Individual Department of the Army Permit or Nationwide Permit authorization.

DURATION OF THE RGP: Authorization by this RGP is valid until the RGP expires five (5) years from the date of issuance, unless the District Engineer modifies, suspends, or revokes this RGP in the interim. If prior to this date, the RGP authorization is reissued without modification or the activity complies with any subsequent modification of the RGP, the verification continues to remain valid until the expiration of the modified RGP. If you commence, or are under contract to commence, this activity before this RGP expires, or the RGP is modified, suspended, or revoked by the District Engineer, in such a way that the activity would no longer comply with the terms and conditions of this RGP, you will have 12 months after the date the RGP expires or is modified, suspended, or revoked, to complete the activity under the present terms and conditions of this RGP.

This permit shall become effective on the date of the District Engineer's signature.

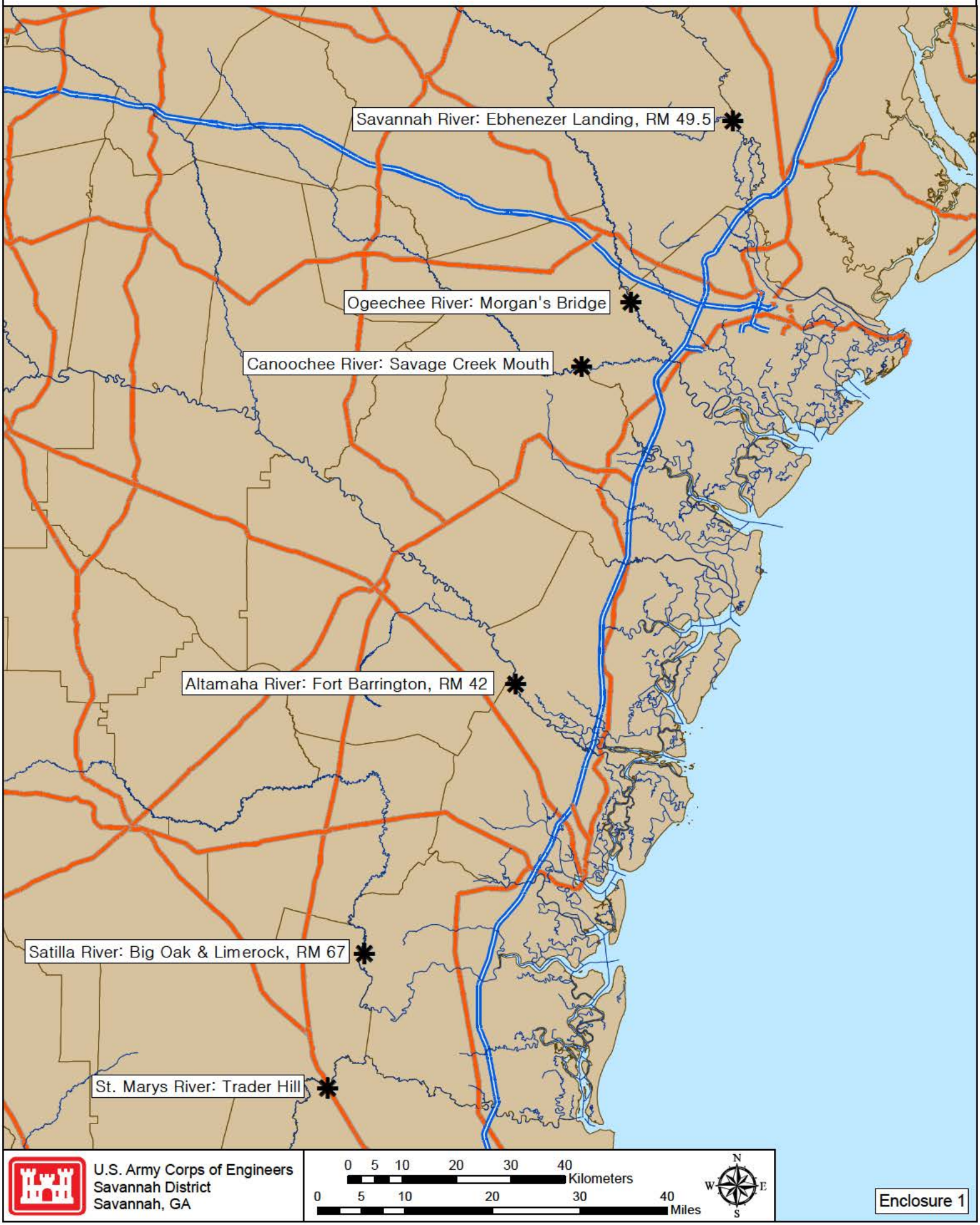
BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

DRAFT

for Joseph R. Geary, PhD, P.E.
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander

_____
DATE

LIMITS OF TIDAL WATERS IN GEORGIA



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Savannah District
Savannah, GA

Enclosure 1

General Information -- Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered & Threatened Species (EDGES) (August 16, 2018)

The Army Corps of Engineers' Savannah District (Corps) and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Georgia Ecological Services office (FWS-GA) jointly developed *Effect Determination Guidance for Endangered and Threatened Species* (EDGES) to improve coordination on projects that may affect species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This document and the species-specific EDGES are living documents and may be altered at any time.

EDGES and SLOPES: In 1999, the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and Corps of Engineers consulted, nationwide, under Section 7 of the ESA on a draft Nationwide Permit 29, one of six new NWPS that replaced the expiring NWP 26. As a result of the consultation, most Corps' Districts and cooperating resource agencies crafted Standard Local Operating Procedures (SLOPES) to help districts reach accurate ESA determinations. The Corps SLOPES were finalized in 2000 and (1) applied to all NWPs that required a Pre-Construction Notification; (2) established a procedure for CORPS to notify FWS-GA, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Georgia Department of Natural Resources about new PCNs; and (3) set out timelines for these agencies to provide comments/recommendations on listed species and other impacts. The Corps SLOPES have been renewed every five years.

The intent of the EDGES is to target agency and applicant resources to speed ESA consultations and enhance listed species' conservation. Unlike the SLOPES, the EDGES apply to all Corps permitting actions (NWPs, JPNs, and other general and individual permits). They establish an ESA consultation framework and provide information to assist applicants locate, plan, and design projects to minimize listed species impacts, which can expedite regulatory approval. The 12 EDGES cover 41 Georgia listed species (Table 1). EDGES have not yet been developed for most listed plants in Georgia (Table 2). Applicants and the CORPS should use FWS' IPaC to determine which listed species may occur on the project area and which EDGES should be reviewed (https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/).

Area to be Considered in Consultations: Under the new "Small Project Handle" policy, the Corps will consider direct and indirect effects to listed species and their Critical Habitats (if designated), as well as interrelated or interdependent actions associated with the project. The action area should include both jurisdictional waters and upland habitat on the site, as well as downstream impacts associated with project actions (e.g., increased stormwater runoff, sediment and contaminant movement from the site, bank erosion due to riparian removal).

EDGES Determinations and FWS-GA Concurrence: The Corps will determine if a project will "take" a listed species, where "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct, and "harm" is further defined to include significant habitat modification or degradation when it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns including breeding, feeding, or sheltering. There are three "take" determinations the CORPS may make:

- **No Effect**: The project will not affect any federally-listed or proposed listed species. FWS-GA does not need to concur with a CORPS determination of No Effect.
- **May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect** (NLAA): The project will have beneficial, insignificant, or discountable effect on listed species. Insignificant effects are undetectable, not measurable, or cannot be evaluated. Discountable effects are extremely unlikely to occur. NLAA determinations, under these EDGES, may not require written FWS-GA concurrence.
- **May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect** (MALAA): "Take" is likely to occur. Formal consultation (135-day timeline) will be initiated if FWS-GA concurs with this determination – the applicant may qualify under existing programmatic biological opinions if the applicant meets specific requirements. Species with programmatic opinions are identified in the EDGES.

In addition to species determinations, the Corps must determine if a project will result in destruction or adverse modification of federally-designated Critical Habitat. Destruction or adverse modification means a direct or indirect alteration that appreciably diminishes the value of Critical Habitat for the conservation of a listed species. Such alterations may include, but are not limited to, those that alter the physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a species or that preclude or significantly delay development of such features. Critical Habitat on the project site will be identified in the IPaC printout.

Applicant Responsibilities:

1. Use IPaC (https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/) to determine which listed species and/or Critical Habitat may occur in the project area. IPaC polygons provide more accurate information that the more general IPaC county list function.
2. Determine which EDGES should be evaluated.
3. Compare conditions on the project site to the EDGES information describing each species' habitat requirements to evaluate if the species might occur on site. Evaluation of project impact for aquatic freshwater species should include reaches downstream, where increased stormwater runoff, sediment or contaminant discharge, during and after construction, may affect water and habitat quality.
4. If desired (but not required), expedite the ESA consultation process by either
    a. Contacting FWS-GA early in the planning process to evaluate project impacts on listed species. Send a brief project description, coordinates and a USGS topographic map with the project footprint outlined (both may be obtained at https://mapper.acme.com/), photographs and a written description of habitat on site, anticipated date of tree clearing (if any), and conservation measures proposed to minimize impacts to listed species. FWS-GA will provide recommendations within 30 days, when fully staffed.
    b. Having a qualified biologist conduct surveys on the site, at appropriate times of the year, for target species and submitting survey results to FWS-GA (30-day review, maximum, when fully staffed).
5. Fill out the Savannah District EDGES Applicant Coordination Slip (Page 4) and provide it, and supporting documentation (IPaC map and endangered species printout, and, if applicable, FWS-GA review comments and/or survey data, to the CORPS with your application/PCN.

CORPS/FWS-GA Responsibilities:

1. Review the applicant's information and evaluate potential impacts to the species and to Critical Habitat (if applicable) based on the EDGES key for each species.
2. If applicable, reach a determination on whether the project will adversely modify Critical Habitat.
3. For each listed species that may occur on site, reach a No Effect, NLAA, or MALAA determination.
4. If a determination cannot be reached for any species, based on information in the PCN, JPN, or other provided documents (or via conference with FWS-GA), request the applicant provide the additional information identified in the EDGES for more in-depth project evaluation.
5. Notify the lead FWS-GA office (see map) of NLAA determinations (via the weekly PCN spreadsheet, email, or snail mail). Where required by the EDGES, FWS-GA will either provide written concurrence (via email or snail mail) or recommend formal consultation be initiated.
6. For each species where a MALAA determination is reached, either
    a. Determine if the project meets the requirements of an existing programmatic biological opinion (currently, only the Northern long-eared bat). Inform FWS-GA that project impacts are covered by the programmatic BO, via the weekly PCN spreadsheet, email, or snail mail. FWS-GA will review and (1) concur; (2) recommend modifications to bring the project in line with the programmatic; or (3) recommend individual consultation.
    b. Request formal consultation with FWS-GA. FWS-GA will provide a draft biological opinion within 135 days for Corps review (assuming adequate staff).
7. Both the Corps and FWS-GA will monitor implementation of the biological opinion, as outlined in the small federal handle discussions.
8. Attempts to resolve disagreements about Corps determinations will first be at the field office level; final authority will be with Corps Regulatory Chief.

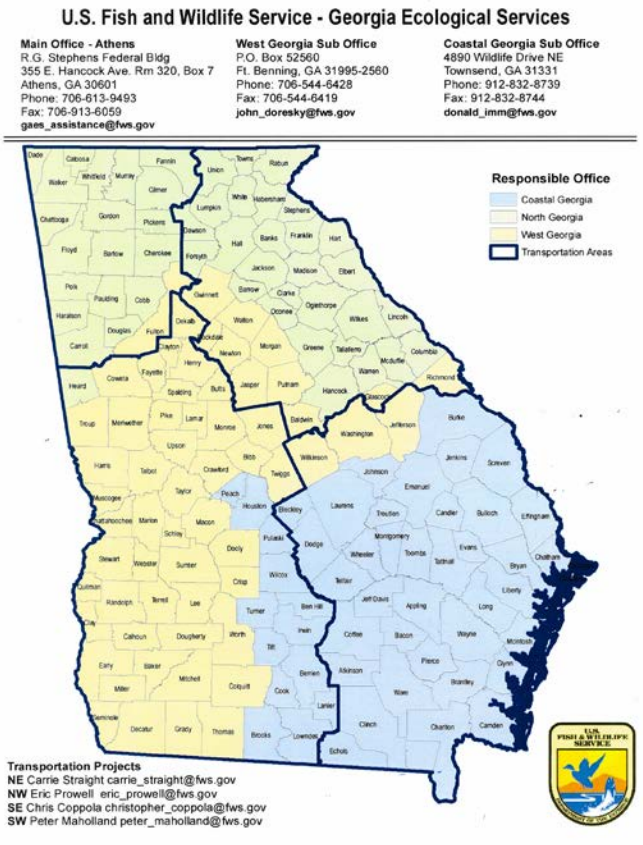


Table 1. The 12 CORPS/FWS-GA EDGES cover 41 listed species.

Alabama moccasinshell	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Altamaha spinymussel	Altamaha Spinymussel EDGES
Amber darter	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Black-spored quillwort	Georgia Granite Outcrop Plants EDGES
Blue shiner	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Cherokee darter	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Conasauga logperch	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Coosa moccasinshell	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Eastern indigo snake	Eastern Indigo Snake EDGES
Etowah darter	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Fat threeridge	Southwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Fine-lined pocketbook	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Frosted flatwoods salamander	Flatwoods Salamander EDGES
Georgia pigtoe	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Goldline darter	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Gray bat	North Georgia Bats EDGES
Green sea turtle	Sea Turtle EDGES
Gulf moccasinshell	Southwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Indiana bat	North Georgia Bats EDGES
Interrupted rocksnail	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Kemp’s ridley sea turtle	Sea Turtle EDGES
Leatherback sea turtle	Sea Turtle EDGES
Little amphianthus	Georgia Granite Outcrop Plants EDGES
Loggerhead sea turtle	Sea Turtle EDGES
Manatee	Manatee EDGES
Mat-forming quillwort	Georgia Granite Outcrop Plants EDGES
Northern long-eared bat	North Georgia Bats EDGES
Ochlockonee moccasinshell	Southwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Oval pigtoe	Southwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Piping plover	Shorebirds EDGES
Purple bankclimber	Southwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Red-cockaded woodpecker	Red-Cockaded Woodpecker EDGES
Red knot	Shorebirds EDGES
Reticulated flatwoods salamander	Flatwoods Salamander EDGES
Shinyrayed pocketbook	Southwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Snail darter	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Southern clubshell	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Southern pigtoe	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Triangular kidneyshell	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Trispot darter	Northwest Georgia Aquatic Species EDGES
Wood stork	Wood Stork EDGES

Table 2. The 25 listed plants for which a CORPS/FWS-GA EDGES has not been developed.

Alabama leather flower
American chaffseed
Canby’s dropwort
Cooley’s meadowrue
Florida torreya
Fringed campion
Georgia rockcress
Green pitcher-plant
Hairy rattleweed
Harperella
Kral’s water-plantain
Large-flowered skullcap
Michaux's sumac
Mohr’s Barbara's buttons
Persistent trillium
Pondberry
Relict trillium
Rock gnome lichen
Small whorled pogonia
Smooth coneflower
Swamp pink
Tennessee yellow-eyed grass
Virginia spiraea
White fringeless orchid
Whorled sunflower

Savannah District EDGES Applicant Coordination Slip

Project:_____ County:_____ Coordinates:_____

Applicant:_____ Consultant:_____

FWS-GA Review of Project or Survey Data (yes/no):_____ Date of FWS-GA Review (if applicable):_____

Project Modifications After FWS-GA Review (including changes in timing):_____

Species IPaC Indicated May Occur on Site	Critical Habitat (yes/no)	Applicable EDGES	Species Habitat(s), as Described in the EDGES (e.g., wetland, stream, forested, flatwoods, sandhills)	Does this Habitat occur on Project Site (yes/no)	Will this Habitat be Altered by the Project (yes/no)

Please provide this form, the IPaC map and printout of listed species/Critical Habitat that may occur on site, and any FWS-GA comments on the project to the Savannah District with your application/PCN.

FWS-GA Suggested Best Management Practices to Reduce Project Impacts on Wildlife

Wetland, Riparian Buffer, Streambank, and Stream Channel Protection: Minimize disturbance to stream banks and riparian areas during project work. Do not operate equipment in the stream channel, and use temporary bridges to ford the channel during work. Maintain a 50-foot undisturbed buffer and an additional 25 ft. impervious setback on all streams, and locate staging areas, storage areas, borrow pits, or waste sites outside of these buffers. Restore the channel and banks, where possible, to original contours and stabilize banks with native vegetation and other biotechnical methods – avoid riprap or other hard armoring. Install perimeter controls (i.e. silt fence, or compost filter sock) on the upland side of the delineated wetland boundary with an established un-disturbed vegetated buffer for maximum protection of the wetland system. Check perimeter controls frequently to ensure they are operating correctly.

Water Quality Protection: All projects should comply with the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act – projects adjacent to streams with listed aquatic species should exceed State standards. Equipment storage, equipment maintenance, supply storage, and use of pesticides, herbicides, and/or other chemicals not occur within the 100-year floodplain or 200 feet from the stream banks or wetland edge, whichever is greater. All storage and maintenance areas should be protected with secondary containment. Material utilized in, or adjacent to aquatic resources for temporary fill, permanent fill, or bank protection shall consist of suitable material, free from toxic contaminants in other than trace quantities. Materials such as used asphalt, pressure treated lumber and uncured concrete should not be used because it can alter water quality causing mortality in aquatic organisms and can be harmful to public health.

Stormwater: Post-construction stormwater management should be consistent with performance standards for Water Quality protection (WQv) and Channel Protection (CPv) found in the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual, otherwise known as the Blue Book (https://atlantaregional.org/georgia-stormwater-management-manual/). For projects that drain to streams or wetlands with Federal- or State- protected species, additional water quality protection should be provided through implementation of the Runoff Reduction performance standard, also found in the Blue Book.

Bridges and Culverts: Bridges and arch spans are the preferred option for stream crossings from an aquatic habitat continuity perspective. The number of instream piles or structures should be minimized, and they should be aligned with the natural stream flow. Use of bridge scuppers that directly discharge stormwater to streams should be minimized, except where necessary for safety. All work for bridge construction activities that require the use of temporary in-stream construction access (e.g., jetties, work bridges, barges, etc.) should be conducted in a manner that does not inhibit aquatic organism passage, including minimizing river constriction. A flow analysis to evaluate water velocity alterations should be conducted when river constriction will be greater than 25% of the cross sectional area of the critical flow, and a contingency plan should be developed in the event channel scour, bank erosion, or undesirable conditions occur. Upon completion of activities, temporary fills should be entirely removed and the site restored to pre-existing elevation. Equipment should not be stored on any in-stream structure to reduce equipment loss if flows exceed the height of the in-stream structure and reduce contamination from pollutant leakage during off-use times.

Culverts should be designed and installed in a way that ensures the structures do not become barriers to aquatic organism passage by significantly increasing water velocities in culverts at base flow, causing a drop in elevation at the outflow due to scour in and around the culvert, or reducing water depth in the culvert at base flows. The Savannah District's Regional Conditions for Nationwide Permits specify BMPs for culvert design to promote the safe passage of fish and other aquatic organisms (http://www.Corps.usace.army.mil/Portals/61/docs/regulatory/2017%20Regional%20Conditions.pdf?ver=2017-03-20-153050-080).

Direct stormwater runoff from road approaches toward floodplains, letting the runoff discharge as sheet flow across the floodplain or into stormwater management structures. When road approaches are composed of unpaved surfaces, consider paving the road approaches to improve the water quality of stormwater runoff around stream crossing locations. If spread footers, containment structures, or other structures require the use of dry or poured concrete, flowable fill, or similar materials and are elected for use in the construction within any waterway, such methods shall

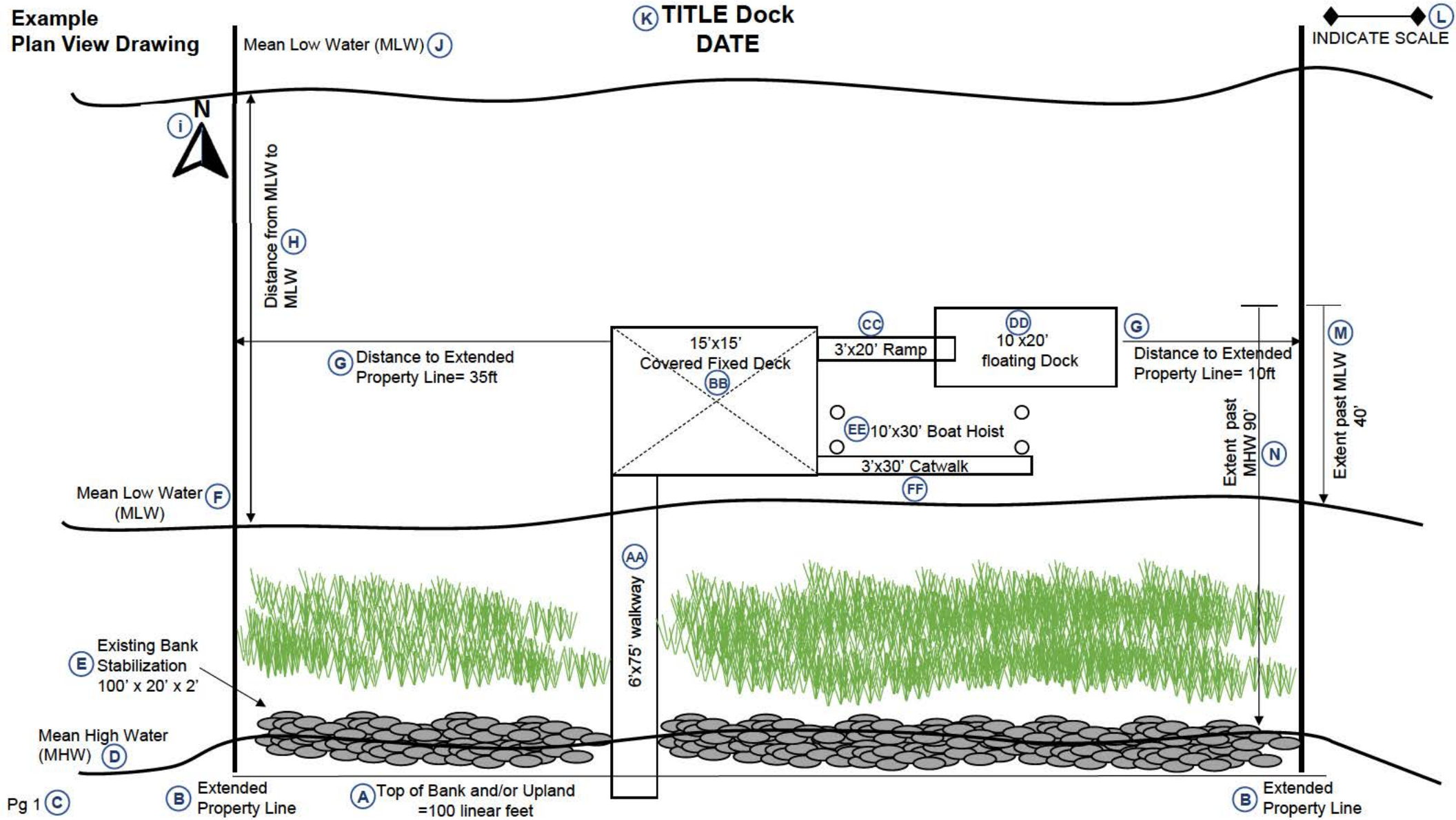
be constructed using cofferdams or similar containment structures. If uncured, dry or wet concrete will be used, the water used for curing shall not be allowed into the waterways. The use of uncured concrete in a waterway can raise the pH of the surrounding water causing mortality in aquatic organisms and potential public health concerns. Incorporate measures to provide reduce mortality of wildlife and increase human safety by providing wildlife crossings.

Utility Stream Crossings: Direct runoff via sheetflow to vegetated areas or stormwater treatment basins and utilize rolling dips or water bars to divert water from the utility right-of-way (ROW) into vegetated areas on slopes to minimize erosion. Install sediment pits, where necessary, to trap sediment until the ROW is stabilized. Directional boring is preferred when a utility line must be installed across a perennial stream that supports Federal- or State-protected aquatic species. Bore pits should be located as far away from the stream channel as possible. Dry open trench pipe installation using isolation crossing diversions, such as coffer dams, are preferred for all other perennial stream crossings. The diversions should not dewater downstream reaches or create excessive water velocity that could scour downstream reaches. Wet open trench construction should be avoided in all perennial streams unless no other method is feasible, or if it can be shown that alternative methods would cause greater sedimentation and environmental harm. For both wet and dry open trench installation, stream banks and channels should be restored to their original contours and the banks stabilized with native vegetation (except in areas where permanent road crossings are to be maintained). In-channel stream restoration techniques should be considered to stabilize the channel elevation and protect buried utility lines. In-channel restoration techniques can also effectively prevent downstream scour or upstream head cutting which can result from open trenching. Hydrotest waters should not be pulled from or discharged into streams with Federal- or State-listed aquatic species

Wet open trench installation should not be conducted during the sensitive reproductive periods of Federal- or State-listed aquatic species, when eggs and newly-hatched larvae are most likely to be buried or harmed by increased turbidity and sedimentation. Only directional boring or isolation crossing methods should be used during these times of year.

Aerial utilities should maintain a 100-foot undisturbed riparian buffer within the powerline's ROW on both sides of all streams with Federal- or State-listed aquatic species. No crossings, either temporary or permanent, via culverts, fords, or other methods should be constructed and all access roads should end at the buffer's edge farthest from the streambank. The buffer, where possible, should be retained in or planted with native vegetation of at least shrub size. Maintain a 50-foot riparian buffer within the powerline's ROW on both sides of other perennial and intermittent streams that will be crossed. Some vegetation within these buffer zones may be temporarily disturbed if culverts, fords, or other stream crossings are necessary, but streambanks should be restored to normal contours and stabilized after the crossing is removed.

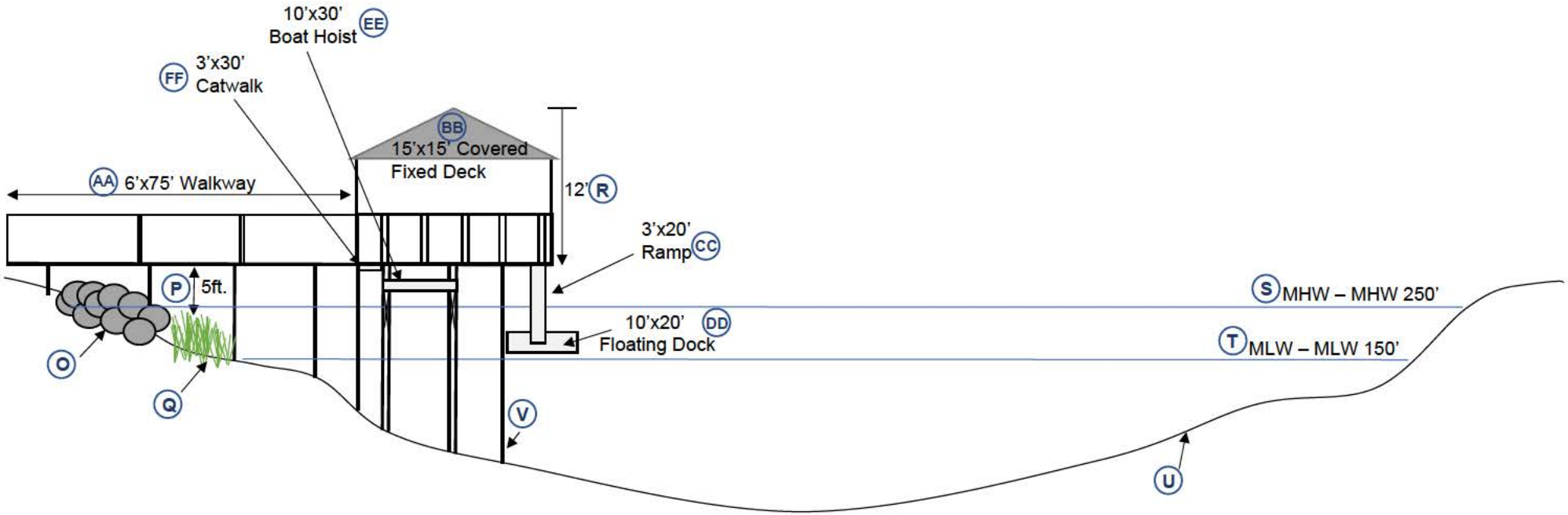
Existing Bridges, Culverts, and Structures: Bridges, culverts, and structures (barns, buildings, etc.) can be used by migratory birds for nesting and roosting and by sensitive bat species for roosting and rearing young. Please complete inspections of all bridges, culverts, and structures to determine if there is evidence of migratory bird or bats use. Please fill out a bridge / culvert inspection form and include it with any coordination with our office. Please include indications of bat presence (guano and staining) even if bats are not present at the time of the inspection. If bridge work is scheduled for the inclusive dates of 1 April through October 15, an additional bridge inspection for evidence of bats is requested within 14 days of any activity that might disturb migratory birds or roosting bats.


Example
Plan View Drawing
K TITLE Dock
DATE
L INDICATE SCALE
Mean Low Water (MLW) J
i N
Distance from MLW to MLW H
G Distance to Extended Property Line= 35ft
15'x15' Covered Fixed Deck BB
CC 3'x20' Ramp
DD 10'x20' floating Dock
G Distance to Extended Property Line= 10ft
M Extent past MLW 40'
EE 10'x30' Boat Hoist
3'x30' Catwalk FF
Extent past MHW 90' N
Mean Low Water (MLW) F
AA 6'x75' walkway
E Existing Bank Stabilization 100' x 20' x 2'
Mean High Water (MHW) D
Pg 1 C
B Extended Property Line
A Top of Bank and/or Upland =100 linear feet
B Extended Property Line

Example
Profile View Drawing

TITLE Dock
DATE (K)

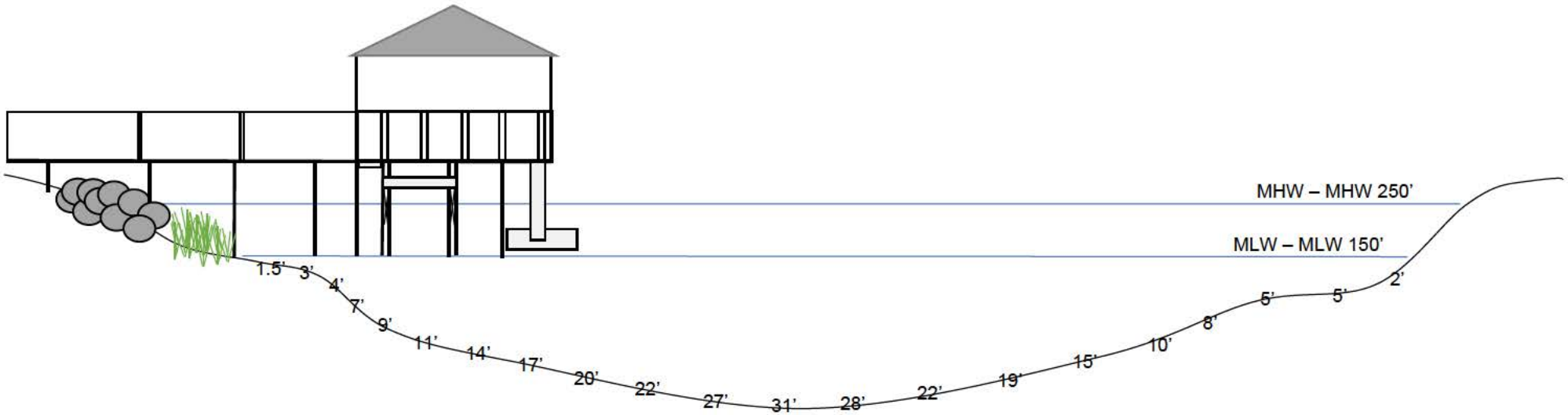
◆——◆ (L)
INDICATE SCALE



Please note that the measurements showcased in this example are not the allowable maximums. The measurements are examples of the information that's required. Refer to the rules and regulations for dimension restrictions.

Example
Depth Survey

INDICATE SCALE



Note: The measurements should be taken at a standard number of feet across the entirety of the waterbody at MLW. (i.e. every 5 ft.)

FIGURE(S) KEY

These drawings ensure the State of Georgia and the Corps of Engineers have the information necessary to properly assess the impacts associated with your PGP83 dock structure. Follow this key for descriptions of each required item.

Dock Drawings: Label the entire structure with appropriate names and dimensions. If the dock is being modified, please indicate on the drawing which components exist and which components are proposed.

AA. **Walkways:** 1,000 linear feet maximum, 6 feet wide maximum. Measured from the outer edge of the handrails. 3,000 sq. ft. max including railing supports.
BB. **Fixed Decks:** 300 sq. ft. maximum. Please indicate a cover/roof by using a dashed line. Roofs are limited to a maximum height of 12ft. above decking.
CC. **Ramp:** Provide dimensions and material type (i.e. aluminum) for the ramp.
DD. **Floating Dock:** 600 sq. foot single family maximum, or 1,000 sq. ft. shared-family maximum.
EE. **Boat Hoist:** 16 ft. x 30 ft. maximum measured from piling to piling. 1 hoist allowed. If covered, indicate using dashed lines.
FF. **Catwalk:** 3 ft. x 30ft. maximum size. 1 catwalk allowed.

Not pictured:

- Floating watercraft lifts (provide dimensions and location of the proposed lift on the drawings).
- Cantilevered sinks: Provide dimensions of the sink and dimensions of how much will be cantilevered (i.e. a 2'x6' sink, of which 1x6 is cantilevered)
- Other: Include anything else that isn't specified above that will be included on your dock structure. (All parts of the dock that are over, under, or within waters of the United States need to be included on the drawings.)

Other Required Information:

A. **Top of Bank and/or Upland:** Indicate the top of bank, erosional slope, or upland and indicate the number of linear feet (straight line distance) of property from property line to property line. Any specific characteristic of the site should be identified with the proposed structure in place (i.e., a bend in the channel, a tidal creek or slough in proximity of the proposed structure, etc.).
B. **Extended Property Line:** show the property lines extended into the waterway.
C. **Page number:** put a page number on each page of your submittal.
D. **Mean High Water (MHW) line:** the location of average height of the highest tide recorded each day during a 19-year recording period. In absence of this precise data, provide the location of the average mean high water observed.
E. **Existing Bank Stabilization:** If applicable, please indicate any existing bank stabilization on property. Bank stabilization may include rip-rap, bulkhead, living shoreline, etc. Please specify the type of bank stabilization and the dimension (L x W x H).

F. **Mean Low Water (MLW):** the location of average height of the lowest tide recorded each day during a 19-year recording period. In absence of this precise data, provide the location of the average mean low water observed.
G. **Distance to Extended Property Line:** The straight-line distance from the fixed terminal end of the dock to the extended property lines. Provide this distance to each extended property line (as indicated in the example)
H. **Distance from MLW to MLW:** Provide the straight-line distance from MLW (F) to MLW (J). If dry at MLW, please indicate the straight-line distance to the closest MLW and indicate the distance from bank to bank or marsh grass to marsh grass.
I. **North Arrow:** Provide a north arrow for your property.
J. **Mean Low Water (MLW):** This is MLW for the opposite side of the creek and/or river.
K. **Drawing Title and Date:** Provide a title and date your drawings. (Example: Smith Dock January 1, 2022).
L. **Scale Bar:** Please indicate the scale you're using on your drawing.
M. **Extent Past MLW:** This is the maximum distance the dock extends into the waterway at MLW.
N. **Extent past MHW:** This is the maximum distance the dock extends into the waterway at MHW.
O. **Existing Bank Stabilization:** On the profile view drawing, ensure to indicate and label the approximate location of any existing bank stabilization project.
P. **Distance above marsh grass:** Indicate the height the decking will sit above the marsh grass (where applicable).
Q. **Marsh Grass:** Indicate the approximate location of the marsh grass in relation to the dock structure on both the plan view and profile view drawings.
R. **Roof Height:** Where applicable, provide the height above decking for any roofs (12 ft. maximum height above decking.
S. **MHW to MHW:** Provide the straight-line distance of the channel width at MHW.
T. **MLW to MLW:** Provide the straight-line distance of the channel width at MLW.
U. **Topography/bathymetry:** Provide the approximate grade of the ground and water bottom.
V. **Pilings:** Indicate the total number pilings being proposed (i.e. 30 pilings)

*Note 1: if your proposed dock doesn't fit within the maximum dimensions provided above, you do not qualify for a PGP. However, this does not preclude you from getting a dock permit. In this instance, instead of submitting a PGP, please submit a Joint Application with these same drawings to the Corps of Engineers and to the State of Georgia.

**Note 2: The PGP83 authorization is only used for authorizing docks. If proposing a bank stabilization project or maintenance to an existing bank stabilization, it will require a separate application and cannot be permitted under a PGP83.