

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Tate Reeves Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director

February 08, 2020

Ms. Jennifer Mallard Chief, Regulatory Division, Vicksburg District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435

RE: DMR-FCC20-000007; Reissuance of Nationwide Permits 2020; Corrected CZM Letter

Dear Ms. Mallard:

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) in cooperation with other state agencies is responsible under the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP) for managing the coastal resources of Mississippi. Proposed activities in the coastal area are reviewed to ensure that the activities are in compliance with the MCP.

MDMR has completed review of the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers' Proposal to Reissue and Modify Nationwide Permits published in the Federal Register on September 15, 2020.

The above proposed Nationwide Permits and the activities they would authorize have been reviewed based upon provisions of the MCP and Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (as amended). MDMR objects to the Vicksburg District's determination that the activities will be undertaken in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the MCP (the State's approved management program) in the following locations and habitats within the Coastal Zone of Mississippi, which consists of Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties:

- i. All Coastal Wetlands (as defined by MS Code § 49-27-5(a), attached);
- ii. All jurisdictional wetlands having a surface hydrological connection to Coastal Wetlands, and that are located within 200 feet landward of the mean high tide mark;

- iii. All marsh habitats (i.e. all tidal emergent wetlands dominated by salt or estuarine marsh plant species, and all non-tidal emergent wetlands dominated by freshwater marsh plant species, abutting and/or adjacent to tidal emergent wetlands) in Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson counties (except pine savannah and pitcher plant bogs) having a surface hydrological connection to tidal waters in Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson counties, whether saltwater, brackish, or freshwater marshes and including high marsh habitat, even if located more than 200 feet landward of the mean high tide mark; and,
- iv. All jurisdictional stream habitats, whether perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral.

Outside of the above-identified locations and habitats, MDMR concurs with the Vicksburg District's determination that the activities will be undertaken in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the MCP (the State's approved management program).

The above granted consistency certification was based upon the proposal presented. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Willa Brantley with the Bureau of Wetlands Permitting at 228-523-4108 or willa.brantley@dmr.ms.gov.

Sincerely,

Joe Spraggins (Fel 2021 16:51 CST)

Joe Spraggins

Executive Director

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

JS/wjb

cc: Ms. Cori Carraway, USACE, Vicksburg District

Ms. Jennifer Brown, USACE, Vicksburg District

Mr. Brian Williamson, USACE, Vicksburg District

Ms. Allison Monroe, USACE, Mobile District

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