



COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION
ONE CONSERVATION WAY • BRUNSWICK, GA 31520 • 912.264.7218
COASTALGADNR.ORG

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS
DIRECTOR

OCT 01 2019

Cliff Gawron
Jekyll Island Authority
100 James Road
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

Re: Letter of Permission (LOP) For Jekyll Island Authority (JIA), Jekyll Island Airport Vegetation Trimming, Jekyll Creek Marshes, Jekyll Island, Glynn County, Georgia (GPS: 31.075817 N/ -81.427158 W).

Dear Mr. Gawron:

This Letter of Permission (LOP) is in response to your request, received August 21, 2019, for proposed vegetation trimming at the Jekyll Island Airport. According to your request, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has indicated that the height of the vegetation in the runway approaches is considered an obstruction. According to FAA guidelines, vegetation more than 1 ft. above the elevation of the runway needs to be trimmed. The areas considered to be obstructed are approximately 350ft. in length and 15ft. wide at either end of the runway approaches. The project will start no sooner than fifteen (15) days from the date of the letter and must be completed within six (6) months.

Your proposal includes using a small skid steer with rubberized tracks and a forestry mulching head, staged in the upland, to trim woody vegetation that is at a height greater than 1 ft. above the runway elevation flush to the ground. Stumps and roots will be left in place and no stump grinding will occur. Any vegetation that cannot be reached by the skid steer will be trimmed by hand within 1 ft. of ground level. Majority of the vegetation is comprised of wax myrtle and cabbage palms. Jurisdictional vegetation which is considered an obstruction includes mostly *Baccharis augustifolia* and *Baccharis halimifolia* and will be pruned to no lower than 1 ft. below the elevation of the runway.

The Department authorizes the trimming as depicted in the attached drawing and description. Any deviations from the proposed areas to be trimmed may require further review. **No equipment, materials, or debris may be placed in, disposed of, or stored in jurisdictional areas.**

Trimming of jurisdictional grasses is not authorized and should be avoided by using hand tools on any woody vegetation in the vicinity of marsh grasses. Any unauthorized damage to marsh vegetation that has not recovered naturally during the next growing season will be repaired by a method acceptable to the department. Any deviations from the submitted project scope and description may require further review. This LOP is for a one time maintenance trimming event that will occur upon issuance.

No unauthorized equipment, materials or debris may be placed, disposed of, or stored in the 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 in the revocation of this LOP.

This LOP does not relieve you from obtaining any other federal, state, or local permits. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding this or any other projects, please feel free to contact Amy Flowers at (912) 262-3109

Sincerely,



Jill Andrews
Chief, Coastal Management Section

Enclosures: Project Description and Drawings
File: LOP20190128



August 21, 2019

Karl H. Burgess
Assistant Director
Coastal Resource Division, GA Department of Natural Resources
One Conservation Way, Suite 300
Brunswick, GA 31520

Dear Karl,

The Jekyll Island Authority requests permission to trim vegetation at the approach areas of the Jekyll Island Airport runway that lies directly adjacent to the DNR jurisdiction area of high marsh.

Per FAA guidelines, any vegetation that is more than 1' above the runway elevation is considered an obstruction. Although there is a significant amount of established vegetation that falls into this category, the vegetation which is growing directly within the path of the runway approaches both north and south is of the greatest concern. The area collectively comprises approximately 350 lineal feet in length by 15 feet in width of vegetation that is considered an obstruction (See figures #1 & #2). We last performed this work in 2016 and the vegetation has now grown back dramatically that it is no longer in compliance with FAA guidelines.

The majority of this vegetation is comprised of wax myrtle and immature cabbage palms, but there are also several Baccharis plants that are located in this area as well. Therefore, we are requesting verification of the jurisdiction line and limit of permitted clearing activity.

All vegetation will be removed using a small skid steer with rubberized tracks and a forestry mulching head. Staff will cut the shrub vegetation flush- within 1' of ground level. Every effort will be taken by the staff not to disturb the soil during any part of this activity. All stumps and roots will be left in place and no stump grinding will occur.

Upon receiving approval, we anticipate full completion of this project by December 15, 2019.

If you have any further questions or need to send staff to review the site, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Cliff Gawron
Director of Landscape and Planning
912-506-2403 cgawron@jekyllisland.com



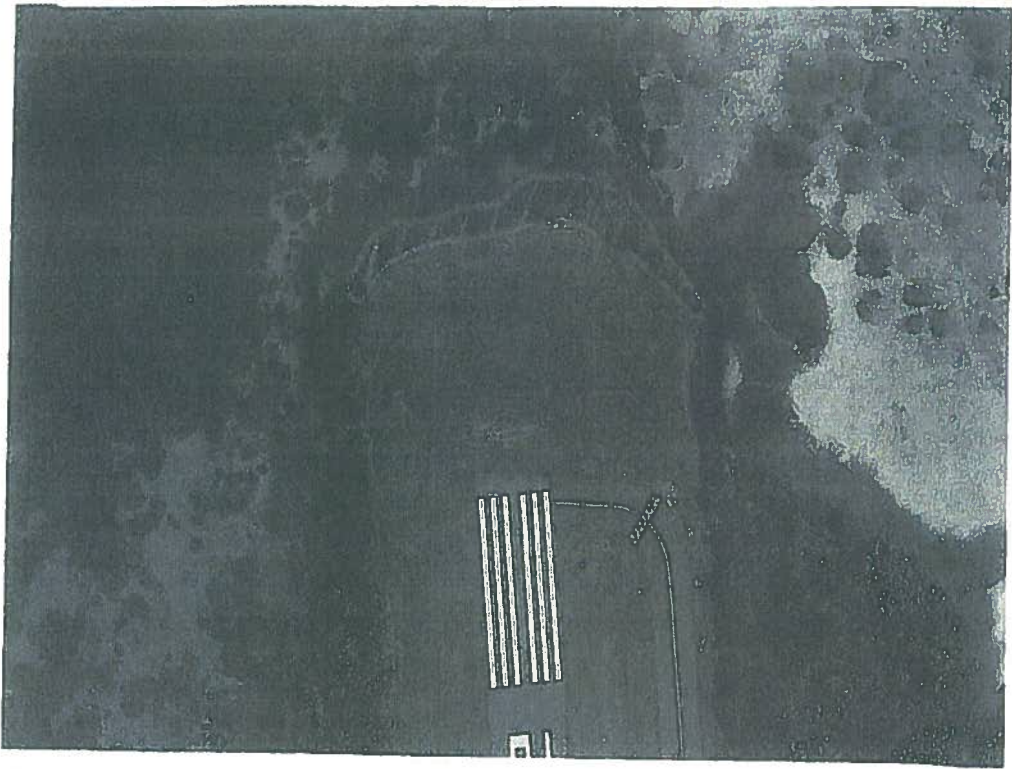


FIGURE #1: NORTH END OF RUNWAY

 = LOCATIONS OF VEGETATION TO BE TRIMMED

FIGURE #2: SOUTH END OF RUNWAY

