

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

MARK WILLIAMS COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS DIRECTOR

MAR 09 2018

Ms. Tammy Smith
Tybee Island Marine Science Center
P.O. Box 1879
Tybee Island, GA 31328

Re: Letter of Permission (LOP), 2018 Turtle Trot in the State's Shore Protection Act (SPA) Jurisdiction, South Beach Parking Lot, Tybee Island, Chatham County, Georgia

Dear Ms. Smith:

This Letter of Permission (LOP) is in response to your request received March 7, 2018 to host the 2018 Turtle Trot on the South Beach area of Tybee Island. This event combines a 5k race and a sea turtle release. The one day event will begin on Saturday April 28, 2018 and be completed the same day.

Your request includes the placement of a rubber mat, battery operated timing clock, and a flag chute for the start and finish of the race. A 'mock" sea turtle nest will be placed at the turn-around point, 1.5 miles north of the pier. All equipment will be removed as soon as the race is complete.

In addition to the 5k, this one day event includes the release of a rehabilitated Loggerhead sea turtle by the GA Sea Turtle Center (GASTC). The turtle release area will be set up south of the Pier. Temporary wooden posts with rope will be used to line a path approximately 50 feet long in order to provide the turtle protected access to the Atlantic Ocean. The public will be able to traverse the beach landward of the temporary fence and spectators will be able to observe the release from a controlled distance. The fencing will be set up day of the event using hand tools only and will be removed as soon as the turtle is released. GASTC will coordinate with Tybee Island's Department of Public Works to use a pick-up truck to move the sea turtle from the staging area to the release area. The vehicle will use the DNR-approved vehicular access point at 19th Street.

The Department authorizes the temporary activities associated with the event as depicted in the attached project description and location map. Best Management Practices (BMPs) should be used to prevent any additional impacts at the site and to protect the shore jurisdictional areas.

No unauthorized equipment, materials or debris may be placed, disposed of, or stored in jurisdictional areas. Any incidental impacts associated with this project must be rectified by fully restoring areas to their pre-construction topographic and vegetative states.

This LOP is valid for the above referenced project. Any change in the use, location, dimensions, or

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configuration of the approved project, without prior notification and approval from this office could result on the revocation of this permission and in the required removal of the materials and related structures. This project must comply with all other Federal, State, and local statutes, ordinances and regulations.

If you have any further questions or concerns in regard to this or any other projects please feel free to contact Sam LaBarba at 912-262-3127.

Sincerely,

Jill Andrews

Chief, Coastal Management Section

Enclosures: Description & Site Plan

cc:

Chantel Morton

City of Tybee Island

P.O. Box 2749

Tybee Island, GA 31328

File

LOP20180042

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