



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

MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS  
DIRECTOR

**MAR 15 2018**

Brandon Wall  
Sligh Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
31 Park of Commerce Way, Suite 200B  
Savannah, GA 31405

**Re: Letter of Permission (LOP) for Temporary Floats, Gateway Dock, St. Marys River, Camden County, Georgia.**

Dear Mr. Wall:

This Letter of Permission (LOP) is in response to your request dated February 28, 2018 for the reauthorization of two temporary floating docks to facilitate the Cumberland Island Ferry until the National Park Service can repair their dock that was damaged during Hurricane Irma. The temporary floats were initially authorized verbally on October 4, 2017 as referenced in Emergency Order #9 letter dated October 10, 2017.

The temporary floats authorized previously included replacing the permitted 8ft. x 30ft. floating dock on the downstream side with a 10ft. x 42ft. temporary floating dock. The applicant also removed approximately 94 square feet of the fixed deck and installed a 7ft. x 75ft. ramp that accesses a 9ft. x 20ft. and a 10ft. x 40ft. temporary floating dock. An elevated access platform was installed on the upstream floats to facilitate loading and unloading of the ferry. According to the request, the proposed temporary floats will be removed once the National Park Service is able to repair their ferry dock facility. This LOP will begin on April 1, 2018 and will expire 6 months from that date.

The Department authorizes the continued use of the temporary structures as depicted in the attached description provided all Best Management Practices (BMPs) should be used to prevent any erosion and sedimentation at the site and to protect coastal marshlands. No unauthorized equipment, materials, or debris may be placed in, disposed of, or stored in marsh jurisdictional areas. All temporary structures will be removed and relocated to the upland before this authorization expires. Any visible alterations in marsh topography will be restored immediately using low-impact hand tools. Any damage to the marsh vegetation that has not recovered naturally during the next growing season will be repaired by a method acceptable to the Department.

**MAR 15 2018**

LOP to Maintain Temporary Structures on Gateway Dock

Page 2 of 2

This authorization does not relieve you from obtaining any other required federal, state, or local permits. Tidal water bottoms and marshlands of coastal Georgia are public trust lands controlled by the State, except for such lands where a validated Crown Grant or State Grant exists. If you have any questions you may contact Paul Tobler at 912.264.7218.

Sincerely,



**Jill Andrews**  
Chief  
Coastal Management Section

Enclosures: Description and Location Map

cc: USACOE  
Camden County Building Inspector

File: LOP20180041

February 28, 2018

Mr. Karl Burgess  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Coastal Resources Division  
One Conservation Way, Suite 300  
Brunswick, Georgia 31520-8687

**Subject: Request for Letter of Permission  
St. Marys Gateway Dock – Temporary Floats  
Camden County, Georgia**

Dear Mr. Burgess:

On October 10, 2017, your office issued an Emergency Order #9 approval and Letter of Permission for the St. Marys Gateway Dock. The letter authorized the City of St. Marys to make the necessary repairs following Hurricane Irma and to install two temporary floating docks to accommodate the National Parks Service's Cumberland Island ferry service and to provide transient mooring opportunities. The proposed activities included replacing the 8' x 30' float on the downstream side of the dock with a 10' x 42' float. On the upstream side of the dock, the applicant proposed to remove 94 square feet of the fixed pier and install a 7' x 75' gangway to a 9' x 20' float attached to a 10' x 40' float. An elevated access platform was proposed on the upstream float to facilitate loading and unloading the ferry. All repairs were made to the dock and temporary structures were installed in accordance with the LOP. The proposed temporary floats will be removed once repairs are made to the National Park Service dock and ferry service is restored.

The authorization was issued for a 6-month term and is set to expire on April 2, 2018. Because the National Parks Service has not made the necessary repairs to their ferry dock, the City requests that a new LOP be issued to maintain the temporary floats in the current condition at the Gateway Dock. Once ferry service is restored to the National Parks Service dock, these temporary structures will be removed.

Attached for your use is a copy of the current LOP with the attached drawings. If you need any additional information, please don't hesitate to call me at (912) 232-0451.

Sincerely,



Brandon W. Wall  
Project Biologist  
Sligh Environmental Consultants, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jason Ball – Ball Maritime Group, LLC



MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

A.G. SPUD' WOODWARD  
DIRECTOR

OCT 10 2017

John Holman  
City of St. Marys  
418 Osborne St.  
St. Marys, GA 31558

**RE: Emergency Order #9 and Letter of Permission (LOP), Reconstruction and Repair of Commercial Docks and Marinas, Temporary Placement of Structures, Coastal Marshlands Protection Act, City of St. Marys Gateway Dock, Camden, Georgia**

Dear Mr. Holman:

This letter is to document the verbal authorization of October 2, 2017 and your recent information, received October 4, 2017, for the repairs of the City of St. Marys Gateway Dock and the temporary placement of floating docks within the jurisdiction of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act (CMPA) along the St. Marys River in Camden County.

The Gateway Dock, like many of the dock facilities on the St. Marys, was impacted by Hurricane Irma. Repairs to the dock include restoring electrical services, re-fastening deck boards, repairs to the existing cover, and other repairs as need. All work will be conducted within the footprint of the pre-storm structure.

In addition to the repairs, the City of St. Marys is proposing a phased approach of temporarily modifying the facility to accommodate the National Parks Services' Cumberland Island ferry service and provide transient mooring opportunities. Phase one includes the resurfacing of the existing gangway and the replacement of the pre-storm 8ft. x 30ft. floating dock with a 10ft. x 42ft. floating dock. The temporary floating dock will have an access platform located on it to facilitate access on and off vessels.

Phase two includes the removal of approximately 94 square feet of the existing fixed pier and the temporary installation of a 7ft. x 75ft. gangway, 9ft. x 20ft. floating dock, a 10ft. x 40ft. floating dock, and relocating the access platform utilized in phase one to the 10ft. x 40ft floating dock. As proposed, the temporary structures will not extend into the waterway any further than the pre-storm facility.

The Department authorizes the repairs as depicted by the attached description and illustrations under the authority of Emergency Order #9. In addition, this letter authorizes the temporary structures within the CMPA jurisdiction as depicted by the attached description and illustrations.

OCT 10 2017

City of St. Marys Gateway Dock – LOP and Emergency Order Hurricane Irma  
Page 2 of 2

Work has begun in order to insure public safety and will be completed no later than six (6) months from October 2, 2017.

Please note that any permanent modifications or enhancements within CMPA jurisdiction outside the footprint of pre-storm facility will require review and possible additional authorizations from the department or CMPA Committee.

This authorization does not relieve you from obtaining any other required federal, state, or local permits, permissions, or authorizations. If you have any questions you may contact Karl Burgess at (912) 264-7218.

Sincerely,



A.G. "Spud" Woodward  
Director

enclosures: Project Drawing, Illustrations

cc: Sarah Spatzer, ACOE

File: LOP20170339

**Burgess, Karl**

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**From:** Jason Ball <jason@ballmaritime.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2017 3:33 PM  
**To:** John J. Holman; Burgess, Karl  
**Cc:** Bobby Marr; robert.ramsey@gmcnetwork.com; John Morrissey  
**Subject:** RE: PN 17-1028 - SMIG Temporary Ferry Access - Second Submittal  
**Attachments:** Combined Drawings\_REV1 10-04-17.pdf

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

John/Karl,

John – I have spoken with Karl and Gary Ingram (separately). The attached drawings reflect the current layout as discussed that we can use to negotiate with the Contractor. We owe Karl a clean version with the proposed layout on one drawing (which we are preparing). Karl understands the footprint and the approach. Gary understands the concept and is confirming that the revisions meet the intent of David Lang to have clear access to his fueling dock. I will call shortly to catch up, but this attachment should culminate where we are currently in the process.

Regards,

Jason

**Jason P. Ball, PE, DPE, DNE**  
President  
Ball Maritime Group  
(912) 662.2914

**From:** John J. Holman [mailto:John.Holman@stmarysga.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** Karl H. Burgess (karl.burgess@gadnr.org) <karl.burgess@gadnr.org>  
**Cc:** Bobby Marr <Bobby.Marr@stmarysga.gov>; robert.ramsey@gmcnetwork.com; Jason Ball <jason@ballmaritime.com>; John Morrissey <John.Morrissey@stmarysga.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: PN 17-1028 - SMIG Temporary Ferry Access - Second Submittal

Mr. Burgess,

Thank you for taking the time today to discuss the City's issue with regard to the Ferry Service to Cumberland Island. This is an essential element to the City's life attracting over 60,000 visitors to the community in a year.

The City has been working in cooperation with the National Pak Service to develop a temporary location for Ferry operations. It has been determined by the City, with the assistance of the City's maritime engineer, that the Gateway Dock can be utilized to provide a temporary facility for operating the Cumberland Island Ferry. This will require:

Repair of damage to the existing dock facility.

Improvements and minor extension of the dock to meet ADA standards and NPS requirements for passenger Safety.

The City is requesting approval to begin this work immediately. A further benefit will be the ability to provide for temporary transient boating facility which does not exist in the City of St. Marys due to Hurricane IRMA.

A copy of the drawings developed by our maritime engineer is attached for your review.

The City did discuss this with Sarah, US Army Corps of Engineers, earlier today and forwarded a copy of the same plans to her attention.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

John J. Holman, ICMA-CM

City Manager

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**From:** Jason Ball [jason@ballmaritime.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2017 11:16 AM  
**To:** John J. Holman  
**Cc:** Bobby Marr; Becky Myers; [jacob11@comcast.net](mailto:jacob11@comcast.net); Robert Ramsey  
**Subject:** RE: PN 17-1028 - SMIG Temporary Ferry Access - Second Submittal

John,

The revised drawings are attached. The revision was to flip the design vessel 180-degrees, allowing vessel boarding to occur from the starboard side. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Jason

**Jason P. Ball, PE, DPE, DNE**  
President  
Ball Maritime Group

(912) 662.2914

**From:** Jason Ball

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 03, 2017 9:27 PM

**To:** 'John J. Holman' <[John.Holman@stmarysga.gov](mailto:John.Holman@stmarysga.gov)>

**Cc:** Bobby Marr <[Bobby.Marr@stmarysga.gov](mailto:Bobby.Marr@stmarysga.gov)>; 'Becky Myers' <[Becky.Myers@stmarysga.gov](mailto:Becky.Myers@stmarysga.gov)>; 'jacob11@comcast.net' <[jacob11@comcast.net](mailto:jacob11@comcast.net)>; 'Robert Ramsey' <[robert.ramsey@gmcnetwork.com](mailto:robert.ramsey@gmcnetwork.com)>

**Subject:** PN 17-1028 - SMIG Temporary Ferry Access - Second Submittal

John,

Attached are the revised drawings showing the Phased approach as discussed. Please review and feel free to comment. Once we get a cost on this and negotiate with the contractor, I will need to do some design on this for the connections to the fixed dock, the floats for the gangway landing, and pile designs. We do need to use the contractor's barge to do a geotechnical investigation to determine the actual pile driving and loading requirements. This was eventually needed for the dock, but we can do it under this project instead if that works.

Regards,

Jason

**Jason P. Ball, PE, DPE, DNE**  
President  
Ball Maritime Group  
(912) 662.2914







