

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY** 

JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PENSACOLA REGULATORY OFFICE
41 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET, SUITE 301
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32502

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

June 16, 2014

Regulatory Division North Permits Branch Pensacola Permits Section SAJ-2012-01104 (SP-SWA) JUN 1 8 2014

BY: DCCS

Anthony Hustringin

Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners 1804 Lewis Turner Boulevard, Suite 100 Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32547

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is pleased to enclose the Department of the Army permit, which should be available at the construction site. Work may begin immediately but the Corps must be notified of:

- a. The date of commencement of the work,
- b. The dates of work suspensions and resumptions of work, if suspended over a week, and
  - c. The date of final completion.

This information should be mailed to the Special Projects and Enforcement Branch of the Regulatory Division of the Jacksonville District at 41 North Jefferson Street, Suite 301, Pensacola, Florida 32502. The Special Projects and Enforcement Branch is also responsible for inspections to determine whether Permittees have strictly adhered to permit conditions.

IT IS NOT LAWFUL TO DEVIATE FROM THE APPROVED PLANS ENCLOSED.

Sincerely,

Chief, Regulatory Division

# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT

Permittee:

Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners

1804 Lewis Turner Boulevard, Suite 100

Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32547

**Permit No:** SAJ-2012-01104 (SP-SWA)

Issuing Office: U.S. Army Engineer District, Jacksonville

NOTE: The term "you" and its derivatives, as used in this permit, means the permittee or any future transferee. The term "this office" refers to the appropriate district or division office of the Corps of Engineers having jurisdiction over the permitted activity or the appropriate official of that office acting under the authority of the commanding officer.

You are authorized to perform work in accordance with the terms and conditions specified below.

<u>Project Description</u>: The applicant proposes to establish a nearshore artificial reef area, which would be named "Crystal Beach Reef". It would consist of a 200' x 590' deployment area, totaling 118,000 square feet (2.7 acres), which would provide habitat and recreational fishing and diving opportunities. Material to be deployed would consist of fifty-two (52) tiered reefs modules (also known as Walter Eco-System Reef Modules). Each tier reef module would be 5 feet in diameter and would be mounted on 10-inch diameter piles. The material to be deployed would have a maximum profile height of no more than 11 feet at the deepest water depth and would result in a minimum authorized depth of -6 feet at mean low water (MLW).

<u>Project Location</u>: The proposed artificial reef site is located in the Gulf of Mexico, approximately 340 feet south of the Crystal Beach at Henderson Beach State Park, 4 miles east of Destin Pass, off Okaloosa County, Florida.

#### Latitude & Longitude:

NE Site Corner:

Latitude: 30.3815° North

Longitude: 86.4346° West

NW Site Corner:

Latitude: 30.3815° North

Longitude: 86.4353° West

SE Site Corner:

Latitude: 30.3799° North

Longitude: 86.4347° West

SW Site Corner:

Latitude: 30.3799° North

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Longitude: 86.4354° West

## **Permit Conditions**

#### **General Conditions:**

- 1. The time limit for completing the work authorized ends on **April 9, 2019**. If you find that you need more time to complete the authorized activity, submit your request for a time extension to this office for consideration at least one month before the above date is reached.
- 2. 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.
- 3. 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.
- 4. If you sell the property associated with this permit, you must obtain the signature and the mailing address 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.
- 5. If a conditioned water quality certification has been issued for your project, you must comply with the 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.
- 6. 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.

## **Special Conditions:**

1. **Reporting Addresses**: The Permittee shall reference this permit number, SAJ-2012-01104 (SP-SWA), on all correspondence. Unless specifically notified to the

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contrary, the Permittee shall use the following addresses for transmitting correspondence to the referenced agencies:

(a) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, Enforcement Section 41 North Jefferson Street, Suite 301 Pensacola, Florida 32502 The Permittee shall reference this permit number, SAJ-2010-03163 (SP-SWA), on all submittals. Or email at: <a href="mailto:cesaJ-ComplyDocs@usace.army.mil">CESAJ-ComplyDocs@usace.army.mil</a>

- (b) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Marine Chart Division, Office of Coast Survey, N/CS26, Sta. 7317 1315 East-West Highway Silver Springs, MD, 20910-3282 Or email at: ocs.ndb@noaa.gov.
- (c) Commander, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) 8<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District
  Hale Boggs Federal Building
  500 Poydras Street
  New Orleans, LA 70130
- (d) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Artificial Reef Program,
   620 S. Meridian Street, Box 4B2 Tallahassee, FL 32399.
   Or email at: artificialreefdeployments@MyFWC.com
- 2. **Initial Agency Notification**: The Permittee shall provide to the Corps, NOAA and USCG written notification of the planned deployment start date at least two weeks prior to the initial deployment on the authorized artificial reef site.
- 3. **Protection of Existing Resources**: The Permittee shall not deploy artificial reef materials until an assessment of the bottom conditions have been accomplished by diver, submersible video camera, fathometer, depth/bottom sounder (e.g. "fish finder"), or side-scan sonar. The inspection of the deployment area may occur at the time of deployment, but no more than one year prior to deployment. The Permittee shall maintain a deployment buffer of at least 200 feet from any submerged beds of sea grasses, coral reefs, live bottom, areas supporting growth of sponges, sea fans, soft corals, and other sessile macroinvertebrates generally associated with rock outcrops, oyster reefs, scallop beds, clam beds, or areas where there are unique or unusual

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concentrations of bottom-dwelling marine organisms. If, during the inspection, evidence is observed of cultural/archaeological resources, such as sunken vessels, ballast, historic refuse piles, or careenage areas the Corps will be notified by the Permittee and the above referenced deployment buffer will be implemented. The Permittee shall maintain a record of the information gained during the inspection such that it can be provided upon request to the Corps.

4. **Pre-Deployment Notification**: No less than 14 days prior to deployment of material on an artificial reef, the Permittee shall transmit by electronic mail ("email") a complete and signed "Florida Artificial Reef Materials Cargo Manifest and Pre-Deployment Notification" form, attached to this permit, to the Corps and FWC to allow inspection of the proposed reef materials as deemed necessary by the agencies. Inspection is allowable at the staging area. By signing the Pre-Deployment Notification the Permittee certifies that all materials are free from asphalt, petroleum, other hydrocarbons and toxic residues. The Permittee shall not deploy material if notified by the Corps or FWC that the material is questionable. The material needs to be evaluated before it is released for deployment. Any material that is deemed unacceptable for reef material will be disposed in an approved upland disposal site.

Deployment of the material shall not occur until after the end of the 14-day inspection period. The Permittee shall ensure both a copy of the Corps permit and the signed "Florida Artificial Reef Materials Cargo Manifest and Pre-Deployment Notification Form" are maintained aboard the deployment vessel at all times during loading, transit, and deployment.

- 5. Post-Deployment Placement Report/As-Built Drawing: No less than 30 days after deployment at the reef site, the Permittee shall transmit by email to the Corps, FWC, and NOAA a complete and signed "Florida Artificial Reef Materials Placement Report and Post-Deployment Notification" form attached to this permit. Please note, the Corps requires the latitude and longitude to be accurate within 5 meters horizontal distance on the post-deployment report. Attach to the report, an as-built drawing that contains the approximate deployment configurations and the height of the material after placement. Depth shall be verified utilizing fathometer, depth sounder, or similar device accurate to within 1 meter. Also, include information on the condition of the material at the time of deployment. The report and drawing shall be limited to a few pages per deployment. Representative photographs and/or video, if available, are encouraged to be submitted.
- 6. **Ownership/Maintenance/Liability**: By signing this permit, the Permittee certifies and acknowledges ownership of all artificial reef materials deployed on the reef, accepts responsibility for maintenance of the artificial reef, and possesses the ability to assume liability for all damages that may arise with respect to the artificial reef.

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- 7. **Assurance of Navigation and Maintenance**: The Permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structures 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 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.
- 8. **Sea Turtle, Smalltooth Sawfish and Sturgeon Conditions**: The Permittee shall comply with the attached National Marine Fisheries Service's "Sea Turtle and Smalltooth Sawfish Construction Conditions", which also applies to sturgeon.
- 9. **Manatee Conditions:** The Permittee shall comply with the attached "Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Work 2011."
- 10. **Protected Species Guidance**: The Permittee shall comply with the attached "Vessel Strike Avoidance Measures and Injured or Dead Protected Species Reporting" guidance for marine turtles and marine mammals.
- 11. **Self-Certification:** Within 60 days of completion of the authorized work or at the expiration of the construction authorization of this permit, whichever occurs first, the Permittee shall complete the attached "Self-Certification Statement of Compliance" form and submit to the Corps. In the event that the completed work deviates, in any manner, from the authorized work, the Permittee shall describe, on the Self-Certification Form, the deviations between the work authorized by the permit and the work as constructed. Please note that the description of any deviations on the Self-Certification Form does not constitute approval of any deviations by the Corps.

#### 12. Cultural Resources/Historic Properties:

- a. No structure or work shall adversely affect impact or disturb properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or those eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.
- b. If during the ground disturbing activities and construction work within the permit area, there are archaeological/cultural materials encountered which were not the subject of a previous cultural resources assessment survey (and which shall include, but not be limited to: pottery, modified shell, flora, fauna, human remains, ceramics, stone tools or metal implements, dugout canoes, evidence of structures or any other physical remains that could be associated with Native American cultures or early

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colonial or American settlement), the Permittee shall immediately stop all work in the vicinity and notify the Corps. The Corps shall then notify the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the appropriate Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s) (THPO(s)) to assess the significance of the discovery and devise appropriate actions.

- c. A cultural resources assessment may be required of the permit area, if deemed necessary by the SHPO, THPO(s), or Corps, in accordance with 36 CFR 800 or 33 CFR 325, Appendix C (5). Based, on the circumstances of the discovery, equity to all parties, and considerations of the public interest, the Corps may modify, suspend or revoke the permit in accordance with 33 CFR Part 325.7. Such activity shall not resume on nonfederal lands without written authorization from the SHPO and the Corps.
- d. In the unlikely event that unmarked human remains are identified on non-federal lands, they will be treated in accordance with Section 872.05 Florida Statutes. All work in the vicinity shall immediately cease and the Permittee shall immediately notify the medical examiner, Corps, and State Archeologist. The Corps shall then notify the appropriate SHPO and THPO(s). Based, on the circumstances of the discovery, equity to all parties, and considerations of the public interest, the Corps may modify, suspend or revoke the permit in accordance with 33 CFR Part 325.7. Such activity shall not resume without written authorization from the State Archeologist, SHPO and the Corps.
- e. In the unlikely event that human remains are encountered on federal or tribal lands, or in situations where Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, or Native American Graves Protection Repatriation Act of 1990 applies, all work in the vicinity shall immediately cease and the Permittee immediately notify the Corps. The Corps shall then notify the appropriate THPO(s) and SHPO. Based, on the circumstances of the discovery, equity to all parties, and considerations of the public interest, the Corps may modify, suspend or revoke the permit in accordance with 33 CFR Part 325.7. After such notification, project activities on federal lands shall not resume without written authorization from the Corps, and/or appropriate THPO(s), SHPO, and federal manager. After such notification, project activities on tribal lands shall not resume without written authorization from the appropriate THPO(s) and the Corps.

## **Further Information:**

- 1. Congressional Authorities: You have been authorized to undertake the activity described above pursuant to:
  - (X) Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).
  - () Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

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() Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1413).

- 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 projects.
- 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 or 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, or to other permitted or unpermitted activities or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit.
  - 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. Reevaluation of Permit Decision: This office may reevaluate its decision on this permit at any time the circumstances warrant. Circumstances that could require a reevaluation include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. You fail to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit.

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b. The information provided by you in support of your permit application proves to have been false, incomplete, or inaccurate (see 4 above).

c. Significant new information surfaces which this office 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 CFR 325.7 or enforcement procedures such as those contained in 33 CFR 326.4 and 326.5. The referenced enforcement procedures provide for the issuance of an administrative order requiring you comply with the terms and conditions of your permit and for the initiation of legal action where appropriate. You will be required to pay for any corrective measures ordered by this office, and if you fail to comply with such directive, this office may in certain situations (such as those specified in 33 CFR 209.170) accomplish the corrective measures by contract or otherwise and bill you for the cost.

6. Extensions: General Condition 1 establishes a time limit for the completion of the activity authorized by this permit. Unless there are circumstances requiring either a prompt completion of the authorized activity or a reevaluation of the public interest decision, the Corps will normally give favorable consideration to a request for an extension of this time limit.

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Your signature below, as permittee, indicates that you accept and agree to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit.

(PERMITTEE)

(DATE)

(PERMITTEE NAME-PRINTED)

This permit becomes effective when the Federal official, designated to act for the Secretary of the Army, has signed below.

(DISTRICT ENGINEER)

Alan M. Dodd,

Colonel, U.S. Army

District Commander

(DATE)

June 2014

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When the structures or work authorized by this permit are still in existence at the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of this permit will continue to be binding on the new owner(s) of the property. To validate the transfer of this permit and the associated liabilities associated with compliance with its terms and conditions, have the transferee sign and date below.

(TRANSFEREE-SIGNATURE)	(DATE)
(NAME-PRINTED)	
(ADDRESS)	
(CITY STATE AND ZIP CODE)	

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# Attachments to Department of the Army Permit Number SAJ-2012-01104

- 1. PERMIT DRAWINGS: Six (6) pages, dated 7 April 2014.
- 2. WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Specific Conditions of the water quality permit/certification in accordance with General Condition number 5 on page 2 of this DA permit. Six (6) pages.
- 3. SEA TURTLE, SAWFISH AND STURGEON CONDITIONS: One (1) page.
- 4. MANATEE CONDITIONS: One (1) page.
- 5. VESSEL STRIKE AVOIDANCE MEASURES: Two (2) pages.
- 6. FLORIDA ARTIFICIAL REEF MATERIALS CARGO MANIFEST AND PRE-DEPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION FORM: Two (2) pages.
- 7. FLORIDA ARTIFICIAL REEF MATERIALS PLACEMENT REPORT AND POST-DEPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION FORM: One (1) page.
- 8. SELF-CERTIFICATION FORM: One (1) page.