

# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE DISTRICT P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

SEP 1 1 2007

Coastal Branch Regulatory Division

### GENERAL PERMITS FOR MINOR STRUCTURES AND ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

## AND OUTER CONTINTENTAL SHELF WATERS OFF THE COAST OF MISSISSIPPI WITHIN THE REGULATORY BOUNDARIES OF THE MOBILE DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

SAM-2006-2004-ALF; MS-GP-01 for SHORELINE STABILIZATION

SAM-2006-2020-ALF; MS-GP-02 for DOCKS, PIERS, WHARVES

SAM-2006-2023-ALF; MS-GP-04 for MOORING PILINGS

SAM-2006-2025-ALF; MS-GP-05 for BOAT SLIPS/BOAT BERTHS

SAM-2006-2027-ALF; MS-GP-06 for BOAT RAMPS

SAM-2006-2029-ALF; MS-GP-07 for MAINTENANCE DREDGING/EXCAVATION

SAM-2006-2030-ALF; MS-GP-08 for NEW WORK CHANNEL DREDGING

SAM-2006-2031-ALF; MS-GP-09 for FILL IN PREVIOUSLY DREDGED AREAS

SAM-2006-2032-ALF; MS-GP-10 for DEBRIS REMOVAL

SAM-2006-2034-ALF; MS-GP-11 for INTAKE/DISCHARGE STRUCTURES

SAM-2006-2035-ALF; MS-GP-12 for SUBSURFACE UTLILITY LINES

SAM-2006-2038-ALF; MS-GP-13 for WATER MANAGEMENT

SAM-2006-2039-ALF; MS-GP-14 for WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

SAM-2006-2040-ALF; MS-GP-15 for CREATE HABITAT OR FOOD PLOTS

SAM-2006-2041-ALF; MS-GP-16 for FIREBREAKS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District (District), will regulate, under Regional General Permits, minor structures and activities in waters of the U.S., in the state of Mississippi and outer continental shelf waters off the coast of Mississippi, within the Regulatory boundaries of the Mobile District, subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344), and/or Section 4(e) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953 (67 Stat. 463; 43 USC 1333(e)). The District's authority to issue these permits is found in 33 CFR Part 325.5.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) has regulatory authority in the coastal zone of Mississippi in accordance with the Coastal Wetlands Protection Law (Sections 49-27-1 through 69), enabling legislation in Section 57-15-6 for the Mississippi Coastal Program and the guidelines of the Mississippi Coastal Program.

In accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341), the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality/ Office of Pollution Control (DEQ) issues water quality certification for permits which may result in any discharge into waters of the U.S.

In an effort to eliminate unnecessary duplication of efforts among agencies and to streamline the permitting process for routine projects with only minimal impacts, the following Mississippi General Permits are issued for 5 years. The activities include minor structures and activities within the Regulatory boundaries of the Mobile District in the state of Mississippi.

In most instances, a proposed project complying with the conditions of the Mississippi General Permits, including the attached General Conditions, can receive project specific authorization. However, conformance with the conditions contained in the Mississippi General Permits does not necessarily guarantee authorization under the General Permit. Any proposed project not complying with the conditions of a General Permit will be evaluated as a Standard Permit or Letter of Permission and will be individually coordinated with third parties, including the Federal and state resource agencies.

For verification under the Mississippi General Permits, applicants are required to provide a completed <u>Joint Application and Notification</u>, <u>U.S. Department of the Army Corps of Engineers</u>, <u>Mississippi Department of Marine Resources</u>, <u>Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality/Office of Pollution Control</u> form. The application form can be accessed at our website, <u>www.sam.usace.army.mil/rd/reg</u>. The following information is typically required for authorization under the Mississippi General Permits. In some instances, not all of the following information may be required.

- (a) Joint Application and Notification Form completed in its entirety;
- (b) Applicant name, address, and contact information;
- (c) Agent name, address, and contact information as well as an agent authorization statement from the applicant;
- (d) Location of the proposed project including street address and latitude and longitude;
- (e) Project description, purpose, and need;
- (f) 8½" x 11" vicinity map indicating project location;
- (g) 81/2" x 11" diagrams and plan views of the entire property and the proposed project;
- (h) 8½" x 11" cross-section diagrams of the proposed structures and/or areas of dredge and fill;
- (i) Delineation of wetlands and/or submerged aquatic vegetation;
- (j) Distance across the waterway; and
- (k) Notification of any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible, or which the prospective permittee has reason to believe may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places located on the subject property or would be affected by the proposed activity.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

BYRON G. JORNS Colonel, Corps of Engineers Commanding

Craig J. Litteken

Chief, Regulatory Division

DATE:

### Mississippi General Permits for Minor Structures and Activities within the Regulatory Boundaries of the Mobile District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the State of Mississippi

#### SAM-2006-2004-ALF

#### MS-GP-01 - SHORELINE STABILIZATION:

This permit authorizes the placement of bulkheads, armoring systems (riprap), bioengineering, and other standard shoreline protection/stabilization devices roughly paralleling, and at the shoreline or bank.

#### **Length Limitations:**

- Bulkhead placement is limited to a total project length of 1000 feet.
- There is no limit to the length that may be authorized for other protection devices.

**Placement of Structure(s):** Protection structures must be at mean high tide line in tidal waterbodies, ordinary high water line in non-tidal waterbodies, and landward of all jurisdictional wetlands.

#### Wetland Concerns:

- No wetlands shall be filled, although protection may be provided for wetland areas as long as the
  wetlands themselves are not otherwise adversely affected and the normal hydrologic regime of the
  wetland area is maintained.
- Flow-through bulkheads designed to dissipate wave energy in wetland areas may be constructed
  waterward of the wetlands and placed below the line of mean high tide or ordinary high water if they are
  designed to allow for the normal hydrologic regime to be maintained in the wetland areas and they do not
  pose a hazard to navigation.

Rip Rap limitations: Material placed below the plane of ordinary high water or the plane of mean high tide may not exceed an average of one (1) cubic yard per foot of shoreline being protected.

#### **Construction Limitations:**

- Vertical face structures intended to replace failing erosion control structures may be placed waterward of
  the line of mean high tide or ordinary high water, but shall not extend more than 24 inches waterward
  from the base of the failed structure. In no instance shall vegetated wetlands (emergent or submerged) or
  shellfish beds be filled.
- Riprap stabilization shall not extend farther than 3-6 feet into the waterway from the mean high tide line
  or ordinary high water line.

#### **Construction Material Requirements:**

- Filter Fabric: Use of the appropriate filter fabric is required.
- <u>Backfill Material</u>: Only clean material free of waste, metal and organic trash, unsightly debris, petroleum products (asphalt), etc., may be used as backfill.
- Riprap Material: Only clean riprap material, free of exposed rebar, asphalt, plastic, soil, etc., may be used. Riprap may be used to augment other protection methods.

**Prohibited Structures:** Solid groins and jetties roughly perpendicular to the shoreline are not authorized under this General Permit. This permit may not be used to regain land lost due to erosion, or otherwise accrete land.

#### SAM-2006-2020-ALF

#### MS-GP-02 - DOCKS, PIERS, WHARVES:

This permit authorizes the construction and modification of piers, wharves, and their normal appurtenances such as stairways, walkways, and railings.

#### Square Footage and Berthing Limits:

- The square footage coverage covered by docks, platforms, boathouses, boardwalks, and associated structures shall not exceed 1,000 square feet. The total combined square footage of all structures below mean high tide or ordinary high water, including access piers and/or wakways that link them to land shall not exceed 2,800 square feet.
- A limit of 3 residential-use boat berthing areas, including berthing for personal watercraft, can be authorized under this Permit.
- Public Trust Tidelands: If the area of the structure exceeds 1,000 square feet or if the permit application is for other than single-family residential use, a public trust tidelands lease from the Mississippi Secretary of State may be required.

Access Piers Constructed over Open-Water and not Impacting Special Aquatic Sites: Access piers are typically structures roughly perpendicular to the shoreline and designed to link docks, platforms, boathouses, and similar structures to land. The maximum width of access piers constructed over open water shall be limited to 6 feet unless otherwise authorized by the District.

#### Access Piers and Walkways Crossing or Located near Special Aquatic Sites:

- Walkways and access piers over wetlands and/or submerged grass beds shall be constructed of grated
  decking materials; or conventional materials and the width of the pier shall be no more than 4 feet wide
  with the spacing between the decking boards no less than 0.5-inch, at the time of construction, to allow
  light penetration.
- Walkways and access piers constructed over submerged grass beds must be at least 5 feet above mean
  high water. Walkways and access piers constructed over wetlands must be 1 foot above ground surface
  or water surface for each foot of width or 1 foot above the top of the wetland vegetation, whichever is
  greater.
- Platforms, boat berths, etc. shall not be constructed over wetlands, shellfish beds, or submerged vegetation.
- Special construction methods are required for the installation of pilings in areas of wetlands or submerged grass beds. Pilings shall be installed in a manner that will not result in the formation of sedimentary deposits ('donuts' or 'halos') around the newly installed pilings. Pile driving during high tide to facilitate use of shallow draft barges is the preferred method of installation, but jetting with a low pressure pump may be used.

Boat Shelters and Hoists: Boat shelters and hoists shall be open-sided, limited to a 25-foot height above mean high tide or ordinary high water with a length not to exceed 50 feet. Boat shelters and/or hoists shall not be constructed over wetlands or submerged vegetation.

Waterward Construction Limits: Structures shall not pose a hazard to navigation. Structures shall not extend more than 25 percent of the distance across the waterbody or more than a total of 300 feet from the mark of mean high tide or ordinary high water. However, the structure should extend no farther waterward than necessary to obtain navigable depths.

**Setback Requirements:** A minimum distance of 10 feet shall be maintained between the authorized structure and the adjacent property lines and projections thereof into the waterway.

#### **Existing Marinas:**

- Altering pier configuration or adding berthing spaces within existing marina boundaries may be permitted.
- If construction results in additional boats being berthed, a wastewater pump out facility may be required.
- New marinas and expansions of existing marinas beyond existing boundaries may not be permitted under this Permit.

Other: Fueling facilities, toilets, and/or habitable structures, and activities that produce "gray water" are not authorized by this General Permit. This permit does not authorize the mechanical clearing or filling of wetlands.

#### SAM-2006-2023-ALF

#### MS-GP-04 - MOORING PILINGS:

This permit authorizes mooring pilings, dolphins, and single-pile structures. A limit of 3 residential-use boat berthing areas, including berthing for personal watercraft, can be authorized under this Permit.

Permanent Mooring: Structures for the permanent mooring of houseboats are not authorized by this permit.

#### Single-Pile Structures:

- Single-pile structures may include posts for wood duck nests, osprey platforms, etc.
- Single-pile structures shall be limited to 25' in height above mean high water.

**Setback:** A minimum of 10 feet shall be maintained between the authorized structure and the adjacent property lines and projections thereof into the waterway.

**Dolphins:** Should dolphin construction (cluster pilings) require any material other than pilings or similar solid, linear structures being placed in waters of the U.S., all project details must be submitted to the authorizing agency. Additionally, only clean material free of waste, metal and organic trash, unsightly debris, etc. may be used as stabilization material in dolphin construction.

**Public Trust Tidelands:** A public trust tidelands lease from the Mississippi Secretary of State may be required for certain structures.

#### SAM-2006-2025-ALF

#### MS-GP-05 – BOAT SLIPS/BOAT BERTHS:

This permit authorizes the construction and/or modification of boat slips and boat berths. For proposals in the Mississippi Sound, project specific verification must be obtained through the Mobile District, so as to allow for completion of consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding Gulf sturgeon critical habitat.

#### **Cubic Yards of Dredged Material:**

- This permit allows dredging of up to 500 cubic yards of material from below the mean high tide line or ordinary high water mark.
- If an existing slip or berth is being modified or enlarged, the total volume dredged originally, plus that being dredged now, cannot exceed 500 cubic yards of material below mean high tide line or ordinary high water mark.

Best Management Practices: Best management practices should be used at all times during construction to minimize turbidity at both the dredged and spoil sites. Methods should include, but not limited to, the use of staked hay bales; staked filter cloth; sodding, seeding and mulching; staged construction; and the

installation of turbidity screens around the immediate project site. Any effluent from the disposal area should be routed through a return swale system and filtered through a series of hay bales and silt fences so as to reduce the turbidity of the effluent.

#### Disposal Area:

- All dredged material must be properly confined in an upland area unless otherwise authorized by the District.
- Hydraulic dredging will require an upland bermed disposal area (or other suitable method of retention).
   Additional best management practices as required by the Mississippi Department of Environmental
   Quality will apply regarding the return water from the bermed disposal area.
- Spoil disposal areas shall be immediately seeded and stabilized to prevent the movement of sediment offsite and into adjacent drainage areas.

#### Configuration and Number of Slips:

- Keyhole boat slips shall not be permitted under this authorization.
- Indented boat slips are acceptable (see attached diagram).
- The depth of the boat slip must be no greater than that of the controlling navigational depth of the adjacent waterway. The length of the slip shall not exceed 50 feet.
- A limit of 3 residential-use boat berthing areas, including berthing for personal watercraft, can be authorized under this Permit.

#### Special Aquatic Sites:

- In water bodies without shoreline protection (i.e. bulkheads, riprap, etc.), a minimum 10-foot buffer must be maintained between the proposed work area and wetlands and a 3:1 (horizontal: vertical) side slope or flatter must be maintained.
- No dredging of wetlands, submerged grassbeds, or shellfish beds is authorized.

#### SAM-2006-2027-ALF MS-GP-06 – BOAT RAMPS:

This permit authorizes the construction or modification of boat ramps and marine ways. For proposals in the Mississippi Sound, project specific authorization must be obtained through the Mobile District, so as to allow for completion of consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding Gulf sturgeon critical habitat.

#### **Location of Ramps:**

- Care should be taken in the placement of boat ramps to avoid interrupting the natural movement of sediments.
- Storm water runoff from boat ramp approaches and parking areas should not be directed down the boat ramp.

Cubic Yards to be Dredged/Filled: This permit allows up to 100 cubic yards of material to be dredged and the placement of up to 25 cubic yards of fill below mean high tide line or the ordinary high water mark for construction of a boat ramp.

Best Management Practices: Best management practices should be used at all times during construction to minimize turbidity at both the dredged and spoil sites. Methods should include, but not limited to, the use of staked hay bales; staked filter cloth; sodding, seeding and mulching; staged construction; and the installation of turbidity screens around the immediate project site. Any effluent from the disposal area should be routed through a return swale system and filtered through a series of hay bales and silt fences so as to reduce the turbidity of the effluent.

#### Disposal Area:

- All dredged material must be properly confined in an upland area unless otherwise authorized.
- Hydraulic dredging will require an upland bermed disposal area (or other suitable methods of retention).
   Additional best management practices will apply regarding the return water from the bermed disposal area.
- Spoil disposal areas shall be immediately seeded and stabilized to prevent the movement of sediment offsite and into adjacent drainage areas.

**Special Aquatic Sites:** No dredging or filling is authorized in wetlands, submerged grassbeds, or shellfish beds and no dredged material shall be used to raise the elevation of any wetlands.

#### SAM-2006-2029-ALF

#### MS-GP-07 - MAINTENANCE DREDGING:

This permit authorizes the maintenance dredging of previously dredged areas for the purpose of navigation and the maintenance of existing manmade ditches. For proposals in the Mississippi Sound, project specific verification must be obtained through the Mobile District, so as to allow for completion of consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding Gulf sturgeon critical habitat.

#### Area to be Dredged:

- For open water areas, dredging is limited to the previously dredged and previously authorized dimensions. Documentation of previously authorized and/or maintained depths and dimensions should be provided.
- For existing manmade ditches, maintenance is limited to the original bottom depth, width, and length. The side slopes of the banks and side cast areas within wetlands shall be 3:1 (horizontal:vertical) or flatter.

Cubic Yards of Material to be Removed: Maintenance dredging of up to 2,500 cubic yards of material is authorized by this permit; however, maintenance dredging of previously authorized residential boat slips or openwater berths shall be limited to 500 cubic yards of material.

Best Management Practices: Best management practices should be used at all times during construction to minimize turbidity at both the dredged and spoil sites. Methods should include, but not limited to, the use of staked hay bales; staked filter cloth; sodding, seeding and mulching; staged construction; and the installation of turbidity screens around the immediate project site. Any effluent from the disposal area should be routed through a return swale system and filtered through a series of hay bales and silt fences so as to reduce the turbidity of the effluent.

#### Disposal Area:

- All dredged material must be properly confined in an upland area unless otherwise authorized.
- Hydraulic dredging will require an upland bermed disposal area (or other suitable methods of retention). Additional best management practices as required by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality will apply regarding the return water from the bermed disposal area.
- Spoil disposal areas shall be immediately seeded and stabilized to prevent the movement of sediment off-site and into adjacent drainage areas.

**Hydrographic Survey:** Before and after hydrographic surveys may be required based on local knowledge of the waterway and likelihood that important aquatic resources or special aquatic sites could be present.

Special Aquatic Sites: No dredging of wetlands, submerged grassbeds, or shellfish beds is authorized (exceptions may be made for noxious vegetation in man-made waterbodies).

#### SAM-2006-2030-ALF

#### MS-GP-08 - NEW WORK CHANNEL DREDGING:

This permit authorizes new work dredging of open water channels for navigation access. For proposals in Gulf sturgeon critical habitat, project specific verification must be obtained through the Mobile District, so as to allow for completion of consultation with the Services.

Cubic Yards of Material to be Removed: Dredging of up to 1,000 cubic yards of material is authorized by this permit. Authorization under this permit is limited to open water channels for navigation access, and must be a single and complete project.

Maximum Depth of Dredging: Dredging depth must be no greater than that of the controlling navigational depth of the adjacent waters, but shall not exceed a depth greater than 6 feet below mean low tide or ordinary low water unless specifically authorized.

Best Management Practices: Best management practices should be used at all times during construction to minimize turbidity at both the dredged and spoil sites. Methods should include, but not limited to, the use of staked hay bales; staked filter cloth; sodding, seeding and mulching; staged construction; and the installation of turbidity screens around the immediate project site. Any effluent from the disposal area should be routed through a return swale system and filtered through a series of hay bales and silt fences so as to reduce the turbidity of the effluent.

#### Disposal Area:

- All dredged material must be properly confined in an upland area unless otherwise authorized.
- Hydraulic dredging will require an upland bermed disposal area (or other suitable methods of retention).
   Additional best management practices, as required by Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, will apply regarding the return water from the bermed disposal area.
- Spoil disposal areas shall be immediately seeded and stabilized to prevent the movement of sediment offsite and into adjacent drainage areas.

**Hydrographic Survey:** Before and after hydrographic surveys may be required based on local knowledge of the waterway and likelihood that important aquatic resource or special aquatic sites could be present.

Fill Material: Dredging for fill material is not authorized under this permit; however, navigation projects may use the dredged material for fill.

#### Special Aquatic Sites:

- Grass bed Survey: A submerged aquatic vegetation (grassbeds) survey may be required based on local knowledge of the waterway and the likelihood that grassbeds may be present.
- In water bodies without shoreline protection (i.e. bulkheads, riprap, etc.), a minimum 10-foot buffer must be maintained between the proposed work area and wetlands and a 3:1 (horizontal: vertical) side slope or flatter must be maintained.
- No dredging of wetlands, submerged grass beds, or shellfish beds is authorized (exceptions may be made for noxious vegetation in man-made waterbodies).

#### SAM-2006-2031-ALF

#### MS-GP-09 - FILL IN PREVIOUSLY DREDGED AREAS:

This permit authorizes the filling of previously dredged areas such as boat slips, artificial canals, etc.

**Previously Dredged Wetlands or Natural Channels:** If the area to be filled had previously been a wetland or natural channel, the fill may not exceed the original elevations or dimensions.

Fill Material: Only clean material free of waste, metal and organic trash, unsightly debris, etc., may be used as fill.

#### Areas Excluded:

- No wetlands, submerged grass beds, natural streams, shellfish beds, or natural channels may be filled.
- No area providing mitigation, enhancement, or flushing of an aquatic system may be filled.

#### SAM-2006-2032-ALF

#### MS-GP-10 - DEBRIS REMOVAL:

This permit allows debris to be removed from any waterway for navigation, drainage, and/or pollution control.

**Debris Definition:** Debris includes, but is not limited to, non-imbedded stumps, tree limbs, appliances, lumber, metal objects, etc.

#### Non-Authorized Work:

- Dredging of gravel, sand, silt, and the removal of hazardous materials, etc., is not authorized under this
  permit.
- Snagging of dead (imbedded) or living trees from a stream bank is not authorized under this permit.

  However, trees imbedded in the bank may be cut off but their stumps may not be removed from the bank.
- Impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation are not authorized under this permit.

**Disposal Area:** All debris must be properly placed in an approved landfill. Alternative sites for the disposal of woody debris may be authorized on a case-by-case basis.

**Burning of Debris:** Woody debris should not be burned unless full coordination with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality/ Air Division has been completed.

#### SAM-2006-2034-ALF

#### MS-GP-11 - INTAKE/DISCHARGE STRUCTURES:

This permit authorizes the construction or modification of intake and/or discharge structures in navigable waters of the United States.

#### Work May Include:

- This includes minor excavation, filling, and other work associated with the installation and maintenance of intake/discharge structures. Authorization includes the minimal dredging or filling necessary to create/maintain serviceable intake/discharge structures.
- Modifications to existing intake/discharge structures may also be authorized.
- This permit does not authorize dredging or filling for access and/or work pads.

**Dredging/Disposal:** Dredging associated with maintenance of an intake structure may be authorized, provided dredged material is properly deposited in an upland area.

**Navigation Concerns:** Work authorized by this permit shall not adversely affect general navigation or the maintenance of Federal navigation projects.

#### NPDES Permit:

- If the structure results in the discharge of an effluent, a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water Act may be required.
- Persons proposing to construct a discharge or an intake structure should contact the Mississippi DEQ, Post Office Box 10385, Jackson, Mississippi 39289-0385.

#### **Special Aquatic Sites:**

- Wetlands, submerged grass beds, and shellfish beds are to be avoided. If applicants believe that their
  only option is a route through a wetland, they must document the alternatives considered but rejected.
- Disturbed wetland areas must be revegetated with naturally occurring indigenous species if the area has not revegetated to pre-project conditions within 1 year of completion of the project.

#### SAM-2006-2035-ALF

#### MS-GP-12 - SUBSURFACE UTILITY LINES:

This permit authorizes the installation of subsurface utility lines and includes oil/gas pipelines, sewage lines, water lines, telephone cables, electric transmission lines, etc. For proposals in the Mississippi Sound, project specific authorization must be obtained through the Mobile District, so as to allow for completion of consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding Gulf sturgeon critical habitat.

#### Federal/State Requirements:

- Proposals beneath Federal navigation projects or crossing state lines must receive project-specific authorization from the Mobile District.
- Utility lines beneath Federal navigation projects must meet the requirements of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Subsurface utility lines crossing public trust tidelands must obtain a lease from the Mississippi Secretary of State prior to commencement of work.

#### Depth Line is to be Buried:

- The top of the lines must be buried at least 4 feet below the mud line, except under the maintained channels.
- For maintained channels, the line must be buried at least 10 feet below authorized channel depth or 4 feet below the mud line, whichever is deeper.

**Bank stabilization:** Particular care must be taken to insure that banks are properly stabilized. Directional drilling is preferred.

#### Disposal Area:

- The temporary side casting of excavated material for backfill or bedding associated with these activities is authorized with this permit.
- All excess excavated material should be deposited in upland areas, and there will be no change in preconstruction bottom contours.

#### **Special Aquatic Sites:**

- Wetlands, shellfish beds, and submerged grass beds must be avoided when possible. If applicants believe
  that their only option is a route through a wetland, they must document the alternatives considered but
  rejected.
- Disturbed wetland areas must be revegetated with naturally occurring indigenous species if the area has not revegetated to pre-project conditions with 1 year of the completion of the project.

#### GENERAL PERMITS FOR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, REFUGES, AND PARKS

Permits MS-GP-13 through MS-GP-16 are for wildlife management and must be designed to improve wetland functions and values for target species pursuant to an approved management plan. These permits may be used to create and maintain artificial wetlands. However, dredging to create ponds or lakes in existing wetlands is not authorized by these permits. Dams to permanently inundate wetlands are not authorized under these General Permits. All activities authorized by General Permits MS-GP-13 through MS-GP-16 must be in conformance with an approved management plan. Roadway construction through wetland areas is not authorized by these permits.

Special Condition: Pre-construction notification must be submitted with a management plan and written approval of the plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or from the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission (MSWCC). Please contact the State Office of the NRCS or MSWCC for the address and telephone number of the District Office nearest you

#### NRCS State Office Address:

Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist, Suite 1321 Federal Building, 100 West Capital Street Jackson, MS 39269 Telephone: (601) 965-5205

MSWCC State Office Address: MS Soil and Water Conservation Commission Post Office Box 23005 Jackson, MS 39225-3005 Telephone: (601) 354-7645

#### SAM-2006-2038-ALF <u>MS-GP-13 - WATER MANAGEMENT</u>:

- Ditches may be plugged and weirs constructed to seasonally manage hydrology, e.g., greentree reservoirs or previously drained wetlands.
- No more than 1/3-acre of wetlands shall be filled by the proposed activity.
- A water management plan for the operation of greentree reservoirs must be provided.
- Areas Excluded: This General Permit may not be used to impound tidally influenced waters.

#### SAM-2006-2037-ALF MS-GP-14 - WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT:

- No more than 1-acre of wetlands shall be impacted by the proposed activity.
- A water management plan for the operation must be provided.
- Areas may be drum chopped, cleared with a raised blade, bush-hogged, etc.
- The incidental movement of trivial amounts of soil is allowed.
- No wetlands may be permanently drained, converted to uplands, or prepared for any human use other than hunting under this permit.
- Wetlands may be altered, but only to another wetlands type, e.g., creation and maintenance of greentree reservoirs.

#### SAM-2006-2040-ALF

#### MS-GP-15 - AGRICULTURE TYPE ACTIVITIES FOR CREATION OF HABITAT OR FOOD PLOTS:

- This permit allows areas to be cleared, plowed, or grazed, etc., to provide food or habitat for target species pursuant to a management plan.
- Bottomland, hardwood wetlands should not be impacted by food plots.
- No wetlands may be drained. Such "agriculture" use will not qualify an area as "prior converted wetlands."

#### SAM-2006-2041-ALF

#### MS-GP-16 - FIREBREAKS (CREATION AND MAINTENANCE):

- This permit authorizes the construction and maintenance of firebreaks.
- There must no be any change in soil surface elevations that would result in changes to the hydrology of a wetland area.
- NOTE: This Permit may be used in conjunction with silviculture and other areas requiring fire protection.

#### ADMINISTRATION:

Project specific verification of compliance with the Mississippi General Permits must be obtained prior to beginning work. For project specific verification, pre-construction notification of the project should be submitted to the Mobile District. Pre-construction notification can be submitted in the form of a completed Joint Application and Notification, U.S. Department of the Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality/Office of Pollution Control form, which can be accessed at our website, www.sam.usace.army.mil/rd/reg. The following information is typically required for verification under the Mississippi General Permits.

- (a) Completed joint application and notification form;
- (b) Applicant name, address, and contact information;
- (c) Agent authorization statement and agent name, address, and contact information;
- (d) Location of the proposed project including street address, latitude, and longitude;
- (e) Project description, purpose, and need;
- (f) 8½" x 11" vicinity map indicating project location;
- (g) 81/2" x 11" diagrams and plan views of the entire property and the proposed project;
- (h) 8½" x 11" cross-section diagrams of the proposed structures and/or areas of dredge and fill;
- (i) Delineation of wetlands and/or submerged aquatic vegetation;
- (i) Distance across the waterway; and
- (k) Notification of any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible, or which the prospective permittee has reason to believe may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Pre-construction notification should be submitted to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District Regulatory Division Post Office Box 2288 Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001

Telephone: (251) 690-2658

If the proposed activity is located in the three coastal counties of Mississippi (Jackson, Harrison, and Hancock), pre-construction notification should be submitted to:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources 1141 Bayview Avenue Biloxi, Mississippi 39530 Telephone: (228) 374-5000

If a proposed activity is located on one of the following Corps lakes in the State of Mississippi, the plans must be reviewed and approved by a Resource Manager and the pre-construction notification should be submitted to the appropriate office of the Mississippi Lakes of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tenn-Tom Project Management Office 3606 West Plymouth Road Columbus, Mississippi 39701-9504 Telephone: (662) 327-2142 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Project Manager, Okatibbee Lake Post Office Box 98 Collinsville, Mississippi 39325-0098 Telephone: (601) 626-8431

#### ATTACHMENT 1

#### **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

NOTE: The term "you" and its derivatives, means the permittee or any future transferee. The term "District" refers to the Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and/or resource agencies that administer the General Permits within the area of their management. The above-described structures and activities may be authorized under these General Permits subject to the following conditions:

- A. You must submit satisfactory plans and you are advised that all State and local permits must be obtained before work can be initiated. Conformance with descriptions and quantities contained herein does not necessarily guarantee consideration and/or subsequent verification. Additionally, you must have the requisite property rights to perform the requested work.
- B. These General Permits will be valid for a 5 year period or until suspended, revoked, or extended. An authorization to perform work pursuant to a General Permit is good for 5 years from the date of issuance. Unless circumstances require either a prompt completion of the authorized activity or a reevaluation of the public interest decision, favorable consideration will normally be given to a request for a time extension.
- C. The General Permits do not apply to proposed projects which will adversely impact threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat.
- D. The General Permits do not apply to proposed projects which would affect or otherwise degrade cultural resources such as archaeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historic sites or data. Activities that will impact cultural resources will be evaluated as Standard Permits or Letters of Permission. If you discover any previously unknown historic or archaeological remains while accomplishing an authorized activity, you must immediately notify the Mobile District, of what you have found. We will initiate the Federal and State coordination required to determine if the site warrants a recovery effort or if it is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- E. The General Permits are not applicable for activities located in State or National Wild and Scenic streams, rivers, or components thereof, or other areas provided special protection unless the administrating agency concurs.
- F. Creosote material shall be not utilized in waters of the United States.
- G. Authorizations will be suspended if State water quality standards are not met.
  - (i)The depths of any channels and/or slips shall gradually increase toward open water and shall not exceed the controlling navigational depth. No "sumps" shall be created by proposed dredging.
  - (ii) No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse.
  - (iii) Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
- H. You must maintain the authorized activity in good condition and conformance with the terms and conditions of your authorization. You are not relieved of this requirement if you abandon the authorized activity.

- I. You must allow Federal or State resource agency representatives to inspect the proposed and/or authorized activity at any time deemed necessary.
- J. An authorization does not obviate (prevent) the need to obtain other Federal, State, or local authorizations required by law, nor does it grant any property rights or exclusive privileges. It does not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others, nor does it authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project.
- J' Limits of Liability: In issuing an authorization, the Federal Government, the State of Mississippi, the designated resource agency, and/or their staff or employees, shall not assume any liability.
- K. Reliance on applicant's data: The determination of the District that issuance of an authorization is not contrary to the public interest is made on reliance on the information you provided. NOTE: You must have the requisite property rights to do any work pursuant to any of these permits. The District may reevaluate its decision on an authorization at any time the circumstances warrant. Circumstances that could require a reevaluation include, but are not limited to failure to comply with the terms and conditions of your authorization; the information provided by you in support of your application proves to have been false, incomplete, or inaccurate; or significant new information surfaces which the District 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 to comply with the terms and conditions of your authorization 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 directives, the District may in certain situations accomplish the corrective measures by contract or otherwise and bill you for the cost.
- L. Certain activities within the Mississippi Coastal Zone may require a lease from the Mississippi Secretary of States Office.
- M. Failure to secure authorization as specified herein, or failure to comply with conditions of any authorizations issued under these General Permits may result in enforcement actions by the Corps, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality or the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

### RECEIVED

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE REGULATORY BRANCH,

MAR 5 1984

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT, BUREAU OF THE MARINE RESOURCES

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HATURAL RESOURCES/BUREAU OF POLLUTION CONTROL
AND THE

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION/BUREAU OF MARINE RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the above agencies recognize the need to expedite permit requests by public and private interests for authorizations to conduct regulated activities in coastal wetlands, excluding the Federal project activities of the Mobile District, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Memorandum of Moderstanding is to establish general understandings of the manner in which these agencies will better interact to accomplish the same, exclusive of said Federal project activities,

NOW THEREFORE, in order to provide for an effective system whereby a thorough technical review may be conducted within a time frame to meet all legal requirements, the above regulatory agencies agree as follows:

- ARTICLE 1. All applications for non-Federal project activities in the three coastal counties of Mississippi will be initially sent to the Bureau of Marine Resources (BMR).
- ARTICLE 2. BMR will review these applications to insure thoroughness.
- ARTICLE 3. After a satisfactory determination of thoroughness of an application, BMR will forward the application to the Regulatory Branch, Hobile District, Corps of Engineers (COE), and to the Bureau of Pollution Control (BPC).
- ARTICLE 4. The Regulatory Branch will accept the application and proceed with the issuance of a COE/BPC public notice.
- ARTICLE 5. The BPC will review the Regulatory Branch public notice and provide comments to BMR in an orderly manner to comply with Coastal Program and other requirements of State statutes.
- ARTICLE 6. If additional information is required by the Regulatory Branch or BPC, copies of the letters to the applicant shall be sent to BMR.
- ARTICLE 7. BMR will also send letters to the applicant requesting the additional information and informing the applicant that the processing of the application has stopped until the information is provided.

ARTICLE 8. This agreement may be terminated by any part upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other agencies.

Executed this /O day of

Executed this 29 day of FEEGURRY , 1984.

Colonel, CE

District Engineer

CHARLIE L. BLALOCK

Executive Director

Department of Natural Resources

Executed this 29 day of

Executive Director

Department of Wildlife Conservation