

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers  
69 Darlington Avenue  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403-1343  
<http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/WETLANDS/index.html>

**General Permit No. 198200079**  
**Name of Permittee: General Public**  
**Effective Date: January 1, 2011**  
**Expiration Date: December 31, 2016**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GENERAL (REGIONAL) PERMIT**

A general permit to perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States and waters of the United States, upon recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), is hereby renewed and modified by authority of the Secretary of the Army by the

District Commander  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington  
Corps of Engineers  
69 Darlington Avenue  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403-1343, and by the

District Commander  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Norfolk  
Corps of Engineers  
803 Front Street  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510

**TO AUTHORIZE MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IN THE LAKES AND RESERVOIRS OWNED AND/OR OPERATED BY THE WILMINGTON AND NORFOLK DISTRICTS, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WITHIN NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA, RESPECTIVELY. THESE INCLUDE JOHN H. KERR RESERVOIR, FALLS LAKE, B. EVERETT JORDAN LAKE, W. KERR SCOTT RESERVOIR, AND PHILPOTT LAKE.**

These lakes and reservoirs were constructed and exist primarily for the purposes of hydroelectric power generation, flood storage, and/or water supply. They were constructed and are operated

under laws and regulations administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Activities within these waters are the primary concern of, and should be regulated by their respective District, Wilmington and/or Norfolk, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This general permit applies to all waters on or within lands owned or under flowage easement to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Activities authorized are:

- a. Construction of piers, boat ramps, jetties and breakwater structures and installation of dolphins, pilings and buoys, using commonly acceptable materials such as pressure treated lumber, unsinkable flotation materials, and confined concrete.
- b. Maintenance dredging of accumulated sediments near boat basins and canals/channels where excavated material is placed and retained on high ground provided the total amount of material removed does not exceed 5,000 cubic yards.
- c. Stabilization of eroding shorelines utilizing appropriate bioengineering techniques, construction and backfill of bulkheads, and the placement of riprap material.
- d. Installation of submerged and aerial utility lines provided U.S. Coast Guard requirements for aerial lines are met and pre-project elevation contours are restored.
- e. Maintenance of existing water intake and outfall structures provided all State and Federal required authorizations have been obtained. Construction of new water intake and outfall structures are not authorized under this general permit.
- f. Dredging of accumulated sediments, when lake drawdown allows, with all excavated materials placed and retained on high ground provided the total amount of material removed does not exceed 5,000 cubic yards.

### **Procedures**

a. This permit does not supersede any of the procedures, provisions, or requirements found within the applicable reservoir Shoreline Management Plan. Anyone wishing to accomplish work under the authority of this general permit must submit: 1) name, address, and telephone number of prospective permittee; 2) lot number, street address, and directions to the project location; 3) location of the proposed project, including a vicinity map; 4) a brief description of the proposed project; 5) a plan view of the proposed project including dimensions, and 6) location, and design, if applicable, of the disposal area for any excavated material. All submitted information must be sent to the Operations Project Manager at the lake or reservoir in which the work is to occur.

b. Prior to the commencement of any work, the permittee must receive written approval from the Operations Project Manager. The Operations Project Manager may deny requests for use of this permit based on non-compliance with the Shoreline Management Plan, Master Plan, Operations Management Plan, or any other applicable policy or regulation. The Operations Project Manager may include any additional conditions and/or restrictions that he or she determines to be appropriate. Failure to comply with the Special and General Conditions

contained herein or any conditions and/or restrictions stipulated by the Operations Manager could result in a violation of Federal law and appropriate action by the Office of the U.S. Attorney.

### **Special Conditions**

#### **1. For construction of piers, and boat ramps:**

a. To be authorized by this permit, all piers shall be pile-supported and in compliance with each individual reservoir's shoreline management plan. Piles, dolphins, jetties and breakwater structures may be of wood, metal or precast concrete. Breakwater structures will be designed to provide for adequate water circulation landward of the structures.

b. This general permit does not authorize construction across or into any natural or manmade channel or water body in any manner that may adversely affect navigation by the general public.

c. This permit does not authorize placement of any pier segment or structure further waterward than allowed by the applicable Shoreline Management Plan for the reservoir, when such Plan is in existence.

d. Piers and adjoining platforms, decks, and "L" and "T" sections will not cumulatively exceed the maximum allowable size of such structures identified in the reservoir's shoreline management plan. A pier may be constructed in and over wetland areas to allow access. Such piers shall be attached to the upland at a point landward of ordinary high water. All piers that cross wetland vegetation shall be an open-pile design, up to five (5) feet wide and have minimum elevation of at least four (4) feet between the decking and the wetland substrate. The required 4-foot elevation must be achieved at or above the ordinary high water mark.

e. Wooden jetties will not extend farther than 100 feet waterward of the NWL elevation contours.

f. Wood must be pressure-treated except in areas of boathouses or boat shelters protected from the weather.

g. If the display of lights and signals on the authorized structure is not otherwise provided for by law, such lights and signals as may be prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard will be installed and maintained by and at the expense of the permittee.

h. This general permit does not authorize any habitable structure or associated facility for nonwater-related use.

i. Boat ramps will not exceed 20 feet in width. During boat ramp construction and maintenance, no fill or construction material may be placed in wetlands.

j. Excavation associated with boat ramp construction or maintenance is limited to the area necessary for site preparation and all excavated material must be removed to uplands.

k. This general permit does not authorize the installation of fueling facilities on authorized structures.

l. The pouring of concrete for the construction of boat ramps must be accomplished within a temporary cofferdam unless the activity can be performed completely in the dry, such as during lake drawdown periods. The introduction of uncured concrete into surface waters is prohibited. Cofferdams left in place after construction is completed require a Section 10 permit if located in navigable waters of the United States.

## **2. For construction of bulkheads and backfill and placement of riprap:**

a. The project must be necessary to combat an existing erosion problem. No material may be placed in excess of the minimum necessary for erosion protection.

b. Where wetlands are present along a shoreline, all shoreline stabilization activities (bio-engineering techniques, construction and backfill of bulkheads, and the placement of riprap material) must be undertaken landward of the wetlands. This general permit does not authorize the discharged of dredged of fill material within wetlands.

c. Bulkhead and riprap alignments will not extend farther waterward than an average distance of two (2) feet, maximum distance of five (5) feet from the ordinary high water mark and may not extend more than 500 feet along a shoreline.

d. Riprap, if required by the Operations Project Manager, will be placed at the base of all bulkheads and will extend a maximum of three (3) feet waterward on a 2:1 slope. All other fill material will be confined landward of bulkheads.

e. Material placed for shoreline stabilization will not exceed an average of one cubic yard per running foot placed below the plane of the ordinary high water mark. Riprap material must consist of clean rock or masonry materials. The use of metal products, organic materials, petroleum-based materials, or unsightly debris is prohibited.

f. To the maximum extent practicable, discharges must not permanently restrict or impede the passage of normal or expected high flows or cause the relocation of the water.

g. No discharge of dredged or fill material may occur in the proximity of a public water supply intake except where the discharge is for adjacent bank stabilization.

## **3. For excavation and dredging:**

a. Excavation for the removal of accumulated sediment from existing basins, access channels and boats slips must not exceed the lesser of the previously authorized depths or controlling depths for ingress/egress. Under no circumstances can the dredged material exceed

5,000 cubic yards. Construction of dead end canals is not permitted under this regional permit. Dredging and excavation is prohibited within wetlands or vegetated shallows.

b. To avoid potential impacts to fish spawning areas, excavation activities will not occur during the months of March, April, May, or June of any year.

c. Dredging will be limited to channelward of the ordinary high water mark. Finished depths will not exceed the depth of the receiving waters channelward of the work.

d. All excavated material will be disposed of in approved upland disposal area and confined by adequate dikes or other retaining structures to prevent erosion and sedimentation into adjacent waters or wetlands. The temporary placement or double handling of excavated or fill material waterward of the ordinary high water mark is not authorized.

**4. For installation of submerged and aerial power lines and utility lines:**

a. The minimum clearance for aerial power lines will be governed by system voltage as shown below:

Nominal System Voltage, Kilovolts	Minimum Clearance (ft) Above Bridge Clearances
-----	-----
115 and below	20
138	22
161	24
230	26
350	30
500	35
700	42
750-765	45

Clearances are based on the low point of the line under conditions that produce the maximum sag considering temperature, load, wind, length, span and type of supports. Clearances for communication lines, stream gauging cables, ferry cables and other aerial crossings will be a minimum of ten (10) feet above clearances for bridges. Installation of utility lines will conform to the conditions of Nationwide Permit No. 12.

b. If an easement to fill or cross utility company, State or Federal property is required, such easement must be obtained prior to commencement of work.

c. If the permitted work is on lands subject to an easement in favor of the United States for the maintenance and operation of a Federal lake or reservoir, the permittee will remove such structure and improvements at this own expense in the event that, in the judgement of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers acting on behalf of the United States, the lands are needed at any time for any purpose within the scope of the easement. All construction within the easement, either

temporary or permanent, must be in compliance with the terms and conditions of the applicable easement estate.

**General Conditions.**

a. Except as authorized by this general permit or any USACE approved modification to this general permit, no excavation, fill or mechanized land-clearing activities shall take place within waters or wetlands, at any time in the construction or maintenance of this project. This permit does not authorize temporary placement or double handling of excavated or fill material within waters or wetlands outside the permitted area. This prohibition applies to all borrow and fill activities connected with this project.

b. Authorization under this general permit does not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local authorizations.

c. All work authorized by this general permit must comply with the terms and conditions of the applicable Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for this general permit issued by the North Carolina Division of Water Quality or the Virginia Division of Water Quality.

d. The permittee shall employ all sedimentation and erosion control measures necessary to prevent an increase in sedimentation or turbidity within waters and wetlands outside the permit area. This shall include, but is not limited to, the immediate installation of silt fencing or similar appropriate devices around all areas subject to soil disturbance or the movement of earthen fill, and the immediate stabilization of all disturbed areas. Additionally, the project must remain in full compliance with all aspects of the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973 (North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 113A Article 4).

e. The activities authorized by this general permit must not interfere with the public's right to free navigation on all navigable waters of the United States. No attempt will be made by the permittee to prevent the full and free use by the public of all navigable waters at or adjacent to the authorized work for a reason other than safety.

f. The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure 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.

g. The permittee, upon receipt of a notice of revocation of this permit or upon its expiration before completion of the work will, without expense to the United States and in such time and manner as the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative may direct, restore the affected water of the United States to its former conditions.

h. The permittee will allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Commander or his representative to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to assure that the activity is being performed or maintained in strict accordance with the Special and General Conditions of this permit.

i. This general permit does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.

j. This permit does not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

k. This general permit does not authorize the interference with any existing or proposed federal project.

l. In issuing this permit, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for the following:

(1) Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of other permitted or unpermitted activities or from natural causes.

(2) 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.

(3) Damages to persons, property, or to other permitted or unpermitted activities or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit.

(4) Design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work

(5) Damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit.

m. Authorization provided by this general permit may be modified, suspended or revoked in whole or in part if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Commander, acting for the Secretary of the Army, determines that such action would be in the best public interest. The term of this general permit shall be five (5) years unless subject to modification, suspension or revocation. Any modification, suspension or revocation of this authorization will not be the basis for any claim for damages against the United States Government.

n. This general permit does not authorize any activity, which the District Engineer determines, after any necessary investigations, would adversely affect:

(1) Rivers named in Section 3 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (15 U.S.C. 1273), those proposed for inclusion as provided by Sections 4 and 5 of the Act and wild, scenic and recreational rivers established by state and local entities.

(2) Historic, cultural or archeological sites listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as defined in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its codified regulations, the National Historic Preservation Amendment Acts of 1980 and

1992, the Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987 and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

(3) Sites included in or determined eligible for listing in the National Registry of Natural Landmarks.

o. This general permit does not authorize any activity that will adversely affect any threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, or their designated critical habitat as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531). Information on the location of threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the Corps field offices or at the following internet address: <http://www.ncnhp.org/Pages/heritagedata.html>. Permittees should notify the Corps if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected by the proposed project and may not begin work until notified by the Corps that the requirements of the Endangered Species Act have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized.

p. Permittees are advised that development activities in or near a floodway may be subject to the National Flood Insurance Program that prohibits any development, including fill, within a floodway that results in any increase in base flood elevations. This general permit does not authorize any activity prohibited by the National Flood Insurance Program.

q. The permittee must install and maintain, at his expense, any signal lights and signals prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard, through regulations or otherwise, on authorized facilities. For further information, the permittee should contact the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office at (910) 772-2191.

r. The permittee must maintain any structure or work authorized by this permit in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this permit. The Permittee is not relieved of this requirement if the Permittee abandons the structure or work. Transfer in fee simple of the work authorized by this permit will automatically transfer this permit to the property's new owner, with all of the rights and responsibilities enumerated herein. The permittee must inform any subsequent owner of all activities undertaken under the authority of this permit and provide the subsequent owner with a copy of the terms and conditions of this permit.

s. At his sole discretion, any time during the processing cycle, the Corps District Commander may determine that this general permit will not be applicable to a specific proposal. In such case, the procedures for processing an individual permit in accordance with 33 CFR 325 will be available.

t. All fill material placed in waters or wetlands shall be generated from an upland source and will be clean and free of any pollutants except in trace quantities. Metal products, organic materials (including debris from land clearing activities), or unsightly debris will not be used.

u. Except as authorized by this general permit or any USACE approved modification to this general permit, all excavated material will be disposed of in approved upland disposal areas.



v. Access roads are not authorized by this general permit.

w. Activities which have commenced (i.e., are under construction) or are under contract to commence in reliance upon this general permit will remain authorized provided the activity is completed within twelve months of the date of the general permit's expiration, modification, or revocation. Activities completed under the authorization of this general permit which were in effect at the time the activity was completed continue to be authorized by the general permit.

**BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:**



Jefferson M. Rysavage  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
District Commander

Andrew Backus  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
District Commander