



Research Authorizations

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The What, The Where, and The Why



- What and where
 - For conducting research in marsh or shore jurisdiction that includes structure, sample collections - anything more than footprints
- Why
 - The state is the steward of tidal wetlands for the state of Georgia
 - To create an efficient process for researchers
 - To give CRD awareness of structures in the marsh and research being conducted in Georgia

The Who and The When

- Who: Researchers associated with academic institutions
- When: Submit application 4-6 weeks in advance of your anticipated start date



What Should Be Included in an Application



COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

ONE CONSERVATION WAY · BRUNSWICK, GA 31520 · 912-264-7218

WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS
DIRECTOR

Research Requirements and Application October 2023

Purpose:

To evaluate and provide appropriate authorization and/or permission for research and monitoring projects conducted in the state's jurisdictional areas for the public's interest.

Research Proposal Procedure:

A written proposal is required for all research projects within the State's jurisdiction. This proposal should include the following:

- Applicant and contact information
 - Principal Investigator (PI), student researcher/technician (if applicable)
- Academic sponsor
- Objectives of the project
- Methods including sampling design
- Brief synopsis
- Map, including lat/long of project. If exact coordinates are unknown, provide general area coordinates.
- Funding sources (including agency and grant)
- Time frame of the project
- Structural components, including coordinates, that will be placed in jurisdiction (i.e. what equipment will be left in the field during the project, and what will the dimensions of those structures be?)
- Number and frequency of people accessing the site
- Likely impacts of the project to the site
- Listing of all local, state, and/or federal authorizations received or being sought, if applicable
- Written permission from the property owner of the project site (i.e. upland or adjacent to the project site) if applicable.
- Qualifications of the PI and/or student researcher/technician. This should be a resume or CV with summary or similar work.
- A copy of the scientific collecting permit research is being conducted under, if applicable.
 - A scientific collecting permit (SCP) is required for any person to take, possess, or transport any of the wildlife of this state, or the plumage, skin, or body thereof, or the nests or eggs of the same for scientific purposes (O.C.G.A § 27-2-12).
 - Please visit the website below to apply for a SCP or if you have any questions concerning one.
 - <https://gadnrle.org/special-permits>
- Is this request related to the Golden Ray St. Simons Sound Incident? ☐ Yes ☐ No

For staff to properly review your proposal, all the above information should be provided in your submittal. Please note, additional information may be required depending on project type and/or location. Any changes to the scope of the proposal (including project goals, objectives, or placement of structures), after an authorization has been issued, will need to be re-evaluated by CRD.

Please submit all above information along with the attached Application and Revocable License to Meghan Angelina at meghan.angelina@dnr.ga.gov.



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WALTER RABON
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Research Application Form

Application Title: _____

Principal Investigator: _____

Student Researcher/Technician (if applicable): _____

Academic Sponsor: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Project Location(s): _____

GPS Coordinates: _____

Expected Start Date: _____ Expected End Date: _____

Upon completion of research, Applicants are subject to the following Post Research Requirements:

- Provide DNR a copy of all data collected, with the understanding that DNR will not publish the data without the consent of the researcher, upon request
- Provide DNR a digital copy of any research poster produced by the student, upon request
- Provide DNR a written report of the results, upon request
- Provide DNR a copy of any published materials
- DNR CRD should be properly acknowledged in any publications
- Removal of all project related materials at the end of the project
- DNR CRD must be notified upon project completion

Principal Investigator's Signature Date

Student Researcher's/Technician's Signature Date

STATE OF GEORGIA

REQUEST FOR A REVOCABLE LICENSE FOR THE USE OF TIDAL WATERBOTTOMS

APPLICANT NAME(S): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

PROJECT ADDRESS/LOCATION: _____

COUNTY: _____ WATERWAY: _____

LOT, BLOCK & SUBDIVISION NAME FROM DEED: _____

Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Resources Division
One Conservation Way
Brunswick, Georgia 31520-8687

I am requesting that I be granted a revocable license from the State of Georgia to encroach on the beds of tidewaters, which are state owned property. Attached hereto and made a part of this request is a copy of the plans and description of the project that will be the subject of such a license. I certify that all information submitted is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and understand that willful misrepresentation or falsification is punishable by law.

I understand that if permission from the State is granted, it will be a revocable license and will not constitute a license coupled with an interest. I acknowledge that this revocable license does not resolve any actual or potential disputes regarding the ownership of, or rights in, or over the property upon which the subject project is proposed, and shall not be construed as recognizing or denying any such rights or interests. I acknowledge that such a license would relate only to the property interests of the State and would not obviate the necessity of obtaining any other State license, permit, or authorization required by State law. I recognize that I waive my right of expectation of privacy and I do not have the permission of the State of Georgia to proceed with such project until the Commissioner of DNR or his/her designee has executed a revocable license in accordance with this request.

Sincerely,

By: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Applicant

Title, if applicable

By: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Applicant

Title, if applicable

Attachments

Wetlands Research Advisory Committee (WRAC)

- Regulatory and non-regulatory members
- Looking mainly at impacts and any information that may be unclear



GCE Research



Georgia Coastal Ecosystems LTER

Member of the NSF Long Term Ecological Research Network



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GCE Research Registration

GCE-Sponsored Research (GCE-funded or leveraged activities)

GCE-LTER affiliates conducting research funded by or leveraging the GCE NSF grant should use the GCE-sponsored Project Registration forms available here to submit project requests. This allows us to keep track of GCE-related research activities. We also use this process as a clearinghouse to help to ensure that each GCE project has the proper permissions in place, as required.

- » [Fill out a new research request application](#) (GCE login required)
- » [View or update an existing application](#) (GCE login required)
- » [Review next steps and obtain permission to access study site](#) (GCE login required)
- » [View approved research applications](#)

UGAMI, SINERR or GA DNR-Sponsored Research (non-GCE-funded research)

For all other research, please use the SINERR research request form to submit your request and indicate the appropriate sponsoring organization (SINERR, UGAMI or GA DNR).

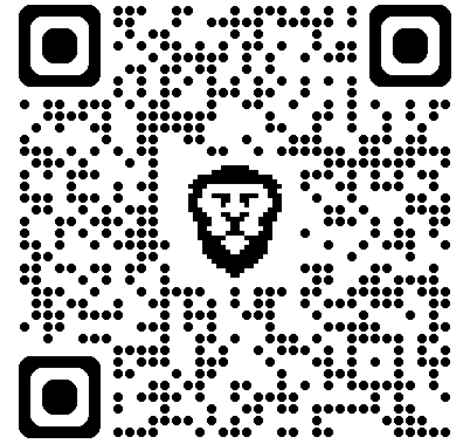
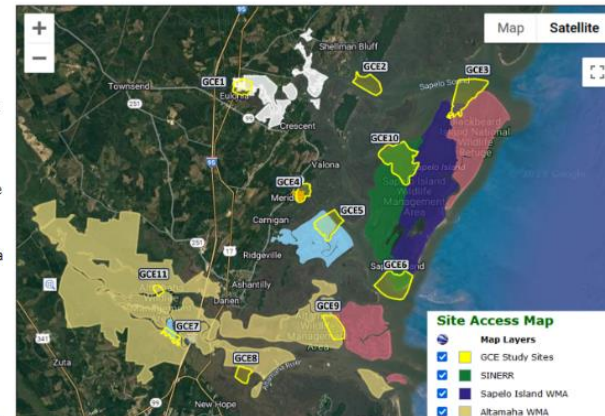
- » [Register and fill out a SINERR research request](#) and indicate the relevant sponsor

Also please note that access to Sapelo Island is controlled, and you will have to make additional arrangements with your research sponsor for transportation to and from the island and for housing. Information about the logistics of conducting research at UGAMI is available [here](#).

Background

Project permission is a multi-step process that involves:

1. GCE research registration – This is required for GCE projects, regardless of project duration or additional permission requirements. It allows us to track projects, minimize potential conflicts, and suggest modifications to projects that may be problematic in some way.
2. CRD Research Application and Request for a Revocable License - If you are working in the intertidal or subtidal area it is highly likely that your project will be reviewed by the GA DNR Coastal Resources Division (CRD). If CRD review is required, you will be asked to forward the completed GCE research registration along with both a CRD Research Application and a Request for a Revocable License to CRD ([link here](#)).
3. Site Access– Multiple entities manage or control different parts of the GCE domain, and you will need to contact the appropriate State (e.g. SINERR, GA DNR) or Federal (e.g. FWS) agencies, and in some cases The Nature Conservancy for permission to access the site (see map and contact information, template for site access request). CRD also requires evidence that you have permission for site access before they will issue a Revocable License.
4. Landowner Notification – With very few exceptions, the marshes of GA are owned by the State up to the high tide line. Official permission from the adjacent landowner is therefore not usually necessary unless you are actually going to be on someone's property. However, it is generally a good idea to notify the landowner about the project, especially if someone is likely to see you from their yard.
5. Other considerations – Depending on the nature of your project you may need further review by other agencies (e.g. Army Corps of Engineers). Specimen collection, working with vertebrates, and other activities may also require additional permissions or certification.
6. Once your project is in progress, we will need the following:
 - a. Finalized GPS points of the study site (the LTER techs can help you with this)
 - b. Place a sign at the research location. If it's a short-term project the LTER techs can provide an adhesive vinyl label that you can fill out with a permanent marker and place at the research location. You can also generate labels from this web site, print them onto waterproof paper, and post them in the UGAMI office. There will last for less than one year. For a longer term project, consult with the techs about a more permanent solution.





Questions

meghan.angelina@dnr.ga.gov