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Coastlines Georgia



Volume 1, Number 1

Governor's Coastal Zone Management Advisory Council



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33.7

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AN EDITORIAL

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This View Of The Coast

Coastlines Georgia is a new publication, produced by the Coastal Resources Program of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), through funds provided by the Federal Office of Coastal Zone Management.

That is how it is published. The "why" is another matter. How do you manage a coast? The question intrigues us. It is a little like managing a hurricane and sometimes just as futile. One thing we know -- nature manages its part according to its own rules and usually spanks the hand of a human foolish enough to help it out.

But nature is not in charge of the change caused by humans. Humans are responsible for that, and that is where management must come in.

The Georgia coast is fascinating, a couplet of beauty and bounty -and the couplet is far too attractive not to be noticed by the human forces of change.

This change bears down on our coast. Its natural, sub-tropical beauty is gaining a national/international fame, attracting more and more visitors and residents. Its bounty -- the huge natural, cultural and human resources -- attracts others who intend to share with those of us already here.

How will our coast change? Simple -- the way coastal residents want it to. We can change it for the better if all of us give our best efforts. It can rot for the worse -- become an obscene remnant of a good place - if that is what we want. The only thing we are assured of is -- our coast will change.

We must manage the changes humans make to our coast. We cannot let mindless change run loose in our marshes, our islands or beaches like guerrilla mobs.

Either change will be controlled or it will control us.

No one agency, group or person has all the answers to controlling change. The Federal, State and local governments -- cooperating with the private sector -- seek to develop answers. The Coastal Zone Management effort in Georgia -- now a part of DNR's Coastal Resources Program, will provide some money, time and effort to help the local/state partnership become a reality.

We need your help.

Biel Morehead

Editor

Coastal Zone Management Update

CZM Task Force Named

•1.

Commissioner Joe D. Tanner, and Coastal Resources Program chief Bob Reimold, have appointed a task force to complete the preparation of the documents necessary for funding of the federal portion of the Coastal Zone Management Program for the period July 1979-June 1984. This special task force is headed by Mr. Harvey Young. Harvey is using the special talent of the two Coastal Resources Program staff (temporarily assigned to Atlanta), Roberta Carney and Tom Bauer. Other task force members include Eric Lesser and Peter O'Rourke (temporarily assigned to the task force from other divisions of the Department of Natural Resources).

The task force, which represents the local -- state government interaction so necessary to the success of the program, also includes: Roy Dudark and Joel Ford (Glynn/Brunswick Joint Planning Commission); Craig Root; David Kyler, and Karen Popek (Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission), and Howard Bellinger (Savannah/Chatham Metropolitan Planning Commission). Coastal DNR staff members of the task force include O. R. (Rick) Cothran, and Bill Morehead. Biweekly staff meetings in either Brunswick or Atlanta, will result in a proposal draft outline within the next month.

Governors Advisory Council

Coastal Resources Program chief, Bob Reimold, and task force leader, Harvey Young, recently met with officials of the Office of Coastal Zone Management, in Washington, D.C. In discussing the progress of the state's program, Washington officials applauded the role of Governor Busbee's Coastal Zone Advisory Council. OCZM's State Programs Director, William Matuszeski, complimented the Georgia Advisory Council (see page 2) by calling it "one of the most active, responsive, councils they have seen".

The council members spent many hours, even days, considering alternatives for Georgia's program. Matuszeski said "the Governor's Coastal Zone Advisory Council and its resultant work products, reports, and recommendations, have been the major strength in the Georgia program". Our HATS OFF to all the members of the advisory council for their valuable contribution to the Georgia Coastal Zone Management Program.

BULLETIN!

The House Natural Resources Committee held hearings Tuesday, January 30th, on CZM legislation. A Committee substitute bill, prepared by DNR at the request of coastal legislators, was considered at the hearing and will be "recommended to pass" by the House Committee next week.

Gov. Busbee Makes Recommendations

Governor George Busbee included the basic Coastal Zone Management Act as part of his 1978 legislative package, urging its passage, "in order to qualify the six coastal counties and the state for federal grants estimated to be as much as \$1.5 million annually, the bulk of which would go to local governments along the coast."

The Governor also recommended a separate and independent eleven member policy board with at least one member from each of the six coastal counties to administer the program in its entirety.

Busbee stressed his support of the bill in no way encouraged additional state of federal regulations of the coast; rather, he said, "It is an attempt to provide additional financial assistance to local governments along the coast and to foster a strong state/local partnership."

The Coastal Management Act of 1978 (House Bill 1465) was introduced by Representatives Roy Lambert, John Carlisle, Joe Battle, Arthur Gignilliat, Tom Triplett, Al Scott, George Chance, Joel Greene, Tom Taggart, Bobby Hill and Dean Auten.

The Bill is assigned to the House Natural Resources Committee.

* * * * * * *

The Governor also supports Representative Joe Battle's Shoreline Protection Act and has asked his administrative floor leaders to join Rep. Battle as co-sponsors. This bill (HB 1416) has already been introduced to the House and assigned to the Natural Resources Committee. During recent committee hearings the bill received strong support from committee members as well as local government leaders along the coast.

Committee Substitute to H.B. 1465

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

To provide for certain matters relative to coastal zone management; to provide a short title; to provide for definitions; to provide for the creation, composition, appointment, renewal, compensation and expenses of the Georgia Coastal Management Board; to provide for filling vacancies on the Board; to provide for officers, meetings, a quorum, and an administrative agent for the Board; to provide powers and duties of the Department; to provide powers and duties of the Board; to provide for other agencies to cooperate and to administer their regulatory programs in the coastal zone in a certain manner; to provide that local governments cannot unreasonably restrict or exclude uses of regional benefit under certain circumstances; to provide for the Attorney General, at the request of the Board; to institute proceedings to challenge such restrictions or exclusions; to provide for severability; to provide an effective date; to provide for other matters relative to the foregoing; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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WHEREAS, Georgia's coastal zone is composed of unique and valuable cultural, economic and natural resources which, when developed in harmony, provide unmatched opportunities for the present and future well-being of all the citizens of this State, and which have in the past and will continue to significantly contribute to the economic and cultural growth of the coastal zone; and

WHEREAS, the land where fresh water mixes with the sea and is influenced by tidal forces creates an environment whre fertile marshes help produce an abundant coastal fishery; and

WHEREAS. Georgia's golden isles, an integral part of the coastal zone, evolved as a result of the relationship between inland sediment flows and the coastal sand-sharing system, which system continues to protect and provide island resources; and

WHEREAS, much of coastal Georgia's industrial development is dependent on vast supplies of fresh water, either from ground or surface flows, which have been available at this interface between the land and the sea; and

WHEREAS, overuse of fresh-water resources has caused and can cause additional undesirable and potentially irreversible effects on future industrial growth and vital coastal resources; and

WHEREAS, the increasing competing demands, resulting from population growth and intensive economic development, placed on the lands and waters of Georgia's coastal zone have caused damage to or loss of Georgia's vital coastal resources; and

WHEREAS, these coastal resources are essential to maintain the health, safety and welfare of all citizens of this State and, to ensure that effective management results in appropriate protection and the wise and beneficial use of these resources, they are properly a matter for regulation under the police power of the State; and

WHEREAS, it is a policy of this State to preserve, protect and, when possible, to restore and enhance Georgia's coastal resources for the present and future use of citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, improved cooperation among federal, State and local governmental agencies is essential to improve the ability of these agencies to enhance the well-being of all the State's citizens through their actions in the coastal zone; and

WHEREAS, such a partnership of governmental interest requires that they work together to effectively plan for the appropriate protection and wise use of coastal resources, and such a degree of cooperation cannot take place without additional funding and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, it is a policy of this State to encourage and assist State and local governments jointly to exercise their responsibilities in the coastal zone to achieve the wise use of the land and water resources of that zone while giving full consideration to the natural, cultural and aesthetic values as well as to other needs; and

WHEREAS, all State agencies engaged in programs affecting the coastal zone should cooperate with each other and with local governments to effectuate the purposes and requirements of this Act and operate in conformity with the State's approved coastal zone management program; and

WHEREAS, within the coastal zone, certain geographic areas, because of their characteristics which are of areawide, Statewide, or of regional significance, require special management policies and authority in order to achieve beneficial use and the appropriate level of protection; and

WHEREAS, certain land and water uses within the coastal zone are of regional benefit and should not be unreasonably restricted or excluded from the coastal zone; and

WHEREAS, certain geographic areas within the coastal zone which require special management policies and authorities should be so designated.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

Section 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Coastal Management Act of 1978."

Section 2. Definitions. The following words or phrases as used in this Act shall unless the context requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

(a) "Agency" means any of the authorities, boards, offices, bureaus, institutions, departments, commissions or other agencies of the State.

(b) "Approved program" means the management program for the coastal zone prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (16 U,S.C. 1451 et seq.) and subsequently approved by the Associate Administrator for Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

(c) "Board" means the Georgia Coastal Management Board.

(d) "Coastal waters" means open marine waters extending seaward to the jurisdictional limit of this State, coastal beaches and offshore sand bars, estuarine waters, including coastal rivers and streams to the inland extent that adjacent wetlands support marsh as defined by the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act of 1970 (Ga. Laws 1970, p. 939), as amended, island sloughs and ponds, and coastal marshlands as defined by the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act of 1970.

(e) "Coastal zone" means all lands and waters bounded on the east by the seaward jurisdictional limit of this State; on the south by the Georgia-Florida state boundary; on the west by a line running northerly from the Georgia-Florida state boundary and located 1000 meters west of the centerline of the right of way of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad to the intersection of said railroad and Interstate Highway 95, thence 1000 meters west of the centerline of the right of way of Interstate 95 to the Chatham-Effingham County line, and thence along the Chatham-Effingham County line to the Georgia-South Carolina state boundary; and on the north by the Georgia-South Carolina state boundary to the seaward jurisdictional limit of this State. All areas defined as coastal waters above shall be deemed to be included in the coastal zone regardless of their location with respect to the inland boundary defined in this subsection.

(f) "Coastal zone counties" means the following counties: Camden, Glynn, McIntosh, Liberty, Bryan, and Chatham.

(g) "Department" means the Department of Natural Resources.

(h) "Geographic areas of particular concern" means those areas whose environmental, economic, recreational or cultural characteristics are of areawide, Statewide or regional significance and therefore require special management.

(i) "Local government" means any county or municipality or combination thereof, which is located in whole or in part in the coastal zone.

(j) "Person" means any municipal corporation, county, or combination thereof, individual, corporation, partnership, association, public or private authority, and includes the State of Georgia, its boards, bureaus, commissions, authorities or other agencies.

(k) "Use of regional benefit" means the following land and water uses: transmission lines, power plants, public port developments, regional airports, sewage treatment plants, regional solid waste disposal facilities, and energy exploration and production facilities.

Section 3. Georgia Coastal Management Board Created; Members; Appointment, Terms; Compensation; Expenses; Organization; Meetings. To effectuate the provisions of this Act, there is hereby created the Georgia Coastal Management Board. The Board shall be composed of eleven (11) persons to be appointed by the Governor. Of the eleven members appointed by the Governor, there shall be at least one member who is a resident of each coastal zone county. Said members shall serve for three-year terms; provided, however, of the first appointments, four shall be appointed for one year, four shall be appointed for two years, and three shall be appointed for three years. The Governor may fill any vacancy in the appointed membership of the Board and may remove any appointed member for cause.

Each member of the Board shall receive the sum of \$36 per diem for each day such member is in attendance at a meeting of the Board, plus reimbursement for actual transportation costs while traveling by public carrier, or the legal mileage rate for the use of a personal automobile in connection with such attendance.

At the first meeting of the Board and annually thereafter, the members shall select one of its members to serve as chairman and one of its members to serve as vice-chairman. The Commissioner of Natural Resources shall act as the Board's administrative agent.

The Board shall meet at such times and at such designated places as it may determine. A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any and all business.

Section 4. Powers and Duties of the Department. The Department shall have the following powers and duties to carry out the provisions of this Act:

(a) To apply for, accept, grant and expend, in accordance with Board policy, financial assistance from public and private sources to carry out the provisions of this Act and the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, P.L. 92-583, as amended; such grants may include, but shall not be limited to, grants made to local governments to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(b) To administer and enforce the provisions of this Act.

(c) To hold public hearings, receive comments and afford all interested persons an opportunity to participate in the development of policies to be administered pursuant to this Act.

(d) To study and recommend to the Board geographic areas of particular concern and methods of special management for such areas.

(e) To perform any and all acts necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Section 5. Powers and Duties of the Board. In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Board shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To establish criteria for and to approve grants to carry out the provisions of this Act and the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, P.L. 92-583, as amended.

(b) To make those policies necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(c) To recommend to local governments standards and guidelines designed to achieve wise use of the land and water resources of the coastal zone.

(d) To designate geographic areas of particular concern and, when necessary, recommend legislation for special management of such areas.

(e) To institute or cause to be instituted, in accordance with Secton 7, legal proceedings to insure that uses of regional benefit are not unreasonably restricted or excluded from the coastal zone.

Section 6. Other Agencies to Cooperate. All agencies shall cooperate with the Board and the Department in the administration and enforcement of this Act. All agencies currently exercising regulatory authority in the coastal zone shall administer such authority in conformity with the provisions of this Act and the approve program.

Section 7. Uses of Regional Benefit. Local governments shall not unreasonably restrict or exclude uses of regional benefit from the coastal zone when such uses cannot be feasibly sited outside the coastal zone. Upon request of the Board, the Attorney General shall, in the interest of the State of Georgia as parens patriae, institute or cause to be instituted, in the superior court in which such local government is located, legal proceedings to challenge such restrictions or exclusions by local governments. In determining whether there has been an unreasonable restriction or exclusion from the coastal zone, the court shall determine whether there has been a manifest abuse of discretion by the local government. The court may affirm or remand the decision of the local government.

Section 8. Severability. In the event any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Act shall be declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall in no manner affect the other sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases of this Act, which shall remain of full force and effect, as if the section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part hereof. The General Assembly hereby declares that it would have passed the remaining parts of this Act if it had known that such part of parts hereof would be declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 9. Effective Date. This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor upon its becoming law without his approval.

Section 10. Repealer. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

COASTAL FISHERIES UPDATE

Shrimp Management

Since the January freeze of 1977 and the subsequent closing of all Georgia waters May 13, 1977 to trawling operations within the three-mile limit, DNR has monitored the white shrimp populations very closely.

At present (January, 1978) our white shrimp stocks have rebounded to a point where they are not only normal, but more abundant than during previous years.

In June, 1977, the white shrimp catch was so low (in pounds per hour of trawling) that it averaged less than one percent for the same month in previous years. Catches in July, 1977, increased only slightly (up to 3.1% of the average) and by August catches average 20.5%.

In September the catch increased to 86.7% of the previous years' average, providing strong indications the shrimp population was rebounding. These indications were soundly confirmed in October and November, when catches averaged 212.3% and 335.3% of the previous years' average. In December, 1977, catches dropped slightly (to 231.7% of the average).



Research Vessel "Cobia" at the DNR docks in Brunswick. The "Cobia" is a mainstay in the shrimp monitoring program.



Henry Ansley, coastal fisheries biologist, is in charge of the field activities in the artificial reef program. Ansley recently was promoted to the position of biologist.

With catches averaging from two to three times the average value for the three-year period previously, DNR biologists are confident the shrimp management plan, including the closing of the sounds, is working well.

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Shrimp Report

Two Weeks Ending January 27, 1978

White shrimp on the beaches to three miles out continue to make the legal count size of 50 shrimp to the pound, heads on. Shrimp sizes ranged from 16.7 per pound in Wassaw to 47.3 per pound in Altamaha with Sapelo and Doboy averaging 27.0 and 24.1 per pound respectively.

Catch sizes offshore remain good in the southern half of the state but, from Sapelo north they fell off considerably from the previous two week period (ending January 13th). Averages at that time for the northern half of the coast was 3.9 pounds per drag (now it's 1.4 pounds per drag). Catches inshore follow the same trend, with good catches in the south, poor in the north. Catches in the Kings Bay area are very large, averaging 13 pounds per 15minute drag.

The average water temperature now is ten degrees warmer than it was at the same time last year (averaging 46° F now to 36° F in 1977). Considering the cold tolerance level of white shrimp to be in the upper 30's, we are well above lethal levels of temperature.

COVER: A map of Georgia's coast taken from an atlas of satellite imagery produced by DNR's Geologic & Water Resources Division.

BULLETIN!

The National Marine Fisheries Service released data on January 31, showing the shrimp landings in Georgia for 1977 were 4,600,000 pounds (heads on). This figure is 61% of the average annual landings in Georgia for the previous ten years.

Because sounds and other nursery area were closed during the 1977 season, the fin fish catch in Georgia in 1977 was THREE TIMES the average catch for the previous ten years, NMFS said. For example, in December, 1977, Georgia landed 39,000 pounds of whiting (@ 35c/lb.) and 19,000 pounds of flounder (@ 40c/lb.).

Commenting on these data, Dr. Reimold, Chief of DNR's Coastal Resources Program said, "This suggests that with proper management of the nursery areas, Georgia could maintain a good annual shrimp crop and develop a fine nearshore fin fish crop at the same time."

ARTIFICIAL REEFS Saltwater Sportfishing Update

Fishing on Georgia's artificial reefs remains good for the angler who braves the cold and storm of winter. Although the pelagics have migrated to warmer waters, the gap left by them has been filled by the appearance of voracious black sea bass and sheepshead up to 25 pounds.



Nice channel bass recently boated by two Brunswick anglers. These fish were taken off one of the artificial reefs managed by DNR.

Bottom fishing on the reefs not only offers a potential cooler-full of these two species, but also the chance of hooking a large channel bass, red snapper and an occasional grouper. Excellent catches of 100-200 pounds of black sea bass have been reported by offshore anglers.

DNR personnel are continuing to tag fish in connection with a migration/standing stock study and urge fishermen to turn in any tags they take off fish. These tags could be worth up to \$10 apiece. Program divers are also diving on the reefs to obtain additional information on fish populations and seasonal fluctuations within the reefal community. Buoy work, using SCUBA, has been hampered by the heavy winter seas but the program seeks to place all buoys on station by the spring fishing season.

Reef construction went well this past season with the creation of a new reef and the expansion of several others -- operations that placed an additional 27,000 tires and a steel barge on the ocean floor.

Program personnel are at this time negotiating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in an effort to obtain the 180 foot dredge HENRY BACON, which is tentatively planned to be sunk at "L" reef off Savannah.

Small Business Administration Loans To Georgia Shrimpers

According to information Coastal Fisheries has received from the SBA in Atlanta, a total of \$5,160,000 in actual loan monies has been let to Georgians involved in the shrimp crisis (shrimpers and businesses closely associated with shrimping).

A total of 179 loans to date have been issued by the SBA, of which 28 were unsecured and less that \$5,000, 151 secured and greater than \$5,000. Of the 520 loan applicants interviewed by the SBA, 179 (34%) were approved.

Oyster Restoration Program

So far this year DNR has planted 4.3 acres of oyster cultch; 1 acre in Chatham County, near



Development of a new oyster reef as part of the oyster restoration program.

Little Wassaw Island and 3.3 acres adjacent to St. Catherines Island, near Necessary Creek in Liberty County.

Oyster restoration personnel report that, from their monitorings of oyster growth, one of the best growing areas is the Ridge River Mouth (McIntosh County). Oysters here have reached an average height of 82 mm in September, 1977, 28 months after planting.

The Jekyll Island Authority donated 20,000 bushels of oyster shell to DNR's restoration program last year. To date, 5,000 bushels have been transported to Skidaway Island (Savannah) for planting this spring. The remainder will be used to start plantings elsewhere.

Coastal Resources Program

As of January 2, the Coastal Resource Program, under the direction of Dr. Robert Reimold, has been underway at the Brunswick offices of DNR.



Dr. Robert J. Reimold, Chief of the new Coastal Resources Program of DNR.

Dr. Reimold assumed his duties as Chief of Coastal Resources on that date, directing the activities of the coastal fisheries, marshlands protection and coastal zone management.

DNR Commissioner Joe Tanner stated late last year, "Bob Reimold will be my designee for coastal activities," which means, among other things, that Reimold will assume a lot of managerial responsibilities for personnel and programs which have heretofore been managed from Atlanta offices.

A flurry of activity and several new faces have characterized the onset of the Coastal Resources Program since the first of the year. A wholesale shift of offices reflects the new coastal organization, as does a centralized mailing address (1200 Glynn Avenue, Brunswick, Georgia 31520) for all DNR activities in Brunswick.

Dianne Adams, administrative assistant to Dr. Reimold, is new to DNR, having worked previously as Reimold's assistant with the Marine Extension Service of the University of Georgia.

Another new face is that of Rick Cothran, a planner and local program coordinator with coastal zone management. Rick was transferred to



A sign of change on the door at the Department of Natural Resources in Brunswick.

DNR late last year when the CZM program was shifted from the state Office of Planning and Budget to DNR, and was shifted again when the Coastal Resources Program officially got underway.

"I feel that education of the public about coastal resources is one of our primary purposes," said Dr. Reimold, "and I expect the Coastal Resources Program will become increasingly involved in reaching the coastal citizens on a day-to-day basis."

(Editor's note: The newsletter you are reading is a quiet testimony to the seriousness of Dr. Reimold's intentions.)

COASTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Southern Sector

Brunswick -- According to Sgt. Woody hinton, the Southern Sector of Law Enforcement reported these activities during December, 1977.

Total licenses checked, 1,128; total boats checked, 565; total cases made for violations, 112; warnings issued, 27; assists, 210.

Confiscations: 9 traps, 1 net, 6 guns, 1 1969 Ford Sedan, 6 squirrels, 45 ducks and 3 deer.

There were 96 cases made for hunting violations, 2 cases for littering, 2 for fishing violations, 3 boating violations and 4 "others."



Menelio Medina is the new ranger for Glynn County. Menny comes from Oconee County and serves both coastal and land patrol in this new assignment. A new ranger for the Southern Sector is Menelio Medina. Medina will work out of the Brunswick Office and is assigned to Glynn County.

Northern Sector

Richmond Hill -- According to Capt. Harrel Poole, the Northern Sector of Law Enforcement reported these activities during December, 1977.

A total of 91 cases, with 36 convictions with fines amounting to \$2,376.50. There was one vehicle confiscated for night deer hunting and two boats confiscated for shrimping in closed waters.

Two new patrol boats were put into service; Liberty County has a new salt water patrolman assigned to the Northern Sector. Harry M. Williams, Jr. Williams recently completed training as a Conservation Cadet.

Coastal Ranger Telephone Directory

To encourage citizens to contact conservation rangers when they see a violation, report injured wildlife, or for information related to natural resources, we print this telephone directory. From time to time, when assignments, promotions, etc., dictate, we will publish an update of the directory.

COASTAL DISTRICT SOUTHERN SECTOR

Brunswick Law Enforcement - Office: Brunswick, 912-264-7237; 365-7237 (GIST)

Capt. Paul Leverett, Glynn, 912-265-2632.

Sgt. C. W. Hinton, Glynn, 912-264-8271.

Ranger Ron H. Wilson, Glynn, 912-264-1982.

Cpl. John R. Brown, Glynn, 912-264-0857.

Ranger Ralph Sheppard, McIntosh, 912-832-5644.

Ranger Jerry Rollins, Camden, 912-264-7237 (Bwk. Office)

Ranger David Cochran, McIntosh, 912-437-4888.

Sgt. J. W. Mills, Camden, 912-729-5166.

Ranger Marce W. Butler, McIntosh, 912-437-6133.

Ranger Menelio Medina, Glynn, 912-264-7237 (Bwk. Office)

Cpl. Jerome Guinn, Camden, 912-729-3331.

Ranger J. L. Bright, Glynn, 912-264-6834.

Sgt. Merrill Chapman, Long, 912-545-9360.

Counties: Camden, Glynn, McIntosh, Long COASTAL DISTRICT

NORTHERN SECTOR

Demeries Creed Law Enforcement - Office: Richmond Hill, 912-727-2111, 361-2221 (GIST)

Capt. Harrel W. Poole, Bryan, 912-727-2452. Sgt. Stanley Vick, Bryan, 912-545-9213. Ranger Jimmy Griffin, salt water, 912-756-2285. Ranger Herman Wells, Bryan, 912-653-2945. Ranger Bill Haley, Chatham, 912-236-3025. Ranger Dennis Davis, salt water, 912-925-3557. Ranger William Woodard, salt water, 912-897-3139.

Ranger Talmadge Hughes, salt water, 912-756-3694.

Cpl. Thomas M. Lane, salt water, 912-925-7809.

Ranger Michael McCoy, salt water, 912-786-4721.

Cpl. Larry Adams, salt water patrol leader, 912-727-2478.

Cpl. James Wisner, Effingham, 912-748-7499. Ranger Harry Williams, salt water and Liberty, 912-884-5754.

Counties: Bryan, Effingham, Chatham, Liberty

COASTAL MARSHLANDS PROTECTION UPDATE

Since June, 1976, the Savannah District of the Corps of Engineers and DNR have had the same application procedure and public notice for dredge and fill projects and bulkheads.

A single application of two sheets of paper satisfies the District Engineer, Coastal Marshlands and EPD Air Quality certification.

Upon receipt of this application, site inspections of the project are made while the materials are being prepared for public notice.

This procedure saves time, as DNR field personnel need not wait for the Corps Public Notice (i.e., "pink sheet") to determine whether a marsh permit or water quality certification is needed. In certain cases (e.g., bulkheads, rip-rap for shore protection), no marsh or water quality permits are necessary.

The clear advantage of this procedure is to the applicant, for four agencies use the same two-page form. The applicant need only fill out one form and make four copies.

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Marshlands Protection Activity: According to Dr. Fred Marland, ten permits for marsh alteration were issued by the Marshland Protection Committee from July, 1976, to July, 1977. Two permits have been issued in January, 1978 and a total of 83 such permits have been issued by the Committee since its inception in November, 1970.

For the period July 1, 1977 to December 30, 1977, 286 marshland investigations have been made by marshland personnel. Four illegal fills were identified during this period and cited. A total of 1.33 acres of marsh has been legally altered (i.e., permitted) during this period and 0.111 acres of marsh restored. Thirty six marshland applications have been reviewed: 13 are still pending; 5 have been denied and 10 have been issued; 8 are "holding fire."

EPD Coordinates Kings Bay Review

The Environmental Protection Division of Georgia DNR has just completed a statewide review of the final Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Kings Bay U.S. Navy Nuclear Submarine Refit Base (Camden County). EPD assembled all comments regarding consideration of historic preservation, endangered species, nuclear aspects, socioeconomic, and environmental aspects. The State review was submitted to the U.S. Navy on 23 January 1978 under the signature of Governor George Busbee. The review comments of the final EIS document included extensive input from the Marshlands Protection Section of DNR regarding the marsh areas and dredged material disposal sites.

New EPD Program Considers Safe Drinking Water Laws

The Environmental Protection Division of Georgia's DNR are now responsible for new safe drinking water laws. The new regulations enacted at the federal level were adopted as part of the Georgia state water supply laws as amended during the 1977 session of the General Assembly. Under this act, the owner and/or operator of public water supplies are required to sample and analyze the water for various constituents, and are obligated to meet the specified water supply standards. For further information regarding this new program, contact: Mr. Gene B. Welsh, Chief; Water Protection Branch; Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, 270 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334 (404/656-6593).

COASTAL PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES UPDATE

Historical Poster At Fort King George

Fort King George Historic Site has produced a coastal historic sites and museums poster. The poster identifies and shows the locations of historic sites and museum on or near the coast from the lower Chesapeake Bay south to Matanzas Inlet. The poster will help visitors to coastal historic sites and museums plan their trips to include other historic attractions in their itineraries. The poster was designed by Norman C. Edwards, Curator of Fort King George. Art work was done by Haywood Nichols of Savannah, and the poster was printed under the auspices of Department of Natural Resources Site Planning Section. It was funded by a grant from the Coastal Plains Center for Marine Development Services in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Skidaway Island State Park

According to Ray Thomas, Park Superintendent, DNR's Outdoor Education Section will, in coordination with Skidaway State Park, sponsor hunter safety programs (instructor's course) on February 1, 2, 3 and 4.

On March 10, 11 and 12, the hunter safety programs will be repeated. On April 14, 15 and 16, Skidaway will present weekend programs on such subjects as, "Discover Skidaway," various types of wildlife, estuaries and Georgia's coastal islands and how they formed.

Coastal Parks & Historic Sites Telephone Directory

Regional Interpretive Office, Bruce Beerbower, 912-868-6241.

Parks Regional Supervisor, C. C. Eppinger, 912-868-5949.

PARKS:

Crooked River, George Sargent, 912-882-5256. Richmond Hill, Sammie Nathan, 912-727-2242. Skidaway Island, Ray Thomas, 912-352-8599. HISTORIC SITES:

Fort King George, Norman Edwards, 912-437-4770.

Fort McAllister, Gordon Harn, 912-727-2339. Sunbury, Joe Thompson, 912-884-5888.

Hofwyl Plantation, William Rivers, 912-264-9263.

Midway Museum, Jackie Cannon, 912-884-5837.

Wormsloe Plantation, Ralph Reed, 912-352-2548.

State Geological Survey of Coastal Shallow Aquifers

According to Tom Watson, hydrogeologist for DNR's Water Resources Survey, the entire coastal area is being explored for shallow groundwater resources.

Watson said some 21 counties, including the coastal six, were being explored with some 75-100 water wells "spudded" to depths of 50-150 feet.

"We've found a lot more water stored in shallow aquifers than we originally thought was there," Watson said this week. He said the shallow aquifers provide a range of water sources from 300 gallons per minute (a shallow well currently active in Glynn County) to 30-60 gallons per minute.

"The 30-60 gallons per minute well is more than enough for an average house," Watson said. The shallow aquifer exploration, expected to establish a useful alternative water source to the deeper Ocala Aquifer, will not only provide qualitative information as to water resources, Watson said, but will serve as the basis for a more extensive quantitative exploration of shallow sources.

"At part of the study, we are also preparing chemical analyses on shallow groundwater samples, seeking to determine the nature and character of these samples, especially in sensitive areas," Watson said.

He said a report on the shallow ground water findings is being prepared and should be finished around December, 1978.

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According to C. V. Waters, Game Management Regional Supervisor, Jerry McCollum has been transferred from the Office of Planning and Research (DNR) to the Game and Fish Division. McCollum is assigned as a Wildlife Biologist for Ossabaw Island, preparatory to State ownership of that island.

Georgia's Barrier Islands: Their History and Management

The Barrier Island study is being prepared by the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Planning and Research as part of the Coastal Zone Management Program. The document, a study of the resource values and vulnerabilities of Georgia's barrier islands, their history, and the emerging policies that will direct management and future land-use decisions.

In the past ten years, changing ownership patterns have taken a number of Georgia's barrier islands out of private hands and placed them in the public trust. The result has been a variety of state, Federal and private management programs, each with definite implications for public use. The Barrier Island study will describe individual management programs on all the islands and will specifically examine the management philosophy of state-owned islands.

The publication will be completed in draft form by the latter part of February. The final document will be published under its own cover in early summer and will be available from the Department of Natural Resources.

SUMMARY OF COUNTY POSITIONS ON CZM LEGISLATION CAPDC

(Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission)

At its November 9, 1977 meeting, the Coastal APDC's Board of Directors unanimously adopted a resolution in full support of the proposed Coastal Zone Management Program. By its January 11, 1978 meeting, board members had the opportunity to review the CZM Advisory Council's proposed legislative package. In official action at this meeting, the board unanimously voted that the executive director contact the Governor and each coastal General Assembly member, reemphasizing the board's full support of the Coastal Zone Management legislation.

BRYAN COUNTY

The Bryan County Board of Commissioners took official action in support of the basic CZM Act at its regular December meeting. The board's resolution fully supports the recommendations of the CZM Advisory Council regarding the creation of an eleven-member coastal management board, and also expresses the need to allocate certain CZM program funds to local government toward the resolution of local coastal management problems. Regarding the proposed constitutional amendment, the Bryan County Board of Commissioners prefers that this be submitted to the General Assembly for study only at this time, due to its controversial nature and the unresolved effects it will have upon the relationship between local and state governments in land use matters.

McINTOSH COUNTY

Coastal Zone Management was the topic of discussion at the McIntosh County Board's regular November, 1977 and January, 1978 meetings. At both these meetings, the board expressed support for the basic Coastal Zone Management legislation provided that the provisions creating an elevenmember policy board remained intact. The board passed a resolution in support of the program and has forwarded it to the Governor and the coastal legislators.

CAMDEN COUNTY

Camden was the first county in the coastal area to express official support for the proposed Coastal Zone Management Program. In a resolution unanimously adopted on September 26, 1977, the board expressed its support of the proposed constitutional amendment and the formation of the Coastal Zone Management Policy Board. Following release of the legislation proposed by the Governor's Advisory Council, the board re-stated its support of the proposed program at its regular December meeting. During January, 1978, the board wrote the Governor and their members of the General Assembly, stating their full support of all legislation proposed by the Governor's Advisory Council. Included in this correspondence was a copy of the resolution unanimously adopted during September.

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