

JOSH STEIN
Governor

D. REID WILSON
Secretary

TANCRED MILLER
Director



CRC-26-50

February 5, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Coastal Resources Commission
FROM: Gregg Bodnar, Major Permits Coordinator
SUBJECT: Consideration of Adoption 15A NCAC 07H .2300, General Permit for Replacement of Existing Bridges and Culverts in Estuarine Waters, Estuarine and Public Trust Shorelines, Public Trust Areas, and Coastal Wetlands (GP .2300).

At your August 2025 meeting, the Commission approved the fiscal analysis for 7H .2302 (Approval Procedures) to increase the timeframe the GP .2300 from 120 days to two years and directed staff to move forward with public comment. The rule language was published in the register on October 1, 2025 and the public comment period ran from October 1, 2025, to December 1, 2025, with a public hearing conducted on October 20, 2025, at the DCM headquarters in Morehead City. There were no public comments received during the public comment period or the public hearing.

With the rule amendments developed, the fiscal analysis approved, and public comment period complete without comment, staff are recommending adoption of the proposed changes.



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality | Division of Coastal Management
Morehead City Office | 400 Commerce Avenue | Morehead City, North Carolina 28557
252.515.5400

1 **15A NCAC 07H .2302 APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

2 (a) An applicant for a General Permit under this Subchapter shall contact the Division of Coastal Management at the
3 Regional Office indicated on the map located at
4 <https://ncdenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1a5881ec85ca40679988982e02665b51> and
5 request approval for development as defined in G.S. 113A-130(5).

6 (b) The applicant shall provide:

7 (1) the site location, project narrative, dimensions of the project area, and ~~his or her~~ applicant's name
8 and address; and
9 (2) a dated plat(s) showing existing and proposed development; and
10 (2)(3) confirmation that a written statement has been ~~obtained, signed~~ obtained and signed by the adjacent
11 riparian property owners, indicating that they have no objections to the proposed work; or
12 (3)(4) confirmation that the adjacent riparian property owners have been notified by certified mail of the
13 proposed work. The notice shall instruct adjacent riparian property owners to provide any comments
14 on the proposed development in writing to the Division of Coastal Management within 10 days of
15 receipt of the notice and indicate that no response by the adjacent riparian property owners will be
16 interpreted as the adjacent riparian property owners having no objection. Division staff shall review
17 all comments and determine, based on their relevance to the potential impacts of the proposed
18 project, if the proposed project can be approved by a General Permit. If Division staff finds that the
19 comments are worthy of more in-depth review, the Division shall notify the applicant that he or she
20 must submit an application for a major development permit.

21 (c) No work shall begin until an onsite meeting is held with the applicant and a Division of Coastal Management
22 representative to review the proposed development. A permit to proceed with the proposed development shall be
23 issued if the Division representative finds that the application meets all the requirements of this Subchapter.
24 ~~Construction permitted under this Section shall be completed within 120 days of permit issuance or such permit shall~~
25 ~~expire. Construction authorized by this permit shall be completed within two years of permit issuance or the permit~~
26 ~~shall expire and a new permit shall be required to begin or continue construction.~~ If the applicant seeks a new permit
27 under this Section, the Division of Coastal Management shall re-examine the proposed development to determine if
28 the General Permit may be reissued. Pursuant to G.S. 136-44.7B, permits issued to the North Carolina Department of
29 Transportation for projects identified in the Transportation Improvement Program shall not expire. Approval of
30 individual projects shall be acknowledged in writing by the Division of Coastal Management and the applicant shall
31 be provided with a copy of this General Permit.

32 (d) Any modification or addition to the permitted project shall require approval from the Division of Coastal
33 Management.

35 *History Note:* *Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-124;*

36 *Eff. June 1, 1996;*

37 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2010;*

1 *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;*
2 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2026.*