



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
69-A Hagood Avenue  
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29403-5107

October 5, 2015

Regulatory Division

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

***EMERGENCY PERMITTING PROCEDURES FOR HURRICANE JOAQUIN***

The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District will initiate the following emergency permitting procedures in response to conditions resulting from possible erosion and storm damage associated with the recent passing of Hurricane Joaquin. This public notice is intended to provide only informal guidance to the public; it does not alter in any way the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulations, including those found at 33 C.F.R. Parts 320 through 332, and/or associated policies and procedures.

**These alternate procedures will be utilized until March 30, 2016:**

1. Pursuant to 33 C.F.R. § 325.2(e)(4), an “emergency” is “a situation which would result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if corrective action requiring a permit is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process the application under standard procedures.”
2. Some permitting may be accomplished through the nationwide permit (NWP) program. For example, the maintenance/repair/replacement of authorized, currently serviceable structures may be authorized via NWP #3. You may review the NWPs on our website at: <http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PermittingProcess>. These activities would be accomplished under the authorities of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Depending on the type of activity, as well as the geographic location of the proposed work, a Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) may be required (see e.g., 2012 Approved Regional Conditions for South Carolina [Revised] and NWP Condition 31). If you have any questions or concerns regarding the NWP Program, or are uncertain about potential NWP eligibility, it is strongly recommended that you call (843) 329-8044 before commencing work. Inquiry is also encouraged regarding PCN applicability.
3. For activities subject to a valid individual DA permit, inquiries should be made to this office to determine the extent to which the existing DA permit covers, or may be modified to cover, the proposed work.

4. For those actions which do not qualify for authorization under the terms and conditions of the NWP program, the following procedures will be used:

a. Emergency permitting requests will be reviewed to determine if there is an emergency situation, as defined in the regulation, associated with the request.

b. If the action is determined to be an emergency, descriptions of the proposed action will be sent to representatives from each of the coordinating resource agencies, including the State/Commonwealth agencies responsible for Section 401 Water Quality Certification and concurrence with the Coastal Zone Management Consistency determination, if required.

5. A decision will be made after review by the resource agencies. For most proposed actions, it is anticipated that this process can be completed within 24 to 48 hours.

6. For requests in **Horry, Georgetown, Marion, Florence, Williamsburg, Dillon, Sumter, Lee, Darlington, Marlboro, Chesterfield, Lancaster and Kershaw Counties**, please contact Tommy Fennel, Chief, of the Northeast Branch (Conway Regulatory Field Office), Charleston District Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Fennel can be reached at (843) 365-4239, or by e-mail at: Tommy.E.Fennel@usace.army.mil.

For requests in **Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, Cherokee, York, Anderson, Laurens, Union, Chester, McCormick, Greenwood, Newberry, Fairfield, Richland, Lexington, Edgefield, Saluda and Aiken Counties**, please contact Brice McKoy, Chief, of the Northwest Branch (Columbia Regulatory Field Office). Mr. McKoy can be reached at (803) 253-3444, or by e-mail at: Peter.B.McKoy@usace.army.mil.

For requests in **Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Colleton, Hampton, Beaufort, Jasper, Allendale, Bamberg, Orangeburg, Calhoun, and Clarendon Counties**, please contact Ms. Robin Coller-Socha, Acting Chief, of the Charleston District Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Ms. Coller-Socha may be reached at (843) 329-8044, or by email at: Robin.C.Socha@usace.army.mil.

Robin Coller-Socha  
Acting Chief, Regulatory Division  
Charleston District Corps of Engineers