

1 15A NCAC 07H .0309 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 07H .0309 USE STANDARDS FOR OCEAN HAZARD AREAS: EXCEPTIONS**

4 (a) The following types of development shall be permitted seaward of the oceanfront setback requirements of Rule
5 .0306(a) of this Section if all other provisions of this Subchapter and other state and local regulations are met:

- 6 (1) campsites;
- 7 (2) driveways and parking areas with clay, packed sand, or gravel;
- 8 (3) elevated decks not exceeding a footprint of 500 square feet; feet. Existing decks exceeding a
9 footprint of 500 square feet may be replaced with no enlargement beyond their original dimensions;
- 10 (4) beach accessways consistent with Rule .0308(c) of this Section;
- 11 (5) unenclosed, uninhabitable gazebos with a footprint of 200 square feet or less;
- 12 (6) uninhabitable, single-story storage sheds with a foundation or floor consisting of wood, clay, packed
13 sand or gravel, and a footprint of 200 square feet or less;
- 14 (7) temporary amusement stands consistent with Section .1900 of this Subchapter;
- 15 (8) sand fences; and
- 16 (9) swimming pools; pools; and
- 17 (10) fill not associated with dune creation that is obtained from an upland source and is of the same
18 general characteristics as the sand in the area in which it is to be placed.

19 In all cases, this development shall be permitted only if it is landward of the vegetation line or ~~static~~ pre-project
20 vegetation line, whichever is applicable; involves no alteration or removal of primary or frontal dunes which would
21 compromise the integrity of the dune as a protective landform or the dune vegetation; ~~has overwalks to protect any~~
22 ~~existing dunes~~; is not essential to the continued existence or use of an associated principal development; ~~is not required~~
23 ~~to satisfy minimum requirements of local zoning, subdivision or health regulations~~; and meets all other non-setback
24 requirements of this Subchapter.

25 (b) Where application of the oceanfront setback requirements of Rule .0306(a) of this Section would preclude
26 placement of ~~permanent substantial structures on lots~~ a structure on a lot existing as of June 1, 1979, ~~buildings the~~
27 structure shall be permitted seaward of the applicable setback line ~~in ocean erodible areas and~~ Ocean Erodible Areas,
28 State Ports Inlet Management Areas, and Inlet Hazard Areas, but not ~~inlet hazard areas or unvegetated beach areas,~~
29 Unvegetated Beach Areas, if each of the following conditions are met:

- 30 (1) The development is set back from the ocean the maximum feasible distance possible on the existing
31 lot and the development is designed to minimize encroachment into the setback area;
- 32 (2) The development is at least 60 feet landward of the vegetation ~~line or static vegetation line,~~ line,
33 measurement line, or pre-project vegetation line whichever is applicable;
- 34 (3) The development is not located on or ~~in front~~ oceanward of a frontal dune, but is entirely behind the
35 landward toe of the frontal dune;
- 36 (4) The development incorporates each of the following design standards, which are in addition to those
37 required by Rule .0308(d) of this Section.

1 (A) All pilings shall have a tip penetration that extends to at least four feet below mean sea
2 level;

3 (B) The footprint of the structure shall be no more than 1,000 square feet, and the total floor
4 area of the structure shall be no more than 2,000 square feet. For the purpose of this Section,
5 roof-covered decks and porches that are structurally attached shall be included in the
6 calculation of footprint;

7 (C) Driveways and parking areas shall be constructed of clay, packed sand or gravel except in
8 those cases where the development does not abut the ocean and is located landward of a
9 paved public street or highway currently in use. In those cases ~~concrete, asphalt, or~~
10 ~~turfstone may also be used;~~ cases, other material may be used.

11 (D) No portion of a building's total floor area, including elevated portions that are cantilevered,
12 knee braced or otherwise extended beyond the support of pilings or footings, may extend
13 oceanward of the total floor area of the landward-most adjacent building, habitable building
14 or structure. The alignment shall be measured from the most oceanward point of the
15 adjacent building or structure's roof line, including roofed decks, if applicable. An
16 "adjacent" property is one that shares a boundary line with the site of the proposed
17 development. When no adjacent building or structure exists, or the geometry or orientation
18 of a lot or shoreline precludes the placement of a building in line with the landward most
19 adjacent structure of similar use, an average line of construction shall be determined by the
20 Division of Coastal Management on a case-by-case basis in order to determine an only by
21 the Director of the Division of Coastal Management based on an approximation of the
22 average seaward-most positions of the rooflines of adjacent structures along the same
23 shoreline, extending 500 feet in either direction. If no structures exist within this distance,
24 the proposed structure shall meet the applicable setback from the Vegetation Line but shall
25 not be held to the landward-most adjacent structure or an average line of structures. The
26 ocean hazard setback that is shall extend landward of the vegetation line, static vegetation
27 line or measurement line, whichever is applicable, a distance no less than 60 feet.

28 (5) All other provisions of this Subchapter and other state and local regulations are met. If the
29 development is to be serviced by an on-site waste disposal system, a copy of a valid permit for such
30 a system shall be submitted as part of the CAMA permit application.

31 (c) The following types of water dependent development shall be permitted seaward of the oceanfront setback
32 requirements of Rule .0306(a) of this Section if all other provisions of this Subchapter and other state and local
33 regulations are met:

34 (1) piers providing public access; and

35 (2) maintenance and replacement of existing state-owned bridges, and causeways and accessways to
36 such bridges.

1 (d) Replacement or construction of a pier house associated with an ocean pier shall be permitted if each of the
2 following conditions is met:

- 3 (1) The ocean pier provides public access for fishing and other recreational purposes whether on a
4 commercial, public, or nonprofit basis;
- 5 (2) Commercial, non-water dependent uses of the ocean pier and associated pier house shall be limited
6 to restaurants and retail services. Residential uses, lodging, and parking areas shall be prohibited;
- 7 (3) The pier house shall be limited to a maximum of two stories;
- 8 (4) A new pier house shall not exceed a footprint of 5,000 square feet and shall be located landward of
9 mean high water;
- 10 (5) A replacement pier house may be rebuilt not to exceed its most recent footprint or a footprint of
11 5,000 square feet, whichever is larger;
- 12 (6) The pier house shall be rebuilt to comply with all other provisions of this Subchapter; and
- 13 (7) If the pier has been destroyed or rendered unusable, replacement or expansion of the associated pier
14 house shall be permitted only if the pier is being replaced and returned to its original function.

15 (e) In addition to the development authorized under Paragraph (d) of this Rule, small scale, non-essential development
16 that does not induce further growth in the Ocean Hazard Area, such as the construction of single family piers and
17 small scale erosion control measures that do not interfere with natural oceanfront processes, shall be permitted ~~on~~
18 those non-oceanfront in the Ocean Hazard Area along those portions of shoreline that exhibit features characteristic
19 of an Estuarine Shoreline. Such features include the presence of wetland vegetation, and lower wave energy and
20 erosion rates than in the adjoining Ocean Erodible Area. Such development shall be permitted under the standards set
21 out in Rule .0208 of this Subchapter. For the purpose of this Rule, small scale is defined as those projects which are
22 eligible for authorization under 15A NCAC 07H .1100, .1200 and 15A NCAC 07K .0203.

23 (f) Transmission lines necessary to transmit electricity from an offshore energy-producing facility may be permitted
24 provided that each of the following conditions is met:

- 25 (1) The transmission lines are buried under the ocean beach, nearshore area, and primary and frontal
26 dunes, all as defined in Rule .0305 of this Section, in such a manner so as to ensure that the
27 placement of the transmission lines involves no alteration or removal of the primary or frontal dunes;
28 and
- 29 (2) The design and placement of the transmission lines shall be performed in a manner so as not to
30 endanger the public or the public's use of the beach.

31 (g) Existing stormwater outfalls as of the last amended date of this rule within the Ocean Hazard AEC that are owned
32 or maintained by a State agency or local government, may be extended oceanward subject to the provisions contained
33 within 15A NCAC 07J .0200. Outfalls may be extended below mean low water and may be maintained in accordance
34 with 15A NCAC 07K .0103. Shortening or lengthening of outfall structures within the authorized dimensions, in
35 response to changes in beach width, is considered maintenance under 15A NCAC 07K .0103. Outfall extensions may
36 be marked with signage and shall not prevent pedestrian or vehicular access along the beach. This Paragraph does not
37 apply to existing stormwater outfalls that are not owned or maintained by a State agency or local government.

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*History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107(a); 113A-107(b); 113A-113(b)(6)a; 113A-113(b)(6)b; 113A-113(b)(6)d;
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