

# U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY DIVISION WILMINGTON DISTRICT

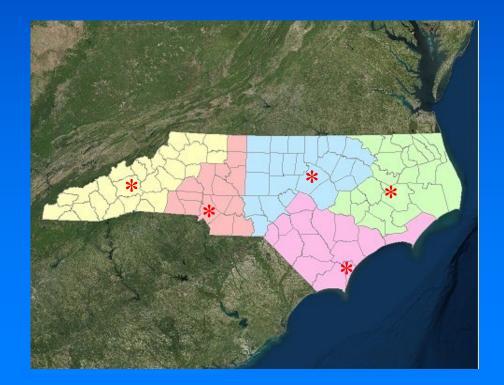
**September 28, 2022** 

Mickey Sugg, Chief of Wilmington Regulatory Field Office



### Organization

SAW Regulatory Division's has a main office located in Wilmington and field offices located Wilmington, Washington, Raleigh, Charlotte, and Asheville.







#### **Authorities**

**Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (1899)** 

**Protection of the Nations navigable waters** 

**Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (1972)** 

To restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nations waters.



## Authorities – Section 10 (33 U.S.C. 401, et seq.)

### **Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899**

- Regulates activities that affect course, location, and navigable capacity
- Prohibits unauthorized obstruction or alteration of any navigable water of U.S.
- All work (dredging, docks, pilings, marinas, fill, etc)
- Authorizes the Secretary of the Army to issue permits in navigable waters





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#### **Authorities- Section 10**

 Geographic jurisdiction includes all navigable waters of the U.S. defined (33 CFR Part 329) as "those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide and/or are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible to use to transport interstate or foreign commerce."



#### Geographical definition cont...

Jurisdiction extends shoreward to the high tide line in tidal waters or the ordinary high-water mark in non-tidal waters and waterward to 3 nautical miles.







#### Section 404, Clean Water Act

- Regulates all waters of the United States, including wetlands, for the discharge of dredged and/or fill material; including mechanized land clearing
- Authorizes the Secretary of the Army to issue permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material.





#### Section 404, Clean Water Act

#### Geographic definition (33CFR 328.3 (a))

- (1) All waters which are currently used, or were used in the past, or may be
- susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide
- (2) All <u>interstate waters</u> including interstate wetlands
- (3) All other waters such as <u>intrastate</u> lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds, the use, degradation or destruction of which <u>could affect interstate or foreign commerce</u> including any such waters:
  - i. Which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes; or
  - ii. From which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or
  - iii. Which are used or could be used for industrial purpose by industries in interstate commerce;
- (4) All <u>impoundments</u> of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States under the definition
- (5) <u>Tributaries</u> of waters identified in paragraphs (a)(1)-(4) of this section
- (6) The territorial seas
- (7) Wetlands adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in paragraphs (a)(1)-(6) of this section



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#### DEFINITION OF WETLANDS 33 CFR 328.3(b)

"The term 'wetlands' means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas."



## Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

#### WETLANDS

- Regional Supplements & 1987 COE Wetland Delineation Manual outlines three parameters for identifying wetlands.
- wetland vegetation







## Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

#### **WETLANDS**

Regional Supplements & 1987 COE Wetland
Delineation Manual outlines three parameters for

identifying wetlands.

- wetland vegetation
- wetland soils





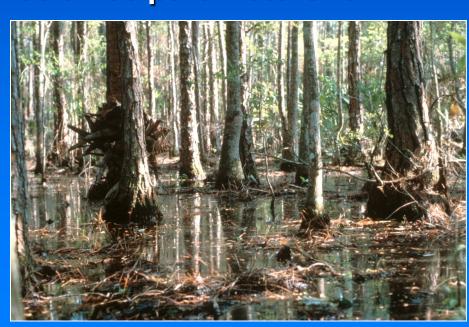
## Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

#### **WETLANDS**

Regional Supplements & 1987 COE Wetland
Delineation Manual outlines three parameters for

identifying wetlands.

- wetland vegetation
- wetland soils
- wetland hydrology





### **Permitting**

The Corps, in making permit decisions, must consider a range of factors including environmental impacts, socioeconomic impacts and property ownership rights, and balance public benefits against public detriments.





### **Permitting**

#### Types of Department of the Army Permits

- 1. Regional General: restricted to activities authorized within a specific state; generally did not have a notification requirement.
- 2. <u>Nationwide General:</u> for commonly recurring activities across the entire United States; activities with minimal adverse impacts, most have notification requirements.
- 3. <u>Individual (Standard:</u> for activities not eligible for Regional or Nationwide General Permits.



#### PERMIT EVALUATION

#### Section 404(b)(1) Guideline Sequencing

- Avoidance of wetlands
- Minimizing impacts on wetlands
- Compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts



## Related Laws Affecting Permit Procedures and Policy

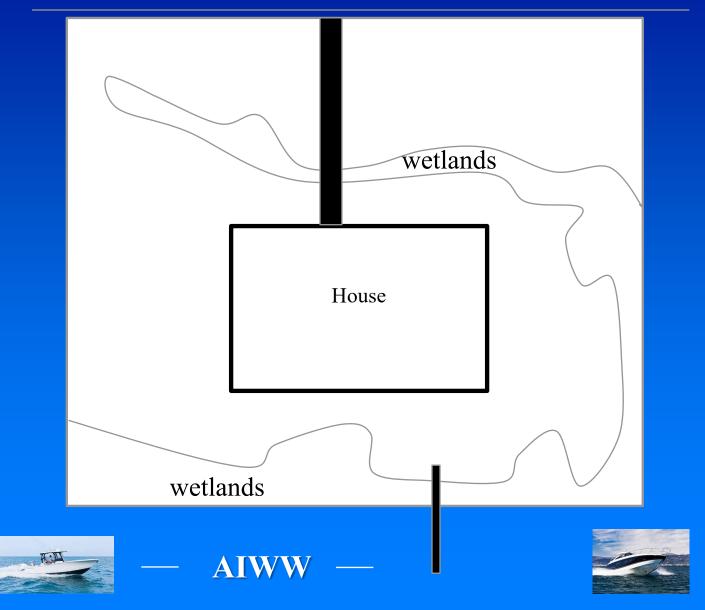
- National Environmental Policy Act (1969)
- Endangered Species Act (USFWS and/or NMFS)
- Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Act (NMFS)
- Section 401, Clean Water Act (NC Division of Water resources)
- Section 307, Coastal Zone Management Act (NC Division of Coastal Management)
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (USFWS, NMFS, and NC Wildlife Resource Commission)
- National Historic Preservation Act (State Historic Preservation Office)



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#### Lot 1

Waterview Drive





### **Enforcement**

When an individual discharges dredged or fill material in waters of the US (or does any work in navigable waters) without a permit, the Corps has authority to require remedial action, including restoration.







#### Wilmington Regulatory Homepage

https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/ Regulatory-Permit-Program/

#### **County POC List**

https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/ Regulatory-Permit-Program/Contact/

- Onslow & Pender: Tom Charles
- New Hanover: Brad Shaver
- Brunswick: Gary Beecher