

Ben Grumbles, Secretary Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

February 16, 2021

Chesapeake Bay Foundation c/o Bayland Consultants & Designers 7455 New Ridge Rd, Ste T Hanover, MD 21076

> Re: Agency Interest Number: 95095 Tracking Number: 202060978 Tidal Authorization Number: 20-WQC-0054

Dear Chesapeake Bay Foundation:

Your project did not qualify for approval under the Maryland State Programmatic General Permit (MDSPGP); therefore a separate review and issuance of the federal permit will be required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. <u>The federal permit is not attached.</u>

Additionally, your project required a Wetlands License to be approved and issued by the Maryland Board of Public Works (BPW). <u>The Wetlands License will be sent to you by the BPW's Wetlands</u> <u>Administrator.</u>

A project that does not qualify for approval under the MDSPGP requires an individual Water Quality Certification (WQC) to be issued by the Maryland Department of the Environment, which is attached. Please take a moment to read and review your WQC to ensure that you understand the limits of the authorized work and all of the general and special conditions.

You should not begin any work until you have obtained all necessary State, local, and federal authorizations. Please contact Heather Hepburn at 410-537-3789 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Danielle Spendiff, Chief Western Region Tidal Wetlands Division



STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION



20-WQC-0054

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 16, 2021 CERTIFICATION HOLDER: Chesapeake Bay Foundation ADDRESS: 6 Herndon Avenue Annapolis, MD 21403 PROJECT LOCATION: 1917 Holly Beach Farm Road Annapolis, MD 21401 Whitehall Creek in Anne Arundel

UNDER AUTHORITY OF SECTION 401 OF THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT AND ITS AMENDMENTS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9-313 THROUGH § 9-323, INCLUSIVE, OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION HAS DETERMINED THAT THE REGULATED ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED IN THE REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSED CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION LIVING SHORELINE AND AS DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED PLAN SHEETS DATED AUGUST 19, 2020 AND ANY SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT VIOLATE MARYLAND'S WATER QUALITY STANDARDS, IF CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF THIS CERTIFICATION.

THIS CERTIFICATION DOES NOT RELIEVE THE APPLICANT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR OBTAINING ANY OTHER APPROVALS, LICENSES, OR PERMITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL REQUIREMENTS AND DOES NOT AUTHORIZE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT. A COPY OF THIS REQUIRED CERTIFICATION HAS BEEN SENT TO THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS. THE CERTIFICATION HOLDER SHALL COMPLY WITH THE CONDITIONS LISTED BELOW.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Construct 1,993 linear feet of segmented breakwaters extending a maximum of 70 feet channelward of the mean high water line; fill and grade with 6,075 cubic yards of sand along 2,085 feet of eroding shoreline and plant with approximately 49,972 square feet marsh vegetation; install woody debris features; and remove or bury existing shoreline structures as needed during construction.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. This Certification does not obviate the need to obtain required authorizations or approvals from other State, federal or local agencies as required by law.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Condition</u>: The condition is necessary to ensure that water quality standards are met under unique circumstances for discharges which may otherwise qualify under the certified Nationwide Permits.

<u>Citation:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 5, Subtitles 5 and 9; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.10G(3); COMAR 26.08.02.06; COMAR 26.24; COMAR 26.23.02.06

2. This Certification does not authorize any injury to private property, any invasion of rights, or any infringement of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Condition</u>: The condition is necessary to clarify the scope of this certification to ensure compliance with water quality regulations, without limiting restrictions through other requirements.

<u>Citation:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 5, Subtitles 5 and 9; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08, COMAR 26.08.02.10E; COMAR 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.24

3. The Certification Holder shall allow authorized representatives of the Department access to the site of authorized activities during normal business hours to conduct inspections and evaluations of the operations and records necessary to assure compliance with this Certification.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Condition</u>: Conditions of certification involve precise actions to comply with water quality standards. Site inspection may be necessary to ensure that limits, methods, and other requirements are met to ensure that water quality standards are met and designated uses are maintained.

<u>Citation:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 5, Subtitles 5 and 9; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.24;

4. This Certification is valid for the project identified herein and the associated U.S. Army Corps of Engineers authorization NAB-2020-60978 until such time that it expires or is not administratively extended.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Condition:</u> This condition is necessary to qualify the period of applicability of the terms and conditions of this Certification to be protective of Maryland water quality standards.

<u>Citations:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; 40 C.F.R. 121, 15 C.F.R. 930, Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title

5, Subtitles 5 and 9; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.24

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- 1. The Certificate Holder shall construct the marsh establishment area in accordance with the following conditions:
 - a. The Certificate Holder shall use clean substrate fill material, no more than 10% of which shall pass through a standard number 100 sieve.
 - b. The marsh establishment area shall be planted within one year following completion of the filling operation.
 - c. The marsh establishment project shall be maintained as a wetland, with non-nuisance species' aerial coverage of at least 85% for three consecutive years. If 85% coverage is not attained, the reasons for failure shall be determined, corrective measures shall be taken, and the area shall be replanted.
 - d. If the fill is graded hydraulically, the Certificate Holder shall use a turbidity curtain around the perimeter of the instream work.
 - e. If the existing bank is to be cleared or graded:
 - i. The Certificate Holder shall perform all work under and in accordance with an approved Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan from the applicable sediment and erosion control agency; and
 - ii. The Certificate Holder shall perform all work under and in accordance with the Critical Area requirements of the local jurisdiction in the form of an approved Buffer Management Plan.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Condition:</u> Stabilization of the site with vegetation is required to ensure that waters continue to meet designated uses. Loss of substrate fill material and use of material exceeding limits of the condition may result in discharges which reduce water quality and interfere with designated uses, including the support of estuarine and marine aquatic life, and the protection of shellfish harvesting, shallow water submerged aquatic vegetation, and migratory fish spawning and nurseries in tidal wetlands. Additionally, the issuance of the water quality certification does not relieve the applicant of their responsibility to comply at all times with federal and State law.

<u>Citations:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; Env. Article, Title 4, Subtitle 1; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02.B.(3); COMAR 26.08.02.03-3.C.(2)d.(5); COMAR 26.08.02.03.A.(1)(b); COMAR 26.08.02.03.B.(1)-(5); COMAR 26.08.02.10.E.(2); COMAR 26.24; COMAR 26.17.01

2. The Certificate Holder shall accept the terms of the attached marsh maintenance plan by signing and returning the standard plan to the Water and Science Administration, Tidal Wetlands Division prior to commencement of any work authorized under this Certification. If the Certificate Holder wishes to propose an alternative marsh maintenance plan, the alternative plan must be submitted to and approved by the Tidal Wetlands Division, Water and Science Administration, prior to commencement of any work authorized under this Certification. Any alternative plan must provide assurances of success that are at least equivalent to those of the standard plan, in terms of the extent of native marsh plant coverage, elimination of invasive species and timeframe for plant establishment.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Condition:</u> Stabilization of the site with vegetation is required to ensure that waters continue to meet designated uses. Loss of substrate fill material may result in discharges which reduce water quality and interfere with designated uses, including the support of estuarine and marine aquatic life, and the protection of shellfish harvesting, shallow water submerged aquatic vegetation, and migratory fish spawning and nurseries in tidal wetlands. Loss limits will maintain the designated use.

<u>Citations:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02.B.(3); COMAR 26.08.02.03-3.C.(2)d.(5); COMAR 26.24

2. The Certificate Holder shall construct at least ten vents (opening in the stone edging), to facilitate marsh flushing and shall be located along the stone edging as depicted on the attached plans.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Condition:</u> Requirements to structures allow for tidal flushing through marsh establishment projects which ensures that numeric standards for dissolved oxygen and temperature may be met. Failure to meet numeric standards for temperature and dissolved oxygen levels may result in conditions that do not support shallow water submerged aquatic vegetation, shellfish harvesting, fish spawning and nurseries, and fish and shellfish survival and growth.

<u>Citations:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02-B.(3); COMAR 26.08.02.02-1.; COMAR 26.08.02.03-3.C.(3)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.03-3.C.(8)d.; COMAR 26.24

3. The Certificate Holder shall deploy and maintain a turbidity curtain tightly around and channelward of the project area prior to any excavation and backfilling along the shoreline through completion of any excavation and backfilling along the shoreline.

<u>Statement of Necessity for Citation</u>: The discharge and deposition of material within or adjacent to regulated resources may result in discharges that result in impacts to water quality criteria and designated uses, including standards for turbidity and clarity.

<u>Citations:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02.B.(3); COMAR 26.08.02.03-3.C.(2)d.(5); COMAR 26.24

4. The Certificate Holder shall not perform any construction from November 15th through March 1st of any year to protect wintering waterfowl. The proposed project site is located in a Historic Waterfowl Concentration Area.

<u>Statement of Necessity:</u> A time of year restriction is necessary to allow for wintering waterfowl to move from breeding areas to seasonally use suitable winter habitat. Breeding and wintering habitat are both essential to support waterfowl populations. Breeding habitat would not sustain waterfowl during winter. Disturbance during the closure period would interfere directly or indirectly with designated uses.

<u>Citations:</u> Federal and state laws that authorize this condition include but are not limited to: 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a), (b), & (d); 33 U.S.C. § 1251(b); 33 U.S.C. § 1370; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 1, Subtitles 3 and 4; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02.B.(3); 26.08.02.02.B.(1)(d); COMAR 26.08.02.03.B.(1)(b); COMAR 26.08.02.03.B.(2)(e); COMAR 26.24

CERTIFICATION APPROVED

Lee Currey, Director D

Water and Science Administration

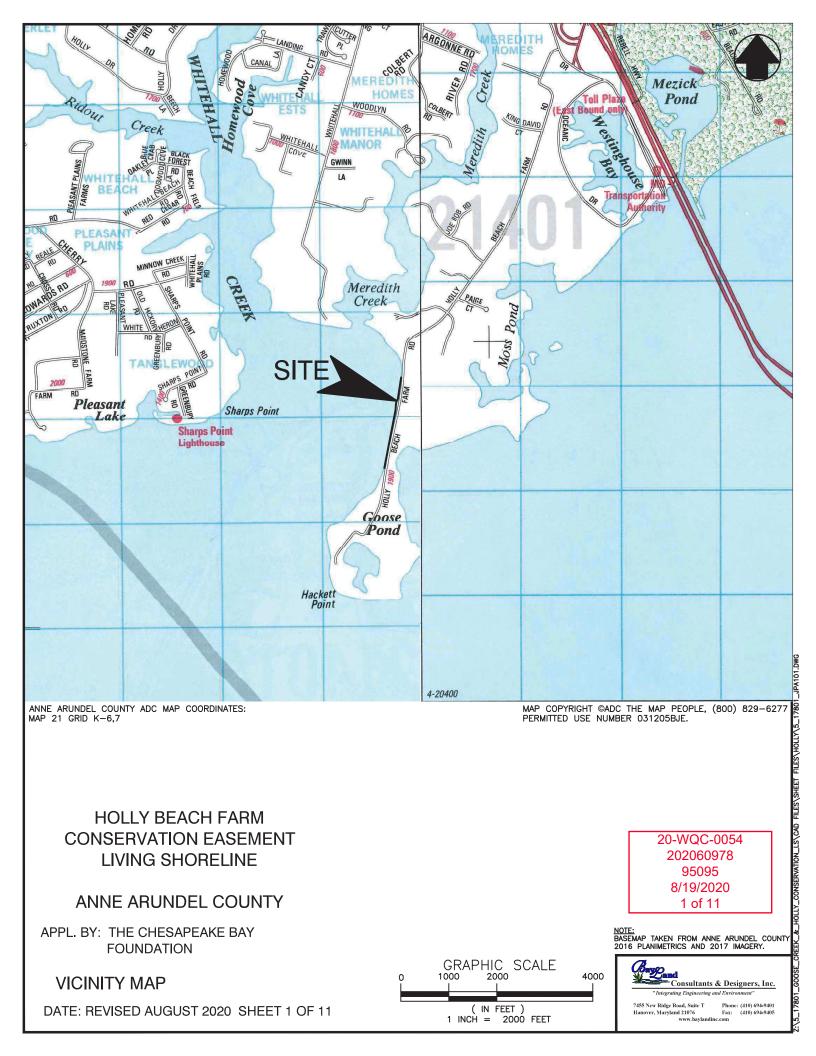
Tracking Number: 202060978 Agency Interest Number: 95095

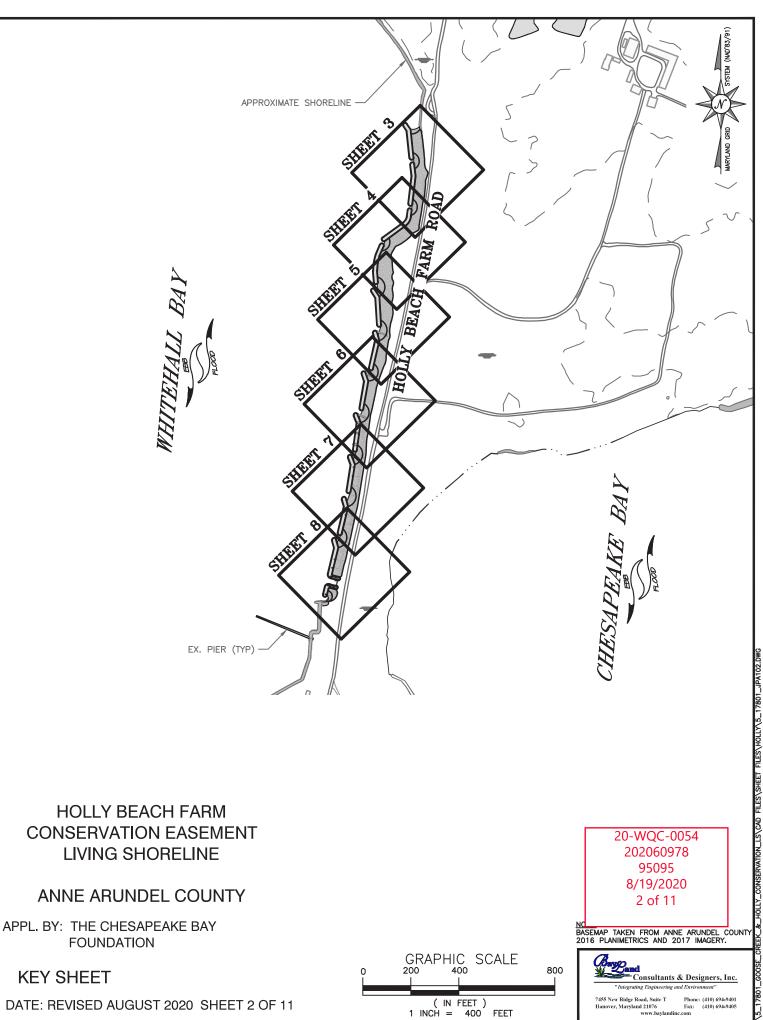
Effective Date: February 16, 2021

Enclosure: Plan Sheets dated August 19, 2020

cc: WSA Inspection & Compliance Program Army Corps of Engineers 2/16/2021

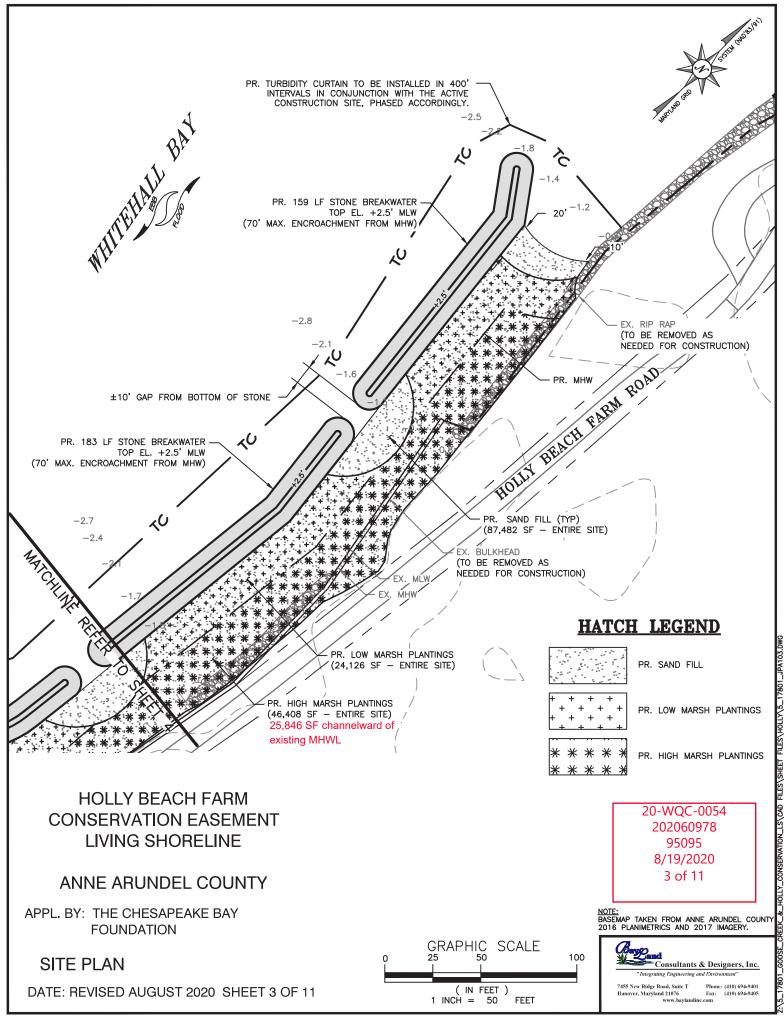
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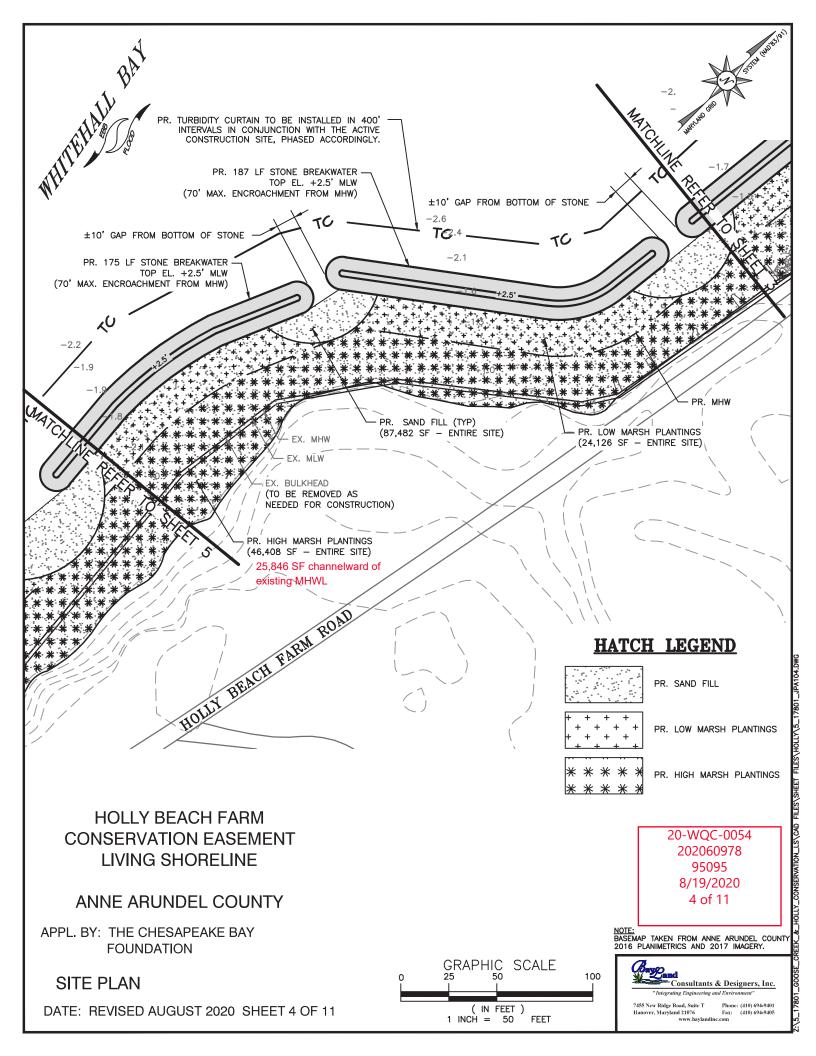


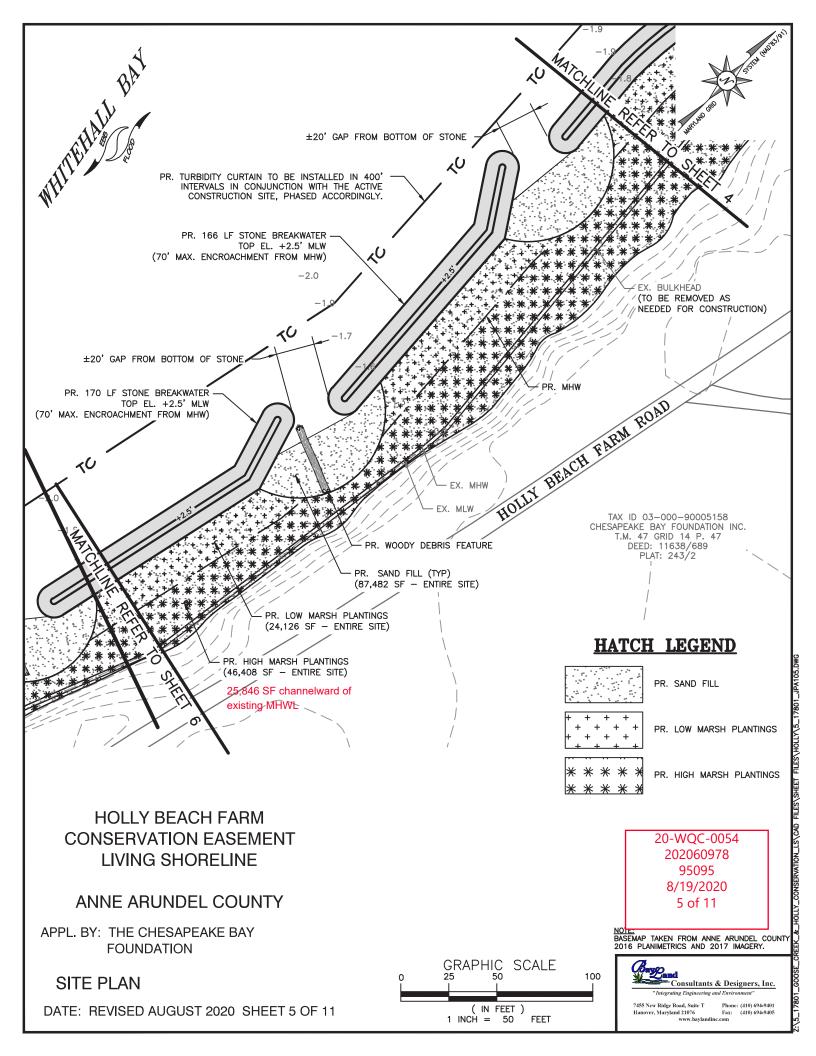
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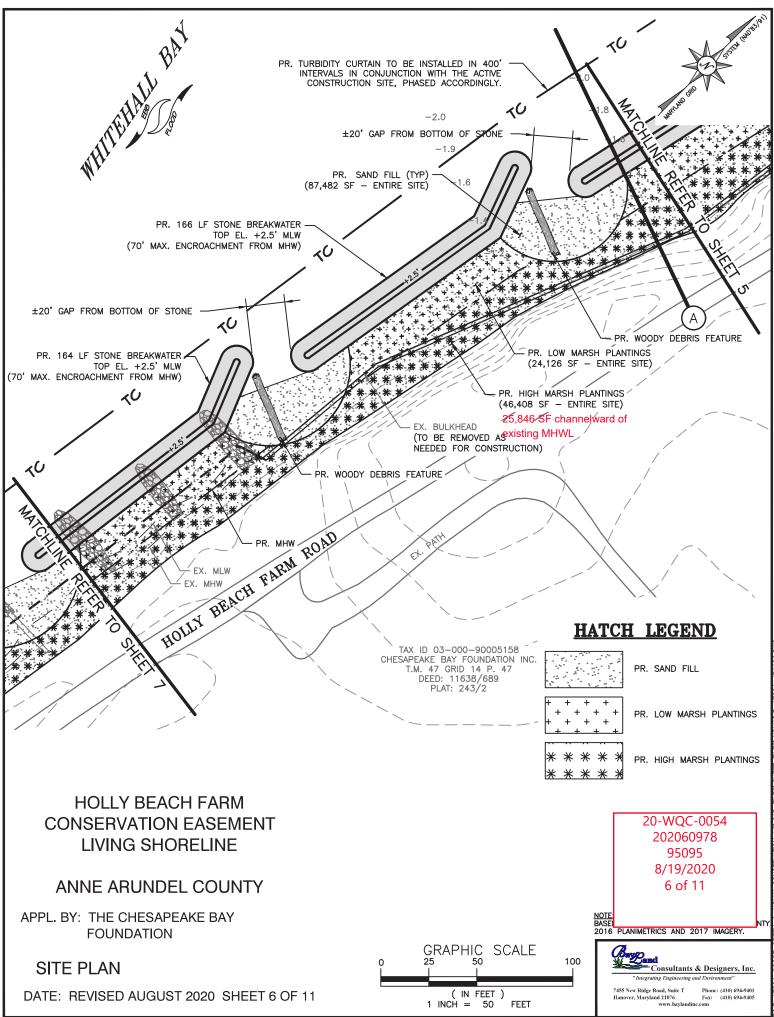
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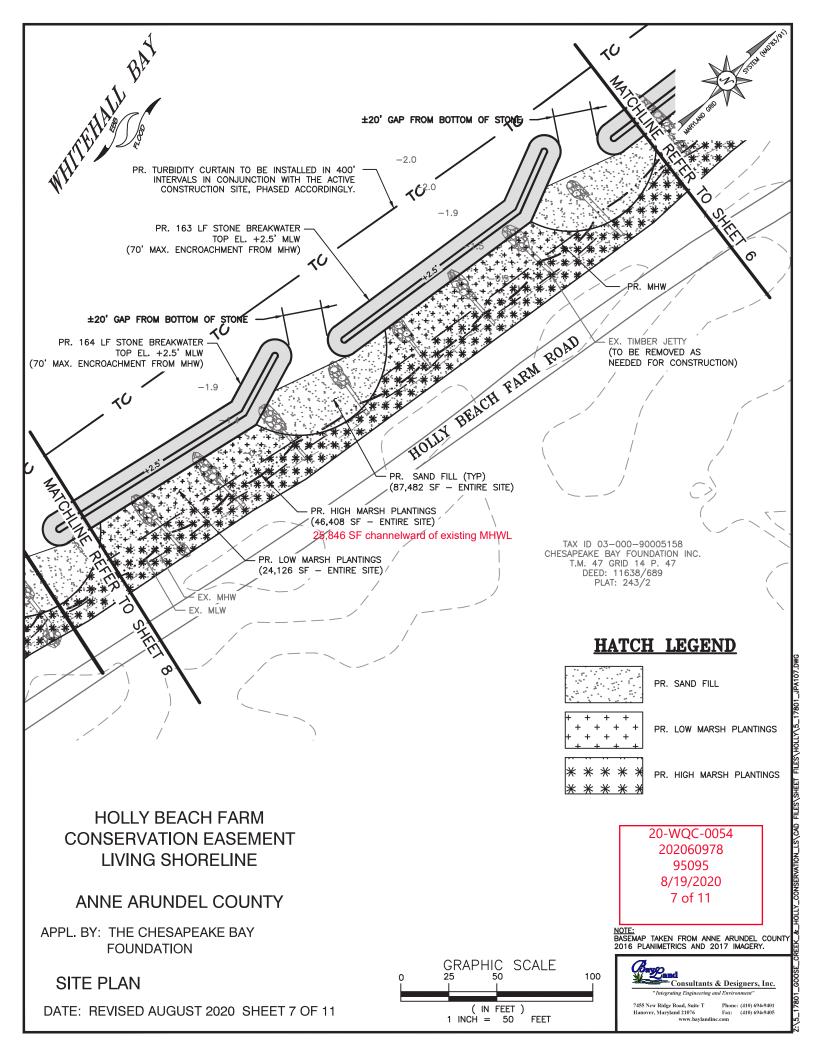
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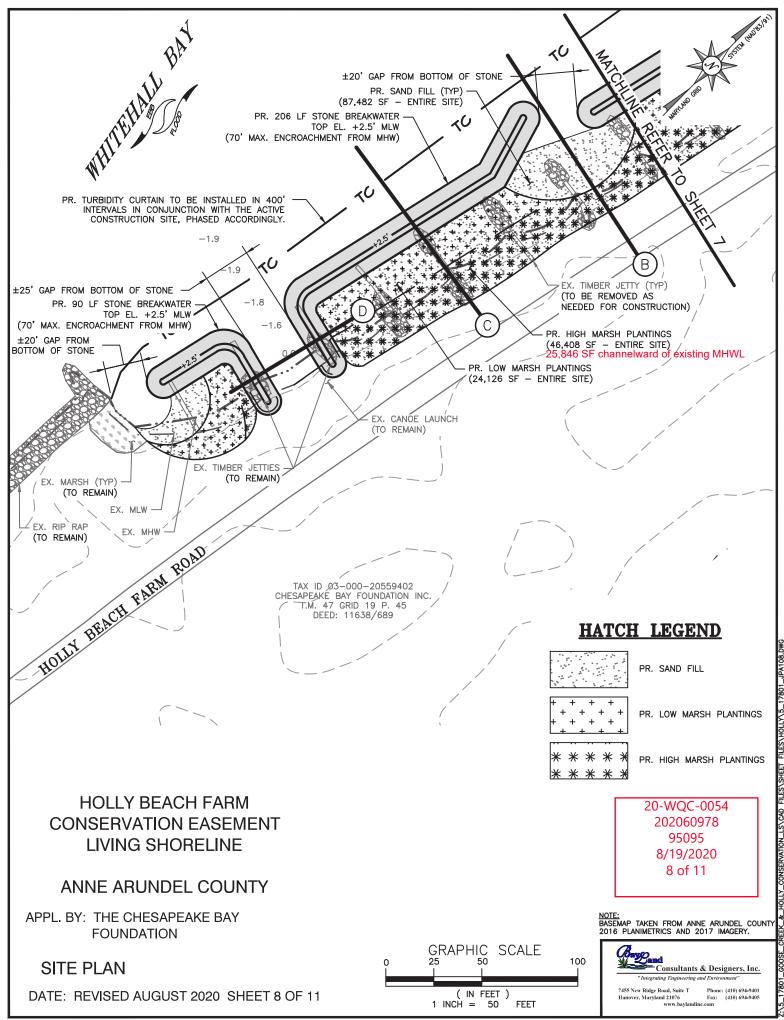




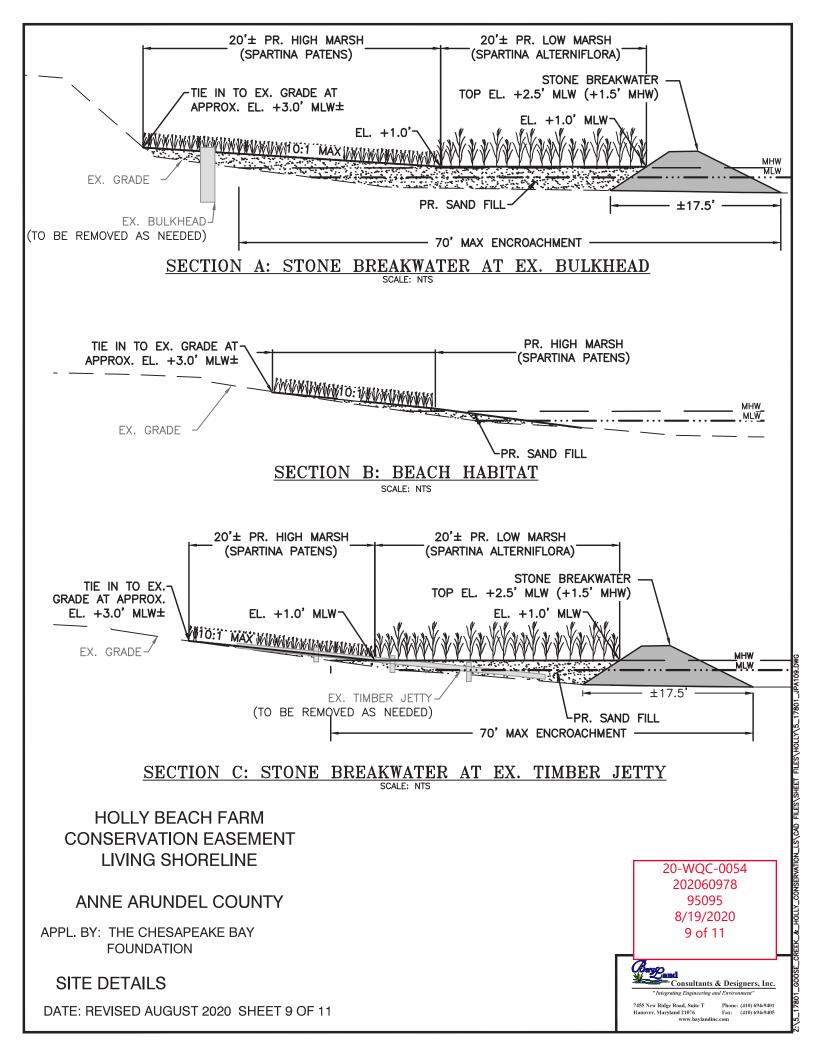


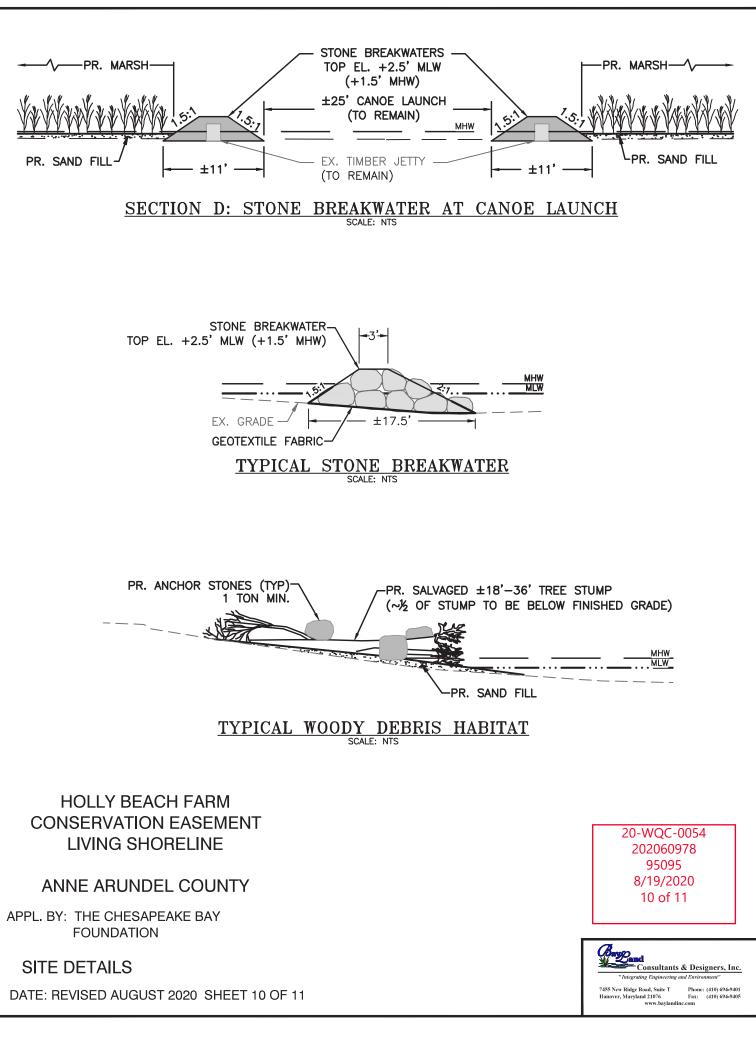
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PROJECT SUMMARY

PROPOSED STRUCTURES: STONE BREAKWATER TOTAL LENGTH – 1,993 LF AVERAGE WIDTH – 17.5 FT MAX. CHANNELWARD ENCROACHMENT – 70 FT

MARSH PLANTINGS – 70,534 SF TOTAL LOW MARSH – 24,126 SF HIGH MARSH – 46,408 SF 25,846 SF channelward of existing MHWL

SAND FILL - 87,482 SF (6,075 CY) IMPACT SUMMARY

TOTAL PROPOSED IMPACT = 120,477 SF (2.77 ACRES) TOTAL AREA OF IMPACT FROM MHW INTO TIDAL WATERS: 100,895 SF (2.32 ACRES) TOTAL AREA OF IMPACT TO PRIVATE TIDAL WETLANDS: 0 SF

NOTES

1. BASEMAP COMPILED FROM ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY 2016 PLANIMETRICS AND 2017 IMAGERY.

2. SOUNDINGS AND CONTOURS ARE IN FEET AND REFER TO MLW.

3. TIDAL RANGE 1.0 FEET.

4. BATHYMETRIC SURVEY WAS PERFORMED BY BAYLAND ON 11/07/2019.

5. THESE ARE PERMIT DRAWINGS ONLY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING THE PERMIT PROCESS. DESIGN DRAWINGS ARE TO BE PREPARED SEPARATELY.

HOLLY BEACH FARM CONSERVATION EASEMENT LIVING SHORELINE

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

APPL. BY: THE CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

SITE NOTES

DATE: REVISED AUGUST 2020 SHEET 11 OF 11









Ben Grumbles, Secretary Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

MARSH MAINTENANCE PLAN

Agency Interest Number: 95095/202060978 Tidal Wetlands License Number: 20 - wqc - 0054 Licensee Name: Chesapeake Bay Foundation License Effective Date: February 17, 2021 Address: 1917 Holly Beach Farm Road Annapolis, MD 21401 Anne Arundel County

*Please sign and date this Marsh Maintenance Plan and return to the address below no later than April 18, 2021

Preparation: All areas that are to be planted shall be cleaned of rough grass, weeds, and debris and the ground surface filled and graded to the elevations specified on the plans.

Planting: The living shoreline will be planted during the planting season for wetland sprigging which is between April 1 and June 30 or between September 1 and October 30. The mean high water (MHW) lines will be marked on the ground and the plantings shall be made in rows parallel to the MHW line extending to the limits on the construction plans. Rows shall be 18 inches apart and plants 18 inches apart. Plantings shall be made by hand with dibble, spade or shovel by opening a hole at the planting site, placing the fertilizer and then the plant in the hole, closing the hole and firming the soil around the plant so that the surface soil level is .5 to 1 inch above the top of the planting pot root mass. If the soil at the planting site is not wet or damp, the plants shall be sufficiently watered within 4 hours after planting.

Protection: Immediately upon completion of the planting operation, the planting area shall be protected against wildlife and human traffic by erecting goose exclusion fencing and Blaze Orange Fence (BOF) at the top of the slope and along the sides of the planted area.

Plant Establishment: A healthy stand of wetland vegetation is defined as 85% aerial coverage of the original planted area by native wetland vegetation (e.g., planted species and volunteer native species). A healthy stand of wetland vegetation shall be established within 1 year of planting and shall be maintained for at least 3 consecutive years thereafter. The licensee is responsible for making sure the planted area is maintained by eradicating non-native nuisance species (e.g., Phragmites), and protecting areas from human traffic and wildlife predators. If a healthy stand of wetland vegetation is not established within one year after planting, the limiting factors will be identified and addressed and the area will be replanted as necessary.

www.mde.maryland.gov

<u>Marsh Monitoring Reports</u>: Brief, annual Marsh Monitoring Reports will be submitted to the address below for 5 years by the dates below, *regardless of the whether or not the project is completed or a healthy stand of wetland vegetation is obtained.* The Marsh Monitoring Report may be brief and should include the following information, at a minimum:

- State Agency Interest number, Tidal Wetlands License number, and site address (listed above)
- Date of inspections
- Project completion date. If the project has not yet been completed, please indicate the current status of the project and disregard the remaining requirements.
- Estimation of percent plant coverage by the dominant species. This should show the percent coverage of native and non-native wetland plant species. If 85% coverage by native species is not obtained, please indicate the limiting factors to plant growth, and what steps will be taken to meet the 85% coverage requirement.
- Identification of factors limiting establishment or maintenance of a healthy stand of wetland vegetation and identify the maintenance activities necessary to mitigate the resulting stress. For example, if non-native, invasive species (such as Phragmites) have emerged and begun to crowd out the planted or volunteer native species, the invasive species should be physically removed or chemically controlled. If geese are predating the plants, goose exclusion fence should be erected.
- Photographs showing the current condition of the project

This 5-year monitoring period may be extended at MDE's discretion in the event replacement plantings are required.

The annual Marsh Monitoring Report should be submitted to the address below on or before the following dates:

1-Year Report:	February 17, 2022
2-Year Report:	February 18, 2023
3-Year Report:	February 18, 2024
4-Year Report:	February 17, 2025
5-Year Report:	February 17, 2026

ACCEPTANCE OF MARSH MAINTENANCE PLAN

The applicant acknowledges that he/she has read and understands this Marsh Maintenance Plan and agrees to submit annual Marsh Monitoring Reports on or before the above due dates.

Signature of Licensee

Date

PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THIS COPY OF THE MARSH MAINTENANCE PLAN TO:

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS PROGRAM **TIDAL WETLANDS DIVISION** (Signed Marsh Maintenance Plan) C/O <u>Heather Hepburn</u> (Annual Marsh Monitoring Reports) C/O Tidal Wetlands Division 1800 WASHINGTON BLVD. BALTIMORE, MD 21230-1708 (or via e-mail to <u>TidalMMP.mde@maryland.gov</u>)