



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary  
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary

July 26, 2023

Wroten Island Land Conservation Inc  
c/o Albert McCullough  
Sustainable Science LLC  
410 S Second St  
Denton, MD 21629

Via email: [albert@sustainable-science.com](mailto:albert@sustainable-science.com)

Re: Agency Interest Number: 94960  
Tracking Number: 202160232  
Tidal Authorization Number: 23-WQC-0028

Dear Wroten Island Land Conservation Inc:

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. The federal permit is not attached.

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

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 Mary Phipps-Dickerson at [mary.phipps-dickerson@maryland.gov](mailto:mary.phipps-dickerson@maryland.gov) or (443) 509-0797 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Tammy K. Roberson, Chief  
Wetlands & Waterways Protection Program  
Tidal Wetlands Division



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



**23-WQC-0028**

EFFECTIVE DATE: **July 26, 2023**  
CERTIFICATION HOLDER: **Wroten Island Land Conservation Inc**  
ADDRESS: **Attn: Mike Novak**  
**1401 Hollingsworth Rd**  
**Joppa, MD 21085**  
PROJECT LOCATION: **Wroten Island**  
**Crapo, MD 21626**

**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 WROTEN ISLAND STABILIZATION AND AS DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED PLAN SHEETS DATED JANUARY 7, 2022 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 a 224-foot long by 22-foot wide stone groin all within a maximum of 161 feet channelward of the mean high water line;
2. a 1,253 linear foot low profile stone marsh edging revetment all within a maximum of 8 feet channelward of the marsh/open water interface, and
3. a 141-foot long by 14-foot wide groin within a maximum of 67 feet channelward of the mean high water line at the southwest peninsula; and
4. construct 112-foot long by 14-foot wide groin within a maximum of 92 feet channelward of the mean high water line,
5. a 1,302 linear foot linear foot low profile stone marsh edging revetment all within a maximum of 8 feet channelward of the marsh/open water interface,
6. and a 52-foot long by 14-foot wide stone groin all within a maximum of 43 feet channelward of the mean high water line at the northeast peninsula.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

1. All water quality-related performance standards and conditions required by the Department in any state issued authorization for activities in tidal wetlands, nontidal wetlands, their 100-year floodplain, nontidal wetlands buffers, or nontidal wetland expanded buffers to ensure that any discharges will not result in a failure to comply with water quality standards in COMAR 26.08.02 or any other water quality requirements of state law or regulation shall be met.
2. This Certification does not obviate the need to obtain required authorizations or approvals from other State, federal or local agencies as required by law.
3. All additional authorizations or approvals, including self-certifying General Permits issued by the Department, shall be obtained and all conditions shall be completed in compliance with such authorizations.
4. The proposed project shall be constructed in accordance with the approved final plan by the Department, or, if Department approval is not required, the plan approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and its approved revisions.
5. All fill and construction materials not used in the project shall be removed and disposed of in a manner which will prevent their entry into waters of this State.
6. 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.
7. Authorized representatives of the Department shall be provided 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.
8. No stockpiles of any material shall be placed in Waters of the U.S. or state or private tidal wetlands.
9. Temporary construction trailers or structures, staging areas and stockpiles shall not be located within tidal wetlands, nontidal wetlands, nontidal wetlands buffers, or the 100-year floodplain unless specifically included on the Approved Plan.
10. This Certification is valid for the project identified herein and the associated U.S. Army Corps of Engineers NAB-2021-60232-M35 (Wroten Island Land Conservation Inc. Breakwater), until such time as that federal approval expires or is not administratively extended.

## **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

1. The Certificate Holder shall comply with all Critical Area requirements and obtain all necessary authorizations from local jurisdiction. This Water Quality Certification does not constitute authorization for disturbance in the 100-foot Critical Area Buffer. "Disturbance" in the Buffer

means clearing, grading, construction activities, or removal of any size of tree or vegetation. Any anticipated Buffer disturbance requires prior written approval, before commencement of land disturbing activity, from local jurisdiction in the form of a Buffer Management Plan.

2. If the authorized work is not performed by the property owner, all work performed under this Water Quality Certification shall be conducted by a marine contractor licensed by the Marine Contractors Licensing Board (MCLB) in accordance with Title 17 of the Environment Article of Annotated Code of Maryland. A list of licensed marine contractors may be obtained by contacting the MCLB at 410-537- 3249, by e-mail at MDE.MCLB@maryland.gov or by accessing the Maryland Department of the Environment, Environmental Boards webpage.
3. The issuance of this Water Quality Certification is not a validation or authorization by the Department for any of the existing structures depicted on the plan sheets on the subject property that is not part of the authorized work description, nor does it relieve the Certificate Holder of the obligation to resolve any existing noncompliant structures and activities within tidal wetlands.
4. The Certificate Holder shall design and construct the stone revetment to prevent the loss of fill material to waters of the State of Maryland.
5. The Certificate Holder shall not use asphalt rubble in the revetment. Filter cloth shall be placed between the riprap and the soil. Prior to emplacement of the revetment, all rebar is to be cut off flush with the concrete. After emplacement of the revetment, any rebar exposed as a result of the concrete breaking during the emplacement is to be cut flush with the concrete. Except for the larger material placed along the leading edge of the revetment, the concrete shall be broken prior to emplacement so that random sized interlocking pieces are formed.
6. The Certificate Holder shall not fill, dredge, or otherwise alter or destroy any existing marsh vegetation.

## **CITATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF NECESSITY**

1. Statement of Necessity for General Conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, and Special Conditions 1,3: These conditions are necessary to ensure that water quality standards are met, and designated uses are maintained.

Citations: Federal and state laws which 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 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.17.01; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.24

2. Statement of Necessity for General Conditions 5, 8, 9: Fill or construction material within or adjacent to regulated resources may cause discharges resulting in turbidity in excess of water quality standards and interfere with designated uses of growth and propagation of fish, other aquatic life, wildlife; and other designated uses; and fail to meet general water quality criteria that waters not be polluted by substances in amounts sufficient to be unsightly or create a nuisance.

Citation: 26.08.02.03B(1)-B(2); COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.24; COMAR 26.17.04

3. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 6: This condition is necessary to clarify the scope

of this certification to ensure compliance with water quality regulations, without limiting restrictions through other requirements.

Citation: Federal and state laws which 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 26.17.04; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.24

4. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 7: 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. These conditions are necessary to ensure that the activity was conducted, and project completed according to terms of the authorization/certification, while allowing for review of in-field modifications which may have resulted in discharges to ensure that water quality standards were met. Designated uses include support of estuarine and marine aquatic life and shellfish harvesting and for growth and propagation of fish, other aquatic life, and wildlife.

Citation: 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 26.08.02.03B(1)(b); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(2); COMAR 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.24; COMAR 26.17.04

5. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 10: 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.

Citations: Federal and state laws which 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 26.17.04; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.24

6. Statement of Necessity for Special Condition 2: Expertise for conducting certain activities is required to ensure that there is no violation of water quality standards nor interference with designated uses. This condition is necessary to ensure that discharges will be conducted in a manner which does not violate water quality criteria nor interfere with designated uses.

Citation: COMAR 26.08.02.02B(2)- B(4); COMAR 26.08 02.03B(2)(d) – (e); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(1)(b); 26.08.02.03B(2); COMAR 23.02.04.04

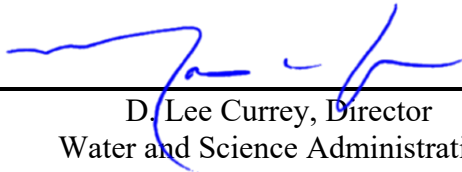
7. Statement of Necessity for Special Condition 4: Loss of fill material may result in violations of water quality due to turbidity and other alterations which interfere with designated uses as well as designated use class for support of estuarine and marine aquatic life, and support of designated uses for growth and propagation of fish, shallow water submerged vegetation, other aquatic life and wildlife. Loss limits will maintain the designation use.

Citations: 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 26.24; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.10G(3); COMAR 26.08.02.06; COMAR 26.17.04; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.23.02.06; 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 26.24

8. Statement of Necessity for Special Condition 5, 6: Proper placement and alignment of the discharge material will maintain habitat and maintain designated uses for support of estuarine and marine aquatic life and support of designated uses for growth and propagation of fish, other aquatic life, and wildlife.

Citation: 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 26.24; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02B(1)(d); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(3); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(1)(b); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(2); COMAR 26.08.02.10E.(2); COMAR 26.24

#### **CERTIFICATION APPROVED**



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D. Lee Currey, Director  
Water and Science Administration

7/28/2023

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Date

Tracking Number: 202160232  
Agency Interest Number: 94960

Effective Date: July 26, 2023

Enclosure: Plan Sheets dated January 7, 2022

cc: WSA Inspection & Compliance Program  
Army Corps of Engineers