

BUFFER AUTHORIZATION CERTIFICATE FOR CERTAIN CAMA MINOR PERMITS IN THE NEUSE AND TAR-PAMLICO RIVER BASINS

A riparian buffer authorization is required for activities designated as “Allowable” within the Tar-Pamlico & Neuse River basins per Division of Water Resources (DWR) regulations 15A NCAC 02B .0259& .0233. The riparian buffer begins at the most landward limit of either the normal water line (NWL), normal high water line (NHWL) or the coastal wetland line and extends 50 feet landward measured horizontally on a line perpendicular to the surface water.

Certain activities permitted under a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Minor Development Permit have a Buffer Authorization from DWR as long as they comply with all conditions of this Certificate. If any condition of this certification cannot be met or if the project falls outside the activities listed below, then the applicant is required to submit an application and receive written concurrence from DWR prior to beginning any work. A Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) application for requesting buffer authorization and the corresponding ‘Help’ document may be obtained on the DWR web site: http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/swp/ws/401/riparianbuffers/authorizations_variances

Those activities covered by your Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) permit have received Buffer Authorization as long as the project is constructed in a manner that meets the “no practical alternatives” and diffuse flow is maintained and the project continues to meet all of the conditions listed below. Failure to obtain or failure to comply with this Buffer Authorization may subject the property owner & the party (contractor) performing the construction &/or land clearing to a civil penalty by DWR of up to \$25,000 per day per violation.

- ❑ **Any activity listed as Exempt in the Table of Uses in 15A NCAC 02B .0259(6) & 15A NCAC 02B .0233(6)**

 - ❑ **Allowable activities as described below:**
 - Bridges
 - Clearing and grading in Zone 2 only provided that all disturbed areas are re-vegetated immediately and Zone 1 is not compromised, which includes maintaining diffused flow of storm water runoff through Zone 1
 - Decks in Zone 1 and 2 provided that they are open, uncovered wood-slatted decks with a finished floor elevation of at least 8 feet and the area under the deck remains vegetated
 - Driveway crossing on single family residential (SFR) lots that disturb greater than 25 linear feet or 2,500 square feet of riparian buffer
 - Greenway/Hiking trails
 - Non-electric utilities lines non-perpendicular crossings in Zone 2 only
 - Non-electric utility lines perpendicular crossings that disturb greater than 40 linear feet of riparian buffer and with a maintenance corridor of greater than 10 feet
 - Non-electric utility lines perpendicular crossings that disturb greater than 40 linear feet but less than 150 linear feet of riparian buffer and with a maintenance corridor of equal to or less than 10 feet
 - Overhead electric utility line perpendicular crossings that disturb greater than 150 linear feet of buffer
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- Periodic maintenance of modified natural streams (canals) and a grassed travelway on one side of the surface water when alternative forms of maintenance access are not available
- Playground equipment installed on lands other than SFR lots or that requires the removal of vegetation
- Protection of existing structures, facilities, and streambanks when this requires additional disturbance of buffer
- Railroad crossings that impact greater than 40 linear feet but equal to or less than 150 linear feet or 1/3 of an acre of buffer
- Road crossings that impact greater than 40 linear feet but equal to or less than 150 linear feet or 1/3 of an acre of buffer
- Streambank Stabilization
- Temporary roads that disturb greater than 2,500 square feet provided that vegetation is restored within 6 months of initial disturbance
- Temporary roads used for bridge construction or replacement provided that restoration activities are conducted immediately after construction.
- Temporary sediment and erosion control devices in Zones 1 and 2 to control impacts associated uses approved by DWR or the Division of Coastal Management (DCM).
- Water dependent structures as defined in 15A NCAC 2B .0202
- Underground electric utility line perpendicular crossings that disturb greater than 40 linear feet of buffer

Any structure (including but not limited to: house, commercial building, gazebo, deck, garage, shed, etc) or activity except as described above which is located within the riparian buffer is not covered by this authorization.

Pre-project site conditions: undeveloped

By your signature below, you agree to be held responsible for meeting all of the above listed conditions and verify that all information is complete and accurate. Questions regarding this process should be directed to wetland/buffer staff of DWR or DCM staff.

Foster Hughes

**Agent or Applicant Printed Name
Signature**

Foster Hughes

Agent or Applicant Signature

Brad Connell

Permit Officer's

September 23, 2019

Issue Date

CAMA PERMIT #: 29-19C