

APPENDIX Q: NORTH CAROLINA RESEARCH POLICIES AND PERMIT

Reserve use and purpose

The Coastal Area Management Act describes the use of the reserves as follows: *the reserves shall be used primarily for research and education. Other public uses, such as hunting, fishing, navigation, and recreation, shall be allowed to the extent consistent with these primary uses. Improvements and alterations to the lands shall be limited to those consistent with these uses.*” It also states that the reserves purpose is: *“Important public purposes will be served by the preservation of certain of these areas in an undeveloped state. Such areas would thereafter be available for research, education, and other consistent public uses. These areas would also continue to contribute perpetually to the natural productivity and biological, economic, and aesthetic values of North Carolina’s coastal area.”* The North Carolina administrative code section 15ANCAC07O.0101 to 15ANAC07O.0202 defines the use and purpose of the reserve further. Specifically, the following use requirements are defined: (1) The essential natural character of the Reserve shall be maintained; (2) Traditional recreational uses within each component shall be allowed to continue as long as the activities do not disrupt the natural integrity of the Reserve or any research or educational projects. Incompatible traditional uses shall include: (a) fishing, hunting, or trapping activities not allowed by state rules; (b) target shooting; (c) hydraulic clam dredging within Reserve boundaries; (d) use of vehicles off designated corridors at components where vehicles are allowed for upland transportation according to the management plan; and (e) production of noise disruptive to local wildlife and the aesthetic enjoyment of the Reserve as a natural area; (3) No user shall disturb a research project or research equipment in place at the Reserve; (4) Camping or any form of habitation, whether on the uplands, wetlands, or waters within Reserve boundaries, shall not be allowed unless written permission is posted by the Division of Coastal Management; (5) Personal property not authorized by the management agency may not be placed within the boundaries of the Reserve for more than two consecutive days; (6) Users of the Reserve shall not disturb or remove any live animals, except those allowed by local or state hunting and fishing rules as they apply to the Reserve, or vegetation within the Reserve unless such action is part of a research or educational project approved by the management agency; (7) Persons wishing to engage in scientific research or collection of natural materials within the Reserve shall first secure written permission from the management agency; (8) No activity shall be allowed which might pollute any stream or body of water in the Reserve. Acts of pollution shall include: (a) Deposition of solid materials not indigenous to the local coastal ecosystem; and (b) Discharge of liquids other than uncontaminated estuarine water; (9) No other acts or uses which are detrimental to the maintenance of the property in its natural condition shall be allowed including, but not limited to, disturbances of the soil, mining, commercial or industrial uses, timber harvesting, ditching and draining, deposition of waste materials. All research activity within the Reserves must adhere to these use requirements.

Research permit

Use requirement 7 above requires persons wishing to engage in scientific research or collection of natural materials within the Reserves shall first secure written permission from the management agency. To address this, NCNERR utilizes a research permit to track research activity on the Reserves. This provides NCNERR an opportunity to review proposed research

and verify that the work complies with all mandated Reserve use requirements. The permit also provides NCNERR with the required data to inform our performance measures to both NOAA and DENR. Researchers wishing to conduct research on the Reserve fill out a two page research permit application form (see below). The research staff in consultation with the Reserve Manager reviews the application forms. Projects that do not meet all the above use requirements are not issued a permit and the project is not allowed to be conducted on Reserve properties.

The NCNERR encourages all investigators to present their work verbally and in writing. Peer-reviewed publications are particularly desirable whenever that format is appropriate. Toward furthering this goal, the NCNERR may periodically request that researchers present preliminary or final results of their work to a variety of local or regional audiences. As specified in the NCNERR research permit conditions and in the award conditions for federally funded research, researchers are obligated to give copies of reports and publications to the Reserve(s) where the work was performed.

Research Permit Conditions

The Research permit is good for the duration of the study or three years, whichever comes first. Permits may be renewed if more time is needed to complete the project. The Permittee must comply with all Reserve rules and regulations as defined by the North Carolina Administrative Code (15ANCAC07O.0101 to 15ANAC07O.0202), the NCNERR Management Plan, and any other applicable state and federal regulations. It is the permittee's responsibility to be aware of legal obligations. All other required permits (*e.g.*, NC Division of Marine Fisheries collecting permits) are the responsibility of the Permittee.

All experiments and equipment left in the field during a project should be clearly marked with the Researcher's name and address, and research permit number. Any items in the Reserve not labeled as above may be removed by reserve staff. All experiments, trash, or equipment related to the project must be removed from the Reserves within three months from the end of the project.

A final project report is required. It may consist of a short review of what was accomplished or a full copy of the paper(s) that resulted from work in the Reserves. Even if a short report is submitted, we would like to receive copies of any subsequent publications, reports, or dissertations/theses that result from work in the Reserve components. These reports will be added to our research bibliography and will be available for distribution through the NCNERR website.

Research permit application

Print Form

Research Permit

N.C. National Estuarine Research Reserve

Dr. John Fear

101 Pivers Island Road

Beaufort, N.C., 28516

Phone: 252-838-0884

Fax: 252-838-0890

www.nccoastalreserve.net

John.Fear@ncmail.net



Date:

Principal Investigator Name and Title:

Address:

City and State:

Zip Code:

Phone: Fax:

Email:

Designated contact person and address (if different from above):

If student, give major advisor, school, and degree sought:

Usual number of participants in field work in Reserve:

Project Title:

Funding Source(s):

Funded Amount/Year:

Project Duration:

Work Description (Please fill out A-D or attach a concise 1-2 page project summary):

A: Abstract

B: Sampling Locations (list both Reserve and non-Reserve sampling locations)

C: Project Objectives

D: Methods (include sampling devices/methods, frequency, assays, etc...)

Applicant Signature* Date:

NC NERR Research Coordinator Approval Date:

Permit Expiration Date**

** maximum duration = 3 years, permits may be renewed

* Submittal of this application indicates that the applicant will abide by the permit conditions and will keep Reserve staff apprised of major permit deviations. Please mail or email this application to Dr. John Fear at the address above.

