This notice is issued to inform the public of a receipt of an Application for a variance submitted pursuant to a state environmental law. The public is invited to comment during the 30-day period on the proposed activity. Site Plans are immediately available for review and are located in the following EPD office: Watershed Protection Branch 200 Piedmont Avenue, S.W. Suite 418 West Atlanta, Georgia 30334. Please contact Ms. Thais Edwards at (404) 463-2382 or e-mail thais.edwards@dnr.ga.gov to schedule an appointment to review the plans. Since the EPD has no authority to zone property or determine land use, only those comments addressing environmental issues related to air, water, and land protection will be considered in the application review process. Written comments should be submitted to: Program Manager, NonPoint Source Program, Erosion and Sedimentation Control, 2 MLK Jr., Dr., SW Suite 1462 East, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Type of Permit Application: Variance to encroach within the 25-foot State waters buffer.

Applicable Law: Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act O.C.G.A. 12-7-1 et seq.

Applicable Rules: Erosion and Sedimentation Control Chapter 391-3-7

Basis under which variance shall be considered {391-3-7.11 (2) (a-k)}: (h)

Description and Location of Proposed Activity: The proposed project would impact Wetlands 08, 09 and 10 (salt marshes adjacent to Sterling Creek) for the widening of State Route (SR) 144 from south of County Road (CR) 100 to south of CR 154. Additional through lanes and turn lanes are proposed along the existing two-lane road, in order to improve safety and operational conditions on SR 144. The project would impact the 25-foot state mandated buffer under criterion 2(a) within the Ogeechee Coastal watershed.

Name and Address of Permit Applicant:

Mr. Eric Duff
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
600 W. Peachtree Street, NW, 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Summary of Rules Requirements for Variance Application:

The application for a variance must include an approved Erosion and Sediment Control Plan with control measures based on sound conservation and engineering practices which meet or exceed the standards in the "Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia" and which will minimize erosion and deposition of sediments on adjacent lands or into State waters.

For Additional Information Contact:  
Karsen Schottleutner, Environmental Specialist  
EPD, Watershed Protection Branch  
NonPoint Source Program  
2 MLK, Jr. Dr. S.W., Suite 1462 East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Telephone: 404-463-3142  FAX: 404-651-8556