

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE
WATERSHED PROTECTION BRANCH

April 26, 2019
Notice Issue Date

Habersham County
City / County

May 28, 2019
Notice Close Date

TSV-068-18-01
Control Number

Soque River Mitigation Bank – Streambank Stabilization and Wetland Restoration
(Bridge Street (GA-197) / Wall Bridge Road, Clarkesville, GA 30103)

Activity

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 available for review and are located in the following EPD office: Watershed Protection Branch, 200 Piedmont Avenue SW, Suite 418 West, Atlanta, GA 30334. Please contact Ms. Clara Davis at (404) 463-2382 or email clara.davis@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 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East, Atlanta, GA 30334.

Type of Permit Application: Variance to encroach within the 50-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-.05 (2)(a-k)}: (a) and (b)

Description and Location of Proposed Activity:

The approved *Banking Instrument Modification Request* regarding the Soque River Mitigation Bank in Habersham County (SAS-2010-00442) includes the following activities - streambank stabilization (including live staking, bank soil amendments and soil aggradation removal) and *additional* wetland restoration including channel fill (\pm 6,626 linear feet total) along with various wetland restoration techniques (such as log and rock valley sills, snag diffusers, wetland valley bowls, w-wiers and rock cross-vanes). The *Banking Instrument Modification Request* activities would result in the addition of 125.84 wetland mitigation credits and a reduction of 111,532.2 stream mitigation credits – resulting in a final total of 330.71 wetland mitigation credits and 73,873.7 stream mitigation credits for the Soque River Mitigation Bank. This project will result in 9,609 linear feet total (960,900 square feet total) of buffer disturbances along five unnamed tributaries to the Soque River in the *Upper Chattahoochee Watershed*.

Name and Address of Permit Applicant: Aaron McWhorter
Soque River Mitigation Conservation, LLC
1487 Black Dirt Road
Whitesburg, GA 30185

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: Frank M. Carubba, Environmental Engineer
EPD Watershed Protection Branch
NonPoint Source Program
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East
Atlanta, GA 30334
Telephone: (404) 651-8550