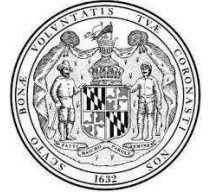




STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION
WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
25-WQC-0041



EFFECTIVE DATE: **August 25, 2026**
CERTIFICATION HOLDER: **Michael E. Runk, Sr.**
1180 Legos Choice Ct
Westminster, MD 21157

PROJECT LOCATION: **13056 Riggan Ridge Road, Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland**

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 (DEPARTMENT) HAS DETERMINED THAT THE REGULATED ACTIVITY DESCRIBED IN THE REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION FOR MICHAEL E. RUNK, SR ASSOCIATED WITH U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (CORPS) AUTHORIZATION NAB-2025-60646, WILL NOT VIOLATE MARYLAND'S WATER QUALITY STANDARDS, IF CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS CERTIFICATION.

THIS CERTIFICATION IS HEREBY GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS. 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. THE CERTIFICATION HOLDER SHALL COMPLY WITH THE CONDITIONS LISTED BELOW.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Tracking Number: 202560646

Agency Interest Number: 93008

Construct a 174-foot long by 14-foot wide stone jetty extending a maximum of 174 feet channelward of the mean high water line.

This Water Quality Certification (Certification) is issued under authority of Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and its Amendments, Title 9, Subtitle 3 of the Environment Article, and Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.08.02.10. The Department has determined from a review of the request application file that the project activities described in the above will not violate Maryland's water quality standards, provided that the following conditions are satisfied. The Department satisfied statutory and regulatory public notice requirements by placing this WQC on Public Notice from February 1, 2026 to March 1, 2026 on the Department's Public Notice webpage (and advertising in the Worcester County Time on February 12, 2026).

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. The Certificate Holder shall comply with all Critical Area requirements and obtain all necessary authorizations from local jurisdiction. This Certificate 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 or is not otherwise exempt from the licensing requirement, all work performed under this Tidal Wetlands Permit 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 and COMAR 26.30. The licensed marine contractor shall be authorized for the appropriate license category to perform or solicit to perform the activities within this authorization, if applicable. A list of licensed marine contractors and their license category 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 at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/LicensedMarineContractors.aspx>.
3. The issuance of this certificate 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.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. The Certification Holder shall comply with all water quality-related performance standards and conditions required by the Department or the Board of Public Works (BPW) in any state issued authorization for activities in tidal wetlands, nontidal wetlands, their 100-year floodplains, 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.
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. The Certification Holder shall obtain and comply with all additional authorizations or approvals, including self-certifying General Permits issued by the Department.

4. The Project shall be constructed and activities conducted in accordance with the final plan approved by the Department or BPW (or if Department or BPW approval is not required, then in accordance with the plan approved by the Corps), and its approved revisions (Approved Plan).
5. 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.
6. The Certification Holder shall allow authorized representatives of the Department 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.
7. Structures and activities may not interfere with movement of aquatic life, fish, and other wildlife nor cause their entanglement.
8. The Certification Holder may not conduct activities which result in the introduction of non-native species with adverse effects on the aquatic ecosystem into waters or wetlands.
9. No stockpiles of any material shall be placed in Waters of the U.S. or state or private tidal wetlands. All fill and construction materials not used in the project shall be removed and disposed of in a manner approved by the Department which will prevent their entry into waters of this State.
10. Temporary construction trailers or structures, staging areas and stockpiles may not be located within tidal wetlands, nontidal wetlands, nontidal wetlands buffers, nontidal wetland expanded buffers, or the 100-year floodplain unless specifically included on the Approved Plan.
11. The Certification Holder shall adhere to the construction time of year restrictions, unless waived or amended by the Department or BPW, as identified in a state authorization.
12. The Certification Holder shall obtain and comply with an erosion and sediment control plan approved by the appropriate authority (if applicable), including following the stabilization requirements set forth in COMAR 26.17.01.07 and "2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control," as may be amended for activities which result in an earth disturbance subject to the requirements in Annotated Code of Maryland, Environment Article, Title 4 and COMAR 26.17.01.
13. The disturbance of the bottom of the waterway and sediment transport into adjacent State waters shall be minimized.
14. The Certification Holder shall notify the Compliance Program at mde.wsacompliance@maryland.gov a minimum of 2 weeks prior to commencement of regulated activities and discharges.
15. The Certification Holder shall notify the Water and Science Administration, Wetlands and Waterways Protection Program, in writing, upon transferring property ownership or responsibility for compliance with these conditions to another person. The new owner/operator shall request, in writing, transfer of this Certification to his/her name.

16. The Certification Holder shall ensure that a copy of this Certification, including the Approved Plans, is available at the site until the authorized work is complete.
17. This Certification is valid for the project identified herein and the associated Corps authorization NAB-2025-60646 until such time that the Corps authorization expires or is not administratively extended.

STATEMENTS OF NECESSITY AND CITATIONS

1. Statement of Necessity for General Conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 10 and Special Conditions 1 and 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 Condition 5: This condition is necessary to clarify the scope of this certification to ensure compliance with water quality regulations, without limiting restrictions through other requirements.

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 26.08.02.10E; COMAR 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.17.04; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.24.

3. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 6: 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.

Citations: 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.

4. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 7: Movement of aquatic life and passage of flows is essential for growth and propagation of aquatic life, fish, and other wildlife to meet these designated uses.

Citations: 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 26.08.02.02B(1)(d); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(2) - B(8); 26.08.02.03B(1)(b); 26.08.02.03B(2)(e); COMAR 26.17.01; COMAR 26.23.02.06A; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.17.04.

5. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 8: Nuisance or non-native species may spread and disrupt and dislodge native species from their habitat, leading to declines in distribution, density, growth and propagation. This may result in failure to support native species; and growth, propagation of fish, other aquatic life, and wildlife. Limitations on loss will sustain habitat for a variety of aquatic species. The conditions ensure that discharges will not result in failure to support designated uses.

Citations: COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02.B(1)(d); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(2)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(3)(b); COMAR 26.08.02B(4))(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(5); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(6)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(7); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(8)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(1)(b); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(2)(e);; COMAR 26.23.02.06A; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.17.04.

6. Statement of Necessity for General Conditions 9, 10, and 12: 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.

Citations: 26.08.02.03B(1)-B(2); COMAR 26.08.02.03-3; COMAR 26.23; COMAR 26.24; COMAR 26.17.04.

7. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 11: The growth and propagation of fish, other aquatic life, and wildlife and support of estuarine and marine aquatic life and shellfish harvesting are dependent upon certain times during the year and specific environmental conditions. The condition is necessary to ensure that activities are restricted during the critical growth, propagation, movement, and harvesting periods to ensure that designated uses will be met.

Citations: Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3; Md. Ann. Code, Env. Article, Title 16; COMAR 26.08; COMAR 26.08.02.02B(1)(d); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(2)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(3); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(4)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(5); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(6)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(7); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(8)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(1)(b); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(2)(e).

8. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 13: Restrictions on instream construction are necessary to protect designated uses for propagation and growth of fish, other aquatic life, and wildlife and comply with numeric water quality standards for turbidity and clarity.

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 26.08.02.03-3.D; COMAR 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.08.02.02B(1)(d); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(2)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(3); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(4)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(5); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(6)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(7); COMAR 26.08.02.02B(8)(a); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(1)(b); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(2)(e); COMAR 26.08.02.03-3.

9. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 14: The condition is necessary to ensure that Compliance personnel are aware of when discharges are taking place so that an inspection can be undertaken to ensure that water quality standards are met.

Citation: MD Env Code § 1-301 (2019).

10. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 15: In order to ensure that water quality standards will be met and conditions followed, a responsible party must be identified for accountability if needed. A change in ownership or other responsibility must be indicated as the new Certification Holder.

Citations: COMAR 26.08.02.10E(2).

11. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 16: This condition ensures that the Certification Holder and persons conducting work have the certification on the site for referral so that approved discharges will not result in violations of water quality standards.

Citations: 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, 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 26.24; COMAR 26.08.02.01E(2); COMAR 26.23.02.06; COMAR 26.17.01; COMAR 26.23.

12. Statement of Necessity for General Condition 17: 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.

13. 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.

Citations: COMAR 26.08.02.02B(2)- B(4); COMAR 26.08.02.03B(2)(d) – (e); COMAR 26.08.02.01B(2); 26.08.02.02B(1).

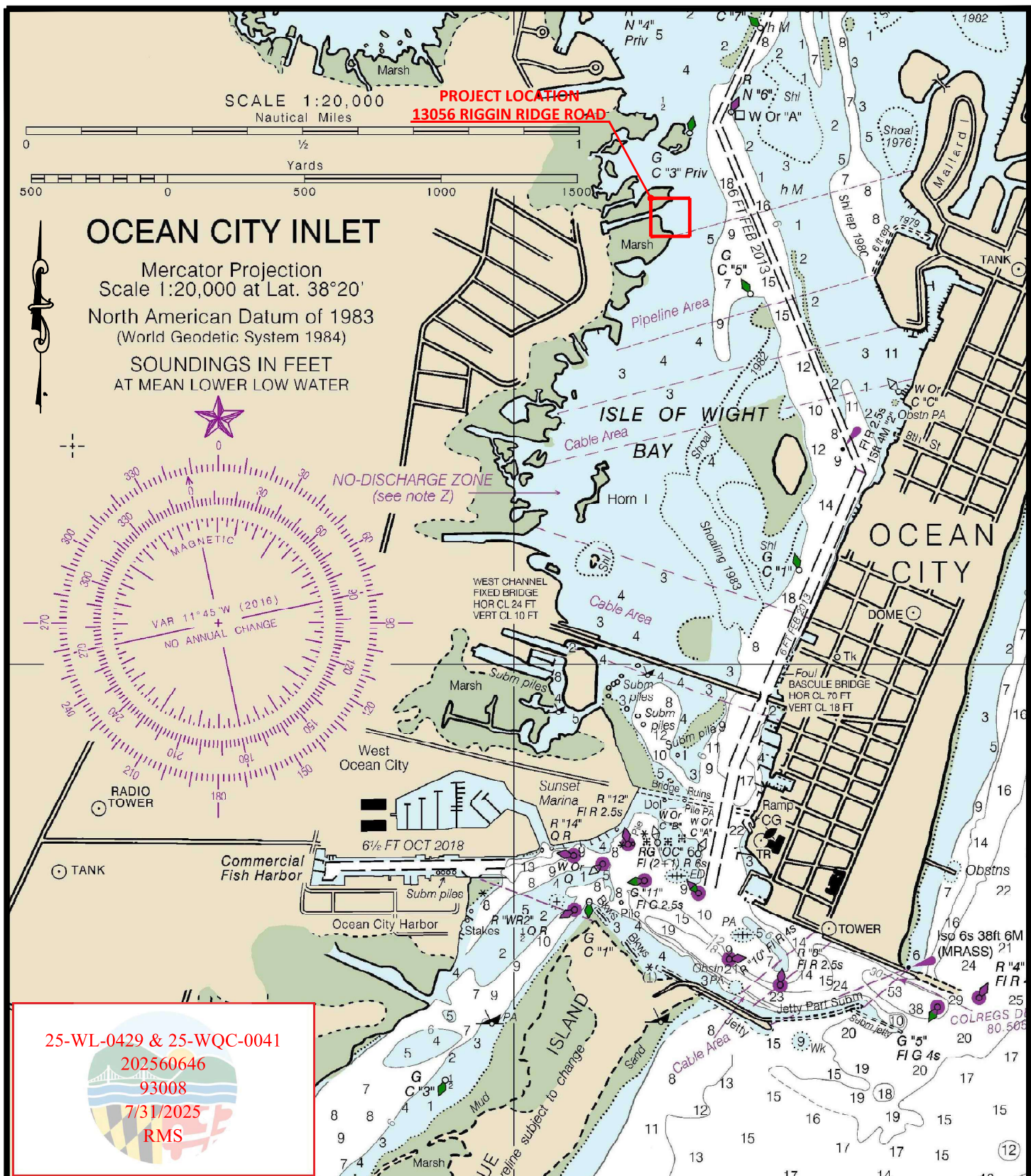
CERTIFICATION APPROVED



Heather L. Nelson, Program Manager
Wetlands and Waterways Protection Program
Water and Science Administration

Effective Date: August 25, 2026

cc: WSA Inspection & Compliance Program
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



VICINITY MAP

Inlet Protection Project
Runk Property

Worcester County, Maryland

SUSTAINABLE SCIENCE LLC
Ecological Engineering Services
410 S. Second Street
Denton, Maryland 21629
Phone: (410) 924-4316
www.sustainablescience.com

SCALE: 1 inch = 500 feet

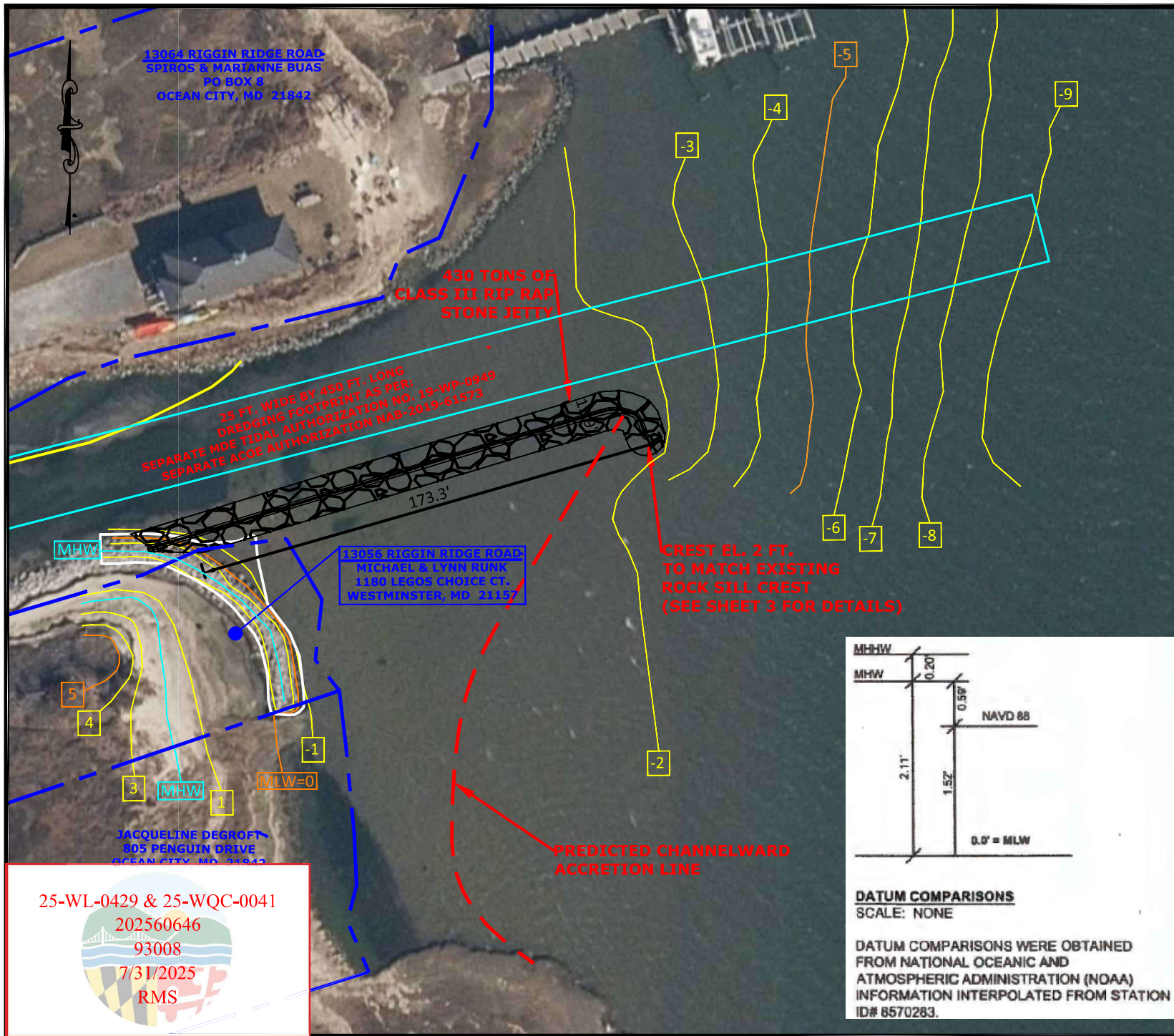
DRAWN BY: A. McCullough

DATE: February 16th, 2025

LAST REVISION: NONE

SS PROJECT NO: 24010

SHEET NUMBER 1 OF 3



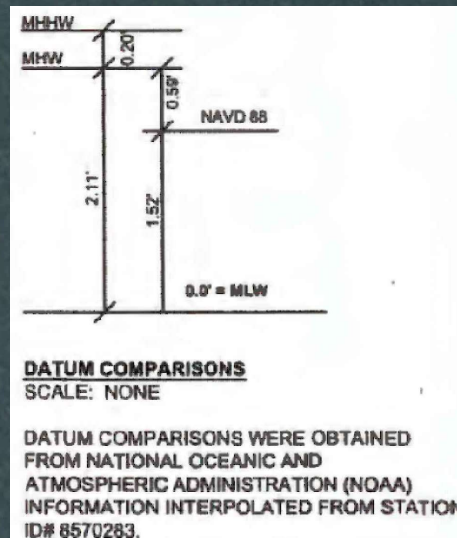
SCALE:	1 inch = 50 feet
DRAWN BY:	A. McCullough
DATE:	February 16th, 2025
LAST REVISION:	July 31st, 2025
SS PROJECT NO:	24010
SHEET	2 OF 3
NUMBER	3

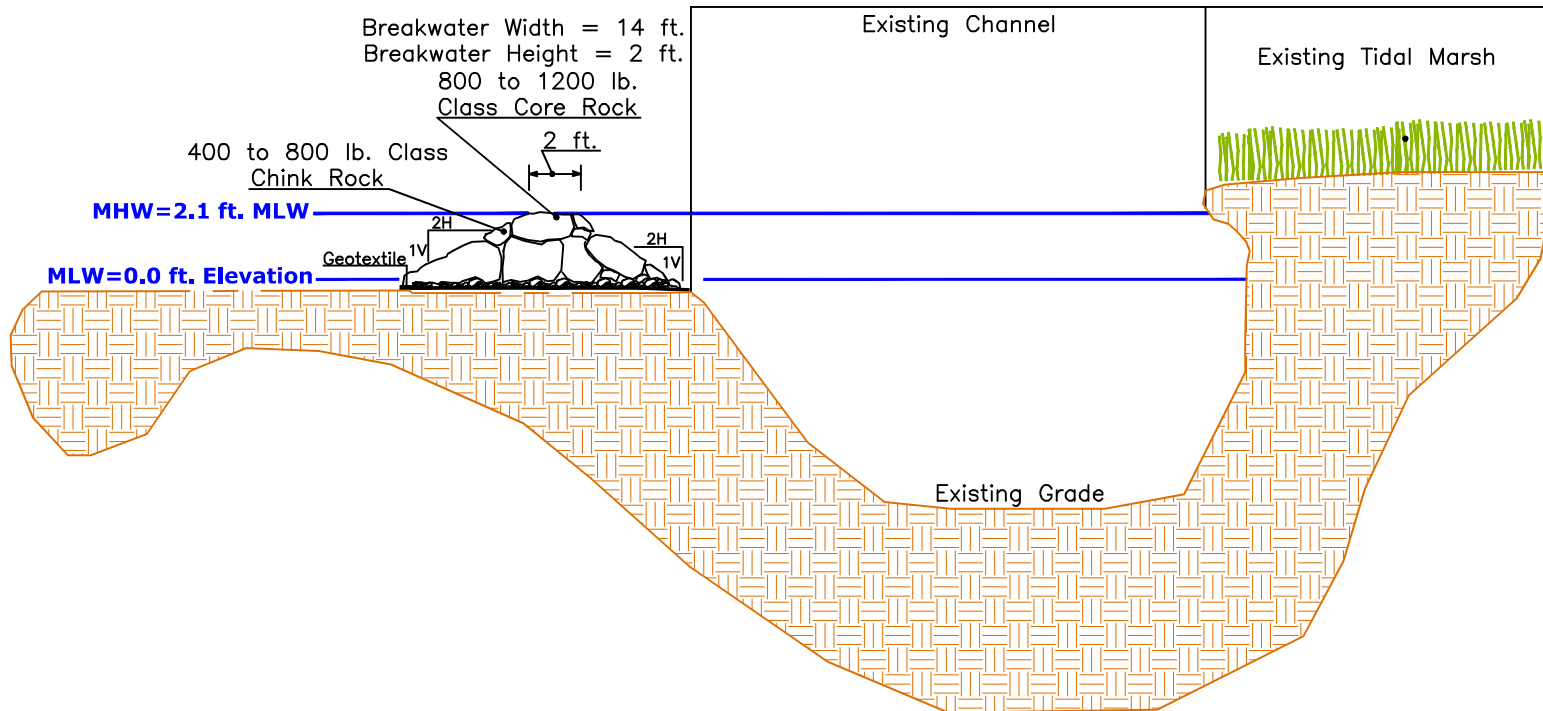
**SUSTAINABLE
SCIENCE LLC**
Ecological Engineering Services
410 S. Second Street
Denton, Maryland 21629
Phone: (410) 924-4316
www.sustainable-science.com

PROPOSED JETTY PLAN

Inlet Protection Project
Runk Property

Worcester County, Maryland





STONE JETTY CONSTRUCTION DETAIL

Not to Scale

25-WL-0429 & 25-WQC-0041

202560646

93008

7/31/2025

RMS

SCALE:	As Shown
DRAWN BY:	A. McCullough
DATE:	February 18th, 2025
LAST REVISION:	July 31st, 2025
SS PROJECT NO:	24010
SHEET NUMBER	3 OF 3

SUSTAINABLE SCIENCE LLC
Ecological Engineering Services
410 S. Second Street
Denton, Maryland 21629
Phone: (410) 924-4316
www.sustainable-science.com

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Inlet Protection Project
Runk Property

Worcester County, Maryland