

WALTER RABON  
COMMISSIONER

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DIRECTOR

### **Summary of Public Comment**

Two people attended the public meeting on November 12, 2025, and both expressed support for the proposed amendments. We received 62 email comments on the proposed amendments. All 62 emailed comments supported the amendments, while 25 suggested that the Department go further than the proposed protections, or offered advice on announcing and monitoring the impact of the proposed changes.

Additional public suggestions:

- 22 proposed permanent closure of Ogeechee Bar.
- 22 suggested an education campaign to alert public and Law Enforcement about the changes.
- 21 suggested an expedited mechanism to close new sites as they are either created or naturally emerge.
- 23 Suggested monitoring the sites closely to determine the effectiveness of the closures
- 22 Suggested planning to increase resilience of future projects

The complete set of comments and outreach efforts used to publicize the rule change and solicit comments are available here: <https://bit.ly/BirdIslandRules>