

SUBJECT	PROPOSED CHANGE	CURRENT REGULATION	CHANGE	JUSTIFICATION
391-4-7-.03. (1) (b) Shorebird and Sea Bird Habitat Protection				
	Seasonally close portions of Little Tybee Natural Area used by shorebirds and seabirds.	Closes portions of Williamson Island (part of Little Tybee Natural Area) designated by signs without respect to season.	No person shall enter the portion of Little Tybee Island Natural Area that is closed to seasonal access as designated by signs.	Protects important shorebird and seabird populations while permitting boaters to land on Little Tybee Natural area. Utilizes updated name for state property to avoid confusion.
391-4-7-.03. (1) (c) Shorebird and Sea Bird Habitat Protection				
	Provides seasonal closure of Brunswick Bird Island and Cumberland Dividings Island, as well as intertidal zone.	Closes portion of Pelican Spit Natural Area designated by signs	No person shall enter any portion of Brunswick Bird Island and Cumberland Dividings Island between March 15 th and August 31 st . In-water signage will indicate areas subject to seasonal closure, including the intertidal zone.	Protects important shorebird and seabird populations on two artificial islands specifically created to provide bird habitat. Allows recreational use when not seasonally closed. Removes one natural area (Pelican Spit) that is no longer important to shorebird and seabird populations.
391-4-7-.03. 1 (d) Shorebird and Sea Bird Habitat Protection				
	Provides seasonal closure of Ogeechee Bar	Provides an exemption from the rule for properly authorized contractors and associates of the department.	No person shall enter any portion of Ogeechee Bar between March 1 and October 15 th . In-water signage will indicate areas subject to seasonal closure, including the intertidal zone. Exemption from rule moved to subsection (e)	Protects important shorebird and seabird populations on a natural bar. Allows recreational use when not seasonally closed.
391-4-7-.03. 1 (e) Shorebird and Sea Bird Habitat Protection				
	Moves exemption from rule to new subsection	None	Restrictions do not apply to the properly authorized actions on behalf of the department when conducting research or monitoring activities or when responding to stranded marine mammals or other emergencies.	Unchanged from original rule. Allows Department to carry out long term monitoring studies on bird populations to ensure that closures continue to protect important habitats. Allows department to respond to other emergencies.
391-4-7-.03. 2 (a) Shorebird and Sea Bird Habitat Protection				