



**CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA**  
**418 Osborne Road**  
**St. Marys, GA 31558**

February 2, 2015

**WORK SESSION**  
**“SEISMIC AIR GUN TESTING”**  
**5:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**AMENDED AGENDA (01/30/2015)**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. INVOCATION:** *Councilmember Linda P. Williams*
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. ROLL CALL** **QUORUM: YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_**
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *January 20, 2015 Public Hearing & Regular City Council Meeting Minutes*  
*January 20, 2015 Executive Session Meeting Minutes*  
*January 27, 2015 Special Called City Council Meeting Minutes*  
*January 27, 2015 Executive Session Meeting Minutes*
- VI. PRESENTATIONS:**
- BOARD APPOINTMENTS:**
- Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority (Kevin Berry, Mardja Gray and Sugar Yadav)*
  - Development Authority of St. Marys (Simon Scott)*
- VII. SET CONSENT AGENDA**
- VIII. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
- IX. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC**

**X. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. **PROCLAMATION-SEISMIC AIR GUN TESTING**: *John J. Holman (City Manager)*  
*Proclamation denouncing Seismic Air gun testing along the east coast from Delaware to mid-Florida* ..... **TAB “A”**
- B. **FEBRUARY 16, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**: *City Clerk* ..... **TAB “B”**  
*To discuss whether to cancel or reschedule meeting due to President’s Day holiday*

**XI. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **MCGARVEY’S WEE PUB**: *City Clerk* ..... **TAB “C”**  
*St. Patrick’s Day Special Event request*
- B. **ORDINANCE AMENDMENT & ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES REGARDING JOINT LAND USE STUDY**: *Roger Weaver (Planning Director)* ..... **TAB “D”**  
*Request approval of ordinance amendment and administrative procedures regarding Joint Land Use Study*
- C. **AGREEMENT-FIRE FIGHTER PROPERTY PROGRAM (GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION)**: *Robert T. Horton (Fire Chief)* ..... **TAB “E”**  
*Request authorization for City Manager and Fire Chief to sign agreement for access to demilitarized equipment utilized in fire suppression activities*
- D. **MASTER PLAN (AUTHORITIES/BOARDS/COMMISSION-BRIEF DISCUSSION)**: **ADDED**  
*Councilmember Elaine Powierski* ..... **TAB ‘F’**  
*Discussions regarding the role authorities, boards and commission have in short and long term goals for the City of St. Marys*

**XII. REPORT OF AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES:**

- A. **FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**: *Jennifer Brown (Finance Director)* ..... **TAB “G”**
- B. **CALENDAR**: *City Clerk*

**XIII. REPORT OF MAYOR**

**XIV. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Personnel & Litigation Update**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

**This is a tentative agenda and is subject to change. Please check with City Hall prior to the Meeting for any revisions.**

**CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA**  
**January 20, 2015**  
**5:45 p.m.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**NEW ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR PAT THAI 1 LLC D/B/A PAT THAI RESTAURANT & SUSHI BAR**

**MINUTES**

The Mayor and Council for the City of St. Marys, Georgia met to conduct a public hearing on Monday, January 20, 2015 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

**PRESENT WERE:**

Mayor John F. Morrissey  
Councilmember Sam Colville  
Councilmember Jim Gant  
Councilmember Elaine Powierski  
Councilmember Dave Reilly

**ABSENT WERE:**

Councilmember Robert L. Nutter  
Councilmember Linda P. Williams

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

John J. Holman, City Manager  
Jennifer Brown, Finance Director  
Donna Folsom, Human Resources Director  
Bobby Marr, Public Works Director  
Robert Horton, Fire Chief  
Timothy Hatch, Police Chief  
Roger Weaver, Planning Director

The Mayor Morrissey called the public hearing to order at 5:45 p.m. for Pat Thai Restaurant & Sushi Bar new alcohol license application. The floor was opened to the public for questions and/or comments.

**GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Morrissey declared the public hearing closed at 5:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deborah Walker-Reed, City Clerk

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**January 20, 2015**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

The Mayor and City Council for the City of St. Marys, Georgia met for its regular City Council session on Monday, January 20, 2015 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

**PRESENT WERE:**

Mayor John F. Morrissey  
Councilmember Sam Colville  
Councilmember Jim Gant  
Councilmember Elaine Powierski  
Councilmember Dave Reilly

**ABSENT WERE:**

Councilmember Robert L. Nutter  
Councilmember Linda P. Williams

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

John J. Holman, City Manager  
Jennifer Brown, Finance Director  
Donna Folsom, Human Resources Director  
Bobby Marr, Public Works Director  
Robby Horton, Fire Chief  
Timothy Hatch, Police Chief  
Roger Weaver, Planning Director

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Morrissey called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Dave Reilly gave the invocation. Mayor Morrissey led the audience in the pledge of allegiance. Council roll call indicated a quorum of Council members present for the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *January 5, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes*

Councilmember Colville moved to approve the January 5, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Reilly seconded the motion. Councilmember Powierski moved for discussion and stated under the Senior Advisory Committee her name should be listed as opposed for Joyce Galloway. Councilmember Colville amended his motion to include the revision. Councilmember Reilly seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

*January 5, 2015 Executive Session Meeting Minutes*

Councilmember Colville moved to approve the January 5, 2015 Executive Session Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Reilly seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION (MR. ED ROBINSON):** *Mayor John F. Morrissey (ADDED)*

Mayor Morrissey stated Angela Wigger (Tourism Director) would present the certificate of appreciation to Mr. Robinson at a later date. Mayor Morrissey thanked Mr. Robinson for his support and monetary donation to Orange Hall.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** *Police Chief Timothy Hatch & Fire Chief Robert Horton*

Chief Hatch gave a brief overview of community service projects, service calls, training and hiring for 2014. Chief Hatch referenced numbers in his 2014 Public Safety Report. Chief Hatch spoke highly of the collaboration between Camden County, Kingsland and St. Marys Police Departments.

Fire Chief Horton mentioned various service calls including fire, hazardous, EMS and false alarms. Chief Horton spoke about the collaboration between Camden County, Kingsland and St. Marys for improved services for all residents. Chief Horton stated approximately 8,000 children in various areas in Southeast Georgia attended the fire safety presentations.

**NEW EMPLOYEE:** *Police Chief Timothy Hatch*

Chief Hatch introduced new Officer Michaela Batten and spoke about her high academic achievement at the Police Academy. Mayor Morrissey and Council joined the public in welcoming Office Batten to the St. Marys Police Department.

**FIRE FIGHTERS OF THE YEAR:** *Fire Chief Robert Horton*

Fire Chief Horton recognized and congratulated fire fighter Michael W. Velez and volunteer fire fighter Josh Walton as Fire Fighters of the Year. Chief Horton thanked them for their dedication to the Fire Department and City of St. Marys.

**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS (TERM EXPIRATIONS):**

*Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority (Kevin Berry, Mardja Gray and Sugar Yadav)*  
Mayor Morrissey announced upcoming vacancies on the St. Marys Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority

**BOARD APPOINTMENT (VACANCY):**

*Development Authority of St. Marys (Simon Scott)*  
Mayor Morrissey stated no applications were received and announced an opening on the Development Authority of St. Marys.

**SET CONSENT AGENDA (\*):**

Councilmember Reilly moved to approve the consent agenda as Old Business A, and New Business C, F, G, H, and J. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Councilmember Colville made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Reilly seconded the motion. Mayor Morrissey stated item K should be added under New Business as Personnel-Grievance regarding City Manager and Personnel under Executive Session. Councilmember Colville amended his motion and Councilmember Reilly seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:**

*Cathy Kloess, 127 Airport Road, Statesboro, Georgia:* Ms. Kloess stated she had no bad will toward Council, read correspondence from Attorney Stein and gave Council a copy.

*Jay Moreno, 501 Victoria's Court:* Mr. Moreno mentioned the Development Authority of St. Marys, Fire and Police Department statistical numbers.

Max Golliday, 210 Chase Court North: Mr. Golliday stated the War of 1812 Commemoration Event was great and thanked Public Works and Bobby Marr (Public Works Director) for cleaning various areas in the City.

Tom Canning, 410 Point Peter Place: Mr. Canning announced volunteers are needed for the Get Out the Vote Event at Mardi Gras Event.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. **NEW ALCOHOL LICENSE PAT THAI 1 LLC D/B/A PAT THAI RESTAURANT & SUSHI BAR (\*)**: *Council consideration to approve a new 2015 liquor license for Pat Thai1 LLC D/B/A Pat Thai Restaurant & Sushi Bar for the sale of beer and wine on premise consumption with food*

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to approve a new 2015 alcohol license for Pat Thai1 LLC D/B/A Pat Thai Restaurant & Sushi Bar for the sale of beer and wine on premise consumption with food. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

- B. **FEBRUARY 16, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: (POSTPONED)** *City Clerk*  
*To discuss whether to cancel or reschedule meeting due to President's Day holiday*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **CERTIFIED POLICE OFFICER SALARY PLAN:** *John J. Holman (City Manager)*  
*Request City Council approval of a five year salary plan for certified Police Officers*  
Mr. Holman gave an overview the proposed five year salary plan to recruit professional Police Officers and retain current experienced Officers at the City. Mr. Holman stated the goal of 32 Officer would be reduced to 30 Officers with monetary funds from the two positions being redistributed within the department for profession growth and salaries.

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to approve the certified Police Officer Salary Plan. Councilmember Colville seconded the motion. Councilmember Colville moved for discussion and thanked City personnel for their hard work on the proposal. Councilmember Gant asked for clarification on how the figures were derived. Mr. Holman mentioned various agencies like Glynn County Police Department's hiring salary and others as a reason the City was losing Officers. Mr. Holman stated he would provide an annual update but at least three to five years are needed to test the program. Mayor Morrissey stated several cities have encountered the same issues. Councilmember Colville made a Call to Question. Voting was recorded as follows:

**FOR**

Councilmember Colville  
Councilmember Gant  
Councilmember Powierski  
Councilmember Reilly

**OPPOSED**

- B. **EMPLOYEE ONE TIME PAYMENT & BUDGET ORDINANCE:** *John J. Holman (City Manager)*  
*Request approval of a one time employee payment and Budget Ordinance amendment*  
Mr. Holman stated any employee hired after November 2014 and any Officer that receives an increase under the new Police Salary Plan is not eligible. Councilmember Gant made a motion to approve the Employee One Time Payment and Budget Ordinance Amendment.

Councilmember Colville seconded the motion. Councilmember Powierski moved for discussion and asked if employees under disciplinary action for attendance or performance would be eligible. Mr. Holman stated no City personnel were under disciplinary action for attendance or performance. Councilmember Gant stated the City should move toward a merit based system. Mr. Holman stated it was budget time but performance based increase plans would be reviewed. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**C. GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM AGREEMENT & RESOLUTION (\*): *John J. Holman (City Manager) Request approval of agreement between the City and St. Marys Southeast Georgia Health System regarding the restructure and leasing to a newly formed Georgia non-profit***

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to approve the agreement and resolution between St. Marys Southeast Georgia Health System and City of St Marys regarding the restructure and leasing to a Georgia non-profit. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**D. MARSHVIEW LANE & WRIGHT STREET SANITARY SEWER EXTENSIONS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD: *Bobby Marr (Public Works Director) Request approval to award contract to Underground Excavation, Inc. in the amount of 361,383 for construction of sanitary sewer extensions***

Councilmember Gant made a motion to award the contract to Underground Excavation, Inc. in the amount of \$361,383 for construction of sanitary sewer extensions on Marshview Lane and Wright Street. Councilmember Colville seconded the motion. Councilmember Gant moved for discussion and asked the amount left in SPLOST VI. Mr. Holman stated Marshview Lane and Wright Street would finish out SPLOST VI and approximately \$30,000 of SPLOST VII would be needed as well. Councilmember Powierski asked about the wide variation in bid numbers. Mr. Marr stated the variation was normal. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**E. ST. MARYS ROAD RIGHT TURN LANE/S.R. HWY 40-GDOT LOCAL MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT GRANT FY 2013: *Bobby Marr (Public Works Director) Request authorization for Mayor John F. Morrissey to sign contract with Charlie Hester Construction for the modified FY 2013 LMIG Project***

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to award the contract to Charlie Hester Construction for the modified FY 2013 LMIG Project (St. Marys Right Turn Lane/S.R. Hwy 40) in the amount of \$155,899.68. Councilmember Colville seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**F. SAN JOSE MEXICAN GRILL & CANTINA LLC 2015 ALCOHOL LICENSE(\*): *Request approval to advertise a public hearing for beer, wine and liquor license for on premise consumption for San Jose Mexican Grill & Cantina Restaurant***

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to approve advertising a public hearing for San Jose Mexican Grill & Cantina LLC for beer, wine and liquor license on premise consumption with food. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**G. RESOLUTION-DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT (ORANGE HALL) (\*)**: *Roger Weaver (Planning Director) Request approval of resolution for grant application for improvements to Orange Hall*

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to approve a resolution pertaining to grant application for improvements to Orange Hall with the Department Of Natural Resources Historic Preservation. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**H. RESOLUTION-DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT (BARTLETT STREET HISTORY TRAIL) (\*)**: *Roger Weaver (Planning Director) Request approval of resolution for grant application regarding Bartlett Street History Trail*

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to approve a resolution pertaining to grant application for improvements with the History Trail with the Department Of Natural Resources Historic Preservation. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**I. AGREEMENT FOR TAX COLLECTIONS WITH GOVERNMENT TAX SERVICES, LLC**: *Jennifer Brown (Finance Director) Request approval of agreement between the City and Government Tax Services, LLC for tax collections*

Councilmember Colville made a motion to approve the agreement with Government Tax Services, LLC for tax collections on City property taxes. Councilmember Gant seconded the motion and moved for discussion. Councilmember Gant mentioned he thought the City already had a company handling collections. The Finance Director stated that company is handling collections for water/sewer accounts but Government Tax Services, LLC being proposed would handle delinquent City property taxes. Councilmember Colville asked if City had control over which accounts would be sent to them so that accounts that owe small amounts such as \$10.00 are not sent. Mrs. Brown stated they would be handling older cases first. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**J. BUDGET ORDINANCE-ST. MARYS ROAD GATEWAY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**: *Jennifer Brown (Finance Director) Request approval to amend the FY 2015 to reflect the final payment to Thomas & Hutton which crossed fiscal years*

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to amend the FY 2015 Budget Ordinance for the St. Marys Road Gateway Enhancement Project payment to Thomas & Hutton. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**K. PERSONNEL-GRIEVANCE REGARDING CITY MANAGER**: *(Added)*  
*Donna Folsom (Human Resources Director)*

The Human Resources Director stated the following:

1. A grievance was filed against the City Manager which the City Personnel Policy states must be presented before City Council at the next meeting.
2. Context of the grievance is the appointment of two Deputy Court Clerks to Municipal Court by City Manager. The Deputy Court Clerk performs the duties of the Court Clerk in her absence.
3. Georgia State Law states the Clerk of City Court appoints the Deputy Court Clerk but according to City Attorney (Gary Moore), the law does not apply here because the City has a Municipal Court not a City Court. They are not the same under Georgia Law.

4. The City Manager appointed the Deputy Court Clerk under his authority in the Personnel Policy and City Charter.
5. The Human Resources Director stated Council may discuss the matter in Executive Session but all evidence and voting must take place in open session.
6. Mrs. Folsom suggested allowing the City Manager to make his response then allow the grieving party Shavon Gibbs to present any evidence she wishes in open session.
7. Council does not need to consider the charge against the other employee named in the grievance. The City Personnel Policy provides a process for making a decision that does not involve City Council.

Mr. Holman thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to present in regards to the grievance. Mr. Holman stated he feels it is the right of every employee to present and he fully supports the process. Mr. Holman stated the City Clerk is the only person certified currently to replace Mrs. Gibbs the Municipal Court Clerk. Mr. Holman stated upon review of Mrs. Gibbs' extended absence, he saw there was quite a bit of work placed on the City Clerk to handle her City Clerk duties and court duties. Mr. Holman stated he thought of the best possible management solution because he wants to ensure the City provides the best service to the citizens. Mr. Holman stated he wondered what would happen at election time if the City Clerk was extremely busy beyond her normal duties/responsibilities and had to make a decision between two important matters.

Mr. Holman referenced the City needing an alternative to assist the Municipal Court Clerk when the situations arrive. Mr. Holman stated Jillian Agerton was hired to fill in where needed but she nor the Finance Director were trained in the court. Mr. Holman stated he attended Municipal Court training through Georgia Municipal Association (GMA). Mr. Holman stated he also sent Jennifer Brown (Finance Director) and Donna Folsom (Human Resources Director) to the GMA training to get a better understanding of the court. Mr. Holman stated he cannot provide assistance until his people are trained. Mr. Holman stated no duties or responsibilities were removed from any individual, the work performed by individuals involved is satisfactory and Mrs. Agerton would fill in on a temporary basis during temporary absences or if additional work is needed.

Councilmember Powierski asked if there is a difference between City Court and Municipal Court. The Human Resources Director stated it was her understanding there was only one City Court and it was in Atlanta and now that is a Municipal Court as well. Mrs. Folsom stated it is a very old law. Mayor Morrissey asked Mrs. Gibbs if she would like to present.

Mrs. Gibbs stated she was not made aware she was required to be at the City Council meeting. Mrs. Gibbs stated she was there as a citizen and had not clocked in. Mrs. Gibbs asked if she could get a copy of the grievance. Mayor Morrissey asked the Human Resources Director if the meeting was open to anyone involved that wanted to present. Mrs. Gibbs stated the Personnel Policy specifies the grievance will be presented in Executive Session. Mrs. Gibbs asked what statute was being quoted by Mrs. Folsom. Mrs. Gibbs stated she was shocked it was being handled this way.

Mrs. Gibbs stated she had been at work all day and was not made aware/notified by the Human Resources Director that it was going to be on the agenda. Mrs. Gibbs stated it was her interpretation from the Personnel Policy that it was going to be presented to Council in Executive Session. Mrs. Gibbs stated she does not know what Council does after it is

presented. Mrs. Gibbs stated she had never known of an employee grievance to be handled this way. Mrs. Gibbs stated the problem is that she is being treated unfairly.

Mayor Morrissey requested the Human Resources Director address why it is being handled in this way. The Human Resources Director stated to her knowledge this is the first grievance filed against a City Manager and the law regarding Open Meetings Law changed sometime in 2012. Mrs. Folsom stated any evidence has to be presented in open session per the City Attorney. Mrs. Gibbs suggested the City update the Personnel Policy to come to adherence with Georgia State Law. Mrs. Gibbs stated whether she is filing against the City Manager or anyone else the procedures should be the same. Mrs. Gibbs stated she is appalled that the City would do this to an employee. Mrs. Gibbs stated she did not have anything else to say.

Mayor Morrissey requested the Human Resources Director to state the process again. The Human Resources Director stated the procedures again under Georgia Law. Mrs. Gibbs asked the Human Resources Director to quote what statute she was referring to in the law. Mrs. Folsom stated she did not have the code section. Mayor Morrissey asked about other grievances received and Mrs. Folsom stated that grievance would be handled through the City Manager's Office. Councilmember Colville that not enough notice was given for preparation and that Mrs. Gibbs was not given enough notice. Mayor Morrissey asked Mr. Weaver if he was ready to present.

#### **REPORT OF AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES:**

- A. **MONTHLY SEA GRANT UPDATE:** *Roger Weaver (Planning Director)* The Planning Director mentioned a meeting between Sea Grant personnel and the Historic Preservation Commission. Mr. Weaver stated building elevations were being collected. Mr. Weaver mentioned correspondence that is expected to arrive from state and federal agencies regarding the CRS Rating.
- B. **CITY CALENDAR:** City Clerk  
The City Clerk announced the upcoming events, activities and meetings up to February 2, 2015.

#### **REPORT OF MAYOR:**

Mayor Morrissey thanked media outlets for coverage on the War of 1812 Commemoration Event and History Walk. Mayor Morrissey stated the event was a very well organized professional event.

#### **GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:**

*Jay Moreno, 501 Victoria's Circle:* Mr. Moreno asked for clarification on the Certified Police Salary Plan and trying to remain budget neutral. Mr. Moreno also spoke about the Employee One Time Payment.

#### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Reilly stated the War of 1812 Event was wonderful and very informative. Councilmember Gant stated the War of 1812 was one of the best events he has attended. Mr. Gant stated sponsors are currently needed for the History Walk. Mr. Gant stated St. Marys once had over 300 ships in harbor and was the third largest naval port in the country. Councilmember Powierski stated she would be working with the City Manager, authorities, boards and

commission gathering information for the master plan. Ms. Powierski stated she would be going through ordinances and documents to assist with the Master Plan.

**CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

The City Manager thanked the Council for awarding the contracts. Mr. Holman stated he would be providing the pro side per City Council on Seismic Air Gun Testing. Mr. Holman asked Council if a work session for 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2015 would be enough time. City Council set the work session for Monday, February 2, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. The City Manager stated an application would be submitted over the next two weeks for additional funding pertaining to the Master Plan/Strategic Plan with an answer in approximately six weeks. Mr. Holman announced the revised arrival of the Tall Ship Peacemaker which is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 25, 2015. Mr. Holman stated tours will be Monday – Thursday, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and Friday, Saturday and Sunday all day. Mr. Holman gave a brief overview of the boating schedule and final destination. Mr. Holman also stated the Peacemaker crew indicated she would like to be home ported in St. Marys.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Personnel** *(Added)*

Councilmember Reilly made a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss Personnel. Councilmember Colville seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Mayor and City Council adjourned to executive session at 7:48 p.m., returning at 8:17 p.m. with Mayor Morrissey calling the Council meeting back to order. Councilmember Reilly made a motion to call a Special Called City Council meeting regarding the grievance against the City Manager be continued until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 in Council Chambers. Mr. Reilly stated at that time; Mrs. Gibbs and Mr. Holman may present any evidence they wish to present to City Council regarding the grievance. Councilmember Colville seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Colville made a motion for adjournment. Councilmember Powierski seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Morrissey declared the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deborah Walker-Reed, City Clerk

**CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA**  
**SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**January 27, 2015**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

The Mayor and City Council for the City of St. Marys, Georgia met for a Special Called City Council meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

**PRESENT WERE:**

Mayor John F. Morrissey  
Councilmember Sam L. Colville  
Councilmember Jim Gant  
Councilmember Robert L. Nutter  
Councilmember Elaine Powierski  
Councilmember Linda P. Williams

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

John J. Holman, City Manager  
Jennifer Brown, Finance Director  
Donna Folsom, Human Resources Director  
Shavon Gibbs, Municipal Court Clerk  
Timothy Hatch, Police Chief

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Morrissey called the Special Called City Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Councilmember Powierski gave the invocation and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance. Council roll call indicated a quorum of council members present for the meeting.

**BUSINESS:**

**A. PERSONNEL-FORMAL GRIEVANCE REGARDING CITY MANAGER:** *City Council*

Mayor Morrissey stated the meeting was a continuation of the City Council meeting from Tuesday, January 27, 2015. Mayor Morrissey stated Council will hear and receive relevant evidence that Mrs. Gibbs or Mr. Holman wish to present. Mayor Morrissey stated he will stop the presentation of any evidence that is not relevant to the grievance made by Mrs. Gibbs against Mr. Holman. Mayor Morrissey stated the City Attorney will give advice on how to proceed.

The City Attorney (Gary Moore) stated he was present as the City Attorney and not to represent the City Manager (Mr. John J. Holman) or the Municipal Court Clerk (Ms. Shavon Gibbs). Attorney Moore stated he was attending to advise the Mayor and Council on the proceedings. The City Attorney further stated the grievance was made against the City Manager and the Personnel Policy requires the grievance be presented before Council at the next City Council meeting which was last Tuesday, January 20, 2015. The ordinance requires the Human Resources Director to present the complaint in Executive Session. Georgia Open Meetings Law does not permit the complaint to be presented in Executive Session. The Law requires the complaint to be presented in open session along with any evidence and vote.

The City Attorney stated Council may go into Executive Session to discuss the matter. The City Attorney stated the complainant raised the notice issue at the last meeting City Council Meeting. The City Attorney stated the Personnel Policy states the complaint must be presented to you at the next scheduled meeting. The City Attorney stated the policy was very clear when it must be presented. The City Attorney stated the complaint was given afterhours on Friday, January 16, 2015. Mr. Moore stated Saturday and Sunday were not business hours and Monday, January 19, 2015 was a holiday (Dr. Martin Luther King Day) so Tuesday, January 20, 2015 was the next business day. The City Attorney referenced an emergency by the Human Resources Director on Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

Attorney Moore stated the Personnel Policy states when it would be presented to Council and that is the notice. The City Attorney stated rules of evidence that applies in a court of law does not apply here however; you may choose to exclude any evidence that is not relevant to the issues that are raised in the grievance. The City Attorney gave the meaning of relevant evidence. The City Attorney advised Council on asking questions, raising objections and that Council is the decision makers of the facts in the case.

Mayor Morrissey asked Mrs. Gibbs to come forward. Mrs. Gibbs asked the City Attorney for the law statute he mentioned earlier. Attorney Moore stated he did not have the statute in front of him and it was not relevant. Mrs. Gibbs stated she thought the statute was relevant since he mentioned it and she would like the City Attorney on records stating the statute. The City Attorney stated he did not have it before him. Mrs. Gibbs stated she felt the Georgia Code Section was relevant. Mrs. Gibbs stated the Human Resources Director was supposed to be the neutral party and inform Council but what evidence would she have presented Council in Executive Session.

Mrs. Gibbs stated the code section is important because there is a code section that would have allowed Council to hear the complaint in Executive Session with a neutral party. Mrs. Gibbs stated she wondered why it was chosen to be handled this way. The City Attorney stated he was following the Personnel Policy and the policy stated it will come before City Council. The City Attorney stated the grievance made against the City Manager was the City Manager retaliated against Mrs. Gibbs for taking time off. The City Attorney stated how the process moves forward is not relevant. Mayor Morrissey asked the City Attorney to repeat that again.

Mrs. Gibbs referenced a portion of O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (5) and stated that she did not believe the complaint was handled in a fair manner. Mrs. Gibbs stated she did not want to go further into it but asked if Council had any questions. Ms. Gibbs asked Council if they had any questions on the document that was given to them. Councilmember Williams stated the documents were just given to Council a few minutes ago. Mayor Morrissey stated Council would like a few moments to read the documents. City Council read the document.

Councilmember Gant asked what Mrs. Gibbs saw as a way forward. Mrs. Gibbs stated she would like to be treated as a human being in a professional environment. Mrs. Gibbs stated the independence of the court is important. Mrs. Gibbs stated she treats everyone fairly and she would like to make sure of the court independence. Mrs. Gibbs stated that she does need an assistant but she would like some say on the assistance. Mrs. Gibbs also stated she would like to be removed from under the Finance Department if at all possible so that she is not a direct report to Mrs. Brown.

Mrs. Gibbs wondered how Mrs. Brown can be her subordinate as the Deputy Court Clerk and at the same time her supervisor. Mrs. Gibbs stated it does not make sense to her. Ms. Gibbs stated the Judge makes the decision in the court and she takes her direction from the Judge. Mrs. Gibbs says she would like some input into court personnel and feels those decisions should be discussed with the Judge as well. Councilmember Gant asked Mrs. Gibbs where she sees the court being placed. Mrs. Gibbs stated the court use to be under the City Manager and the previous City Manager never addressed the matter.

Councilmember Gant stated he hopes Mrs. Gibbs recognizes the need for a Deputy Court Clerk instead of the City Clerk because she gets busy. Mrs. Gibbs stated she recognizes there needs to be a Deputy Court Clerk. Mrs. Gibbs stated she felt she had earned the ability to give input. Councilmember Powierski asked how the person would function in the court if the two were assigned. Mrs. Gibbs stated the court is not like any other department in the City. Mrs. Gibbs stated you cannot just stick someone over there, give them the title and call them a Deputy Court Clerk. Mrs. Gibbs stated she thought the person would be coming over to the other office learning then become the Deputy Court Clerk once they learn the duties.

Councilmember Powierski asked if there was written procedural manual for the court. Mrs. Gibbs stated there were procedures. Ms. Powierski asked Ms. Gibbs why she felt she should be removed from under the Finance Department. Ms. Gibbs stated it does not give the appearance of impartiality. Mrs. Gibbs stated the Finance Director is revenue driven but it is the court's job to be impartial. Mrs. Gibbs gave an example. Councilmember Williams stated she was concerned about the situation between Mrs. Agerton and herself (Mrs. Gibbs) that was not resolved. Mrs. Gibbs stated Mrs. Agerton only assisted the court maybe 40 hours total over several years.

Councilmember Reilly asked if she thought Mrs. Agerton could be effective and learn the duties in the court. Mrs. Gibbs stated Mrs. Agerton along with others at City Hall seem to have somewhat of a concern with defendants/inmates being in close proximity to them in City Hall. Mrs. Gibbs stated Mrs. Agerton has stated she feels uncomfortable coming over to the court and Mrs. Gibbs stated she feels that way as well. Councilmember Nutter asked about correspondence from the Judge dated January 15, 2015 and if that had any relevance. Attorney Moore states the Judge's letter did not have any relevance to the grievance. Attorney Moore stated the issue of who had authority was resolved. Councilmember Nutter stated the process of determining who would be the Deputy Court Clerk or assistant was referenced in the letter. Mrs. Gibbs stated the Judge addresses the point in her letter.

Councilmember Nutter also stated the issue of the Finance Director being the Deputy Court Clerk under Mrs. Gibbs and her supervisor. Mrs. Gibbs gave an overview of the Deputy Court Clerk and Court Administrative duties. Councilmember Gant asked Mrs. Gibbs if there was anyone in particular she thought might be able to assist in the court. Mrs. Gibbs stated that she had spoken with the Finance Director about Darlene Ellis in the Planning Department. Mrs. Gibbs stated Ms. Ellis use to be the Court Clerk but Mrs. Gibbs stated she was told that Ms. Ellis was too busy to assist. Mrs. Gibbs stated that she was told that Renee Coakley in the City Manager's Office would be coming over to assist but she does not know what happened.

Councilmember Colville read a statement from Mrs. Gibbs grievance and asked as to what evidence she has related to the grievance. Mrs. Gibbs stated that in the meeting Mr. Holman mentioned her leave; then stated there would be no discussion and the appointments were the way it will be. Councilmember Colville asked Mrs. Gibbs if Mr. Holman complained of her use of leave. Mrs. Gibbs stated Mr. Holman mentioned her leave then stated the appointments were not up for discussion and this is what is being done. Mrs. Gibbs stated Mr. Holman mentioned her leave and what he noticed in her absence. Mrs. Gibbs said she saw it as punishment for being on leave. Mrs. Gibbs stated the two people being appointed to court could only be seen by her as a punishment by her.

Mrs. Gibbs stated Mr. Holman mentioned she was back healthy. Councilmember Colville stated he understands how she felt it was retaliation but what did she think Mr. Holman's motivation was in selecting the appointments. Mrs. Gibbs stated the way it was presented, his tone and the fact that he said it was not up for discussion. Mrs. Gibbs stated had it been presented differently she could have discussed it with Mr. Holman and she could have found out what his motivation were and addressed them.

Mrs. Gibbs stated everything was done in secrecy and was being worked on since October 2014 with Mrs. Brown and the Human Resources Director. Mrs. Gibbs stated travel documents state when the training took place. Mrs. Gibbs stated if it wasn't done out of retaliation why the secrecy for all those months. Mrs. Gibbs stated she nor the Judge was made aware of what was being planned. Mrs. Gibbs stated it was how it was presented to her, his actions and tone.

Mr. Holman stated he appreciated the opportunity to respond and he believes it is an excellent process for grievances. Mr. Holman stated the Deputy Court Clerk appointment as the same duties as the Court Clerk. No additional staff will be hired. Mr. Holman stated the purpose is to ensure continuity of service for Municipal Court and the City. Mr. Holman stated there had been no diminishment of duties, pay or status. Mr. Holman stated that his direct observation places an undue burden on the City Clerk. Mr. Holman stated the City Clerk has done an excellent job. Mr. Holman stated the current system has the City Clerk assisting the Court Clerk what if the matter would come up during elections. Mr. Holman mentioned that the City Clerk puts in a number of hours to assist.

Mr. Holman stated now with two people trained, Mrs. Agerton will be able to assist then the City Clerk then the Finance Director. Mr. Holman stated Mrs. Agerton is fully capable and trustworthy and has done an excellent job in Public Works and Human Resources. Mr. Holman stated he is fully authorized under the City Charter and Personnel Policy and that he is following best management practices. Mr. Holman stated he will provide two qualified people in Mrs. Gibbs absence. Mr. Holman stated he noticed after several days the City Clerk was doing double duty assisting the court and City Clerk's Office. Mr. Holman stated he asked around the building to see what was going on.

Mr. Holman stated without proper training Mrs. Agerton and Brown are not able to assist. Mr. Holman read various questions relating to Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Mr. Holman stated the city is a municipal family. Councilmember Williams asked Mr. Holman that he identified the need for putting a new plan into effect but she gathers from what she read he did not include Ms. Walker-Reed or Mrs. Gibbs in the plan or in the process for coming up with a solution. Mr. Holman stated he did not include them.

Councilmember Colville asked Mr. Holman if he made the statement, "It is not up for discussion and these appointments will be done" in the meeting. Mr. Holman stated he said, "These are the appointments are there any questions". Councilmember Colville asked Mr. Holman again if he stated in the meeting, "It is not up for discussion and these appointments will be done". Mr. Holman stated he said, "These are the appointments and if there were any questions but there will be no questions on the appointments." Mr. Colville asked for clarification and stated are you saying you did not say it. Councilmember Colville asked Mr. Holman why he said it that way. Mr. Holman stated he felt that was the best way for everyone to understand this was the way it was going to be done. Mr. Holman stated he had looked at the histories in the past and based on that he felt like it was the best way to go.

Councilmember Reilly asked Mr. Holman if he was aware of the histories between Mrs. Agerton and Mrs. Gibbs. Mr. Holman stated he reviewed the information and felt some time had passed. The City Attorney stated Council had heard the evidence and can choose to discuss in open session or discuss in Executive Session. Councilmember Williams asked the City Attorney how grievances are typically resolved. The City Attorney stated the motion reflects Council's decision. Councilmember Reilly stated in respect to grievances he noticed in the past that relief can be given. The City Attorney stated Mrs. Gibbs has already given you her options.

**B. EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Personnel***

Councilmember Gant made a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel. Councilmember Reilly seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Mayor and Council adjourned to executive session at 10:55 a.m., returning at 11:36 a.m. with Mayor Morrissey calling the Council meeting back to order.

Councilmember Powierski made a motion that City Council finds no evidence of retaliation or bad motive in Mr. Holman's actions. Council therefore denies the grievance. Council encourages Mr. Holman to review the matter and meet with the Municipal Court Judge and anyone else he chooses to ensure the success of the process he establishes. Council expects all employees to work together to overcome any differences or conflicts. Councilmember Colville seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Colville made a motion for adjournment. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Morrissey declared the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deborah Walker-Reed, City Clerk

# *Board Appointments*

*Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority*

*(3 positions)*

**City of St. Marys, Georgia  
CITY COUNCIL VOTING MATRIX**

**St. Marys Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority  
2015**

<i>Category/Candidates</i>	<i>Post 3 Jim Gant</i>	<i>Post 4 Dave Reilly</i>	<i>Post 6 Linda P. Williams</i>			
<b>Hotel/Motel</b>						
Kevin Berry (Incumbent)						
Sugandha (Sugar) Yadav (Incumbent)						
<b>Bed &amp; Breakfast</b>						
Mardja Gray (Incumbent)						

\*In accordance with House Bill 696 the appointment to the SMCVB shall be made in the following sectors:

1 – Bed/Breakfast appointment (Post 6)

2 – Hotel/Motel (Posts 3 & 4)



CITY OF ST. MARYS  
BOARD VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board interested in serving on: CVB / Tourism

Name: Kevin Berry

Address: 105 Osborne Street

City, State, and Zip: St. Marys, GA 31558

Contact Phone Numbers: 912-882-3242 912-464-0480

E-mail Address: yrrebniwek@gmail.com

Describe your current qualifications for the position including education, skills, abilities, and work experience:

B.S. Business Management; 9 years experience in hospitality and restaurant management; served on CVB 2 years.

Describe why you are interested in serving on this board?:

Continue to promote St. Marys as a tourist destination, and to create fresh marketing ideas.

Describe any prior or current business and/or personal relationships which might present a conflict of interest in potential representation of the City on this board:

N/A

Signature: 

\* Please submit application to: City Clerk's Office, 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, Georgia 31558



CITY OF ST. MARYS  
BOARD VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Date: 01/26/2015

Board interested in serving on: CVB BOARD

Name: SUGANDHA YADAV (SUGAR)

Address: 166 AUSTIN RYAN DRIVE

City, State, and Zip: KINGSLAND, GA 31548

Contact Phone Numbers: 912 227 1082

E-mail Address: sugandhakumari@gmail.com

Describe your current qualifications for the position including education, skills, abilities, and work experience:

I have a master's degree in business. I am a creative & result oriented person capable of forming & maintaining positive team environment. I am a small business owner with experience in retail and hospitality industry.

Describe why you are interested in serving on this board?:

The CVB Board does a great job of promoting tourism and helping small businesses. I served on this board for last one year and would like to continue so I can learn more and help the board and the city by using my education, knowledge and experience. I own Cumberland Kings Bay lodge located in St. Marys, GA.

Describe any prior or current business and/or personal relationships which might present a conflict of interest in potential representation of the City on this board:

NO

Signature: Sugandha

\* Please submit application to: City Clerk's Office, 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, Georgia 31558



CITY OF ST. MARYS  
BOARD VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Date: 1-27-15

Board interested in serving on: CVB

Name: Mardya Gray

Address: 209 Osborne St.

City, State, and Zip: St Marys GA 31558

Contact Phone Numbers: 912-882-~~4750~~ 7490

E-mail Address: mardya@goodbreadhouse.com

Describe your current qualifications for the position including education, skills, abilities, and work experience:  
Owner of Goodbread House

Describe why you are interested in serving on this board?:  
currently serve on board

Describe any prior or current business and/or personal relationships which might present a conflict of interest in potential representation of the City on this board:  
none

Signature: Mardya Gray

\* Please submit application to: City Clerk's Office, 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, Georgia 31558

*Old Business*



# MEMORANDUM

**To:** City Council  
**From:** City Manager  
**Date:** January 26, 2015  
**CC:**

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**Subject:** Seismic Airgun Surveys

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During the December 15, 2014 City Council meeting, the proposed Proclamation Protesting Seismic Airgun Testing Along the Coast of Georgia was discussed by Council. Staff was requested to provide the Council with information in support of testing in order to provide a balance of information. This information packet was developed for your review.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) published a final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in February of 2014. This process was used to evaluate the potential environmental effects of proposed geological and geophysical survey activities, including seismic airgun surveys, of the Atlantic Ocean from Delaware to Florida. BOEM issued a formal Record of Decision in July of 2014 that selected an alternative that included the most protection for environmental and cultural resources during survey activities. The Record of Decision establishes the framework of environmental review that all site specific geological and geophysical activities will have to comply with when undergoing the permitting process and survey activities.

Documents that provide concise information regarding the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, the Record of Decision and seismic surveys have been collected for your review. The following documents are attached:

- BOEM. *Fact Sheet: Atlantic Geophysical and Geological Surveys Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.*
- BOEM. *Fact Sheet: Atlantic Geological and Geophysical and Surveys Record of Decision on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.*
- BOEM. *The Science Behind the Decision.*
- API. *Seismic Surveying 101.*
- IAGC. *Seismic Surveys and Protecting the Marine Environment.*
- IAGC. *Seismic Surveys and Fish.*
- IAGC. *Fundamentals of Sound in the Marine Environment.*

Two additional articles, neither in support of or against seismic airgun surveys, published by National Geographic have been included for your review.

- National Geographic. *Study: Planning Can Protect Whales in Seismic Surveys*
- National Geographic. *Atlantic Seismic Tests for Oil: Marine Animals at Risk?*

Additional information may be obtained on the websites listed on the attached Fact Sheet:

- BOEM. *Selected Sound-Related Studies Funded and Co-Funded by BOEM.*

At the February 2, 2015 City Council meeting, Mr. Brydon Ross, Vice president of State Affairs for the Consumer Energy Alliance will be in attendance to make a brief presentation to Council. Mr. Ross will also be able to answer any questions that Council may have regarding geological and geophysical survey activities, including seismic airgun surveys.

## Selected Sound-Related Studies Funded and Co-Funded by BOEM

1. Atlantic Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species  
<http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/psb/AMAPPS/>
2. Characterization of Underwater Sound Produced by Trailing Suction Hopper Dredges During Sand Mining and Pump-Out Operations  
<http://el.ercd.usace.army.mil/elpubs/pdf/trel14-3.pdf>
3. COMIDA: Factors Affecting the Distribution and Relative Abundance of Endangered Whales: Passive Acoustic Detection and Monitoring of Endangered Whales in the Arctic  
[http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental\\_Stewardship/Environmental\\_Studies/Alaska\\_Region/Alaska\\_Studies/PS\\_0902a.pdf](http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental_Stewardship/Environmental_Studies/Alaska_Region/Alaska_Studies/PS_0902a.pdf)
4. Controlled Exposure Experiments with Humpback Whales and Seismic Air Gun Arrays and Testing of Effectiveness of Ramp-Up (Study completion expected 2015)  
[http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental\\_Stewardship/Environmental\\_Studies/National/AustralianHumpbackWhaleProfile.pdf](http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental_Stewardship/Environmental_Studies/National/AustralianHumpbackWhaleProfile.pdf)
5. Describing Biologically Significant Marine Mammal Behavior  
[http://www.navymarinespeciesmonitoring.us/files/8713/4629/1074/Marine\\_Mammals\\_Sound\\_Workshop\\_July\\_2010\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.navymarinespeciesmonitoring.us/files/8713/4629/1074/Marine_Mammals_Sound_Workshop_July_2010_Final_Report.pdf)
6. Developing Environmental Protocols and Modeling Tools to Support Ocean Renewable Energy and Stewardship  
<http://www.data.boem.gov/PI/PDFImages/ESPIS/5/5208.pdf>
7. Development of Software and Hardware to Acoustically Detect Classify, and Locate Marine Mammals.  
[http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental\\_Stewardship/Environmental\\_Studies/National/NT1108.pdf](http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental_Stewardship/Environmental_Studies/National/NT1108.pdf)
- 7a. Companion product: Acoustic Metadata Management and Transparent Access to Networked Oceanographic Data Sets (ONR and BOEM reports expected 2014)  
[http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental\\_Stewardship/Environmental\\_Studies/National/NT1108.pdf](http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental_Stewardship/Environmental_Studies/National/NT1108.pdf). Interim Report: <http://www.onr.navy.mil/reports/FY12/noroch.pdf>.
8. Long Range Effects of Airgun Noise on Marine Mammals: Responses as a Function of Received Sound Level and Distance [http://www.iwcoffice.co.uk/documents/sci\\_com/SC58docs/SC-58-E35.pdf](http://www.iwcoffice.co.uk/documents/sci_com/SC58docs/SC-58-E35.pdf)
9. Effects of Pile Driving Sounds on Non-auditory Tissues of Fish  
<http://www.data.boem.gov/PI/PDFImages/ESPIS/5/5234.pdf>



10. Evaluating Acoustic Technologies to Monitor Aquatic Organisms at Renewable Energy Sites  
<http://www.nopp.org/wp-content/uploads/project-reports-cdrom/reports/12Horne.pdf>
11. Fish Bioacoustics: Sensory Biology, Behavior, and Practical Applications: an International Symposium  
[http://www.researchgate.net/publication/235199428\\_Fish\\_Bioacoustics\\_-\\_Sensory\\_Biology\\_Behavior\\_and\\_Practical\\_Applications\\_-\\_An\\_International\\_Symposium](http://www.researchgate.net/publication/235199428_Fish_Bioacoustics_-_Sensory_Biology_Behavior_and_Practical_Applications_-_An_International_Symposium)
12. Improving Cetacean Electronic Data Loggers: Examination of health effects and long-term impacts of deployments of multiple tag types on blue, humpback, and gray whales in the eastern North Pacific (ONR and BOEM reports expected 2014)  
[http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental\\_Stewardship/Environmental\\_Studies/National/NT1003.pdf](http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental_Stewardship/Environmental_Studies/National/NT1003.pdf)
13. Opportunistic Study of Hearing in Sea Otters (*Enhydra lutris*): Measurement of Auditory Detection Thresholds for Tonal and Industry Sounds  
<http://www.data.boem.gov/PI/PDFImages/ESPIS/5/5220.pdf>
14. Pressure Wave and Acoustic Properties Generated by the Explosive Removal of Offshore Structures: Potential Effects on Protected Species  
<http://www.boem.gov/GM-13-05/>
15. Seismic Survey Mitigation Measures and Marine Mammal Observer Reports  
<http://www.data.boem.gov/PI/PDFImages/ESPIS/5/5177.pdf>
16. Sperm Whales and their Response to Seismic Exploration in the Gulf of Mexico (SWSS)  
<http://www.data.boem.gov/PI/PDFImages/ESPIS/4/4444.pdf>
17. Sperm Whales and Bottlenose Dolphins in the Gulf of Mexico  
[http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental\\_Stewardship/Environmental\\_Studies/Gulf\\_of\\_Mexico\\_Region/Ongoing\\_Studies/GM-11-03.pdf](http://www.boem.gov/uploadedFiles/BOEM/Environmental_Stewardship/Environmental_Studies/Gulf_of_Mexico_Region/Ongoing_Studies/GM-11-03.pdf)
18. The Effects of Noise on Aquatic Life, A. N. Popper and A. Hawkins (eds.), Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology, 730, Digital Object Identifier (DOI) 10.1007/978-1-4419-7311-5\_1, Springer Science + Business Media, LLC 2012. Commercially available online.
19. Underwater Hearing Sensitivity in the Leatherback Sea Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*): Assessing the Potential Effect of Anthropogenic Noise  
<http://www.data.boem.gov/PI/PDFImages/ESPIS/5/5279.pdf>





St. Marys, Georgia

## *Proclamation*

### *Protesting Seismic Airgun Testing Along the Coast of Georgia*

- WHEREAS,** The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) proposes seismic airgun testing along 403 miles of the Atlantic Ocean (encompassing 350,000 square miles) from Delaware Bay to Florida's Cape Canaveral; and
- WHEREAS,** Seismic airgun testing involves extremely loud blasts of compressed air through the ocean and miles under the seafloor; and
- WHEREAS,** the proposed tests will cause destructive impacts to marine wildlife, coastal ecosystems and coastal communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the BOEM acknowledges that seismic airgun testing will negatively impact the already critically-endangered Right Whales and result in the death, deafening, and disruption of all marine species (e.g. dolphins and sea turtles); and
- WHEREAS,** the estimated impacts to fisheries and commercial fishing possess the potential to cause irreparable harm to fishing economies which generates \$11.8 billion annually and supports 222,000 jobs; and
- WHEREAS,** because of the enormous distances sound can travel in the ocean, the dangerous noise from this activity cannot remotely be confined to the waters off individual states that encourage it. Some impacts — particularly on the great baleen whales — would extend many hundreds of miles, affecting states as far north as New England. Fish and fisheries could be affected for tens of miles around every seismic ship; and
- WHEREAS,** the estimated oil reserves in the testing area have not been proven sufficient to offset the potential destruction of oil spills along the Atlantic coast - the proven off-shore Atlantic reserves would be the equivalent of just over seven years' of Gulf oil.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** let it be proclaimed by the City of St. Marys, Georgia, that we are firmly opposed to seismic airgun testing along the Atlantic Coast.
- IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Fifteen.

City of St. Marys, Georgia

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor John F. Morrissey, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Walker-Reed, City Clerk

## Atlantic Geophysical and Geological Surveys *Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement*

BOEM, in cooperation with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), and pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), has developed a [Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement](#) (PEIS) to evaluate potential environmental effects of proposed geological and geophysical (G&G) survey activities on the Mid- and South Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).

G&G surveys use sound waves sent through the ocean floor to map the subsurface. G&G surveys are conducted to: (1) obtain data for hydrocarbon exploration and production; (2) aid in siting renewable energy structures by characterizing the ocean floor; (3) locate potential sand and gravel resources; (4) identify possible seafloor or shallow depth geologic hazards; and (5) locate potential archaeological resources and potential hard bottom habitats that should be avoided.



### Background

From 1966-1988, 2-dimensional (2D) seismic data were acquired in all areas of the Atlantic OCS. This G&G data, acquired over 30 years ago, has been eclipsed by more advanced instrumentation and technology. Newer surveys are needed to make informed decisions regarding whether and where to offer oil and gas leases, engineering decisions regarding the construction of renewable energy projects, and to inform estimates regarding the composition and volume of sand and gravel resources for coastal restoration projects. This information would also be used to ensure the proper use and conservation of OCS energy resources and the receipt of fair market value for any leasing of public lands. Modern 2D and 3D data sets can now be acquired using better acoustic sourcing and longer receiver cables to help define a better stratigraphic framework in areas that may comprise petroleum system elements. These newer data would not just be used by industry for more efficient exploration and development of oil and gas, but also by BOEM to improve national hydrocarbon resource estimates and for other regulatory responsibilities.

Since 1998, BOEM has partnered with academia and other experts to invest more than \$50 million on protected species and noise-related research. The bureau has provided critical studies on marine mammals, such as the sperm whale and seismic impacts, and conducted numerous expert stakeholder workshops to discuss and identify further information needs on acoustic impacts.

### Purpose of the PEIS

The PEIS describes and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of G&G survey activities in Federal waters of the Mid- and South Atlantic OCS and adjacent State waters. It examines G&G survey activities for three

program areas (oil and gas, renewable energy, and marine minerals) for possible activity levels projected between 2012 and 2020. The PEIS also identifies mitigation and monitoring measures to avoid, reduce, or minimize impacts. The goal is to provide factual, reliable, and clear analysis about potential environmental effects of the proposed activities and alternatives. The PEIS also establishes a framework for future NEPA evaluations of site-specific actions, where any new information since publication of the final PEIS will be analyzed and any site-specific mitigation can be applied. BOEM prepared the PEIS for four primary reasons, including:

- (1) Congress directed development of the PEIS through the Conference Report for Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Act, 2010;
- (2) There was previously no programmatic NEPA coverage for G&G activities in Atlantic OCS waters;
- (3) BOEM will need similar analyses to comply with various other environmental laws (e.g., a Biological Assessment for consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, applications for permitting under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and an Essential Fish Habitat Assessment under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act);
- (4) BOEM has received several permit requests for seismic air gun surveys in support of oil and gas exploration in these areas, as well as anticipated activity from marine minerals mining; and
- (5) High resolution geophysical surveys and sub-bottom sampling will be necessary to locate shallow hazards, cultural resources, and hard-bottom areas; evaluate installation feasibility; assist in the selection of appropriate foundation system designs; and determine the variability of subsurface sediments for renewable energy facilities.

## **Potential Impacts Identified**

Some marine species rely on sound to communicate and gain information about their environment critical to survival and reproductive success. Human-made sound can affect certain species of marine life in a variety of ways, from minor behavioral modifications to major physiological impacts such as permanent or temporary hearing loss. The potential for impacts is largely tied to the reaction of the individual animal (age, hearing range, prior exposure to sound source), physical environmental factors, and the mitigations put in place to minimize or eliminate the potential for impacts.

The PEIS considers potential impacts on 13 different types of resources (e.g., marine mammals, fish, benthic communities, and cultural resources), as well as cumulative effects from G&G and other human activities in these areas. The PEIS also considers the potential effects from 11 different 'impact producing factors' on these resources. Of these factors, sound from geophysical survey sources presents the highest potential for impacts.

## **Mitigation**

BOEM has worked with NOAA Fisheries and several other agencies to develop a mitigation strategy focused on: (1) avoiding injury from exposure of air gun sound sources to marine animals in close proximity to the source; and (2) reducing the potential for behavioral disruption. The mitigation measures analyzed in the PEIS include limitations on air gun surveys in right whale critical habitat and their migratory corridors during certain times of the year; seismic air gun, electromechanical and borehole operational protocols; vessel speed restrictions and marine trash and debris awareness briefings. Monitoring and reporting requirements are also analyzed. These mitigations and monitoring requirements are covered in detail in the PEIS.

The preferred alternative identified in the PEIS identifies the most aggressive mitigation measures and the strictest safeguards to reduce or eliminate impacts to marine life. Additional mitigation efforts include requirements to avoid vessel strikes, special closure areas to protect the main migratory route for the highly endangered North Atlantic Right Whale, geographic separation of simultaneous seismic airgun surveys, and Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) to supplement visual observers and improve detection of marine mammals prior to and during seismic airgun surveys.

*Last updated: Feb. 25, 2014*

## Atlantic Geological and Geophysical and Surveys *Record of Decision on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement*



Time-area closures are required to protect the North Atlantic right whale. Photo: NOAA

BOEM, in cooperation with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), and pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), released a final [Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement \(PEIS\)](#) in February 2014 that evaluated potential environmental effects of proposed geological and geophysical (G&G) survey activities on the Mid- and South Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The PEIS covers an area which extends from the Delaware Bay to just south of Cape Canaveral and from the inner edge of Federal waters along that coastline to 403 miles offshore.

The analysis responds to a 2010 Congressional request to provide a comprehensive review of potential environmental impacts of G&G activities off the Atlantic coast. The NEPA process is an open and public process. During the development of the PEIS, 15 public meetings and two formal public comment periods for the EIS were held, resulting in the receipt of over 120,000 public comments. BOEM considered the public input as well as technical information and selected Alternative B of the PEIS. Alternative B authorizes review of permit applications for G&G activities in all three program areas (oil and gas, renewable energy and marine minerals) and provides the highest practicable level of mitigation measures proposed for airgun acoustic sources and the most reasonable level of mitigation measures for non-airgun sources. A formal [Record of Decision \(ROD\)](#) was issued by BOEM in July 2014.

The mitigation measures will be incorporated in any surveys authorized. Completion of the PEIS and the release of the ROD do not themselves authorize any specific activities or indicate any decision about future leasing.

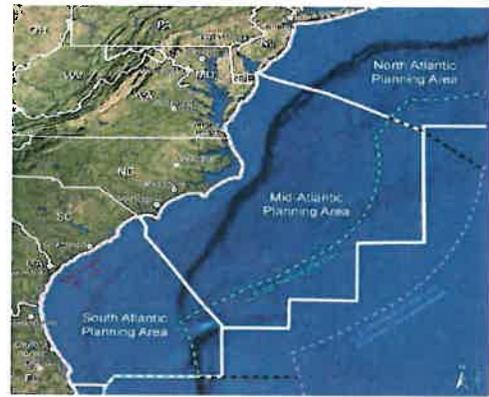
Specific mitigation measures in Alternative B include survey protocols such as visual monitoring by trained protected species observers; exclusion zones around vessels; shut-down and ramp-up procedures; passive acoustic monitoring; and time-area closures to protect the North Atlantic right whale and sea turtles.

### Background

Seismic surveys use sound waves which are sent through the ocean floor to map the subsurface. These acoustic surveys are conducted to: (1) obtain data for hydrocarbon exploration and production; (2) aid in siting renewable energy structures by characterizing the ocean floor; (3) locate potential sand and gravel resources; (4) identify possible seafloor or shallow depth geologic hazards; and (5) locate potential archaeological resources and potential hard bottom habitats that should be avoided.

From 1966-1988, 2-dimensional (2D) seismic data were acquired in all areas of the Atlantic OCS. This data, acquired over 30 years ago, has been eclipsed by new acquisition techniques using more advanced instrumentation, computer capacity, and technology. However seismic surveys have not been conducted since the 1980s because of a Federal moratorium on oil and gas activities off the Atlantic coast, which expired in 2008, and because BOEM decided not to begin reviewing permit applications until the PEIS was completed and a decision made on its alternatives.

Newer surveys are needed to make decisions concerning potential oil and gas leases, renewable energy project construction, and the composition and volume of sand and gravel resources for coastal restoration projects. This information would also be used to ensure the proper use and conservation of OCS energy resources and the receipt of fair market value for any leasing of public lands. Modern 2D and 3D acquisition techniques can provide data sets that significantly enhance subsurface imaging, leading to improved oil and gas resource assessments and more informed administration of regulatory responsibilities.



Since 1998, BOEM has partnered with academia and other experts to invest more than \$50 million on protected species and noise-related research. The bureau has provided critical studies on marine mammals, such as evaluation of seismic survey impacts on endangered sperm whales, and BOEM has conducted numerous expert stakeholder workshops to discuss and identify further information needs on acoustic impacts in the ocean.

G&G surveys covered by this decision are not used exclusively for oil and gas exploration. These surveys are also helpful in identifying sand used for restoration of our Nation's beaches and barrier islands following severe weather events and for protecting coasts and wetlands from erosion. Seismic and geologic coring surveys also provide information that is vital to the siting and development of offshore renewable energy facilities. G&G surveys also help to advance fundamental scientific knowledge and are currently conducted in the Gulf of Mexico and in countries around the world.

Making decisions based on sound science, public input, and the best information available is a critical to environmentally responsible development of the nation's offshore energy resources. BOEM, by using an adaptive management approach, will consider new scientific information as it becomes available during survey-specific environmental reviews.

### **Process going forward**

The ROD documents the selected alternative and describes mitigation measures that will be incorporated in site-specific G&G permits for any future G&G activities in the Atlantic. BOEM will conduct site-specific environmental reviews for any permit applications. These reviews will include coordination and consultation with federal, state and tribal authorities under a suite of additional statutory requirements. BOEM will also require that operators receive any required authorization from NOAA Fisheries before any final authorization from BOEM is provided. NOAA will not authorize use of G&G surveys unless there is negligible impact and no adverse effects on recruitment or survival of marine mammal species or stocks.

The decision to authorize G& G activities for all three program areas (oil and gas, renewable energy and marine minerals) does not authorize leasing for oil and gas exploration and development in the Atlantic. Those decisions will be addressed through the development of the next Five Year Program for Oil and Gas Leasing. BOEM is at the beginning of the process to develop that program as required by the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA). The planning process will take two-and-a-half to three years to complete and will offer many opportunities for the public to provide input.

*Updated Aug. 14, 2014*

## The Science Behind the Decision

*Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the Atlantic Geological and Geophysical Activities Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)*

### **Will air guns used in seismic surveys kill dolphins, whales and sea turtles and ruin coastal communities?**

To date, there has been no documented scientific evidence of noise from air guns used in geological and geophysical (G&G) seismic activities adversely affecting marine animal populations or coastal communities. This technology has been used for more than 30 years around the world. It is still used in U.S. waters off of the Gulf of Mexico with no known detrimental impact to marine animal populations or to commercial fishing.



Bottlenose dolphin from the Atlantic AMAPPS study.

While there is no documented case of a marine mammal or sea turtle being killed by the sound from an air gun, it is possible that at some point where an air gun has been used, an animal could have been injured by getting too close. Make no mistake, airguns are powerful, and protections need to be in place to prevent harm. That is why mitigation measures -- like required distance between surveys and marine mammals and time and area closures for certain species -- are so critical.

### **Is it true that the air guns are 100,000 times louder than a jet, and if so, won't they kill or deafen marine life?**

A large air gun is loud, although it is not 100,000 times louder than a jet. Measured comparably in decibels, an air gun is about as loud as one jet taking off. Scientists who specialize in acoustics confirm that sounds in water and sounds in air that have the same pressures have very different intensities (which is a measure of energy produced by the source) because the density of water is much greater than the density of air, and because the speed of sound in water is much greater than the speed of sound in air. For the same pressure, the higher density and higher speed make sound in water less intense than sound in air.

We do not know what a whale, dolphin, or turtle actually experiences when it hears an air gun. Many marine mammal species -- but not the baleen whales including North Atlantic right whales -- have reduced sensitivity to sound signals that are in the same frequency range as airplanes and air gun arrays. Some whales appear to move away from surveys,

indicating that they probably don't like the noise, but bottlenose dolphins have often been observed swimming toward surveying vessels, and ride bow waves along the vessels.

**Is it true that the government's own scientists expect 100,000 injuries or deaths of marine life if seismic surveys go forward?**

This statement misrepresents the facts. When our scientists began to look at possible impacts of seismic surveys, they first looked at what might happen if no measures were taken to mitigate or avoid possible injury to marine mammals. Next they began to look at what could be done to avoid harm, such as avoiding migration routes and stopping surveys if vessels get close enough to marine mammals to possibly injure their hearing.

After a thorough, public process, the Department selected a preferred alternative that included the most restrictive mitigation measures that would allow surveys to take place. We expect survey operators to comply with our requirements and, if they do, seismic surveys should not cause any deaths or injuries to the hearing of marine mammal or sea turtles.

Another source of confusion is about what a "take" is. As defined by Federal law, a "take" of a marine mammal, unsurprisingly, includes causing its death. However "take" also includes not only injury to hearing but also any disturbance to an animal that may disrupt its behavior. BOEM has published numbers of potential "takes," and the highest numbers are based on potential for behavioral effects, such as temporarily leaving survey areas. These behavioral effects have not been linked to negative impacts on populations. In fact, the same Federal law defining "take" of a marine mammal prohibits all taking unless the NOAA has determined that the taking will have no more than "negligible impact" and no adverse effects on marine mammal species or stocks.

BOEM cannot authorize air gun surveys which "take" marine mammals unless the surveys are also authorized by NOAA and meet this requirement. BOEM also consulted with both NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act to develop mitigations that would limit any potential impacts to endangered and threatened species, including baleen whales and sea turtles.

**Does this decision mean that the federal government is opening the entire Atlantic coast up for offshore oil and gas drilling?**

The decision to authorize G&G activities for all three program areas (oil and gas, renewable energy and marine minerals) does not authorize leasing for oil and gas exploration and development in the Atlantic. Those decisions will be addressed through the development of the next Five Year Program for oil and gas leasing. BOEM is at the beginning of the process to develop that program pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. The planning process will take two-and-a-half to three years to complete and will offer many opportunities for the public to provide input.

Completion of the PEIS and BOEM's selection of the strongest environmental alternative and its documentation in the decision (ROD) do not themselves authorize any specific activities. Nor does this make any decision about future leasing.

The bureau's decision requires a set of protective measures that will be used in site-specific permits for any future G&G activities in the Atlantic. BOEM will conduct site-specific environmental reviews for any permit applications. These reviews will include coordination and consultation with federal, state and tribal authorities under a variety of additional statutory requirements. In particular, any "taking" of a marine mammal requires authorization from NOAA, separately from BOEM, and that authorization requires NOAA to find that there is no more than "negligible impact" and no adverse effects on marine mammal species or stocks.

## SEISMIC SURVEYING 101

### WHY ARE SEISMIC SURVEYS NEEDED IN THE ATLANTIC OCS?

The first step in exploring for offshore oil and natural gas resources is often conducted through seismic surveys, which are like ultrasounds of the earth that help scientists “see” below the ocean floor.

- The last surveys of the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) were conducted over 30 years ago. Due to technological advances, the existing estimates of 4.7 billion barrels of oil and 37.5 trillion cubic feet of natural gas are out of date.
- Advances in seismic imaging technology and data processing over the last decade have dramatically improved the industry's ability to locate oil and natural gas offshore.
- Exploration and development activities generally lead to increased resource estimates. For example, in 1987 the Minerals Management Service estimated only 9.57 billion barrels of oil in the Gulf of Mexico. With more recent seismic data acquisition and additional exploratory drilling, that estimate rose in 2011 to 48.4 billion barrels of oil — a fivefold increase.

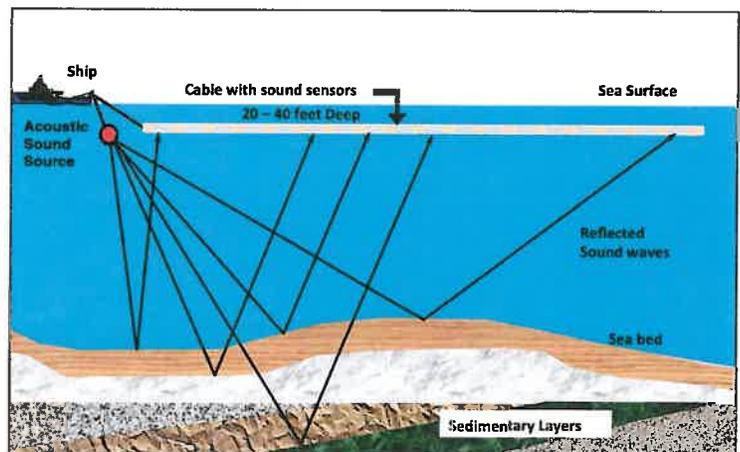
Seismic surveys are a safe and proven technology that help make offshore energy development safer and more efficient.

- Governments and the private sector have used this method of exploration in the U.S. and around the world for over 40 years.
- In addition to the oil and natural gas industry, seismic surveys are commonly used by the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation, and the offshore wind industry.
- A rigorous permitting process ensures that seismic surveys are properly managed and conducted so they have minimal impact on the marine environment.

### HOW DO SEISMIC SURVEYS WORK?

Sound waves help scientists map the ocean floor and geology beneath it.

- Surveyors release compressed air into the water to create short duration sound waves that reflect off subsurface rock layers and are “heard” by sensors being towed behind the vessel.
- Scientists analyze the collected data and use it to create maps of geologic structures that could contain energy resources beneath the ocean floor.
- The sound produced during seismic surveys is comparable in magnitude to many naturally occurring and other man-made ocean sound sources, including wind and wave action, rain, lightning strikes, marine life, and shipping.
- Survey operations are normally conducted at a speed of approximately 4.5 to 5 knots (~5.5 mph), with the sound source typically activated at 10-15 second intervals. As a result, the sound does not last long in any one location and is not at full volume 24 hours a day.



To find out more, visit [www.api.org/OCS](http://www.api.org/OCS)

## How do Seismic Surveys Impact Marine Life?

After examining decades of scientific research and real-world experience, federal regulators determined that seismic surveys in the Atlantic OCS will have no measurable impact on fish or marine mammal populations.

- In the words of the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), “there has been no documented scientific evidence of noise from air guns used in geological and geophysical (G&G) seismic activities adversely affecting marine animal populations or coastal communities.”
- According to BOEM, seismic surveys in the Atlantic OCS “should not cause any deaths or injuries to the hearing of marine mammal[s] or sea turtles.”
- Dr. William Brown, chief environmental officer for BOEM, told National Geographic that claims to the contrary are “wildly exaggerated and not supported by the evidence.”
- While fish and some whales may swim away from an area and return after the survey vessel has passed, bottlenose dolphins are known to swim toward survey vessels to ride their bow waves.



Despite the already negligible risks, the industry follows standard operating procedures known as “mitigation measures” to provide even more protection for marine life.

- Trained protected species observers (PSOs) are onboard to watch for animals. Operations stop if certain marine animals enter an “exclusion zone” established around the operation and are not restarted until the zone is all-clear for at least 30 minutes.
- When starting a seismic survey, operators use a ramp-up procedure that gradually increases the sound level being produced, allowing animals to leave the area if the sound level becomes uncomfortable.

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATE OF SCIENCE AND RESEARCH?

The best science and research indicates that seismic surveys have little-to-no impact on marine wildlife populations.

- Based on both available scientific knowledge and operational experience, there is no evidence to suggest that the sound produced during an oil and gas industry seismic survey has resulted in any physical or auditory injury to a marine mammal.
- Seismic surveys are predominantly low frequency. Not all marine life hears the same frequencies equally well. Just as humans, bats and dogs hear differently, some marine animals hear better at higher frequencies while others hear better at lower frequencies.
- The best available scientific information also indicates that any sound related injury to dolphins occurs at levels higher than the sound generated by a seismic survey.
- Animal strandings can occur for a number of reasons, e.g., sickness, disorientation, natural mortality, extreme weather conditions or injury, but no correlation has been found with seismic surveys.

The industry remains committed to improving the scientific understanding of the impacts of our operations on marine life.

- To provide the utmost safety precautions, seismic surveys in the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf are only conducted with measures in place to protect animals from high sound exposure levels.
- Industry continually monitors the effectiveness of its mitigation strategies and funds research to better understand interactions between offshore operations and marine life, including fish.

To find out more, visit [www.api.org/OCS](http://www.api.org/OCS)

## Seismic Surveys and Protecting the Marine Environment

Seismic surveys are the key tools used in oil and natural gas exploration and the siting of renewable energy facilities. The use of modern seismic technology is similar to ultrasound technology which is commonly used in the medical profession for imaging the human body. Today's advancements in seismic technology, which can pinpoint the most fruitful areas for hydrocarbon potential, have contributed to reducing the overall environmental footprint associated with oil and gas exploration. Seismic technology has also helped to decrease operational and safety risks associated with oil and gas development. Contrary to what has been said, seismic surveying is very well understood and a very safe industry practice.

More than four decades of worldwide seismic surveying and various scientific research indicate that the risk of direct physical injury to marine mammals is extremely low, and currently there is no scientific evidence demonstrating biologically significant negative impacts on marine mammal populations. The seismic industry is committed to conducting its operations in an environmentally responsible manner, including compliance with mitigation and monitoring guidelines and regulations. Industry supports a process of developing and implementing effective mitigation measures that are based on assessing the level of risk or significant impacts on marine animals. Such an approach helps to ensure that the scope of mitigation measures implemented in the field are appropriate to the level of risk and specific to the local population of marine animals.



## Taking Precautions to Protect the Environment

The seismic industry employs a number of measures to ensure that marine life is protected from direct or indirect harm from its operations.

### *Impact Assessments*

Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) are an integral part of developing and implementing a seismic survey. Many countries have environmental impact assessment requirements. The assessments include identification of marine species, including protected species, other environmental sensitivities and the human uses of the proposed area of operations. These assessments are conducted during the survey planning stage and evaluate the potential impacts and risks to marine life. The assessments also identify and consider measures to avoid or mitigate such potential impacts and risks. Seismic surveys are generally considered not to be harmful or damaging to the marine environment. Seismic surveys are comparable to many naturally occurring ocean sound sources, are temporary and transitory and the vast majority are conducted at frequencies below the hearing range of many marine species.



*Preparing analysis as part of seismic survey  
planning*

### *Mitigation and Monitoring*

Mitigation and monitoring must be proportionate to the potential risks identified by an environmental assessment and specific to the local environment and the operation being undertaken. Measures commonly used by the seismic industry include timing seismic surveys to avoid known areas of biological significance, such as whale foraging or breeding areas or avoiding seasonal marine life occurrences such as peak whale and dolphin activity seasons or migration.

Before a seismic operation begins, visual monitoring is undertaken to check for the presence of marine mammals and other marine species within a specified precautionary, or exclusion zone, often using dedicated marine mammal observers (MMOs) or protected species observers (PSOs).



*Protected Species Observer*

Further monitoring may be done using passive acoustic monitoring technology (PAM), which may detect vocalizing marine animals, especially during low visibility and nighttime conditions. In the event marine animals are detected in the exclusion zone, seismic operation will not begin for a certain time period until the marine animal moves away. Similarly, a seismic survey will shut down if the marine animal is observed entering the exclusion zone once operations have begun.

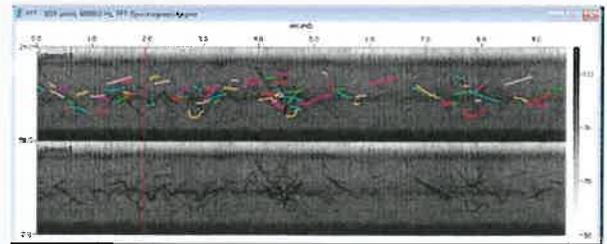


Soft-start or ramping-up procedures are undertaken by seismic vessels as a matter of general operational procedure. Soft starts involve activating a small section of the acoustic sound arrays over a period of time, gradually getting louder until the full acoustic array is operating. This measure also allows a marine animal to swim away before the acoustic source is activated at full strength.

### Environmental Protection Guidelines

Many countries and regional authorities have established guidelines and regulations specific to seismic operations, which are then adapted for the specific location and operation for the permit.

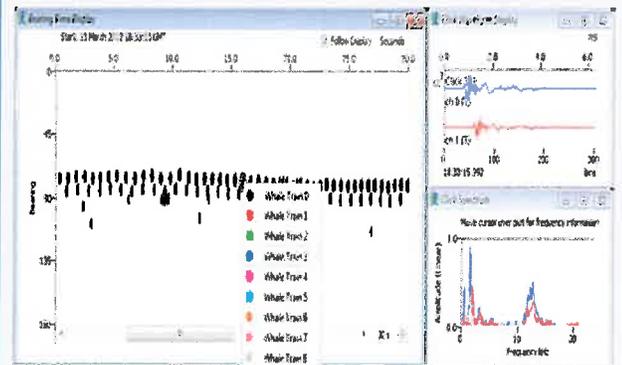
In the absence of regulations or guidelines in a specific area, the industry has committed itself to a set of minimum mitigation measures as outlined in the 2011 International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) standards document, "Recommended Mitigation Measures for Cetaceans during Geophysical Operations." IAGC has produced additional documents for mitigation and monitoring guidance for seismic operations, "Guidance for Marine Life Visual Observers" and "Guidance on the Use of Towed Passive Acoustic Monitoring during Geophysical Operations."



Dolphin whistles detected using the PAMGuard whistle and moan detector

### Contributing to Science

IAGC, together with a number of oil & gas companies, supports research to fill knowledge gaps about the effects of seismic surveys on marine life. This is helping to remove some of the uncertainty about possible effects of seismic surveys. More information on our commitment to science can be found at [www.soundandmarinelife.org](http://www.soundandmarinelife.org).



Marking up Sperm Whale clicks to localize on the map

### Additional Resources on Seismic Surveys and Protection of the Marine Environment

1. PAM Guidance: <http://www.iagc.org/articles/new-towed-passive-acoustic-monitoring-guidance-for-geophysical-operations/>.
2. Recommended Mitigation Measures for Cetaceans during Geophysical Operations: <http://www.iagc.org/files/4776/>.
3. Sound and Marine Life Protections: [www.soundandmarinelife.org](http://www.soundandmarinelife.org).
4. PAMGuard: <http://www.pamguard.org/>.
5. Marine Mammal Observer Association: <http://www.mmo-association.org/position-statements/111>.
6. Marine Mammal Observers: <http://www.globalseismicmmo.com/mmo-role/>.
7. OGP/IAGC "Seismic Surveys & Marine Mammals": <http://www.ogp.org.uk/publications/environment-committee/seismic-surveys-and-marine-mammals-joint-ogpiagc-position-paper/>.

### Environmental Stewardship

The geophysical industry takes a great deal of care and consideration of potential impacts to the marine environment. In its efforts to operate in an environmentally responsible manner, the industry implements measures to ensure that marine mammals are further protected from direct or indirect harm from its operations. For more than 40 years, the industry has demonstrated its ability to operate seismic exploration activities in a manner that protects marine life. Various research studies indicate that the risk of direct physical injury to marine mammals is extremely low, and currently there is no scientific evidence demonstrating biologically significant negative impacts on marine mammal populations.

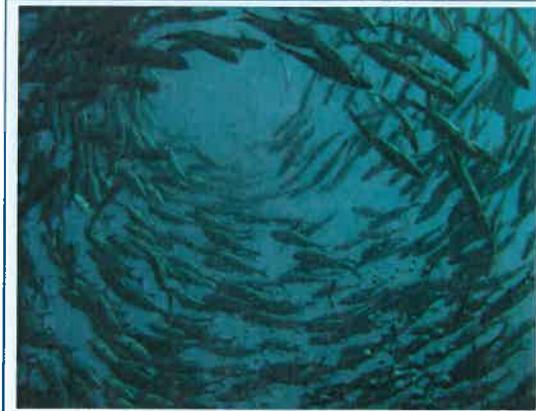
## *Seismic Surveys and Fish*

Marine seismic surveys are the only feasible technology available to accurately image the subsurface before a single well is drilled. Marine seismic surveys predominantly transmit low-frequency sound waves from a source directed downward into the subsurface. The sound waves are reflected from the geological layers in the subsurface, and these reflections are captured by receivers (hydrophones) typically towed just below the surface behind the seismic vessel. The recorded data are processed by computers to produce images of the subsurface.

Marine seismic surveys have been conducted since the 1950's, and experience shows that fisheries and seismic activities can and do coexist. There has been no observation of direct physical injury or death to free-ranging fishes caused by seismic survey activity. Any impacts to fish from seismic surveys are short-term, localized and have not led to significant impacts on a population scale.

### *Are there Physical Impacts to Fish from Seismic Activity?*

There has been no observation of direct physical injury or death to free-ranging fishes caused by seismic survey activity. Seismic vessels move along a survey tract in the water creating a line of seismic impulses. A predominantly low-frequency sound pulse is generated by releasing compressed air into the water as the vessel is moving. As the seismic vessel is in motion, each signal is short in duration, local and transient. Fish may react to these pulses by temporarily swimming away from the seismic air source. When fish move away from a survey vessel they often return after the vessel has passed.



Since typical seismic surveys are a moving sound source, any potential effects on fish are inherently local and short-term. While some studies have shown that various life stages of fish may be physically affected by exposure to seismic surveys, in all of these cases, the fish subjects were very close to the seismic source or subjected to exposures that are virtually impossible to occur in free-ranging fishes.



Fish eggs, larvae and fry do not have the ability to move away from a sound source, and may be injured in the unlikely event they are within a few meters of the seismic source. The impact of this damage, however, is insignificant on a population scale compared to the high natural mortality rate of eggs, larvae and fry.

### *Do Seismic Surveys Affect Fishing?*

Active acoustic sound sources such as seismic surveys may result in fish temporarily moving away from the sound source. There is no conclusive evidence, however, showing long-term or permanent displacement of fish. Because the sound output from a seismic survey is immediate and local, there is no contaminate residue or destruction of habitat.

During seismic surveys, a vessel exclusion zone is maintained around the survey vessel and its towed streamer arrays to avoid interruption of commercial fishing operations, including setting of fishing gear. These exclusion zones are dependent on the type of activity and national and local regulations in the area of operation.

Prior to conducting a seismic survey, operators work cooperatively with local fishing communities and regulatory bodies to avoid sensitive spawning grounds and mitigate any potential economic losses to fisherman. The geophysical industry works with fishermen to define and address potential concerns early in the permitting process.

## How do Seismic Activities Compare to Other Sources of Risk to Fish?

Separating the effects of sound from other environmental disturbances can be complex. The impacts of sound on fish stocks must be viewed in a wider context, considering how the effects of sound on populations compare to other natural and human influences on the marine environment. Those influences that are known to threaten marine life, such as overfishing, disease, habitat degradation and pollution, have greater impact from an overall risk perspective.



## What is the Seismic Industry Doing?

For many years, industry has invested in considerable research regarding the effects of seismic surveys on marine animals including fish. Research projects also address gaps in knowledge and assist in a more comprehensive understanding of potential environmental risks (see [www.soundandmarinelife.org](http://www.soundandmarinelife.org)). That investment continues today.



In addition to the research, industry employs various mitigation measures to decrease the potential impact of seismic operations on marine life, including avoidance of important fish spawning grounds and use of soft-start/ramp-up procedure, which is a gradual build-up of the seismic sound source to allow fish to swim away. In the US Gulf of Mexico, where seismic activities routinely occur, \$980 million of seafood is harvested annually, suggesting that commercial fisheries successfully coexist with seismic surveys.

## Additional Resources on Seismic Surveys and Fish

1. Science for Environment Policy, Future Brief: Underwater Noise, European Commission: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/FB7.pdf>.
2. U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA. Stocks at a Glance – Status of Stocks: [www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2012/05/05\\_14](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2012/05/05_14).
3. Boeger, W.A., Pie, M.R., Ostrensky, A., Cardoso, M.F. The Effect of Exposure to Seismic Prospecting on Coral Reef Fishes. Brazil. J. Oceanogr. 54, 235-239.
4. Marine Pollution Bulletin. 3D Marine Seismic Survey, No Measurable Effects on Species Richness or Abundance of a Coral Reef Associated Fish Community: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2013.10.031>.
5. Hassel, A., Knutsen, T., Dalen, J., Skaar, K., Lokkeborg, S., Misund, O.A., Osten, O., Fonn, M., Haugland, E.K. Influence of Seismic Shooting on the Lesser Sand Eel. ICES J. Mar. Sci. 61, 1165-1173.
6. Pena, H., Handegard, N.O. and Ona, E. Feeding Herring Schools Do Not React to Seismic Air Gun Surveys. ICES J. Mar. Sci: <http://icesjms.oxfordjournals.org/content/70/6/1174.short?rss=1>.
7. Saetre, R. and E. Ona. Seismic Investigations and Damages on Fish Eggs and Larvae; An Evaluation of Possible Effects on Stock level. Fisker og Havet: 1-17, 1-8.
8. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. Appendix J, Atlantic G&G PEIS: <http://www.boem.gov/boem-2014-001-v3/>.

## Environmental Stewardship

*The geophysical industry takes a great deal of care and consideration of potential impacts to the marine environment. In its efforts to operate in an environmentally responsible manner, the industry implements measures to ensure that marine mammals are further protected from direct or indirect harm from its operations. For more than 40 years, the industry has demonstrated its ability to operate seismic exploration activities in a manner that protects marine life. Various research studies indicate that the risk of direct physical injury to marine mammals is extremely low, and currently there is no scientific evidence demonstrating biologically significant negative impacts on marine mammal populations.*

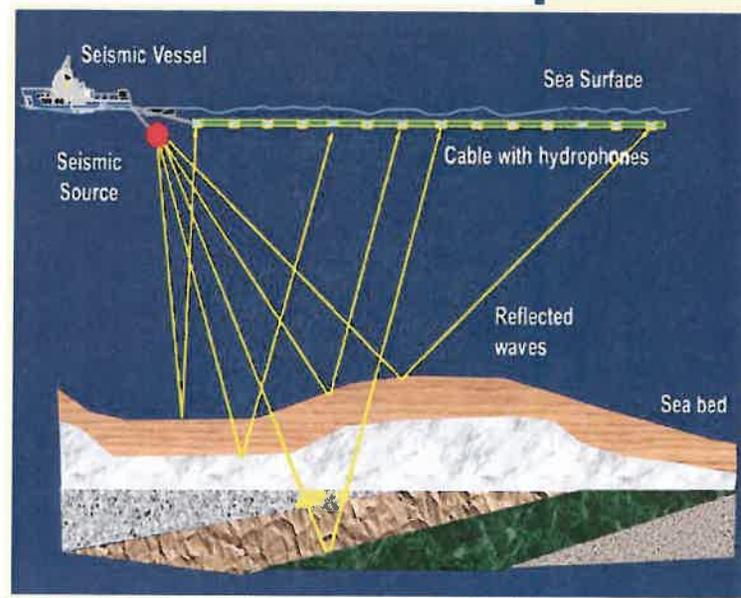
## Fundamentals of Sound in the Marine Environment

### *What Is Sound?*

Sound is a vibration or pressure wave that transmits energy from its source through a medium such as air or water. Sound pressure waves will alternately compress and decompress as they travel away from their source through a medium, such as air or water. The compressions and decompressions associated with sound waves are detected as changes in pressure and are then perceived as sound by a human ear or other acoustic receiver (such as a microphone or hydrophone) that may be in the path. The pressure fluctuations (amplitude or height of the sound pressure wave) determine the loudness. The decibel (dB) system is used to express the relative loudness (amplitude) of sound. The decibel system is logarithmic, which results in an exponential scale being represented as a linear scale, like the Richter scale that expresses the strength of earthquakes. Decibel is not a measuring unit, but a ratio that must be expressed using a reference (benchmark) value (See *Sound in Water in Not the Same as Sound in Air* section). Also, sound pressure levels are not to be confused with sound intensity (power), which is the acoustical energy emitted by a sound source. Sound pressure is what our ears hear and what sound meters measure.

Frequency is another measure of sound. It is the number of pressure waves that pass by a reference point per unit of time and is measured in Hertz (Hz), or cycles per second. To the human ear, an increase in frequency is perceived as a higher pitched sound, while a decrease in frequency is perceived as a lower pitched sound. Humans generally hear sound waves where frequencies are between 20 and 20,000 Hz. Similar to the differences in hearing between humans and bats or dogs, some marine mammals hear well at higher frequencies and relatively poorly at lower frequencies. Others hear better at lower frequencies.

Specific ocean sounds are classified as transient, such as a pulse or as continuous, which is ongoing. Continuous sound can include ambient or background noise. Ambient or background noise is any sound other than the primary sound being monitored.



### *Sound in Water is Not the Same as Sound in Air*

Confusion arises because sound levels given in dB in water are not the same as sound levels given in dB in air. A 150 dB sound in water is not the same as a 150 dB sound in air. This is equivalent to reporting temperature, in which it is important to specify the reference level, as 50 degrees Celsius is not the same as 50 degrees Fahrenheit. When reporting sound levels, it is important to not only specify "dB", but also the reference level. For sounds in water, the reference level is expressed as "dB re 1 uPa" – the amplitude of a sound wave's loudness with a pressure of 1 microPascal (uPa).

The reference level for sound in air is "dB re 20 uPa." The amplitude (loudness) of a sound wave depends not only on the pressure of the wave, but also on the density and sound speed of the medium (air, water) through which the sound is traveling. Because of such environmental differences, 62 dB must be subtracted from any sound measurement under water to make it equal to the same sound level in the air.

Sound travels further in water than it does in air because water is denser. However, in both air and water, the loudness of a sound diminishes as a sound wave radiates from its source. In air, the sound level reduces by 10dB as the distance doubles whereas in water, it reduces by 6 dB for each doubling of the distance. As in air, underwater sound is also subject to additional attenuation as it interacts with obstacles and barriers, water temperature differences, currents, etc. Because sound level in water halves (i.e. 6dB reduction) as the distance doubles, high levels of sound are only experienced very close to the source and the loudness diminishes very quickly close to the source and more slowly away from the source.

## Seismic Surveys and Sound in the Marine Environment

The ocean is filled with sound. Underwater sound is generated by a variety of natural sources such as wind, waves, and marine life as well as underwater volcanoes and earthquakes. There are also man-made (anthropogenic) sounds in the ocean which include shipping, commercial and recreational fishing, pile-driving for marine construction and dredging and military activities.

The geophysical and offshore oil industry relies on transient sound - in the form of seismic surveys - to determine the location of hydrocarbon deposits. Seismic surveys are used to define geological structure below the sea floor by sending low frequency (5 to 200Hz) acoustic sound waves into layers beneath the sea floor and recording the time it takes for each wave to bounce back, while also measuring the amplitude of each returning wave. The sound is transient and temporary. Once the survey is complete, the sound is no longer part of the ambient environment. Transient sounds of this nature also do not accumulate in the marine environment.

The sound produced during seismic surveys is comparable in loudness to many naturally occurring and other man-made sound sources. The seismic surveys are predominantly carried out in a frequency range well below 200 Hz. Approximately 98% of all the acoustic energy in a seismic pulse is within this band.



Type of Sounds	In Air (dB re 20µPa @ 1m)	In Water (dB re 1µPa @ 1m)
Threshold of Hearing	0 dB	62 dB
Whisper at 1 Meter	20 dB	82 dB
Normal Conversation in Restaurant	60 dB	122 dB
Ambient sea noise	--	100 dB
Blue Whale	--	190 dB
Live Rock Music	110 dB	172 dB
Thunderclap or Chainsaw	120 dB	182 dB
Large Ship	--	200 dB
Earthquake	--	210 dB
<b>Seismic Array at 1 Meter</b>	<b>158 - 178 dB</b>	<b>220 - 240 dB</b>
Bottlenose Dolphin	--	225 dB
Sperm Whale Click	--	236 dB
Jet Engine Take-off at 1 Meter	180 dB	242 dB
Volcanic Eruption	--	255 dB
Colliding Iceberg	--	220

### Additional Resources on the Fundamentals of Sound in the Marine Environment

1. Fundamentals of Underwater Sound - OGP: <http://www.ogp.org.uk/pubs/406.pdf>.
2. Discovery of Sound in the Sea: [www.dosits.org](http://www.dosits.org).
3. Seismic and the Marine Environment: [http://www.appea.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Seismic\\_and\\_the\\_Marine\\_Environment.pdf](http://www.appea.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Seismic_and_the_Marine_Environment.pdf).
4. Seismic Surveys: [www.seismicsurvey.com.au](http://www.seismicsurvey.com.au).

### Environmental Stewardship

*The geophysical industry takes a great deal of care and consideration of potential impacts to the marine environment. In its efforts to operate in an environmentally responsible manner, the industry implements measures to ensure that marine mammals are further protected from direct or indirect harm from its operations. For more than 40 years, the industry has demonstrated its ability to operate seismic exploration activities in a manner that protects marine life. Various research studies indicate that the risk of direct physical injury to marine mammals is extremely low, and currently there is no scientific evidence demonstrating biologically significant negative impacts on marine mammal populations.*

# Study: Planning Can Protect Whales in Seismic Surveys

*Scientists outline recommendations for protecting whales and other marine animals from loud blasts generated by ocean seismic surveys for oil and gas exploration.*



A new study conducted during seismic surveys near Sakhalin Island offered steps that could be taken to protect western gray whales.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVE WELLER, INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

Ker Than  
for [National Geographic](#)  
PUBLISHED JANUARY 21, 2014

Whale experts have teamed up with the oil and gas industry to develop a step-by-step guide for reducing the impacts of noise pollution from marine seismic surveys on whales and other marine species.

The paper, published in the current issue of the journal [Aquatic Mammals](#), was the result of a collaboration between scientists with the Switzerland-based International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel and the Russian consortium, Sakhalin Energy Investment.

"We wanted to create a go-to document for people who are planning one of these surveys so that they can minimize the risks [to wildlife]," said [Doug Nowacek](#), an oceanographer at Duke University and the paper's lead author.

The energy industry uses [marine seismic surveys](#) to map the seafloor and identify areas of potential interest for oil and gas drilling. To conduct the surveys, ships tow arrays of air guns that repeatedly fire powerful bursts of sound aimed at the ocean bottom. Sensors measure the return echo to reveal details of the seafloor and the underlying geologic structure. (See related, "[Offshore Energy Clash Over Undersea Sound.](#)")

"The air guns' shots are going off every 10 to 15 seconds for days to weeks to months on end," Nowacek said.

Studies have shown that the sound bursts—which can reach 250 decibels, loud enough to be detected 2,500 miles (4,000 kilometers) away—can disturb and even harm marine life. For examples, whales rely on sound for communication, navigation, and foraging, so exposure to loud noise can result in stress and behavior changes, affect foraging and nursing, or cause direct physical damage. [Read also "[Giant Squid Killed by Sound?](#)"]

The new study outlines a series of procedures that Nowacek and his team developed to protect western gray whales during seismic surveys conducted near Sakhalin Island, located on the Russian coast just north of Japan, from 2006 to 2012. The region harbors huge oil and gas reserves, but it is also an important feeding area for the whales, which are listed as critically endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. The area is being developed by Sakhalin Energy, which is a consortium that includes the Russian company Gazprom, Royal Dutch Shell,\* and the Japanese companies Mitsui and Mitsubishi.

One of the team's recommendations was for Sakhalin Energy to do as much planning as possible to understand the potential ecological impacts of the seismic surveys in order to mitigate them. Before any ships are even sent out, the authors say, companies should attempt to gather baseline ecological data about a region and learn about what animals might be present during the survey. And whenever possible, the surveys should be conducted when susceptible animals are absent, present in low numbers, or not passing through as part of their migration route. (See related, "[Bubble Curtains: Can They Dampen Offshore Energy Sound for Whales?](#)")

The coauthors also recommend that energy companies conduct real-time acoustic monitoring of the air gun shots to ensure the noise levels match what is predicted by computer models, so that the impact on marine life is not a surprise.

It's also important to set up lines of communication between the survey boats and wildlife observers during surveys so that problems can be addressed quickly, Nowacek said, "so that if anybody sees anything that is listed as a trigger for mitigation"—such as a whale attempting to flee or showing other reactions during a survey—"there's a very direct line for getting that done. That doesn't always exist."

The authors also emphasize the importance of evaluating the effectiveness of monitoring programs and mitigation measures after surveys are completed, and for companies to share what they've learned about how animals are affected. Nowacek said he thinks this could be done without divulging proprietary information about specific techniques.

Carl Gustaf Lundin, director of the global marine and polar program at IUCN, said the tiny population of western gray whales affected by Sakhalin Energy's surveys grew about 3 percent a year, to 140 individuals, during the survey period. That indicates the monitoring and mitigation efforts are working, he said. (See related story: "[Chilean Wind Farm Faces Turbulence Over Whales.](#)")

"It's a good sign . . . but we're not out of the woods yet," Gustaf Lundin said. In particular, he said he worried about the cumulative impact on the whales as more companies begin to explore the region.

[Michael Stocker](#), executive director of [Ocean Conservation Research](#) (OCR), a California-based organization focused on marine noise pollution science and policy, called the new study "exemplary," but he wonders how many companies will spend the time and money that Sakhalin Energy did to work with scientists to investigate their surveys' ecological impacts.

"Right now, as we speak, there are over 50 surveys going on globally," Stocker said. "[Companies] are not going to go through this procedure for all of those."

In the case of Sakhalin Energy, the company was required to conduct a study investigating the risk to western gray whales of its surveys as part of the conditions for securing a large bank loan, according to Nowacek.

New technologies in development—such as ones that use electromagnetic waves in place of acoustic waves—could one day allow companies to gather the same kinds of geological data while being less ecologically disruptive, Nowacek said, but it will still be some time before those techniques can match the efficiency of the air gun approach.

OCR's Stocker said the best way to protect animals from the effects of noise pollution generated by seismic surveys is to eliminate the need for such surveys altogether.

"The types of technology [that are] going to improve this situation are solar panels and [power sources] that get us away from fossil fuel," he said.

Follow Ker Than on [Twitter](#).

*\*Shell is sponsor of National Geographic's [Great Energy Challenge](#) initiative. National Geographic maintains autonomy over content.*

Than, Ker. "Study: Planning Can Protect Whales in Seismic Surveys." *National Geographic*. 21 Jan. 2014. Web. 23 Dec. 2014.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/energy/2014/01/140121-protecting-whales-seismic-energy-surveys-study/>

# Atlantic Seismic Tests for Oil: Marine Animals at Risk?

*U.S. environmental review paves the way for first air-gun surveys in 26 years off the East Coast.*



A North Atlantic right whale crests. Fewer than 500 of the species remain, and the proposed seismic survey area coincides with their main range.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, NOAA

Helen Scales

[National Geographic](#)

PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 28, 2014

The Obama administration has paved the way for the first seismic oil and gas exploration in 26 years off the U.S. Atlantic coast, with an environmental review that concludes the air-gun blasts will have “moderate” impacts on marine mammals and sea turtles.

The [final Environmental Impact Statement \(EIS\)](#), released Thursday by the U.S. Department of Interior’s Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), outlines measures for minimizing the impact on wildlife that are especially sensitive to the intense sound impulses used to prospect for energy resources beneath the seafloor. (See related, [“Study: Planning Can Protect Whales in Seismic Surveys.”](#))

The document was three years in the making, and the Obama administration was urged to advance the plan [by Southern governors](#), who say offshore drilling could bring new jobs to their states. But environmental groups argue that proposed mitigation measures will be insufficient to protect the rich sea life in the survey area, a large swath of the Atlantic coast, stretching from Delaware to Florida and encompassing an area twice the size of California.

"Imagine dynamite going off in your living room or in your backyard every ten seconds for days to weeks at a time," said Matthew Huelsenbeck, a marine scientist at Oceana, one of the environmental groups opposing the plan. (See related, "[Offshore Energy Clash Over Undersea Sound.](#)")

The government's estimates of the undiscovered oil and gas resources beneath the U.S. Atlantic outer continental shelf range [from 1.3 to 5.58 billion barrels](#)—a drop in the bucket compared with the Gulf of Mexico's undiscovered stores, which government assessors [estimate at 38.8 to 59.2 billion barrels](#). But energy industry officials say the figures could be understated, because the last energy exploration of the offshore Atlantic occurred in 1988, with equipment that is now outdated. Modern 3-D seismic equipment has uncovered huge oil reservoirs hidden beneath salt deposits in the Gulf of Mexico. The energy industry says similar potential discoveries might lurk in the depths of the Atlantic, but that they could be uncovered only by seismic surveys—towing air guns behind vessels and blasting extremely loud sounds down to the seabed to detect the size and location of hydrocarbon deposits. (See related graphic: "[The Noisy Ocean.](#)")

Drilling in the Atlantic could add "1.3 million barrels equivalent per day to domestic energy production, which is about 70 percent of the current output from the Gulf of Mexico, and raise \$51 billion in new revenue for government," said Erik Milito, director of upstream and industry operations for the American Petroleum Institute (API) at a news conference Thursday after the release of the EIS.

BOEM Director Tommy Beaudreau said in a statement that the agency is "employing a comprehensive adaptive management strategy" that takes into account the fact that scientific knowledge about the Atlantic Ocean is constantly changing and building. "New information and analyses will continue to be developed over time," he said.

"The Department and BOEM have been steadfast in our commitment to balancing the need for understanding offshore energy resources with the protection of the human and marine environment using the best available science as the basis of this environmental review," Beaudreau said.

The EIS concludes that there would be "minor to negligible" impact to most wildlife, with the exception of marine mammals and turtles, for which impact could be "moderate." The review estimates that about 138,000 marine animals could be injured in some way, and perhaps 13.6 million could have their migration, feeding, or other behavioral patterns disrupted by the seismic surveys. (Read also "[Giant Squid Killed by Sound?](#)")

Here is a rundown of the main Atlantic ocean species likely to be affected:

#### North Atlantic Right Whales

Hunted almost to extinction partly because their docile nature and habit of swimming near the surface made them easy targets and the "right" whales to hunt, the North Atlantic right whales have recovered only marginally even though they have been protected from commercial hunting by international agreement since 1986.

Fewer than 500 of these whales are alive today, and the proposed region for air-gun surveys coincides with the main range of the remnants of the species.

"It's the rarest of the large whales," Huelsenbeck said. "You can consider it the American bison of the sea."

These stocky black whales grow to 40 or 50 feet (12-15 meters) and are easy to spot because of the white patterns on their heads known as callosities made from infestations of whale lice.

To help protect these whales, BOEM proposes that during a key period when larger numbers are present, between November and April, the air-gun surveys would be banned close to the coast. The limitation essentially would put a narrow strip of the survey area off limits during the winter and early spring months, preventing seismic testing up to 20 nautical miles (37 km) from shore.

Environmentalists argue that such measures are unlikely to offer full protection to the whales because new research shows that they swim much farther offshore. Cornell University researchers placed listening stations off the coast and heard right whale calls at least 65 nautical miles (120 kilometers) out to sea. (See related, "[Bubble Curtains: Can They Dampen Offshore Energy Sound for Whales?](#)")

#### Humpback Whales

Many other large cetaceans live in the proposed survey area, including humpback whales, killer whales, sperm whales, and short-finned pilot whales, which use low frequency sounds in their daily lives in many ways.

"The mid- and south Atlantic is very special," said Huelsenbeck of Oceana. "It's home to an abundance and diversity of marine mammals that's almost unparalleled throughout the world."

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), a division of NOAA, is in the final stages of a 15-year research program gathering expert advice on how marine mammals are disturbed and damaged by sound.

Last week, a group of more than 100 scientists wrote to Obama urging him not to finalize the EIS until the latest marine mammal acoustic guidance is available. Without the NMFS advice, the EIS will, they said, "be scientifically deficient and quickly outdated." (See related story: "[Chilean Wind Farm Faces Turbulence Over Whales.](#)")

#### Dolphins

Large populations of many smaller cetaceans live in the proposed survey area, including dolphins such as Atlantic spotted, bottlenose, and Risso's dolphins. These animals are especially sensitive to the higher frequency sounds produced when the air guns blast.

"The air guns operate in broadband," said Huelsenbeck, producing a large range of frequencies, both high and low.

The higher pitched sounds don't provide useful information to the surveyors, but they can damage dolphins' hearing and disrupt their behavior. Alternative survey technologies are being developed that are likely to be less harmful. Marine vibroseis, for example, would emit vibrations instead of bursts of intense sound.

In its report, the BOEM states that as marine vibroseis technologies are developed the agency would consider requiring and/or incentivizing their use, but that this would not be a wholesale replacement for air guns.

BOEM also proposes spacing air-gun surveys at least 25 miles (40 kilometers) apart to reduce their cumulative impact.

Huelsenbeck points out that sounds in the ocean can travel much greater distances. The sound of air guns, he said, "can disturb marine mammal behavior over 100 miles [170 kilometers] away."

BOEM's recommendations also will require survey vessels to use passive acoustic monitoring systems to listen for marine mammals' calling in the test areas, although the agency said the approach may not be entirely effective.

"If they detect sensitive marine life in the vicinity, then all operations stop immediately and are restarted only when the area is clear," said API's Milito.

#### Loggerhead Turtles

Florida beaches are home to 90 percent of the world's loggerhead turtle nesting sites. Midway between Jacksonville and Miami, Brevard County alone has about 33,800 nests. Other species of threatened or endangered sea turtle live in the region as well, including hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, and green turtles.

Like the plan to close an area in Virginia to protect the right whale, BOEM proposes cordoning off near-coastal waters off Brevard County during the turtle nesting season. No air-gun surveys would be allowed in the area from May to October.

With chunky heads and heart-shaped shells that can grow to about 3 feet (1 meter), loggerheads are the second largest sea turtles after gigantic leatherbacks. Females spend years roaming the oceans, munching shellfish as they go, before returning to the beach they were born on to lay their own eggs.

Little is known about the impact of noise on turtles but it is likely that juveniles might be especially vulnerable. After they hatch, they swim straight out to sea, through areas where air-gun surveys would still be permitted.

#### Commercial Fish

Air-gun surveys could also scare fish away from commercially important fishing grounds along the coast.

"Seismic testing has disrupted fisheries around the world," said Oceana marine biologist Matthew Huelsenbeck.

Seismic surveying off the southwest coast of Africa in recent years has been linked to the disruption of migrating tuna and consequently a dramatic decline in catches off the coast of Namibia.

Many species fished in the mid- and south Atlantic—including wahoo, swordfish, and billfishes—embark on long-distance migrations. This means that any impacts of air-gun surveys are likely to spread beyond the survey area itself.

BOEM's report offers no measures to specifically deal with the impact on fish species, although it suggests that slowly ramping up sound levels during surveys could be effective.

"The process begins with a soft start, a technique that gradually increases sound levels, allowing animals that may be sensitive to the sound to leave the area," said API's Milito.

But fish eggs and larvae can be killed by intense sound, and the growth of young scallops is also affected.

The final EIS will be available for public comment until April 7. The schedule after that could move quickly.

"We would hope the government could begin approving permits in the coming months," said Milito.

Miliko said that seismic surveys have been conducted safely for decades in the Gulf of Mexico and other areas off the U.S. coast and around the world. "Like all offshore operations, seismic surveys are highly regulated, and surveyors follow strict guidelines to protect marine life," he said.

But environmental groups expect to submit formal objections during the public comment in the weeks ahead. "We don't believe we need to turn the Atlantic into a blast zone to fulfill our energy needs," Huelsenbeck said.

Scales, Helen. "Atlantic Seismic Tests for Oil: Marine Animals at Risk?" *National Geographic*. 28 Feb. 2014. Web. 23 Dec. 2014.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/energy/2014/02/140228-atlantic-seismic-whales-mammals/>

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**February 2, 2015**

**TITLE:** FEBRUARY 16, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**PURPOSE:** To discuss whether to cancel or reschedule the meeting due to the President's Day holiday.

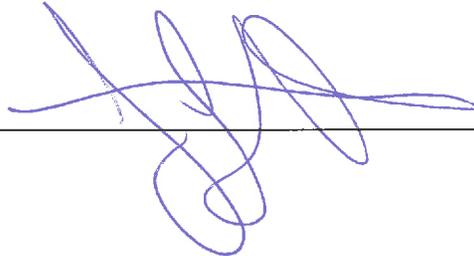
**RECOMMENDATION:** No recommendation.

**HISTORY/ANALYSIS:** Council consideration is needed to either cancel or reschedule the City Council meeting due to holiday, which might lead to a lack of quorum in attendance at the meeting.

**Department  
Director:** \_\_\_\_\_



**City  
Manager:** \_\_\_\_\_



# *New Business*

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**February 2, 2015**

**TITLE:** MCGARVEY'S WEE PUB: *St. Patrick's Day Special Event*

**PURPOSE:** Council consideration to approve a five day event for temporary open container alcohol sales.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Assembly Permitting Committee recommends approval with attached stipulations.

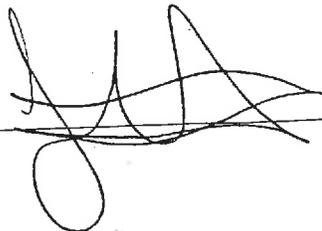
**HISTORY:** McGarvey's Wee has requested permission to sell alcohol outside in the parking lot (a confined secure area) at their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day celebration. Linda Johnson, Property Manager with Bakkar Group, has approved this event to be held outside in the parking area at Kings Bay Village. The event is scheduled for Friday, March 13 – Tuesday, March 17, 2015. No alcohol will be served outside Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> or Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Due to the no glass policy outside, alcohol beverages will be placed in and sold from a cooler in the enclosed perimeter. Request to assembly outdoor area starting at 10:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and have the area cleaned by Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The following procedures will be in place during our event:

1. All City ordinances will be strictly followed.
2. One bouncer will be stationed at each outdoor entrance to Pub.
3. Off-duty St. Marys Police Officer hired during times of outdoor sale of alcohol to address any problems that might arise at the owner's expense.
4. No glass policy in outdoor area ensuring the safety of patrons and their families. Plenty of trashcans located outside as well as portable restroom.
5. Properly fenced area to the specifications of St. Marys City Council.  
Celebration open to families of all ages; however after 10:00 p.m. enforcement of the "21 and over" policy outdoor and indoor spaces will be enforced.

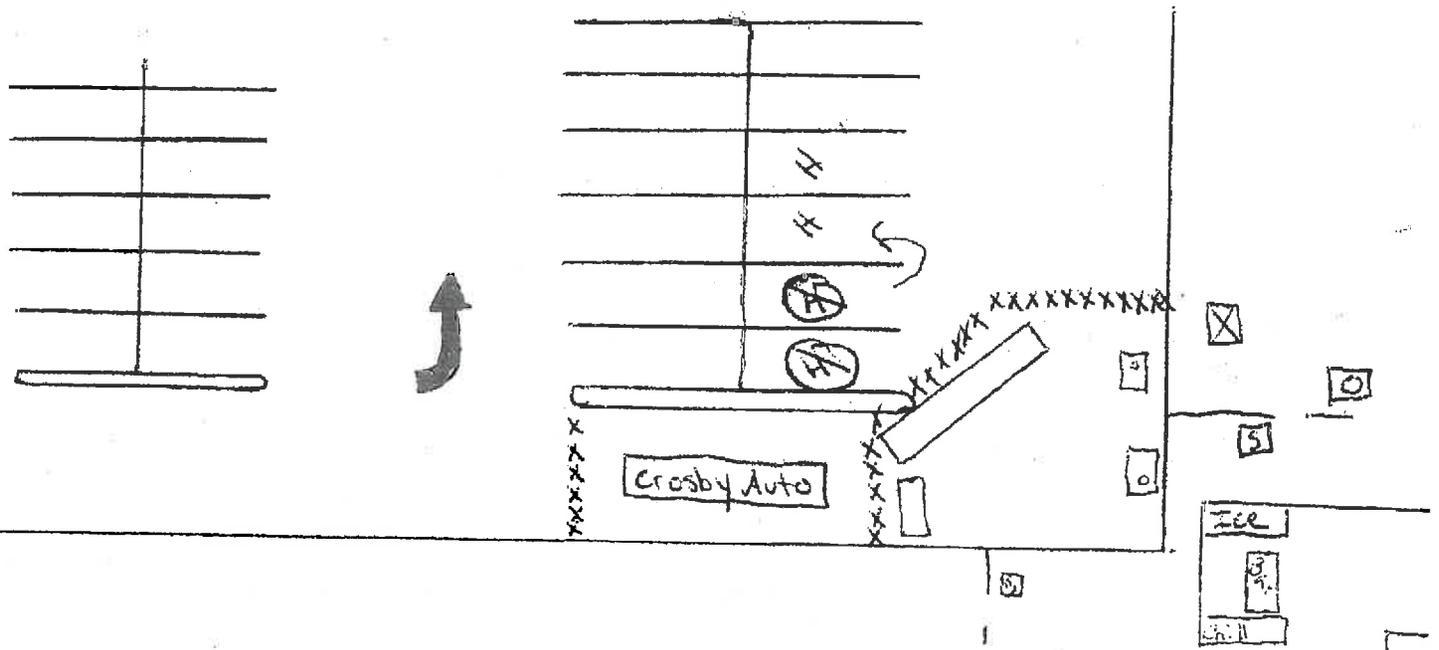
**Department  
Director:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

**City  
Manager:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

- S - Security
- X - fencing
- H - Handicap
- O - Police officer
- ⊗ - Portable toilet





ASSEMBLY PERMIT REQUEST FOR PUBLIC EVENTS  
(Please print or type all information.)

EVENT COORDINATION

13 in -  
17 in

EVENT NAME: Saint Patrick's Day 2015  
 DATE OF EVENT: 3-17-15 START TIME: 10am FINISH TIME: 2:00 AM  
 REQUESTING ORGANIZATION: Wee Pub South  
 TYPE OF ORGANIZATION: Pub / restaurant

EVENT COORDINATOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION:

EVENT COORDINATOR (APPLICANT): Stephanie Butler + Don Black  
 RELATIONSHIP OF APPLICANT TO ORGANIZATION: owners  
 ADDRESS: 235 Cedar Hill Drive  
Saint Marys GA 31558  
 PHONE NUMBERS: HOME ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 WORK ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 CELL \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

INDICATE A CONTACT NAME AND NUMBER FOR PUBLIC RELEASE TO PROMOTE THE EVENT:

EVENT SPECIFICS

PRE-ASSEMBLY TIME: evening before PRE-ASSEMBLY LOCATION: outside of Pub

WILL A PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM OR MUSIC BE USED? YES  NO

IF SO, WHERE AND AT WHAT TIME(S)?

outdoor stage. Day / evening

WILL ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING BE USED? YES  NO

IF SO, WHERE AND AT WHAT TIME(S)?

on stage in the evening. sunset - ?

STREETS

(If public roads will be blocked, indicate affected streets and/or intersections to be blocked.)

The road in front of the Pub will be blocked off approximately 15-70 yds to the left and right.

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF PARKING SPACES THAT NEED TO BE BLOCKED OFF

2 handicap spaces will be blocked off but 2 more will be marked/posted next to blocked spaces

SUPPORT

WILL PORTABLE STAGE BE NEEDED? YES X NO \_\_\_\_\_

WHOLE STAGE \_\_\_\_\_ HALF STAGE X

WHERE? in front of ~~the~~ wee Pub

ELECTRICITY NEEDED? YES X NO \_\_\_\_\_

WHERE? \_\_\_\_\_

ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF:

PEOPLE: 100-200 ANIMALS: \_\_\_\_\_ VEHICLES: \_\_\_\_\_

TEMPORARY STATIC STRUCTURES:

\_\_\_\_\_

ANY OTHER INFORMATION:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CITY FACILITY RESERVATIONS (Facility rental fees are managed through the City Manager's office.)

APPLICANT REQUESTS TO RESERVE THE USE OF THE FOLLOWING CITY PROPERTY:

Within Waterfront Park: \_\_\_\_\_ Gazebo \_\_\_\_\_ Picnic Area \_\_\_\_\_ Stage \_\_\_\_\_ Entire Park \_\_\_\_\_ Fountain

Outside Waterfront Park: \_\_\_\_\_ Marsh Walk \_\_\_\_\_ Waterfront Pavilion \_\_\_\_\_ Other

If "Other," describe: \_\_\_\_\_

City Sound System: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please fill out attached City Sound System Rental Application)

APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITIES (Initial each area of responsibility to indicate understanding)

SB Applicant agrees to provide and install the required number of "NO PARKING" signs for the event at least one week prior to the event and remove the signs after the event.

SB Applicant agrees to provide the requisite number of trash receptacles for use during the event.

SB Applicant agrees to assume responsibility for any damages to City property resulting from the event.

SB Applicant assumes responsibility to arrange for clean-up after the event.

SB Applicant assumes responsibility for clean up after any animals involved in the event.

SB Applicant agrees to notify residences and businesses within the festival area to advise them of the event plans (Dates, times, road closures, etc.).

SB Applicant agrees to pay to the City a fee in the amount of \$15 per vendor that uses electricity provided by the City. (See attached Event Electricity Usage Fee Form)

SB Applicant agrees to not place vendors in front of any business entrances during the event.

SB Applicant agrees to place vendors in order to eliminate, to the maximum extent possible, any adverse effects on residences and businesses within the festival area.

SB Applicant agrees to advise vendors of all City requirements, including but not limited to: fire extinguisher requirements, hose/electrical cord trip hazard responsibilities, grease control/cleanup, power availability, setup time, break down completion, event permit times, etc.

SB Applicant agrees to provide volunteers to assist visitors in accessing the parking area for the Cumberland Island Ferry for events that block Osborne Street and/or St. Marys Street.

SB Applicant understands that State Laws and City Ordinances will be enforced. Specifically, music and the use of any public address system will cease before 11:00 PM.

SB Applicant understands that a non-refundable site fee of \$150.00 per tent will be required by the City for events where tents larger than 12 feet by 12 feet will be erected in the Waterfront Park.

SB Applicant will provide their own Public Address system or other sound equipment.

SB Applicant will coordinate two weeks in advance of the event with the Chief Ranger at Cumberland Island National Seashore (912-882-4336 extension 258) to allow for park visitor access to the parking area of the ferry parking lot. This includes access for campers with gear boarding the ferry and those visitors with special needs. Vendors and support staff will not use the ferry parking area.

#### RECYCLING RESPONSIBILITIES

SB Applicant will provide recycling receptacles during their event and remove after the event.

EVENT DESCRIPTION: Please list below the type of event you are organizing and provide a detailed description of the activities taking place during your event. Please include types of vendors, performers and various activities that might take place.

Wee Pub would like to celebrate our 3rd St Patrick's Day with the town of St Marys. With your permission, we would like to block off a few hundred feet of parking lot space in front of our suite within Kings Bay Village Shopping Center. March 13-17. The space would be enclosed with rental fencing to contain patrons to the section area.

Our hopes are to set up a stage for a band to play periodically from 5 pm to 11 pm within this area. We plan to abide by any and all noise ordinances. We would also like to have a beer cooler set up outside to sell aluminum beverages to patrons we will also have several tables set up with chairs in the sectioned off area.

We will maintain maximum occupancy standards and have a bouncer at each of our doors. We will also enforce a "no glass" policy for our outdoor area. After 10pm our events will be 21 and over.

MAPS:

In order to properly respond to the needs of individuals or organizations in planning events within St. Marys, the event organizer needs to provide a map of the event set-up to include any parade routes, race routes, attraction locations, street closures, blocked parking, handicap access/parking and other relevant issues or attractions. All such maps should be attached to this form when it is submitted to the City for approval.

STIPULATIONS – TO BE COMPLETED BY CITY STAFF

After review by the City Staff, there may be stipulations that have to be met by the Applicant in order for the event to be approved. If no stipulations are defined by the staff, this section will not apply.

- ~~\* letter from shopping center review~~
- ~~\* contact PD about off duty officers review~~
- \* Need off duty SMPD (1) during time of outdoor sale of alcohol.
- \* Need letter of approval ~~for~~ from shopping center.
- \* Need Stage Rental form
- \* NO swimming pool.

APPLICANT'S AFFIDAVIT

I (the applicant)/we (the entity) HAVE HAVE NOT, (circle one) in the past, conducted or participated in an event of a substantially similar nature to that which is the subject of this application. If applicant circled "have" above, where and when did such prior event(s) take place?

same location

As a result of such event(s) did the applicant or entity become the subject, whether or not then operating under the same name, as plaintiff or defendant, of any legal action, civil, and/or administrative? YES NO

I/we HAVE HAVE NOT, (circle one) defaulted upon or are in arrears as to any judgment civil, criminal or administrative rendered against the applicant or entity, or is in violation of any injunction or restraining order entered against the applicant, or entity, whether or not then operating under the same name, as a result of participation in any prior event(s) or a substantially similar nature to that which is the subject of the instant application, and if so, a description of said judgment or order and an explanation for non-compliance is attached to this application. The applicant and, where applicable, its officers, employees, members and shareholders, hereby agree to indemnify and save harmless the City of St. Marys, Georgia, its agents, officials and employees, from any claims, demands, injuries or damages, including reasonable attorney's fees incurred, that may arise or be brought against the City for injuries to persons or damage to property resulting from acts or omissions of the Applicant, its agents, employees or representatives.

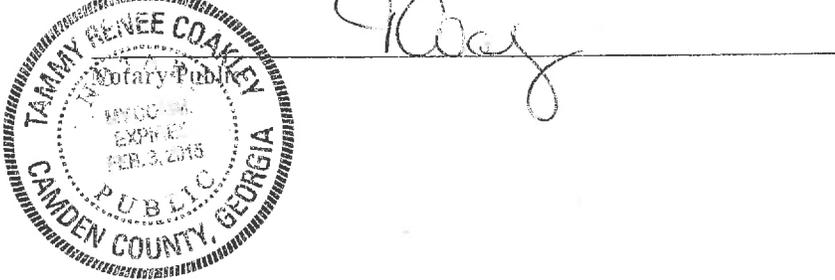
I/we hereby agree to abide by all stipulations noted above from the City of St. Marys in order to receive approval on this assembly permit. I/We fully understand that these stipulations may not be altered in any

form without the expressed approval of the City of St. Marys. Any alteration of the noted stipulations once approved may lead to disapproval of this assembly permit.

(Please have this form notarized and returned to the City of St. Marys. Upon receipt of this notarized form, it will be added to your assembly request and forwarded to the committee and City Manager.)

Stephanie Butler  
Applicant's Signature

1, 22, 15  
Date



[Signature]

1, 22, 15  
Date

2, 3, 15  
Date My Commission Expires

**STAFF REVIEW:**

Date of Staff Review: 1, 26, 15

Fire Dept.: [Signature]

Police Dept.: [Signature]

Public Works: [Signature]

National Park Service: \_\_\_\_\_

If "Disapproved," give reason(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Staff Recommendation: (check one)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approved With Stipulations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disapproved

Upon review of this Assembly Permit Request and considering the recommendations of City Staff, it is the City Manager's decision that this request is (circle one): **APPROVED / DISAPPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

1 / 26 / 15  
Date

CC: Tourism, DDA, City Clerk

Robert "Bobby" Marr  
Public Works Director



TELEPHONE  
912/882-4415  
FAX: 912/673-6681

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
418 OSBORNE STREET \* ST. MARYS, GEORGIA 31558

INVOICE

STAGE RENTAL DELIVERY & SETUP  
(1/2 STAGE)

ORGANIZATION: McGraways WFC PUB

EVENT: St. PATRICKS DAY

DATE OF EVENT: FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> OF MARCH

LOCATION: KINGS BAY VILLAGE

DATE: 3/13/15 SETUP 3/18/15 PICK UP

RENTAL FEE: \$ 250.00  
+ \$100.00 for additional 2 days  
\$350.00

I understand my organization will be responsible for any damages that may occur to the stage while in our possession.

PRINT NAME: DANIEL BLACK SIGNATURE: Daniel Black

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ TODAY'S DATE: 1/26/15

Please remit payment to the City of St. Marys, 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, Georgia 31558.

FEE MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE. STAGE WILL NOT BE RESERVED UNTIL SUCH FEE IS PAID.

Note: Accounts Receivable please fax form to Public Works at 673-6681 as soon as possible once paid..

**COPY**



January 26, 2015

City of St Marys  
Osborne Road  
St Marys, GA 31558

Reference: Wee Pub / St Patrick's Day Holiday

To Whom It May Concern:

Kings Bay Village / St Mary's Properties has given permission to Wee Pub Restaurant to hold their St Patrick Day Holiday in the parking lot in front on their space on March 13 thru 17, 2015.

If any further information is needed, please contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda Johnson', is written over a thin line that extends from the 'Sincerely,' text.

Linda Johnson  
Property Manager

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**February 2, 2015**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Determine status of two recommendations contained within the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS).

**PURPOSE:** To consider and take action on two recommendations contained within the JLUS:

1. Amending Ordinance 22 Adult Entertainment Establishments to add the words “**federal military installation**” to paragraph Sec. 22-87. - Location; building and signage restrictions. (a) (2):

*(2) Within 1000 feet of any parcel of land upon which a church, school, governmental building, **federal military installation**, library, licensed day care facility, civic center, public park or playground is located.*

2. Work with Camden County to have identical “administrative procedures” to ensure that identical wordage is used when reviewing items within the 3000 ft. buffer.

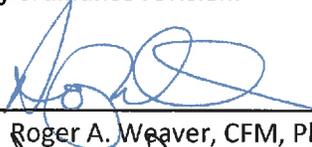
**RECOMMENDATION:** The City Manager and Planning Department recommend approval.

**HISTORY/ANALYSIS:** *Amend Ordinance 22:* During the JLUS process, it was noted that although the words ‘governmental building’ in Ordinance 22 was most likely intended to cover the entire Sub-base and not just the buildings. However, the JLUS determined that adding the words “**federal military installation**” to Ordinance 22 would clarify this intentions to encompass not only the buildings on the Base but also the surrounding land area to the perimeter fence. This will be a solid recognition that these type of activities would not be permitted within 1000 feet of the Base Perimeter Fence (property line). This is item A-4 in the JLUS.

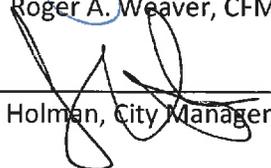
*Accept existing wordage et al.:* City Council has already determined that the City will follow state law as regards to the 3000 foot buffer. This item will support having the County and the City use identical language regarding wording of an “administrative procedure” that will be identical so as to avoid any confusion. Although the exact wordage of this administrative procedure has yet to be worked out, Mr. Eric Landon, County Planning Director and this office, have agreed to work together to make this happen. This will not require an ordinance, but rather an “administrative procedure” that will implement this item. This is item A-7 in the JLUS.

**ATTACHMENTS:** *Text of ordinance revision.*

**Department Director:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger A. Weaver, CFM, Planning Director

**City Manager:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John J. Holman, City Manager

**ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL  
ST. MARYS, GEORGIA**

At the regular meeting of the St. Marys City Council, held in the St. Marys City Hall, St. Marys, Georgia:

Present:

John Morrissey, Mayor  
Robert L. Nutter, Councilman, Post 1  
Elaine R. Powierski, Councilwoman, Post 2  
Jim Gant, Councilman, Post 3  
David Reilly, Councilman, Post 4  
Sam L. Colville, Councilman, Post 5  
Linda P. Williams, Councilwoman, Post 6

On motion of \_\_\_\_\_, which carried \_\_\_\_\_, the following Ordinance amendment was adopted:

AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA, SECTION 22-87 (a) (2) TO ADD THE WORDS "**FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATION**" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES AS SET FORTH THEREIN.

Be it, and it is, hereby ordained by the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Marys, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015 that section 22-87 (a) (2) of the Code of Ordinances, City of St. Marys, Georgia are hereby amended to read as follows:

1. Amend Ordinance 22, Adult Entertainment Establishments, to add the words "**federal military installation**" to paragraph *Sec. 22-87. - Location; Building and Signage restrictions.* (a) (2):

*(2) Within 1000 feet of any parcel of land upon which a church, school, governmental building, **federal military installation**, library, licensed day care facility, civic center, public park or playground is located.*

**This Amendment** shall become effective upon passage.

**ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL  
ST. MARYS, GEORGIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN F. MORRISSEY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEBORAH WALKER-REED, CITY CLERK

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**DATE: February 2, 2015**

**TITLE:** Asking Council to authorize the City Manager and the Fire Chief to sign an agreement with Georgia to be a part of the "Firefighter Property Program (FFP)."

**PURPOSE:** By signing this agreement the Fire Department will be able to have access to demilitarized equipment for use in fire suppression activities.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is the Fire Chiefs recommendation for Council to authorize entering into this agreement.

**HISTORY/ANALYSIS:** Georgia Forestry Commission is responsible for all demilitarized property that is available for the fire service of Georgia. The Commission maintains ownership of any property and we would have to pay for all maintenance of the property. There is also an administrative fee, of \$100 dollars and a mileage rate for delivery of the property. The Fire Department's interest at this time is we would like to obtain three Conex Boxes (Shipping Containers) for storage at our stations.

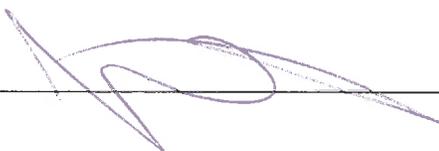
**Department**

**Director:** \_\_\_\_\_



**City**

**Manager:** \_\_\_\_\_



**FIREFIGHTER PROPERTY PROGRAM (FFP)  
COOPERATIVE EQUIPMENT AGREEMENT AND PROCEDURES  
GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FIRE/EMERGENCY SERVICES ENTITY  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

COUNTY OF \_Camden

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this 31 day of December, 2014, by and between the Georgia Forestry Commission, an Agency of the State of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as the COMMISSION, and the St Mary's Fire Dept., hereinafter referred to as COOPERATOR.

**WHEREAS**, it is of vital importance to the State of Georgia to protect its forest land resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the COMMISSION is charged by State Law to prevent, detect, and suppress wildfires on all State and private lands and provide emergency response operations in the event of a Governor's declared state of emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the COOPERATOR is actively engaged in emergency response operations and the prevention and suppression of all fires in, and adjacent to, suburban areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the COOPERATOR can more adequately carry out this function if appropriate equipment is available: NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual benefits to each party hereinafter appearing below, both parties agree as follows:

**The COMMISSION agrees:**

- (1) To actively search for and make available the equipment described herein, according to the terms set forth in this agreement.
- (2) To provide DOD Firefighter Property (FFP) for the exclusive purpose of fire suppression, fire prevention, and related emergency services of the COOPERATOR.
- (3) Perform physical inventory of demilitarization equipment required by FFP and reconcile to property accounting records as requested by the Forest Service Property Management Officer.

**The COOPERATOR Agrees:**

- (1) To obtain, at acquisition of said equipment, and continue in effect, for the duration of this agreement, liability insurance in the amount required by State law to cover the operation of said equipment.
- (2) The COOPERATOR agrees to pay to the COMMISSION all administrative fees and transportation fees for said property/equipment at the time of delivery. Administrative fees will be \$100 per transaction. Round trip mileage will be charged based on the COMMISSION's set fees for delivery vehicle use.
- (3) The COOPERATOR will bear the entire cost of vehicle liability insurance, maintenance, repair, and operation of this equipment while in COOPERATOR'S possession, and relieves the COMMISSION of all responsibility or liability in matters related to this equipment. COOPERATOR will be responsible for worker's compensation for any individual injury while using, repairing, or operating said equipment, and for any and all claims related to said equipment and/or its use.

(4) To convert said equipment into a viable fire/emergency unit, to meet requirements as provided by the COMMISSION and to paint equipment, to ensure there are no military colors or markings on the equipment. COOPERATOR will provide shelter adequate to protect it from vandalism and adverse weather. Vehicles or other said equipment should be painted if necessary and placed in operating condition within SIX (6) MONTHS from the date of receipt of said equipment. Equipment must be made available for an in-service inspection by the COMMISSION representative prior to putting equipment into service. The COMMISSION may extend this time frame an additional SIX MONTHS upon written request and approval. Requests must be in writing and submitted to the state FFP manager 30 days prior to deadline.

(5) To ensure add on tanks, pumps, hose reels, etc. will not cause the vehicle in this agreement to exceed the maximum recommended G.V.W. or Georgia DOT requirements. (This information and other technical equipment guidance is available at the Roscommon Equipment Center's website - [www.roscommonequipmentcenter.com](http://www.roscommonequipmentcenter.com) )

(6) If equipment acquired through this agreement is not placed in operational condition within SIX (6) MONTHS from the date of receipt or after such an extension, this agreement will become null and void, and the return of said equipment will be coordinated by the COMMISSION according to the USDA Forest Service Firefighter Property Standard Operating Procedures at the Cooperator's expense. Any improvements, equipment or modifications made to equipment may be removed prior to repossession.

(7) Equipment acquired under this agreement is for the exclusive use for fire protection and other emergency response for which the COOPERATOR has jurisdictional authority. COOPERATOR is required to keep equipment operational for a minimum of ONE (1) YEAR after in-service date, before normal disposal.

(8) To make equipment available for a compliance inspection by the COMMISSION representative ONE (1) YEAR after the in-service date.

(9) If equipment acquired through this agreement becomes inoperable and beyond repair or uneconomical to operate, a certified mechanic must inspect equipment to verify that it is inoperable and beyond repair or uneconomical to operate and a written report of the condition must be given to the COMMISSION. The return of said equipment will be coordinated by the COMMISSION according to the USDA Forest Service Firefighting Property Standard Operating Procedures at the COOPERATOR's expense. Any improvements, equipment or modifications made to equipment may be removed prior to return.

(10) To retain all documentation on said equipment for 6 years and 3 months after acquisition of said equipment. Copies of final disposition paperwork shall be sent to the COMMISSION.

(11) The COOPERATOR must provide access to and the right to examine all records, books, or documents relating to DOD firefighter property transferred to the COOPERATOR under 10 U.S.C. 2576b to the US Forest Service, the Department of Defense, the Office of the Inspector General, and the Comptroller General of the United States or their authorized representatives.

(12) The COOPERATOR agrees that the proceeds from the sale of any FFP vehicle and/or other FFP equipment MUST BE EARMARKED FOR FIRE/EMERGENCY SERVICES.

(13) To comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) and in accordance with Title VI of that Act, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or natural origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination, under any program or activity for which the applicant receives Federal financial assistance and will immediately take any measures necessary to effectuate this

agreement. To comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d) prohibiting discrimination where discriminatory practices will result in unequal treatment of persons who are or should be benefiting from the activity.

(14) The COOPERATOR certifies that a drug-free workplace will be provided for COOPERATOR's employees and that it will secure from any sub-contractors hired to work in a drug free workplace the following written certification: "As part of the subcontracting agreement with (COOPERATOR's name) certifies to the Sub-Grantee that a drug-free workplace will be provided to sub-contractor's employees during the performance of this contract pursuant to paragraph 7 of subsection B of O.C.G.A. code section 50-24-3.

(15) The COOPERATOR hereby certifies that it has complied with the Immigration Reform and Compliance Act of 1986 (IRCA), D.L. 99-603 and the Georgia Security and Immigration Compliance Act, O.C.G.A. 13-10-90 et seq., by registering at <https://www.vis-dhs.com/EmployerRegistration> and verifying information for all new employees and executing any affidavits by Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 300-10-1-.01 et, Seq.

(16) The COOPERATOR certifies, to the best of their knowledge and belief, that equipment acquired under this agreement was not acquired because of the COOPERATORS actions to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employees of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress. COOPERATOR further agrees that it will not expend funds from the proceeds of the sale of equipment acquired under this agreement to pay any person for Lobbying Activities. That if such action has occurred that the COOPERATOR will complete and submit Standard Form –LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with instructions.

(17) The COOPERATOR hereby certifies that this Agreement does not and will not violate the provisions of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 45-10-20 et, Seq relating to Conflicts of Interest.

(18) To respond to fires within the County or make said equipment, adequately manned, available for suppression of fires within the County whenever necessary.

**It is Mutually Agreed That:**

(1) The COMMISSION will transfer ownership of said equipment. In the case of vehicles and other titled equipment, the Certificate of Title will transfer to the COOPERATOR under the terms of this agreement, Titles will be transferred at acquisition date and the COMMISSION will hold the original Title until said equipment is fully operational and an in service inspection has been completed by the COMMISSION. The COOPERATOR which puts Firefighter Program property into use will accept ownership of equipment. Title will only be transferred to a Fire/Emergency Services entity that is publicly funded by state, county or local governments in the State of Georgia. Title must be in the entity's name and cannot have an individual's name on the title. The COOPERATOR is responsible for the cost of obtaining title.

(2) The equipment will be marked with decals provided by COMMISSION for tracking reasons and the said decals will remain on the equipment indefinitely. Decal replacements can be requested through the COMMISSION.

(3) The COMMISSION will not be responsible for furnishing spare parts for the equipment and the COOPERATOR accepts equipment "as is" without any warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied.

(4) Owners of Firefighter Program property will cooperate with Federal and State parties to ensure compliance with Federal and State regulations, program and property management requirements. Additional Program requirements can be found by accessing the USDA Forest Service FFP SOP at [www.fs.fed.gov/fire/partners/fepp](http://www.fs.fed.gov/fire/partners/fepp) .

(5) The Agreement shall be effective from the date of execution by the COMMISSION and will continue in force until property is disposed of in accordance with this agreement. COOPERATOR will operate within this program at the discretion of the COMMISSION. If these guidelines are not followed, COOPERATOR'S future privileges will be terminated from program until arrangements are implemented to comply with guidelines or for 1 year from violation date. Either party may terminate this agreement by providing written notice. If the terms of this agreement are not met, the agreement will be terminated within thirty (30) days of written notice. Any property that has been transferred as the result of this agreement will be returned at the expense of the COOPERATOR.  
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

FC-61#: 1109

**COOPERATOR**

**County/City Manager:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Title of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

**Fire Chief/Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director**

By: Robert T. Horton, Jr. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Title of Authorized Representative

ROBERT T. HORTON, JR.  
Print Name of Authorized Representative

(912) 882-6289  
Telephone Number

**GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION**

**Chief Ranger:**

By: Wes Merkins Date: 12-31-2014  
Signature & Title of Authorized Representative

WES MERKINS  
Printed Name of Authorized Representative

**RFD Program Manager:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Title of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Authorized Representative

**Macon Use Only  
EQUIPMENT RECEIVED**

Description:

Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

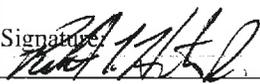
Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Model: \_\_\_\_\_

Property ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

### Georgia Forestry Commission - Rural Fire Defense Program FC61 Equipment Request

Fire Department Information			
<b>County</b>	Camden	<b>District</b>	Satilla
<b>Fire Department</b>	St Marys Fire Department	<b>Department Mailing Address</b>	Street: <u>N/A</u> City: <u>N/A</u> State: <u>N/A</u> Zip: <u>N/A</u>
<b>Department Chief</b>	Lastname: <u>Horton</u> Firstname: <u>Robby</u>	<b>Chief's Mailing Address</b>	Street: <u>201 North Dandy Street</u> City: <u>St Marys</u> State: <u>GA</u> Zip: <u>31558</u>
<b>Department Phone</b>	882-6289	<b>Chief's Phone ___ Email</b>	N/A ___ N/A
<b>Number of Paid Firefighters</b>	26S	<b>Number of Volunteer Firefighters</b>	25
<b>Insurance Rating 1</b>	4	<b>Insurance Rating 2</b>	9
<b>Population of Area covered &lt; 10,000 people?</b>	Y	<b>Current &amp; Recognized Fire/Emergency Agency?</b>	Y
<b>Is it identified at Community At Risk?</b>	N	<b>Completed CWPP?</b>	Y
Equipment Request Information			
<b>FC61 Equipment Request ID: 1109</b>			
<b>Request Date</b>	29-Dec-2014	<b>GFC Contact</b>	Name: <u>Merkison, Wesley</u> Title: <u>Chief Ranger-District Wildfire Origin &amp; Cause Specialist</u>
<b>Equipment Type</b>	Front Mount	<b>Source of Funds to purchase?</b>	Fire Department
<b>Truck Type</b>	NA	<b>Truck Drive Train</b>	NA
		<b>Truck Transmission</b>	NA
<b>Tank Size (Gal)</b>	NA	<b>Need Pump ?</b>	No
<b>Detailed Equipment Description</b>	3 each Shipping Conexes		
<b>Physical Location of Equipment</b>	Station Name: <u>N/A</u> Street: <u>201 North Dandy street</u> City: <u>St. Marys</u> State: <u>N/A</u> Zip: <u>31558</u> Latitude 0°0'0" N Longitude 0°0'0" W	<b>Provision for Equipment Maintenance</b>	Fire Department
<b>Disposal and Liability Clauses have been explained?</b>	Yes	<b>Date Explained</b>	29-Dec-2014
<b>Is local decal and/or lettering to be used for Fire Department</b>	Yes	<b>GFC RFD Shop Build?</b>	Y

designation?					
		<b>Equipment currently assigned to the station</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Ave Age</b>	<b>Oldest</b>
		Fire Knocker	0	0	0
		Quick Response with Water	0	0	0
		Water Tender	0	0	0
		Class A Pumper	0	0	0
<b>Equipment Request Type</b>					
<b>Program Type</b>	<b>Disposal Rule</b>	First Available			
Firefighter Property Program	Transfer to Fire Department after 1 year and can be disposed by the Fire Department in any way				
Federal Excess Property Program	Equipment will be tracked permanently. Need to return to GFC for disposal.				
Excess GFC Equipment Property	Equipment will be tracked permanently. Need to return to GFC for disposal.				
<b>Area of Protection (Describe)</b>	City of St Marys and Camden County.				
<b>Reason for Requestin Equipment</b>	To use for equipment storage and repair of Burn Building.				
<b>Recommendations</b>	N/A				
<b>Signatures</b>					
<b>Request By</b>	Lastname: <u>Horton</u> Firstname: <u>Robby</u> Title: <u>Chief</u> Signature:  Signed on: <u>1/14/16</u>	<b>Request By Mailing Address</b>	Street: <u>Same as Above</u> City: <u>ST. Marys</u> State: <u>Ga</u> Zip: <u>31558</u>		
<b>County Administrator</b>	LastName: <u>Holman</u> FirstName: <u>John</u> Title: <u>City Manager</u> Signature: _____ Signed on: _____	<b>Chief Ranger</b>	Signature: _____ Signed on: _____		

## Board, Authority, Commission & Committee Evaluation

Primary Purpose: The entities identified below are all part of the overall governance of the city of St. Marys. In preparation for Master Planning, it is important that there is a clear understanding of how these entities operate, the purpose of the entity and the roles and responsibilities of each. Ideally, each would understand how their role fits into the overall short and long term goals of the city.

It is important to ensure that all components of city governance are in existence and operating in a manner that is in the best interests of the city and its residents.

The community, the citizens, employees, elected officials and volunteers all have expectations for how these entities will operate and what they are to achieve. Volunteers want their time spent and the services they render to result in a meaningful contribution. Sometimes this is an opportunity to develop new city leadership and increase community involvement. Often it presents employees an opportunity to work more closely with community advocates who are not represented on these bodies which will better enable them to service all citizens.

For all these reasons, it is in the best interest of all involved to evaluate each of the entities to determine their current roles, responsibilities, composition, goals, operating procedures and the potential for improvement both within the entities and between entities. By clarifying roles, identifying possible duplication and evaluating for improved coordination between the various components, the governance of the city can be improved.

Process: Written documentation for each entity is currently being collected. Interviews will be conducted initially with the Chairs and then expanded as needed based on the clarity or lack of clarity found as well as the desire of the members of the entity. Input will be obtained relative to what is working well, what can be improved, and what could be changed to promote more meaningful involvement. In addition, if needed, written questionnaires will be distributed to members.

Once all of the information is gathered, the findings and some preliminary recommendations may be developed and presented to council at public meetings for further discussion.

Entities Identified to date:

1. Airport Authority
2. Board of Ethics
3. Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority (Lower priority as does not report to council)
4. Development Authority
5. Downtown Development Authority
6. Historic Preservation Commission
7. Hospital Authority
8. Intracoastal Gateway Steering Committee (Lower priority as not a permanent committee)
9. Library Board
10. Oak Grove Cemetery Authority
11. Orange Hall Foundation
12. Planning Commission
13. Senior Advisory Committee
14. Tree Board (Lower priority as recently established)

The following is an overview of the City's revenue and expenditures for the month ending December 31, 2014, which is the sixth month of fiscal year FY2015. All reports are on a cash basis.

**General Fund:**

Total revenue for the General Fund was \$5,596,092 plus \$305,457 of allocated budgeted fund equity for total revenue of \$5,901,549. Total year to date expenditures as of 12/31/14 was \$4,147,217 for a revenue over expenditures balance of \$1,754,332. Available cash balance was \$5,952,536.

**Tourism**

Total revenue for Tourism fund was \$75,355. Total year to date expenditures as of 12/31/14 was \$66,949 for a revenue over expenditures balance of \$8,406.

**SPLOST**

Total revenues received for SPLOST was \$915,857 plus interest of \$298 for total revenues of \$916,155 as of 12/31/14. Total year to date expenditures was \$1,038,181 for a shortfall of (\$122,026). This is a reimbursement fund which will net to zero at the end of the fiscal year.

**Water/Sewer Fund**

Total revenue for the Water/Sewer fund was \$4,081,343 which includes \$30,471 of allocated budgeted fund equity. Total year to date expenses as of 12/31/14 was \$4,786,251 for a shortfall of (\$704,907). Available cash balance was \$4,033,222.

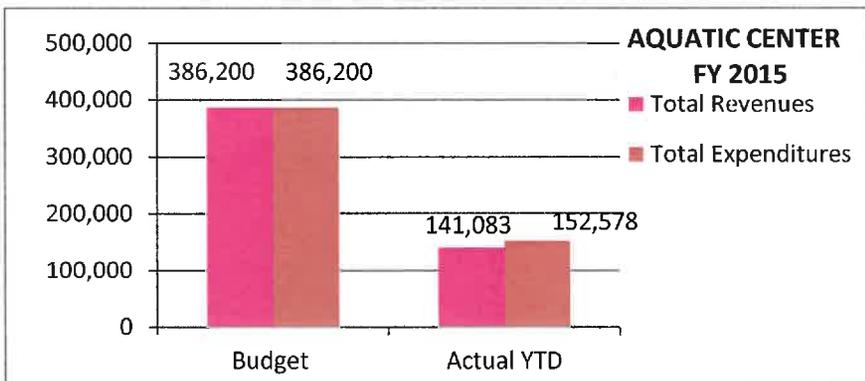
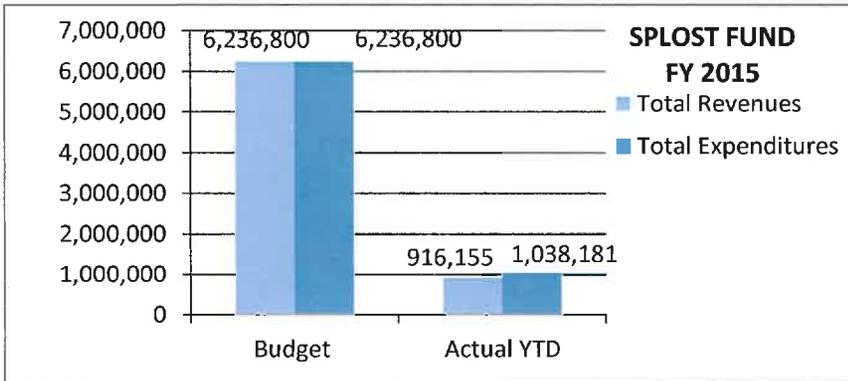
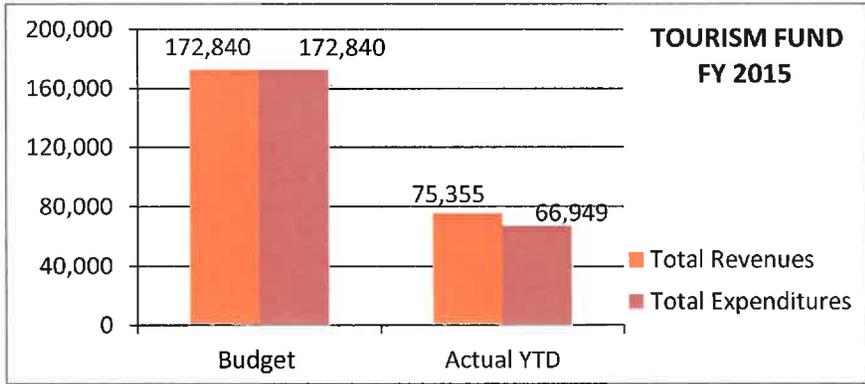
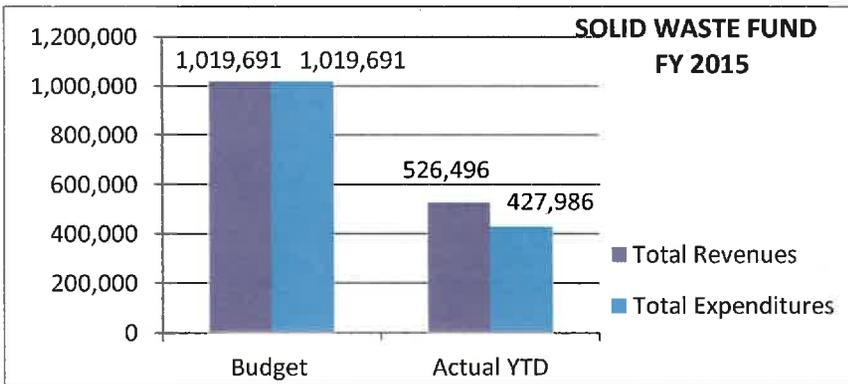
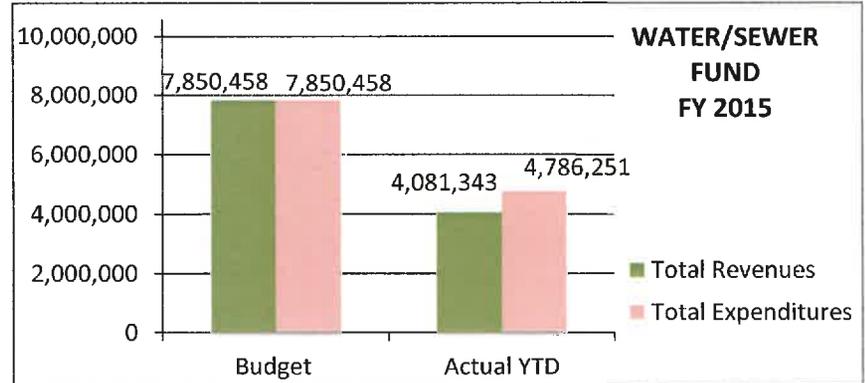
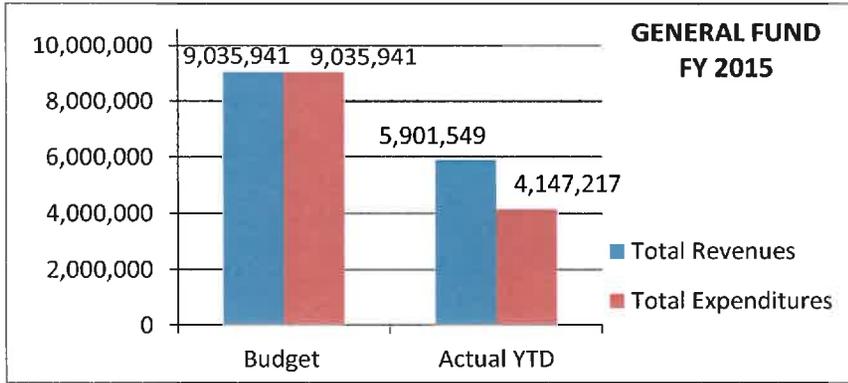
**Solid Waste Fund**

Total revenue for the Solid Waste fund was \$526,496. Total year to date expenditures as of 12/31/14 was \$427,986 for a revenue over expenditures balance of \$98,509. Available cash balance was \$458,305.

**Aquatic**

Total revenue for the Aquatic Center was \$141,083. Total year to date expenditures as of 12/31/14 was \$152,578 for a shortfall of (\$11,495).

# YTD 12/31/2014 Month Reported



**CITY OF ST. MARYS**  
**REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

Dec-14

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	MONTHS COMPLETED				6
	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
100-GENERAL FUND REVENUES					50.00%
100.31.1100 REAL PROP CURRENT YEAR	\$ 2,490,000	\$ 1,694,684	\$ 2,223,859	\$ 2,259,814	89.31%
100.31.1190 OVERPAYMENTS/ADJUST TAXES	\$ -	\$ 12,276	\$ 12,686	\$ 10,306	#DIV/0!
100.31.1208 2008 PROPERTY TAX	\$ -	\$ 2,209	\$ 2,647	\$ 8,850	#DIV/0!
100.31.1209 2009 PROPERTY TAX	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,148	\$ 5,063	\$ 15,835	101.26%
100.31.1210 2010 PROPERTY TAX	\$ 10,000	\$ 855	\$ 13,630	\$ 19,323	136.30%
100.31.1211 2011 PROPERTY TAX	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,180	\$ 15,586	\$ 24,090	155.86%
100.31.1212 2012 PROPERTY TAX	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,259	\$ 22,644	\$ 47,279	226.44%
100.31.1213 2013 PROPERTY TAX	\$ 55,000	\$ 11,423	\$ 51,042	\$ -	92.80%
100.31.1310 MOTOR VEHICLE	\$ 375,000	\$ 30,563	\$ 258,961	\$ 292,068	69.06%
100.31.1320 MOBILE HOME	\$ 6,675	\$ -	\$ 151	\$ 76	2.26%
100.31.1391 RAILROAD TAX	\$ 2,475	\$ -	\$ 2,501	\$ 2,472	101.05%
100.31.1600 REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX	\$ 9,000	\$ 836	\$ 9,239	\$ 6,904	102.65%
100.31.1610 RECORDING INTANGIBLE TAX	\$ 50,250	\$ 2,999	\$ 27,135	\$ 24,819	54.00%
100.31.1710 GA POWER FRANCHISE TAX	\$ 655,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
100.31.1711 OKEF ELEC FRANCHISE TAX	\$ 49,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
100.31.1730 GAS FRANCHISE TAX	\$ 19,000	\$ 9,971	\$ 14,900	\$ 9,858	78.42%
100.31.1750 CABLE TV FRANCHISE TAX	\$ 112,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
100.31.1760 TELEPHONE FRANCHISE TAX	\$ 60,000	\$ 6	\$ 38,081	\$ 28,434	63.47%
100.31.3100 LOCAL OPT SALES AND USE	\$ 1,925,000	\$ 167,041	\$ 964,401	\$ 924,533	50.10%
100.31.4200 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE EXCISE	\$ 215,000	\$ 16,966	\$ 116,024	\$ 112,149	53.96%
100.31.6200 INSURANCE PREMIUMS (1%)	\$ 884,000	\$ -	\$ 923,687	\$ 883,169	104.49%
100.31.6300 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	\$ 37,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
100.31.9100 PENALTY AND INTEREST	\$ 90,000	\$ 12,440	\$ 47,444	\$ 58,524	52.72%
100.32.1100 BEER/WINE LIC	\$ 90,000	\$ 10,050	\$ 70,742	\$ 76,720	78.60%
100.32.1200 GENERAL BUSINESS LIC	\$ 125,000	\$ 40,443	\$ 47,992	\$ 62,264	38.39%
100.32.1220 BUSINESS LIC INSURANCE	\$ 22,000	\$ 3,075	\$ 3,225	\$ 5,963	14.66%
100.32.2100 BUILDING PERMITS	\$ 100,000	\$ 6,837	\$ 62,228	\$ 55,297	62.23%
100.32.2210 ZONING FEES	\$ 4,500	\$ 625	\$ 3,567	\$ 3,143	79.26%
100.32.2211 LAND-DISTURBING PERMITS	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
100.32.2230 SIGN PERMITS	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 1,030	\$ 990	51.50%
100.32.3910 PLAN REVIEW FEES	\$ 25,000	\$ 1,400	\$ 12,100	\$ 12,723	48.40%
100.34..... COPIES SOLD - ADMIN	\$ 19,400	\$ 1,440	\$ 9,321	\$ 11,678	48.05%
100.34.1910 QUALIFYING FEES	\$ 2,700	\$ -	\$ 1,350	\$ 3,384	50.00%
100.34.2200 SPECIAL FIRE HAZMAT SERVICES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,484	#DIV/0!
100.34.4212 NSF FEES	\$ 120	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ -	25.00%
100.34.....REVENUES-ORANGE HALL	\$ 8,050	\$ 329	\$ 4,294	\$ 628	53.34%
100.34.7500 PROGRAM INCOME - SENIORS	\$ 6,200	\$ 371	\$ 3,381	\$ 3,389	54.53%
100.34.9100 CEMETERY FEES	\$ 40,000	\$ 1,280	\$ 12,885	\$ 19,622	32.21%
100.34.9900 ADMIN. FEES - TOURISM	\$ 3,600	\$ 300	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,800	41.67%
100.34.9910 ADMIN. FEES - SPLOST	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ 220	\$ 1,015	3.67%
100.35..... COURT FINES/FEES	\$ 315,000	\$ 32,210	\$ 112,626	\$ 159,381	35.75%
100.35.1300 LIBRARY FINES/COLLECTIONS	\$ 5,200	\$ 273	\$ 2,444	\$ 2,835	46.99%
100.36.1000 INTEREST EARNED	\$ 5,500	\$ 707	\$ 3,878	\$ 3,609	70.51%

**CITY OF ST. MARYS  
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

Dec-14

FINANCIAL SUMMARY		MONTHS COMPLETED				6
		% YEAR COMPLETED				50.00%
100-GENERAL FUND REVENUES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	2013	% YTD BUDGET	
100.37.2000 ORANGE HALL DONATION	\$ 100	\$ 4	\$ 65	\$ 68	65.00%	
100.38.0001 FUND EQUITY	\$ 610,913	\$ 50,909	\$ 305,457	\$ -	50.00%	
100.38.1000 RENTAL INCOME	\$ 330,000	\$ 28,265	\$ 179,610	\$ 172,253	54.43%	
100.38.1010 SPECIAL EVENTS RENTAL	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 2,900	\$ 1,535	58.00%	
100.38.9010 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 52,500	\$ 438	\$ 112,169	\$ 39,131	213.65%	
100.38.9015 SHARED SERVICES-AIRPORT	\$ 1,366	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	
100.38.9020 SHARED SVC SOL/W & SPLOST	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	
100.38.9028 SHARED SERVICES -BOARD OF ED	\$ 44,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	
100.38.9031 SHARED SVCS - DOT	\$ 16,900	\$ -	\$ 2,413	\$ 12,064	14.28%	
100.38.9032 SHARED SERVICES - HOSP AUTH.	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ 25,000	120.00%	
100.39.1200 OP T/F IN MULT GRANT FUND	\$ 71,242	\$ 8,618	\$ 166,443	\$ 7,946	233.63%	
100.39.1200 OP T/F IN SPLOST	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	
100.39.2200 SALE CITY PROPERTY	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	
100.39.3010 LOAN PROCEEDS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 9,035,941</b>	<b>\$ 2,159,462</b>	<b>\$ 5,901,549</b>	<b>\$ 5,413,427</b>	<b>65.31%</b>	

**CITY OF ST. MARYS  
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

Dec-14

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	MONTHS COMPLETED				6
	% YEAR COMPLETED				50.00%
100-GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
TOTAL LEGISLATIVE	\$ 325,223	\$ 26,278	\$ 113,200	\$ 106,774	34.81%
TOTAL EXECUTIVE	\$ 320,141	\$ 27,610	\$ 146,265	\$ 119,715	45.69%
TOTAL FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 843,857	\$ 64,094	\$ 453,748	\$ 456,596	53.77%
TOTAL IT	\$ 173,958	\$ 17,342	\$ 92,001	\$ 94,422	52.89%
TOTAL HUMAN RESOURCES	\$ 142,202	\$ 14,274	\$ 71,815	\$ 56,561	50.50%
TOTAL GEN GOVT BLDGS & PLANT	\$ 156,671	\$ 6,572	\$ 65,693	\$ 72,351	41.93%
TOTAL MUNICIPAL COURT	\$ 184,665	\$ 15,830	\$ 71,182	\$ 78,010	38.55%
TOTAL POLICE ADMINISTRATION	\$ 2,382,173	\$ 216,278	\$ 1,062,139	\$ 1,084,694	44.59%
TOTAL FIRE ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,721,698	\$ 182,688	\$ 867,313	\$ 874,155	50.38%
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS ADMIN	\$ 1,321,401	\$ 136,764	\$ 605,661	\$ 632,041	45.83%
TOTAL HIGHWAYS & STREETS ADMIN	\$ 328,750	\$ 26,382	\$ 132,099	\$ 128,243	40.18%
TOTAL CEMETERY	\$ 73,293	\$ 1,178	\$ 18,851	\$ 34,085	25.72%
TOTAL SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER	\$ 127,494	\$ 11,785	\$ 64,489	\$ 58,525	50.58%
TOTAL PARKS ADMINISTRATION	\$ 75,320	\$ 4,876	\$ 26,390	\$ 23,991	35.04%
TOTAL LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION	\$ 312,613	\$ 28,794	\$ 146,775	\$ 144,155	46.95%
TOTAL PROTECTIVE INSP ADMIN	\$ 113,690	\$ 13,099	\$ 55,580	\$ 62,469	48.89%
TOTAL PLANNING & ZONING	\$ 192,655	\$ 18,627	\$ 86,114	\$ 89,729	44.70%
TOTAL CODE ENFORCEMENT	\$ 64,640	\$ 5,089	\$ 35,578	\$ -	55.04%
TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$ 87,314	\$ 3,769	\$ 7,071	\$ 51,695	8.10%
TOTAL AIRPORT	\$ 60,653	\$ 4,035	\$ 15,187	\$ 6,412	25.04%
TOTAL SPECIAL FACILITIES	\$ 27,530	\$ 3,059	\$ 10,067	\$ 14,608	36.57%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 9,035,941</b>	<b>\$ 828,423</b>	<b>\$ 4,147,217</b>	<b>\$ 4,189,232</b>	<b>45.90%</b>
<b>REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,331,039</b>	<b>\$ 1,754,332</b>	<b>\$ 1,224,195</b>	

<b>Cash Balances:</b>	\$6,630,828	<b>Run Rate Analysis:</b>	
LESS: Restricted Budgeted Fund Equity	\$610,913	Average YTD Mo. Exp.	\$691,203
Unrestricted Cash Balances	\$6,019,915	Months of Operating Cash	8.61
LESS: Outstanding P.O.'s	\$67,379		
<b>Available Cash</b>	<b>\$5,952,536</b>		

**CITY OF ST. MARYS  
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

Dec-14

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	MONTHS COMPLETED				6
	% YEAR COMPLETED				50.00%
275-SPECIAL REVENUE FUND REVENUES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
TAXES	\$ 121,285	\$ 9,112	\$ 67,841	\$ 50,940	55.93%
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$ 7,255	\$ 197	\$ 2,218	\$ 3,098	30.57%
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 10	\$ 2	\$ 6	\$ 5	58.70%
CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS	\$ 740	\$ 5	\$ 81	\$ 636	10.91%
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 7,400	\$ 3,970	\$ 5,210	\$ 3,625	70.41%
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$ 36,150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 172,840</b>	<b>\$ 13,285</b>	<b>\$ 75,355</b>	<b>\$ 58,304</b>	<b>43.60%</b>

275-SPECIAL REVENUE FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
PRSNL SERVICES/BENEFITS	\$ 34,988	\$ 2,854	\$ 15,063	\$ 14,557	43.05%
PURCHASED/CONTRACTED SVC	\$ 103,083	\$ 7,024	\$ 46,771	\$ 51,816	45.37%
SUPPLIES	\$ 7,769	\$ 595	\$ 4,115	\$ 3,719	52.96%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$ 27,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,738	3.70%
<b>TOTAL TOURISM</b>	<b>\$ 172,840</b>	<b>\$ 10,474</b>	<b>\$ 66,949</b>	<b>\$ 71,830</b>	<b>38.73%</b>

<b>REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	\$ -	\$ 2,812	\$ 8,406	\$ (13,526)	0.00%
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<b>Cash Balances: (-sal/fica-due to pooled cash)</b>	-\$12,020	<b>Run Rate Analysis:</b>	
<b>LESS: Restricted Budgeted Fund Equity</b>	\$0	<b>Average YTD Mo. Exp.</b>	\$11,158
<b>Unrestricted Cash Balances</b>	-\$12,020	<b>Months of Operating Cash</b>	(1.72)
<b>LESS: Outstanding P.O.'s</b>	\$7,145		
<b>Available Cash</b>	<b>-\$19,164</b>		

**CITY OF ST. MARYS  
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

Dec-14

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	MONTHS COMPLETED				6
	% YEAR COMPLETED				50.00%
320-SPLOST FUND REVENUES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
SPLOST VI	\$ 3,700,000	\$ -	\$ 22,560	\$ 290,376	0.61%
SPLOST VII	\$ 2,536,800	\$ 175,027	\$ 893,296	\$ -	35.21%
INVESTMENT REVENUE - SPLOST VI	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 30	\$ 5	#DIV/0!
INVESTMENT REVENUE - SPLOST VII	\$ -	\$ 32	\$ 268	\$ -	#DIV/0!
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 6,236,800</b>	<b>\$ 175,060</b>	<b>\$ 916,155</b>	<b>\$ 290,381</b>	<b>14.69%</b>

320-SPLOST FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
320.51512-52.1211 AUDIT SPLOST VI	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	#DIV/0!
320.51565-54.1500 CITY BUILDINGS VI	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 145,448	#DIV/0!
320.54220-54.1241 DRAINAGE - SPLOST VI	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,507	#DIV/0!
320.54220-54.1416 PAVING/OVERLAY VI	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,384	#DIV/0!
320.54310-54.1202 GAINES DAVIS - SPLOST VI	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 6,070	\$ 25,317	\$ 6,487	0.70%
320.54310.54.1205 SEWER INFRA - SPLOST VI	\$ 100,000	\$ 5,400	\$ 8,153	\$ -	8.15%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES VI</b>	<b>\$ 3,700,000</b>	<b>\$ 11,470</b>	<b>\$ 33,470</b>	<b>\$ 195,825</b>	<b>0.90%</b>

320-SPLOST FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
320.54200-54.1425 EQUIP/FACILITIES VII	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,489	#DIV/0!
320.54200.54.1241 VEHICLES VII	\$ 166,800	\$ -	\$ 140,000	\$ -	83.93%
320.54220-54.1417 PAVING/OVERLAY VII	\$ 50,000	\$ 217	\$ 14,457	\$ -	28.91%
320.54220-52.2224 INFRASTRUCTURE VII	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
320.54220-54.1242 DRAINAGE SPLOST VII	\$ 170,000	\$ 140	\$ 254	\$ -	0.15%
320.54310-58.1100 BOND DEBT RET VII	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
320.59000-61.1000 OPERATING TFR OUT	\$ 1,800,000	\$ -	\$ 850,000	\$ -	47.22%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES VII</b>	<b>\$ 2,536,800</b>	<b>\$ 357</b>	<b>\$ 1,004,711</b>	<b>\$ 10,489</b>	<b>39.61%</b>

<b>REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 163,233</b>	<b>\$ (122,026)</b>	<b>\$ 84,066</b>	
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Cash Balances:		Run Rate Analysis:	
SPLOST VI	\$11,313	Average YTD Mo. Exp.	\$173,030
SPLOST VII	\$377,583	Months of Operating Cash	2.19
<b>Total Cash Balances</b>	<b>\$388,896</b>		
LESS: Restricted Budgeted Fund Equity	\$0		
<b>Unrestricted Cash Balances</b>	<b>\$388,896</b>		
LESS: Outstanding P.O.'s	\$10,057		
<b>Available Cash</b>	<b>\$378,839</b>		

**CITY OF ST. MARYS  
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

**Dec-14**

<b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>	<b>MONTHS COMPLETED</b>				<b>6</b>
	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2014</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2013</b>	<b>% YTD BUDGET</b>
<b>505-WATER AND SEWER FUND REVENUES</b>					<b>50.00%</b>
505.33.4110 STATE GOV GRANTS-DIRECT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
505.34.4210 WATER CHARGES	\$ 2,091,732	\$ 175,539	\$ 1,076,378	\$ 1,063,451	51.46%
505.34.4211 TRANSFER/TEMP SERVICES	\$ 47,000	\$ 3,975	\$ 26,068	\$ 24,220	55.46%
505.34.4212 RECONNECTION NSF FEES	\$ 85,000	\$ 6,870	\$ 40,170	\$ 41,132	47.26%
505.34.4213 LATE FEES AND PENALTIES	\$ 130,000	\$ 10,631	\$ 64,712	\$ 63,826	49.78%
505.34.4214 TURN ON FEE	\$ 45,000	\$ 3,430	\$ 22,095	\$ 21,420	49.10%
505.34.4216 CAP RECOVERY WATER - DEV	\$ 25,000	\$ 628	\$ 21,762	\$ 14,028	87.05%
505.34.4217 WATER CHARGES 2	\$ 700,484	\$ 58,334	\$ 357,984	\$ 353,661	51.11%
505.34.4230 SEWERAGE CHARGES	\$ 1,989,096	\$ 165,658	\$ 1,015,396	\$ 1,002,416	51.05%
505.34.4231 SEWER CHARGES 2	\$ 663,204	\$ 55,120	\$ 339,105	\$ 334,489	51.13%
505.34.4236 CAP RECOVERY METER - DEV	\$ 9,000	\$ 560	\$ 9,310	\$ 6,030	103.44%
505.34.4256 CAP RECOVERY SEWER - DEV	\$ 100,000	\$ 2,215	\$ 61,287	\$ 52,514	61.29%
505.34.4263 CONSTRUCTION FEES	\$ 100,000	\$ 13,385	\$ 160,836	\$ 104,133	160.84%
505.38.0001 FUND EQUITY	\$ 60,942	\$ 5,079	\$ 30,471	\$ -	50.00%
505..... INTEREST/MISC/OTHER REVENUES	\$ 4,000	\$ 892	\$ 5,768	\$ 1,959	144.21%
505.39.1205 OP T/F IN	\$ 1,800,000		\$ 850,000		47.22%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 7,850,458</b>	<b>\$ 502,315</b>	<b>\$ 4,081,343</b>	<b>\$ 3,083,279</b>	<b>51.99%</b>

<b>SANITATION ADMINISTRATION EXPENDITURE SUMMARY</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2014</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2013</b>	<b>% YTD BUDGET</b>
PRSNL SERVICES/BENEFITS	\$ 932,401	\$ 100,022	\$ 491,937	\$ 492,856	52.76%
PURCHASED/CONTRACTED SVC	\$ 497,851	\$ 13,370	\$ 226,267	\$ 140,734	45.45%
SUPPLIES	\$ 636,850	\$ 56,452	\$ 269,170	\$ 269,696	42.27%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ 24,800	\$ -	\$ 4,435	\$ -	17.88%
DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$ -	\$ 8,032	\$ 8,032	\$ -	#DIV/0!
DEBT SERVICES/FISCAL AGENT FEES	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ -	15.00%
<b>TOTAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 2,096,902</b>	<b>\$ 177,877</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,592</b>	<b>\$ 903,286</b>	<b>47.72%</b>

<b>WATER ADMINISTRATION EXPENDITURE SUMMARY</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2014</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2013</b>	<b>% YTD BUDGET</b>
PRSNL SERVICES/BENEFITS	\$ 764,673	\$ 82,038	\$ 404,499	\$ 396,242	52.90%
PURCHASED/CONTRACTED SVC	\$ 240,489	\$ 5,487	\$ 75,315	\$ 85,014	31.32%
SUPPLIES	\$ 285,650	\$ 14,825	\$ 76,056	\$ 99,075	26.63%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 4,430	\$ -	88.60%
DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
DEBT SERVICES/FISCAL AGENT FEES	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ 769	\$ 1,414	109.79%
<b>TOTAL WATER ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 1,371,512</b>	<b>\$ 102,350</b>	<b>\$ 561,069</b>	<b>\$ 581,745</b>	<b>40.91%</b>

**CITY OF ST. MARYS  
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

Dec-14

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	MONTHS COMPLETED				6
	% YEAR COMPLETED				50.00%
DEBT SERVICE-PRINCIPLE EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
505.58000-58.1110 BOND PYMT 88 & 92 PRIN	\$ 325,000	\$ -	\$ 325,000	\$ 300,000	100.00%
505.58000-58.1330 BOND 2010 PRIN	\$ 1,640,000	\$ -	\$ 1,640,000	\$ -	100.00%
505.58000-58.1380 GEFA LOAN CWS-RF-03	\$ 247,375	\$ 20,687	\$ 122,643	\$ 119,009	49.58%
505.58000-58.1382 GEFA LOAN 2010-L26WQ	\$ 33,067	\$ 2,751	\$ 16,376	\$ 15,765	49.53%
<b>DEBT SERVICE-PRINCIPLE</b>	<b>\$ 2,245,442</b>	<b>\$ 23,438</b>	<b>\$ 2,104,019</b>	<b>\$ 434,774</b>	<b>93.70%</b>

DEBT SERVICE-INTEREST EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
505.58000-58.2110 BOND PAYMENT 88 & 92	\$ 102,134	\$ 46,091	\$ 102,134	\$ 121,275	100.00%
505.58000-58.2115 INTEREST-BOND INT 2010	\$ 1,915,400	\$ -	\$ 957,700	\$ 957,700	50.00%
505.58000-58.2380 GEFA LOAN CWS-RF-0	\$ 86,038	\$ 7,098	\$ 44,064	\$ 47,697	51.21%
505.58000-58.2382 GEFA LOAN 2010 L26WQ	\$ 33,030	\$ 2,757	\$ 16,672	\$ 17,283	50.48%
<b>DEBT SERVICE-INTEREST</b>	<b>\$ 2,136,602</b>	<b>\$ 55,945</b>	<b>\$ 1,120,570</b>	<b>\$ 1,143,956</b>	<b>52.45%</b>

505-59000-61.1000 OPERATING TFR OUT	\$ -		\$ -		
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<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 7,850,458</b>	<b>\$ 359,610</b>	<b>\$ 4,786,251</b>	<b>\$ 3,063,762</b>	<b>60.97%</b>
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<b>REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 142,705</b>	<b>\$ (704,907)</b>	<b>\$ 19,517</b>	
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<b>Cash Balances:</b>	\$4,230,504	<b>Run Rate Analysis:</b>	
LESS: Restricted Budgeted Fund Equity	\$60,942	Average YTD Mo. Exp.	\$797,708
Unrestricted Cash Balances	\$4,169,562	Months of Operating Cash	5.06
LESS: Outstanding P.O.'s	\$136,340		
Available Cash	\$4,033,222		

**CITY OF ST. MARYS  
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

Dec-14

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	MONTHS COMPLETED				6
	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
<b>540-SOLID WASTE FUND REVENUES</b>					50.00%
540.34.4111 RESIDENTIAL REFUSE CHARGE	\$ 963,000	\$ 81,969	\$ 491,654	\$ 486,248	51.05%
540.34.4112 COMMERCIAL REFUSE CHARGES	\$ 22,000	\$ 2,075	\$ 12,223	\$ 11,307	55.56%
540.34.4190 LATE FEES AND PENALTIES	\$ 22,191	\$ 1,914	\$ 11,818	\$ 11,229	53.26%
540.34.9900 OTHER CHARGES	\$ 12,500	\$ 1,775	\$ 10,800	\$ 10,500	86.40%
540.36.1000 INTEREST REVENUES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
540.38.0001 FUND EQUITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 1,019,691</b>	<b>\$ 87,733</b>	<b>\$ 526,496</b>	<b>\$ 519,284</b>	<b>51.63%</b>

540-SOLID WASTE FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	DECEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2013	% YTD BUDGET
PRSNL SERVICES/BENEFITS	\$ 86,211	\$ 9,104	\$ 43,945	\$ 44,115	50.97%
PURCHASED/CONTRACTED SVC	\$ 909,050	\$ 74,697	\$ 383,242	\$ 377,588	42.16%
SUPPLIES	\$ 3,800	\$ 359	\$ 799	\$ 895	21.02%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$ 20,630	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
<b>TOTAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$ 1,019,691</b>	<b>\$ 84,160</b>	<b>\$ 427,986</b>	<b>\$ 422,597</b>	<b>41.97%</b>

<b>REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,572</b>	<b>\$ 98,509</b>	<b>\$ 96,687</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
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<b>Cash Balances:</b>	\$458,305	<b>Run Rate Analysis:</b>	
LESS: Restricted Budgeted Fund Equity	\$0	Average YTD Mo. Exp.	\$71,331
Unrestricted Cash Balances	\$458,305	Months of Operating Cash	6.43
LESS: Outstanding P.O.'s	\$0		
Available Cash	\$458,305		

<b>555 -AQUATIC CENTER FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>	<b>FY2015 Budget</b>	<b>Jan-14</b>	<b>Feb-14</b>	<b>Mar-14</b>	<b>Apr-14</b>	<b>May-14</b>	<b>Jun-14</b>	<b>Jul-14</b>	<b>Aug-14</b>	<b>Sep-14</b>	<b>Oct-14</b>	<b>Nov-14</b>	<b>Dec-14</b>	<b>12Mths</b>	<b>YTD Dec-14</b>	<b>YTD Dec-13</b>
<b>REVENUE SUMMARY</b>																
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	386,200	1,000	1,760	4,894	10,077	85,610	127,769	92,064	39,227	6,183	1,000	400	600	370,583	139,473	119,872
INVESTMENT INCOME	-													-		
CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS	-													-		
MISCELLANEOUS	-	0	3	2	5	14	384	(52)	112	1,538	11	1	1	2,019	1,610	283
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES							20,148							20,148		-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>386,200</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,763</b>	<b>4,896</b>	<b>10,082</b>	<b>85,625</b>	<b>148,301</b>	<b>92,012</b>	<b>39,338</b>	<b>7,721</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>392,750</b>	<b>141,083</b>	<b>120,155</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE SUMMARY</b>																
PRSNL SERVICES/BENEFITS														-		-
PURCHASED/CONTRACTED SVC	254,900	11,870	9,247	7,338	9,589	38,022	40,788	38,163	24,561	13,887	9,131	7,173	10,622	220,391	103,537	109,094
SUPPLIES	131,300	3,233	3,294	4,349	17,214	20,839	29,227	8,885	16,898	9,618	5,081	3,670	4,889	127,197	49,042	42,650
CAPITAL OUTLAY	-													-		-
DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION	-													-		-
<b>TOTAL AQUATIC CENTER</b>	<b>386,200</b>	<b>15,103</b>	<b>12,540</b>	<b>11,687</b>	<b>26,803</b>	<b>58,862</b>	<b>70,015</b>	<b>47,048</b>	<b>41,459</b>	<b>23,505</b>	<b>14,212</b>	<b>10,843</b>	<b>15,511</b>	<b>347,587</b>	<b>152,578</b>	<b>151,744</b>
<b>REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(14,103)</b>	<b>(10,777)</b>	<b>(6,791)</b>	<b>(16,721)</b>	<b>26,763</b>	<b>78,286</b>	<b>44,964</b>	<b>(2,121)</b>	<b>(15,784)</b>	<b>(13,201)</b>	<b>(10,442)</b>	<b>(14,910)</b>	<b>45,163</b>	<b>(11,495)</b>	<b>(31,589)</b>

<b>Cash Balances: (-sal/fica)</b>	<b>-\$84,859</b>
<b>LESS: Restricted Budgeted Fd Equity</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Unrestricted Cash Balances</b>	<b>-\$84,859</b>
<b>LESS: Outstanding P.O.'s</b>	<b>\$950</b>
<b>Available Cash</b>	<b>-\$85,809</b>