

PERMITTING: WORKS OF THE DISTRICT

STAIRS AND LANDINGS

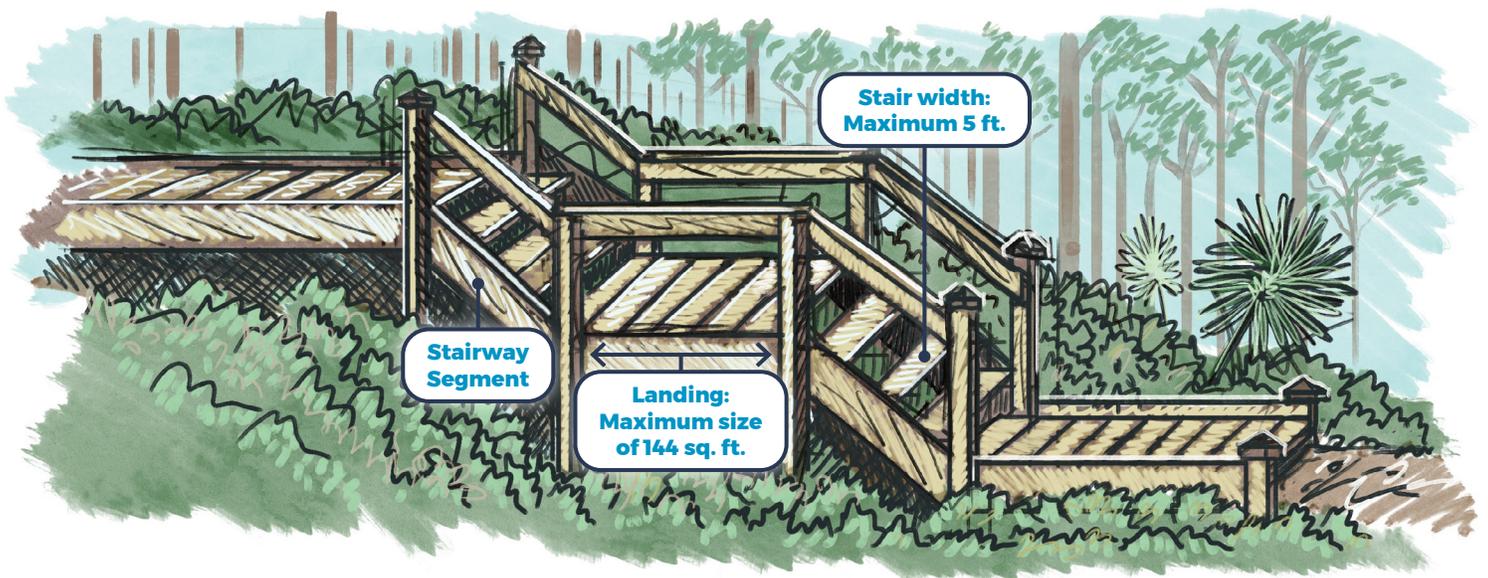
Permitting Construction Within Floodways

Works of the District (WOD) refers to rules that are established by the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) for construction within the floodways of five rivers: Alapaha, Aucilla, Santa Fe, Suwannee, and Withlacoochee. These rules are in place to best protect our environment through permitting and management of assets that could affect our natural resources.

Find your base flood elevation (BFE) for your property:
srwmdfloodreport.com

Common Questions:

- **What materials can I use to build stairs and landings?**
 - If the stairs and landings are not located in wetlands or other surface waters, there are no restrictions on the construction material.
 - If the stairs and/or landings are located in wetlands or other surface waters, the District recommends the use of pilings for construction.
- **Is there a limit to the number of stairs and/or landings I can construct on my property?** One stairway system per parcel is permissible to access the river. A property owner may construct a reasonable amount of stair segments and landings to reach the river with minimal impacts.
- **Do I need a WOD permit for stairs and landings?** Stairs are exempt from permitting as long as permitting thresholds have not been exceeded for all activities on the property. Typically, stairs and landings are combined with a deck and/or dock*, which do require permitting.
- **What is the top of the riverbank?** The vertical point of a river bank where there is an abrupt change in slope is observed when traveling waterward.
**If the stairs and landings are connected to a dock and proposed in or within 25 feet of wetlands, the height of walking surface above natural ground shall be elevated a minimum of 5 feet, and include handrails. They should not be used for commercial purposes or for boat access. They must be designed by an engineer and involve the services of an environmental consultant.*



SUWANNEE RIVER
WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Learn More:



Ask Us Questions:
ResourceManagement@srwmd.org

This document is intended as a guide. Please refer to 40B-4, F.A.C. and 62-330, F.A.C. for complete information. A District permit does not eliminate the necessity to obtain any required federal, state, local and special district authorizations prior to the start of any construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, removal, or abandonment authorized by a District permit. Please contact your federal, state, and local agencies for further guidance.

