

TO: **Jami MacNeil**, Project Manager,
Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP),
Bureau of Land and Water Quality Control

FROM: Department of Marine Resources (DMR)

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INITIAL PROJECT REVIEW

PROJECT: DEP Application #: L-20386-4E-P-N
Applicant: SHM Rockland, LLC
Location: Rockland
Type of Project: Marina Expansion & Dredging

The above proposed project has been carefully reviewed and considered by DMR personnel. The following are DMR's comments:

DMR understands that the applicant is proposing to expand an existing marina through dredging with already permitted upland disposal, modifications to existing structures, and additions of ramps and floats.

The applicant proposes to dredge approximately 12,520 cubic yards (138,000 ft²) of material. The dredge material contains predominately fine sediments over glacial till with small amounts of boulder/cobble material and will be disposed of at an upland site. Permitted dredging occurred in the early 2000s in this location. The proposed project dredging window is planned to begin in fall 2021. Area A dredge is approximately 1,000 cy of material to be removed. Area B is approximately 11,000 cy of dredge material to be removed. Dredge depths will vary from -6' to -13' MLW.

The dredging activity will be conducted from a barge with a crane and clamshell bucket. The spoils barge will be a deck barge with steel bin walls welded to the deck to contain the material. A turbidity curtain will be installed if necessary to contain suspended solids. Dredge materials will be partially dewatered on the barge, and then dewatered at Prock's Marine Yard located one mile from the dredge site over water. Once dewatered, the dredged material will be transported to an upland location for use as beneficial fill.

Additionally, the applicant plans the expansion of three dock areas. The Dock A area includes a total of 15,874 ft² of new floating dock area, 6,800 ft² of which will be wave attenuating docks. The floating docks will be anchored with a maximum of 55 piles. The Dock B area includes removal of 1,628 ft² of existing timber floating docks and installation of 4,023 ft² of new floating concrete docks. The floating docks will be anchored with a maximum of 20 piles. The Dock C area includes a total of 5,611 ft² new floating timber docks which will be anchored via a maximum of 40 piles. The total new direct impact from pilings driven below the HAT will be 116 ft² in the intertidal and 235 ft² in the subtidal.

Pilings will be installed via barge mounted equipment utilizing diesel and/or hydraulic impact hammers. Piles will be driven using a "soft-start". Noise attenuating devices will be utilized when using an impact hammer. Floating docks will be fabricated in sections off-site and brought to the project location via barge or truck.

Rockland Harbor is one of the largest and busiest harbors/commercial fishing ports in the state. There are no commercial fisheries present within the proposed marina expansion and dredge locations. Shellfish harvesting is prohibited due to poor water quality and the

presence of commercial marinas. There are no mapped eelgrass resources in the project location.

DMR recognizes the existing navigational and safety hazards and the need to move ahead with this project. We believe there is minimal to no impacts to shellfish; diadromous fish species, and the scallop and lobster fisheries. Dredging activity should take place from Nov 8th to April 8th within the ACOE dredging window.

If evidence becomes available that this dredging activity is causing adverse impacts to fishery resources, DMR would like the opportunity to revisit the issue.



Denis-Marc Nault
DMR Environmental Coordinator
Date: August 23, 2021