Reviewed for Code Compliance
Inspections Division
Approved with Conditions
Date: 09/20/16

copy of the Department's Visual Evaluation Field Survey Checklist as Appendix A to the application along with a description of the property and the proposed project. The applicant also submitted several photographs of the proposed project site including an aerial photograph of the project site.

The proposed project is located in the Fore River, which is a scenic resource visited by the general public, in part, for the use, observation, enjoyment and appreciation of its natural and cultural visual qualities. The shoreline is heavily developed by commercial operations along both sides of the river. The applicant has also designed the pier system to run parallel to the shoreline to reduce the visibility from the scenic resource.

The proposed project was evaluated using the Department's Visual Impact Assessment Matrix and was found to have an acceptable potential visual impact rating. Based on the information submitted in the application and the visual impact rating, the Department determined that the location and scale of the proposed activity is compatible with the existing visual quality and landscape characteristics found within the viewshed of the scenic resource in the project area.

The Department of Marine Resources (DMR) stated that the proposed project should not cause any significant adverse impact to navigation or recreation.

The Department finds that the proposed activity will not unreasonably interfere with existing scenic, aesthetic, recreational or navigational uses of the protected natural resource.

3. SOIL EROSION:

The applicant submitted an erosion control and construction plan for the proposed project. To construct the proposed pier, the applicant proposes to remove pilings in the vicinity of the project with a vibratory hammer on a floating barge. Should the pilings be suitable for reuse, the applicant intends to use them to secure the floats. Work will be done during periods of low water. The storage building will be Rubb-style or pre-fabricated and will be anchored to either a concrete slab or ground anchors. Minimal excavation will be necessary and the applicant proposes to utilize silt fence and erosion control mulch berms while installing the building.

The Department finds that the activity will not cause unreasonable erosion of soil or sediment nor unreasonably inhibit the natural transfer of soil from the terrestrial to the marine or freshwater environment.

4. HABITAT CONSIDERATIONS:

The project area habitat is located in a heavily developed area for commercial and industrial uses with the intertidal area consisting of rockweed-covered riprap and pilings transitioning to mudflat.