

PROJECT PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

The Applicants own several adjacent parcels that total approximately 98-acres and are located on Great Diamond Island, adjacent to Casco Bay in the City of Portland. The Applicants have an existing dock that consists of a permanent pier and a seasonal ramp and float. The Applicants recently purchased a larger boat and would like to provide a safe, reasonable, and sufficient area to dock their boat and accommodate multiple families using the dock. In order to achieve this, the Applicants propose to replace the existing float.

The Applicants existing float is approximately fifteen (15) feet wide by twenty (20) feet long and the Applicants proposes to replace this float with a twenty-four (24) foot wide by forty (40) foot long float in order to meet their project goals. The dock will continue to provide all tide access to the bay and adjacent waters and the seasonal components will continue to be in place on a seasonal basis and stored in the upland or offsite during the off-season.

The Applicant has followed the Army Corps of Engineers guidelines for “*Structures, Floats, and Lifts,*” which includes the following design standards:

- 1) Floats will be supported with a minimum of 18” above the substrate during all tides.
- 2) Structures and floats will be located >25 feet of any eelgrass.
- 3) The structure will not be located within 25 feet of the property line.
- 4) The structure does not extend across >25% of the waterway width at mean low water.
- 5) The project is not located within the buffer zone of the horizontal limits of a Corps Federal Navigation Project.

Based on the 2013 Eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) survey layer of the Maine Office of GIS, Eelgrass is located in the area. An eelgrass survey was conducted on April 13, 2016 to determine the extent of the eelgrass bed in the vicinity of the project site and determine if the proposed modifications would impact the bed. Based on this survey, eelgrass was not located within twenty-five (25) feet of the project area and no impacts are proposed to the eelgrass.

In summary, the purpose of the proposed system is to provide safe dockage for the Applicants’ watercraft and has been designed to minimize impacts to coastal waters.