



STATE OF MAINE
Department of Environmental Protection

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

JAMES P. BROOKS
ACTING COMMISSIONER

May, 2011

Margaret Milardo
461 River Road
Hollis, Maine 04042

RE: Natural Resources Protection Act Application, Portland
#L-21247-4P-B-N and L-21247-TW-C-N

Dear Ms. Milardo:

Please find enclosed a signed copy of your Department of Environmental Protection land use permit. You will note that the permit includes a description of your project, findings of fact that relate to the approval criteria the Department used in evaluating your project, and conditions that are based on those findings and the particulars of your project. Please take several moments to read your permit carefully, paying particular attention to the conditions of the approval. The Department reviews every application thoroughly and strives to formulate reasonable conditions of approval within the context of the Department's environmental laws. You will also find attached some materials that describe the Department's appeal procedures for your information.

If you have any questions about the permit please contact me at (207) 615-6426 or at christine.woodruff@maine.gov

Sincerely,

Chris Woodruff

Christine Woodruff, Project Manager
Division of Land Resource Regulation
Bureau of Land & Water Quality

pc: File
Kathleen Keegen (at Falls Point Marine via email)

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD
BANGOR ME 04401
(207-941-4570 FAX 207-941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769-2094
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 764-3143



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

MARGARET MILARDO) NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION
Portland, Cumberland County) COASTAL WETLAND ALTERATION
PIER, RAMP AND FLOAT EXPANSION) SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE HABITAT
L-21247-4P-B-N (approval)) WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
L-21247-TW-C-N) FINDINGS OF FACT AND ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A. Sections 480-A *et seq.* and Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Department of Environmental Protection has considered the application of MARGARET MILARDO with the supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

A. History of Project: In Department Order #L-21247-4D-A-N, dated June 11, 2003, the Department approved the construction of a set of stairs and a series of landings at the shoreline. The last landing ended at the spring high tide line and was used for the attachment of a 32-foot by 32-inch seasonal ramp and five seasonal floats consisting of four 3-foot by 32-foot floats and a 10-foot by 20-foot float that were for boat access to the water. The permit also included stabilization for an eroding slope near the landings.

B. Summary: The applicant proposes to expand the existing permanent pier on the site by adding a five-foot wide by 110-foot long extension. The applicant proposes to replace the existing seasonal ramp with a 3.5-foot wide by 55-foot ramp, replace the outer most seasonal float with a 12-foot wide by 20-foot long float and eliminate the other floats. The outer float will be in the same location as it was previously with the new pier system. During the off-season, the applicant will store the ramp on the pier and will store the float in an upland area. The project site is located on 77 McCauley Road on the northwest side of Little Diamond Island in the City of Portland with coastal frontage on Casco Bay.

C. Current Use of the Site: The upland has a large cottage with a small lawn surrounding it. The large trees and native ground cover have been retained along the top of the bank along the coastal frontage. There is an approximately twenty-foot high bank with the edge of the coastal wetland at the toe. There are a set of stairs and landings down the bank with a four-foot by 24-foot permanent pier head. The upper intertidal area is bare ledge and large cobble. The lower intertidal is a mix of medium and small cobble and is covered with abundant seaweed. The lower intertidal area where the existing float system is normally placed appears to have been cleared of large cobble and has scattered seaweed growth. There is an existing, approximately 110-foot long, residential pier 400 feet to the northeast.

2. EXISTING SCENIC, AESTHETIC, RECREATIONAL OR NAVIGATIONAL USES:

In accordance with Chapter 315, Assessing and Mitigating Impacts to Scenic and Aesthetic Uses, the applicant submitted a 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. Department staff visited the project site on March 24, 2011.

The proposed project is located in Casco Bay, 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. Fort Gorges, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is 0.7 miles away across open water. The applicant has chosen an aluminum frame which is less bulky than a wood frame and needs fewer supports to reduce the visual impacts of the structure on the landscape. The proposed pier will be compatible with the existing pier of approximately the same size located 400 feet to the northeast.

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, the visual impact rating and the site visit, 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 did not identify any issues involving existing recreational and navigational uses.

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 outer piles will be driven into the mixed cobble substrate. The inner piles will be pinned to ledge. Both construction methods will generate a very limited amount of soil disturbance within the intertidal area. 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 Department of Marine Resources (DMR) reviewed the proposed project and stated that the proposed project should not cause any significant adverse impact to marine resources, traditional fishing, riparian access, navigation or recreation.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) reviewed the proposed project and stated that this project is located in Tidal Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat, which is Significant Wildlife Habitats under the Natural Resources Protection Act. There are mapped eelgrass beds in this area, but according to the applicant, eelgrass is absent at the project site. MDIFW commented that since there is no eelgrass present, this project is not anticipated to have a negative impact on wildlife resources.

The Department finds that the activity will not unreasonably harm any significant wildlife habitat, freshwater wetland plant habitat, threatened or endangered plant habitat, aquatic or adjacent upland habitat, travel corridor, freshwater, estuarine or marine fisheries or other aquatic life.

5. WATER QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS:

The applicant proposes to use lumber treated with chromated copper arsenate (CCA) to construct the pier. To protect water quality, all CCA treated lumber must be cured on dry land in a manner that exposes all surfaces to the air for 21 days prior to the start of construction. Provided the CCA treated

lumber is cured as described above, the Department finds that the proposed project will not violate any state water quality law.

The Department does not anticipate that the proposed project will violate any state water quality law, including those governing the classification of the State's waters.

6. WETLANDS AND WATERBODIES PROTECTION RULES:

The applicant proposes to directly alter eight square feet of coastal wetland to construct the pier and to indirectly alter 983 square feet of coastal wetland as a result of shading impacts from the pier, ramp and floats. Total impacts of the existing pier plus the proposed pier are 14 square feet of direct coastal wetland impact and 1,079 square feet of indirect wetland impact from shading.

The supratidal area is ledge. The intertidal area is approximately 110 feet wide and is cobble, stone and some ledge with abundant rockweed. Rockweed in the immediate project area is scattered.

The Department's Wetlands and Waterbodies Protection Rules, Chapter 310, require that the applicant meet the following standards:

A. Avoidance. No activity may be permitted if there is a practicable alternative to the project that would be less damaging to the environment. Each application for a coastal wetland alteration permit must provide an analysis of alternatives in order to demonstrate that a practicable alternative does not exist. The applicant submitted an alternatives analysis for the proposed project completed by Falls Point Marine and dated February 2011. The applicant owns 520 feet of shore frontage and chose the proposed location because it is the shortest distance to the deepest water. The applicant opted to build a dock because there are no public facilities on the island for a similar use.

B. Minimal Alteration. The amount of coastal wetland to be altered must be kept to the minimum amount necessary for meeting the overall purpose of the project. The applicant has minimized direct wetland impacts by using an aluminum frame, which is stronger and can span longer distances with fewer supports. The applicant has also chosen to replace the existing seasonal float system with a permanent pier which will eliminate the impact of the floats resting on the intertidal area at low tide.

C. Compensation. In accordance with Chapter 310 Section 5(C)(6)(b), compensation is not required to achieve the goal of no net loss of coastal wetland functions and values since the project will not result in over 500 square feet of fill in the resource, which is the threshold over which compensation is generally required. Further, the proposed project will not have an adverse impact on marine resources or wildlife habitat as determined by DMR and MDIFW. For these reasons, the Department determined that compensation is not required.

The Department finds that the applicant has avoided and minimized coastal wetland impacts to the greatest extent practicable, and that the proposed project represents the least environmentally damaging alternative that meets the overall purpose of the project.

7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

The Department did not identify any other issues involving existing scenic, aesthetic, or navigational uses, soil erosion, habitat or fisheries, the natural transfer of soil, natural flow of water, water quality, or flooding.

BASED on the above findings of fact, and subject to the conditions listed below, the Department makes the following conclusions pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. Sections 480-A et seq. and Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act:

- A. The proposed activity will not unreasonably interfere with existing scenic, aesthetic, recreational, or navigational uses.
- B. The proposed activity will not cause unreasonable erosion of soil or sediment.
- C. The proposed activity will not unreasonably inhibit the natural transfer of soil from the terrestrial to the marine or freshwater environment.
- D. The proposed activity will not unreasonably harm any significant wildlife habitat, freshwater wetland plant habitat, threatened or endangered plant habitat, aquatic or adjacent upland habitat, travel corridor, freshwater, estuarine, or marine fisheries or other aquatic life.
- E. The proposed activity will not unreasonably interfere with the natural flow of any surface or subsurface waters.
- F. The proposed activity will not violate any state water quality law including those governing the classifications of the State's waters provided that all CCA treated lumber is cured before use as described in Finding 5.
- G. The proposed activity will not unreasonably cause or increase the flooding of the alteration area or adjacent properties.
- H. The proposed activity is not on or adjacent to a sand dune.
- I. The proposed activity is not on an outstanding river segment as noted in Title 38 M.R.S.A. Section 480-P.

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of MARGARET MILARDO to expand an existing pier, ramp and float system as described above, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations:

1. Standard Conditions of Approval, a copy attached.
2. The applicant shall take all necessary measures to ensure that her activities or those of her agents do not result in measurable erosion of soil on the site during the construction of the project covered by this approval.
3. Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision, or part thereof, of this License shall not affect the remainder of the provision or any other provisions. This License shall be construed and enforced in all respects as if such invalid or unenforceable provision or part thereof had been omitted.

4. All CCA treated lumber shall be cured on dry land in a manner that exposes all surfaces to the air for 21 days prior to the start of construction.

THIS APPROVAL DOES NOT CONSTITUTE OR SUBSTITUTE FOR ANY OTHER REQUIRED STATE, FEDERAL OR LOCAL APPROVALS NOR DOES IT VERIFY COMPLIANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE SHORELAND ZONING ORDINANCES.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PLEASE NOTE THE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES...

[cgw/121247bn&cn/73120&73182](#)



Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Standard Conditions

THE FOLLOWING STANDARD CONDITIONS SHALL APPLY TO ALL PERMITS GRANTED UNDER THE NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT, TITLE 38, M.R.S.A. SECTION 480-A ET.SEQ. UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY STATED IN THE PERMIT.

- A. Approval of Variations From Plans. The granting of this permit is dependent upon and limited to the proposals and plans contained in the application and supporting documents submitted and affirmed to by the applicant. Any variation from these plans, proposals, and supporting documents is subject to review and approval prior to implementation.
- B. Compliance With All Applicable Laws. The applicant shall secure and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local licenses, permits, authorizations, conditions, agreements, and orders prior to or during construction and operation, as appropriate.
- C. Erosion Control. The applicant shall take all necessary measures to ensure that his activities or those of his agents do not result in measurable erosion of soils on the site during the construction and operation of the project covered by this Approval.
- D. Compliance With Conditions. Should the project be found, at any time, not to be in compliance with any of the Conditions of this Approval, or should the applicant construct or operate this development in any way other the specified in the Application or Supporting Documents, as modified by the Conditions of this Approval, then the terms of this Approval shall be considered to have been violated.
- E. Initiation of Activity Within Two Years. If construction or operation of the activity is not begun within two years, this permit shall lapse and the applicant shall reapply to the Board for a new permit. The applicant may not begin construction or operation of the activity until a new permit is granted. Reapplications for permits shall state the reasons why the applicant will be able to begin the activity within two years form the granting of a new permit, if so granted. Reapplications for permits may include information submitted in the initial application by reference.
- F. Reexamination After Five Years. If the approved activity is not completed within five years from the date of the granting of a permit, the Board may reexamine its permit approval and impose additional terms or conditions to respond to significant changes in circumstances which may have occurred during the five-year period.
- G. No Construction Equipment Below High Water. No construction equipment used in the undertaking of an approved activity is allowed below the mean high water line unless otherwise specified by this permit.
- H. Permit Included In Contract Bids. A copy of this permit must be included in or attached to all contract bid specifications for the approved activity.
- I. Permit Shown To Contractor. Work done by a contractor pursuant to this permit shall not begin before the contractor has been shown by the applicant a copy of this permit.



DEP INFORMATION SHEET

Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision

Dated: May 2004

Contact: (207) 287-2811

SUMMARY

There are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Commissioner: (1) in an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection (Board); or (2) in a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with consulting statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, can help aggrieved persons with understanding their rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

LEGAL REFERENCES

DEP's General Laws, 38 M.R.S.A. § 341-D(4), and its Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters (Chapter 2), 06-096 CMR 2.24 (April 1, 2003).

HOW LONG YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

The Board must receive a written notice of appeal within 30 calendar days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board. Appeals filed after 30 calendar days will be rejected.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Signed original appeal documents must be sent to: Chair, Board of Environmental Protection, c/o Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017; faxes are acceptable for purposes of meeting the deadline when followed by receipt of mailed original documents within five (5) working days. Receipt on a particular day must be by 5:00 PM at DEP's offices in Augusta; materials received after 5:00 PM are not considered received until the following day. The person appealing a licensing decision must also send the DEP's Commissioner and the applicant a copy of the documents. All the information listed in the next section must be submitted at the time the appeal is filed. Only the extraordinary circumstances described at the end of that section will justify evidence not in the DEP's record at the time of decision being added to the record for consideration by the Board as part of an appeal.

WHAT YOUR APPEAL PAPERWORK MUST CONTAIN

The materials constituting an appeal must contain the following information at the time submitted:

1. *Aggrieved Status.* Standing to maintain an appeal requires the appellant to show they are particularly injured by the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* Specific references and facts regarding the appellant's issues with the decision must be provided in the notice of appeal.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* If possible, specific regulations, statutes or other facts should be referenced. This may include citing omissions of relevant requirements, and errors believed to have been made in interpretations, conclusions, and relevant requirements.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license or permit to changes in specific permit conditions.

5. *All the matters to be contested.* The Board will limit its consideration to those arguments specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.

6. *Request for hearing.* The Board will hear presentations on appeals at its regularly scheduled meetings, unless a public hearing is requested and granted. A request for public hearing on an appeal must be filed as part of the notice of appeal.

7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* The Board may allow new or additional evidence as part of an appeal only when the person seeking to add information to the record can show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process or show that the evidence itself is newly discovered and could not have been presented earlier in the process. Specific requirements for additional evidence are found in Chapter 2, Section 24(B)(5)

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license file is public information made easily accessible by DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make the material available during normal working hours, provide space to review the file, and provide opportunity for photocopying materials. There is a charge for copies or copying services.

2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing your appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information on request and answer questions regarding applicable requirements.

3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* An applicant proceeding with a project pending the outcome of an appeal runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD

The Board will formally acknowledge initiation of the appeals procedure, including the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal, within 15 days of receiving a timely filing. The notice of appeal, all materials accepted by the Board Chair as additional evidence, and any materials submitted in response to the appeal will be sent to Board members along with a briefing and recommendation from DEP staff. Parties filing appeals and interested persons are notified in advance of the final date set for Board consideration of an appeal or request for public hearing. With or without holding a public hearing, the Board may affirm, amend, or reverse a Commissioner decision. The Board will notify parties to an appeal and interested persons of its decision.

II APPEALS TO MAINE SUPERIOR COURT

Maine law allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court, see 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(1); 06-096 CMR 2.26; 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001; & MRCivP 80C. Parties to the licensing decision must file a petition for review within 30 days after receipt of notice of the Commissioner's written decision. A petition for review by any other person aggrieved must be filed within 40-days from the date the written decision is rendered. The laws cited in this paragraph and other legal procedures govern the contents and processing of a Superior Court appeal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, contact the DEP's Director of Procedures and Enforcement at (207) 287-2811.

Note: The DEP provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.
