

The State of New Hampshire

# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



# Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

July 24, 2015

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan and The Honorable Council State House Concord, NH 03301

# REQUESTED ACTION

Approve the City of Portsmouth's request to perform the following work on the Piscataqua River, in Portsmouth. File # 2015-00445. This project will not have significant impact on or adversely affect the values of the Piscataqua River.

Upgrade two existing 8 ft. x 20 ft. floats at a previously permitted docking structure to provide greater safety and stability and meet ADA standards, including increasing one float to 10 ft. x 20 ft. and the second to 10 ft. x 25 ft.

The Department imposed the following conditions as part of this approval:

- 1. All work shall be in accordance with plans by The Gundalow Company and the City of Portsmouth dated November 7, 2014, as received by the Department of Environmental Services on February 26, 2015.
- 2. Any future work in jurisdiction as specified in RSA 482-A on this property will require a new application and approval by the Department of Environmental Services ("DES") Wetlands Bureau.
- 3. This permit shall not be effective until recorded at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds office by the permittee. A copy of the recorded permit shall be submitted to the DES Wetlands Bureau prior to construction.
- 4. Appropriate siltation/erosion/turbidity controls shall be in place prior to construction, shall be maintained during construction, and shall remain in place until the area is stabilized.
- 5. Upgrade of the two floats to the size of 10 ft. x 20 ft. and 10 ft. x 25 ft., respectively, shall be the only expansion of this dock structure on the city's Prescott Park, Piscataqua River frontage.
- 6. Work shall be done during low tide.
- 7. Work shall be conducted in a manner so as to minimize turbidity and sedimentation to surface waters and wetlands.
- 8. Work shall be conducted in a manner that avoids excessive discharges of sediments to fish spawning areas.

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Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan and The Honorable Council Page 2

#### **EXPLANATION**

The DES Wetlands Bureau approved this project on June 24, 2015. DES supported its decision with the following findings:

- 1. This is a major impact project per Administrative Rule Env-Wt 303.02(a), impacts in tidal wetlands or surface waters.
- 2. The need for the proposed impacts has been demonstrated by the applicant per Env-Wt 302.01. Original construction of this dock was approved under permit 1991-01043, over 20 years ago. The dock services the public education vessel known as "The Gundalow" which is located at Prescott Park on the Piscataqua River. Over 1,500 students and another 5,000 member of the public visit this vessel each year. The existing float system is under-sized and unstable for this level of use.
- 3. The applicant has provided evidence which demonstrates that this proposal is the alternative with the least adverse impact to areas and environments under the department's jurisdiction per Env-Wt 302.03. The increase is limited to 130 sq. ft. of total dock float area, and does not increase slip count.
- 4. The applicant has demonstrated by plan and example that each factor listed in Env-Wt 302.04(a) and (c) Requirements for Application Evaluation, has been considered in the design of the project. The NH Division of Ports & Harbors has evaluated this proposal and states that the increase in float size will not impact navigation in the channel. The NH Natural Heritage Bureau reports that although there is a species record in the project vicinity, it is not expected to be impacted by the proposal.
- 5. DES Staff conducted a field inspection of the proposed project on May 8, 2015. The field inspection determined that the current float system appears to be unstable and that the proposal represents a necessary upgrade of the docking structure.
- 6. In accordance with RSA 482-A:8, DES finds that the requirements for a public hearing do not apply as the permitted project is not of substantial public interest, and will not have a significant impact on or adversely affect the values of the estuarine resource, as identified under RSA 482-A:1.
- 7. The Portsmouth Conservation Commission recommended approval of the project.

Application file documents are being forwarded to the Governor and Executive Council in connection with their consideration of this matter pursuant to RSA 482-A:3,II.(a) as it is a major project in public waters of the state.

We respectfully submit this request for your consideration.

Thomas S. Burack

Commissioner

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# THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LAND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

## **WETLANDS BUREAU**

29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095 Phone: (603) 271-2147 Fax: (603) 271-6588 http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands



# **PERMIT APPLICATION**

DECEIVED  Administrative FEB/12/6 2015  NHDES LAND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	COMPLETE  Administrative FEB 2-6 2015 Only	Adn	ninistrative Use Only	Che	2015-0042 ount: 460- els: 562	( <b>5</b>
REVIEW TIME: Indicate your Review Time below. Refer	to Guidance Document A for	instructions.				
	Minor or Major Impact)		☐ Expedited	Review (	Minimum Impact)	
PROJECT LOCATION:     Separate applications must be filed with	each municipality that jurisdic	tional impacts	will occur in.			
ADDRESS: Marcy Street, Prescott Park near the Sheafe Warehouse				TOWN/CITY: Portsmouth		
TAX MAP: <b>104</b>	IAP: 104 BLOCK: LOT: 5		5		UNIT:	
USGS TOPO MAP WATERBODY NAME: <b>Piscataqua River</b>			STREAM WAT	TREAM WATERSHED SIZE:		
LOCATION COORDINATES (If known): 43.	0767 N, -70.7507 W		⊠ L	.atitude/Lon	gitude 🗌 UTM 🗌 Sta	ate Plane
3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:  Provide a brief description of the project of your project. DO NOT reply "See Atta	outlining the scope of work. A	Attach addition	al sheets as n	eeded to p	provide a detailed expl	anation
Replace existing floating docks a <i>PISCATAQUA</i> . New floats to have float to be replaced by a 10' by 20 above water to be increased to 39 footprint is required to ensure the	e a slightly larger footprin ' float; second 8' x 20' flo '' above water to improve	it but to attace at to be reple access for	ch to the exi aced by a 10	isting fou 0' by 25'	ur piles. First 8' x 2 float. Float height	20' of 18"
4. RELATED PERMITS, ENFORCEME	NT, EMERGENCY AUTHORI	ZATION, SHO	RELAND, AL	TERATIO	N OF TERRAIN, ETC	
5. NATURAL HERITAGE BUREAU & See the Instructions & Required Attachn		s to complete a	a & b below.			
a. Natural Heritage Bureau File ID:	NHB <u>14</u> - <u>5042</u>					
<ul> <li>b.</li></ul>		/ Committee: N	; and //onth: Da	ay:Ye	ear:	<i>/</i>

6. APPLICANT INFORMATION (Desired permit holder)					
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: CITY OF PORTSMOUTI	+ - Allen,	David S.			
TRUST / COMPANY NAME:	MAILING A	DDRESS: 1 Junkins Av	е		
TOWN/CITY: Portsmouth		STATE: NI	ZIP CODE: <b>03801</b>		
EMAIL or FAX:	PHON	E:			
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION: By initialing here:,	I hereby authorize DES t	o communicate all matters re	elative to this application electronically		
7. PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION (If different tha	ın applicant)				
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.:					
TRUST / COMPANY NAME:	MAILING A	DDRESS:			
TOWN/CITY:		STATE:	ZIP CODE:		
EMAIL or FAX:	EMAIL or FAX:				
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION: By initialing here,	I hereby authorize DES to	communicate all matters re	elative to this application electronically		
8. AUTHORIZED AGENT INFORMATION					
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: Glenn, Matthew H COMPANY			NAME: Gundalow Company		
MAILING ADDRESS: 60 Marcy St					
TOWN/CITY: Portsmouth		STATE: NI	ZIP CODE: 03801		
EMAIL or FAX: captain@gundalow.org	PHONE:	603-433-9505			
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION: By initialing here MHGM,	hereby authorize DES to	communicate all matters rela	ative to this application electronically		
9. PROPERTY OWNER SIGNATURE: See the Instructions & Required Attachments document for	r clarification of the be	low statements			
By signing the application, I am certifying that:			f this application, and to furnish		
<ol> <li>I authorize the applicant and/or agent indicated on upon request, supplemental information in support</li> <li>I have reviewed and submitted information &amp; attach</li> <li>All abutters have been identified in accordance with</li> <li>I have read and provided the required information of</li> <li>I have read and understand Env-Wt 302.03 and have</li> <li>Any structure that I am proposing to repair/replace grandfathered per Env-Wt 101.47.</li> </ol>	of this permit application ments outlined in the land RSA 482-A:3, I and Equition to the control of the control	on. nstructions and Required inv-Wt 100-900. 04 for the applicable proje pacting alternative.	Attachment document.		
<ul> <li>7. I have submitted a copy of the application materials</li> <li>8. I authorize DES and the municipal conservation col</li> <li>9. I have reviewed the information being submitted an</li> <li>10. I understand that the willful submission of falsifie</li> </ul>	mmission to inspect the distance of the distan	e site of the proposed pro y knowledge the informati	ion is true and accurate.		
Environmental Services is a criminal act, which is 11. I am aware that the work I am proposing may reconstraining.  12. The mailing addresses I have provided are up to forward returned mail.	may result in legal ac quire additional state,	tion. local or federal permits	which I am responsible for		
= NILL	David Alle	n	2 1231 15		
Property Owner Signature	Print name legibly		Date		

## **MUNICIPAL SIGNATURES**

#### 10. CONSERVATION COMMISSION SIGNATURE

The signature below certifies that the municipal conservation commission has reviewed this application, and:

- 1. Waives its right to intervene per RSA 482-A:11;
- 2. Believes that the application and submitted plans accurately represent the proposed project; and
- 3. Has no objection to permitting the proposed work.

 $\Box$ 

Authorized Commission Signature

Print name legibly

Date

#### **DIRECTIONS FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

- 1. Expedited review ONLY requires that the conservation commission's signature is obtained in the space above.
- 2. The Conservation Commission signature should be obtained **prior** to the submittal of the original application and four copies to the town/city clerk for mailing to the DES.
- 3. The Conservation Commission may refuse to sign. If the Conservation Commission does not sign this statement for any reason, the application is not eligible for expedited review and the application will reviewed in the standard review time frame.

#### 11. TOWN / CITY CLERK SIGNATURE

Barnaby

As required by Chapter 482-A:3 (amended 2014), I hereby certify that the applicant has filed four application forms, four detailed plans, and four USGS location maps with the town/city indicated below.

Lewis Barraby
Town/City Clerk Signature

Print name legibly

Portsmouth

Date

Town/City

#### DIRECTIONS FOR TOWN/CITY CLERK:

Per RSA 482-A:3,I

- 1. For applications where "Expedited Review" is checked on page 1, sign and accept the applications **only** if the Conservation Commission signature has been received;
- 2. IMMEDIATELY sign the original application form and four copies in the signature space provided above;
- 3. Return the signed original application form and attachments to the applicant so that the applicant may submit the application form and attachments to NHDES by mail or hand delivery.
- 4. IMMEDIATELY distribute a copy of the application with one complete set of attachments to each of the following bodies: the municipal Conservation Commission, the local governing body (Board of Selectmen or Town/City Council), and the Planning Board; and
- 5. Retain one copy of the application form and one complete set of attachments and make them reasonably accessible for public review.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR APPLICANT:

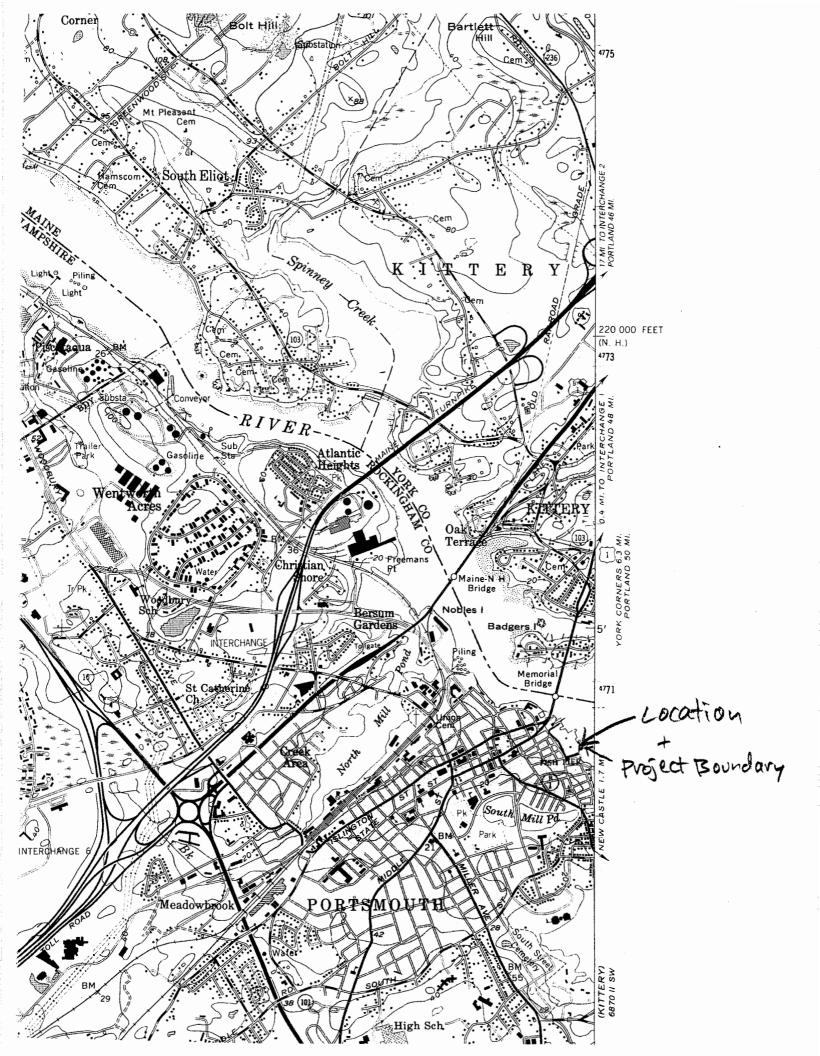
1. Submit the original permit application form bearing the signature of the Town/ City Clerk, additional materials, and the application fee to NHDES by mail or hand delivery.

#### 12. IMPACT AREA: For each jurisdictional area that will be/has been impacted, provide square feet and, if applicable, linear feet of impact Permanent: impacts that will remain after the project is complete. Temporary: impacts not intended to remain (and will be restored to pre-construction conditions) after the project is complete. After-the-fact (ATF): work completed prior to receipt of this application by DES. Check box to indicate ATF. **TEMPORARY** PERMANENT JURISDICTIONAL AREA Sq. Ft. / Lin. Ft. Sq. Ft. / Lin. Ft. ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Forested wetland ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Scrub-shrub wetland ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Emergent wetland ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Wet meadow ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Intermittent stream ☐ ATF 1 ☐ ATF 1 Perennial Stream / River 1 ☐ ATF 1 ☐ ATF Lake / Pond 1 ☐ ATF ☐ ATF / Bank - Intermittent stream ☐ ATF 1 1 Bank - Perennial stream / River / ☐ ATF 1 ☐ ATF Bank - Lake / Pond 1 ☐ ATF 1 Tidal water ☐ ATF \_\_\_ ATF Salt marsh ☐ ATF ATF Sand dune ☐ ATF Prime wetland ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Prime wetland buffer Undeveloped Tidal Buffer Zone (TBZ) ATF ☐ ATF ☐ ATF ATF Previously-developed upland in TBZ ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Docking - Lake / Pond ☐ ATF ☐ ATF Docking - River ☐ ATF 130 sq ft ATF Docking - Tidal Water **TOTAL** 130 / 5 1 13. APPLICATION FEE: See the Instructions & Required Attachments document for further instruction Minimum Impact Fee: Flat fee of \$ 200 Minor or Major Impact Fee: Calculate using the below table below Permanent and Temporary (non-docking) sq. ft. X \$0.20 = \$ Temporary (seasonal) docking structure: sq. ft. X \$1.00 = \$ **130** sq. ft. X \$2.00 = \$ **260** Permanent docking structure: Projects proposing shoreline structures (including docks) add \$200 = \$200 Total = \$ 460 The Application Fee is the above calculated Total or \$200, whichever is greater = \$460

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Tax Map 104 This map is for executional proposes only, it and instituted for spidlesception on commission of Farestis are mapped as at Jupit. Building flootprints as 2000 date and may not impresent current structures.

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# New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau NHB DataCheck Results Letter

To: Matthew Glenn, Gundalow Company

60 Marcy St

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Portsmouth, NH 03801

From: NH Natural Heritage Bureau

**Date**: 02/18/2015 (valid for one year from this date)

Re: Review by NH Natural Heritage Bureau of request submitted 12/31/2014

NHB File ID: NHB14-5042 Applicant: City of Portsmouth/ City

Manager John Bohenko

Location: Portsmouth

Tax Maps: Tax Map 104, lot 5

Project

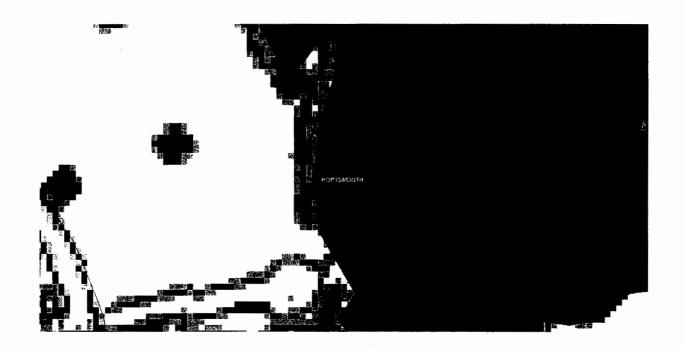
Description: Replace existing floating docks and gangway in order to meet ADA

accessibility to the small passenger vessel "Piscataqua". New floats to have a slightly larger footprint but attach to the existing four piles. Current floats are 8' wide by 40' long; new floats to be 10' by 45' overall. Float height of 18" above water to be increased to 39" to improve access for individuals with reduced mobility. The larger footprint is required to ensure the taller dock has sufficient stability.

The NH Natural Heritage database has been checked by staff of the NH Natural Heritage Bureau and/or the NH Nongame and Endangered Species Program for records of rare species and exemplary natural communities near the area mapped below. The species considered include those listed as Threatened or Endangered by either the state of New Hampshire or the federal government.

It was determined that, although there was a NHB record (e.g., rare wildlife, plant, and/or natural community) present in the vicinity, we do not expect that it will be impacted by the proposed project. This determination was made based on the project information submitted via the NHB Datacheck Tool on 12/31/2014, and cannot be used for any other project.

# MAP OF PROJECT BOUNDARIES FOR: NHB14-5042





# Gundalow COMPANY

Protecting the Piscataqua region's maritime heritage and environment through education and action

> OWNERS OF PROPERTY ADJACENT TO PROPOSED DOCK FLOAT PROJECT IN PRESCOTT PARK

#### **Board of Directors**

Charles G. Bickford Nate Hazen Cvnthia Hosmer John Lamson Jeff Little Christopher G. Parker Steve Parkinson **George Samuels** Valerie Shelton Arnet Taylor, Jr Ben Wilson

## Staff

Molly Bolster **Executive Director** 

Nancy Winthrop

Matt Glenn Captain

Barbara Pinto - Maurer **Education Director** 

Sue Cobler **Operations Director** 

## Property:

State Fish Pier Tax map 208 Lot 1-A

Owner:

Pease Development Authority/Portsmouth Fish Co-op 1 Peirce Island Road, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Prescott Park Tax map 104

Lots 3, 3-2, 3-3, 5

Strawbery Banke Tax map 104 Lot 7

Tax map 104 Lot 6

Tax map 103 Lot 10

Tax map 103 Lots 9, 28

City of Portsmouth

c/o Robert Sullivan, City Attorney 1 Junkins Ave, Portsmouth, NH 03801

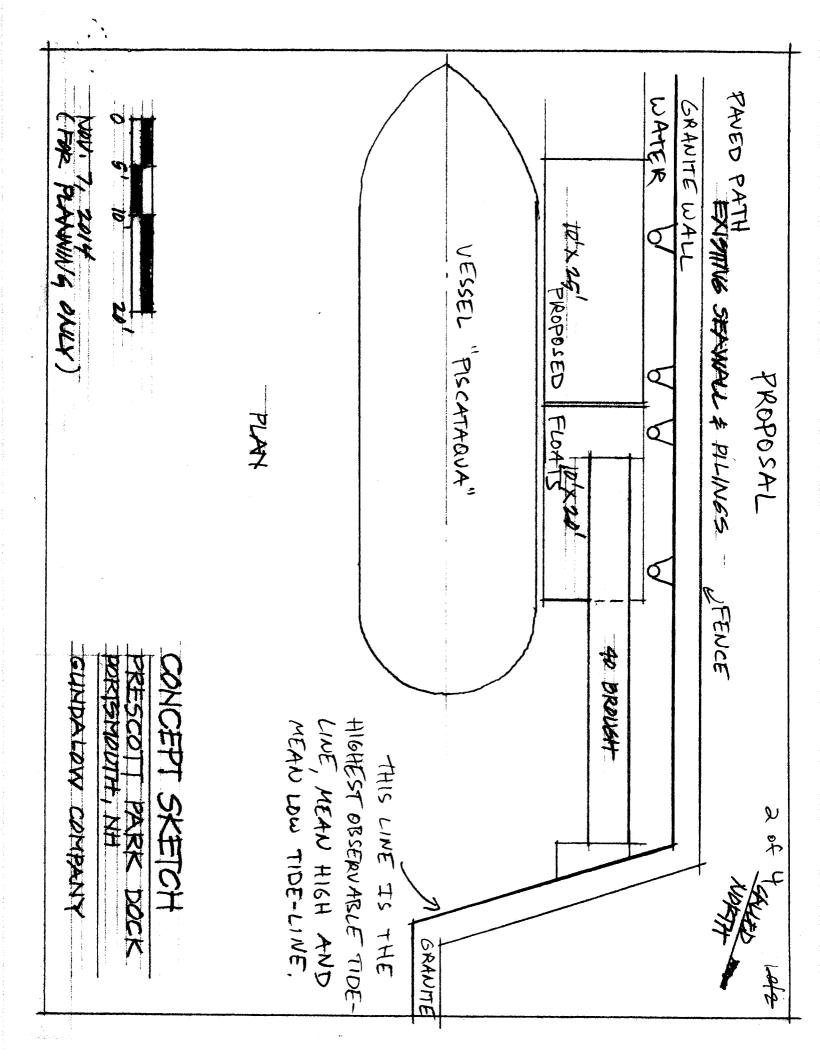
Strawbery Banke Inc c/o Larry Yerdon PO Box 300, Portsmouth, NH 03802

Mr. Daniel Corcoran Rev. Trust Portsmouth, NH 03801

Mr. Ronald Pecunies

, Portsmouth, NH 03801

City of Portsmouth c/o Robert Sullivan as above



KINDA WO YOUND PERCOTT PART DOCK

CONCEPT SKETCH

NATE WOLK 1 2014

(FOR PLAMMINE DNLY)

D DATUM:

