



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New England District

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Navigation Section
Date: 5/29/2024
Comment Period Closes: 6/12/2024

**ALTERATION OF A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CIVIL WORKS
PROJECT PURSUANT TO 33 USC 408: CONSTRUCTION OF
A TIDAL DOCKING STRUCTURE
MYSTIC RIVER FEDERAL NAVIGATION PROJECT (FNP)
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE) is evaluating plans under 33 U.S.C. 408 (Section 408) to allow construction of a tidal docking structure in the Mystic River by the Mystic Seaport Museum. The proposed pier will partially sit within the 3:1 setback of the USACE maintained Mystic River FNP. Setbacks are designated to ensure that no structures encroach beyond the top edge of the navigation channel, including appropriate side slopes, and that there is sufficient clearance for dredging the navigation channel to its full width and depth, including slide slopes. Setbacks are defined as the sum of the project depth times three (3). The new pier will consist of an 8' by 252' floating dock with associated pilings and a 3' by 18' access ramp. The direct impact on the FNP offset is the installation of approximately eight (8) 12" timber pilings.

This Notice is being issued pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408, USACE Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-220, Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management, and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508) for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et. seq.) and the USACE Procedures for Implementing NEPA (33 CFR 230). Section 408 allows USACE to grant permission for the alteration, occupation, or use of a USACE civil works project if it is determined that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the Federal project. A decision on a Section 408 request is a Federal action, and therefore subject to NEPA and other environmental compliance requirements. USACE has made the preliminary determination that the construction of the tidal docking structure will not have a negative impact on public interest, use, or our ability to maintain the Mystic River FNP. The public is invited to provide comment associated with this Section 408 evaluation. To request more information contact: Christina Comeau, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742, (978) 318-8705, Christina.M.Comeau@usace.army.mil. The comment period will end on June 12, 2024. Letters should be postmarked by this date.