PUBLIC NOTICE



Comment Period Begins: August 25, 2020 Comment Period Ends: September 25, 2020

File Number: NAE-2018-00981 In Reply Refer To: Christina Comeau

Phone: (978) 318-8705

E-mail: Christina.M.Comeau@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from Cross Sound Ferry Services, Inc., 2 Ferry Street, New London, Connecticut. This work is proposed in the Thames River at 2 Ferry Street, New London, Connecticut. The site coordinates are: Latitude 41.356093, Longitude -72.092452.

The work involves:

- 1. The filling of 2,600 CY over 10,000 SF of intertidal and shallow subtidal area to construct 460 linear feet of steel sheet piling bulkhead.
- 2. The relocation of (4) existing dolphin pilings and the installation of (5) new dolphin pilings.
- 3. The relocation of a 6' by 25' ferry slip and a 30' by 90' loading platform to the south of their existing locations.
- 4. The conversion of an adjustable access ramp to a fixed ramp and the conversion of a fixed access ramp to an adjustable ramp.
- 5. The construction and maintenance of a new 800 SF ferry ramp and slip.
- 6. The re-sheeting of 40 LF of steel z-pile bulkhead.
- 7. The construction and maintenance of a 2,680 SF float and 160 SF ramp.
- 8. Maintenance dredging by clam shell bucket approximately 200 CY of material from a 2,000 SF area to -16' MLW and dispose of the material upland behind the bulkhead. The dredging will be performed from a barge.

The project purpose is to reconfigure the existing site to accommodate for the loss of waterfront in order to maintain the function of the Cross Sound Ferry Service. The loss of shoreline is due to the construction of the U.S. Coast Guard Museum on the adjacent parcel. To mitigate for unavoidable adverse effects to aquatic resources, the applicant will avoid, minimize and mitigate in a manner that that satisfies the Mitigation Rule.

The work is shown on the enclosed plans entitled "CROSS SOUND FERRY, NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT, STRUCTURES, DREDGING & FILL APPLICATION, COASTAL 401 WATER

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QUALITY CERTIFICATION," on 11 sheets, and dated "JANUARY 3, 2019, REVISED JULY 12, 2019."

AUTHORITY

Permit	s are required pursuant to:
X	Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
X	Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
	Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (Corps), is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. The Corps will consider all comments received to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended.

The alternatives considered in the dredged material disposal analysis fall into four general categories: beneficial use, upland disposal, confined disposal, and open-water disposal. The feasibility of disposal alternatives was analyzed relative to the physical and chemical quality of the dredged material, the volume of material to be dredged, the availability of suitable disposal and beneficial use sites, and the cost of disposal. When applicable, the biological quality of the disposal of the material at the disposal site was also used to evaluate the feasibility of the open-water disposal alternative.

Based on the characteristics of the dredged material, the lack of suitable alternate disposal or beneficial use sites and costs, the most feasible, practical, cost-effective and environmentally acceptable alternative for the disposal of dredged materials from the proposed dredging is disposal at the requested disposal site.

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ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Essential Fish Habitat describes waters and substrate necessary for fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity.

This project will impact <u>.39</u> acres of EFH. This habitat consists of intertidal, shallow water, hard bottom, and shellfish areas. Loss of this habitat may adversely affect species that use these waters and substrate. However, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s).

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The Corps has reviewed the application for the potential impact on Federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitat pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect a listed species or their critical habitat. We are coordinating with the National Marine Fisheries Service and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on listed species under their jurisdiction and the ESA consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision.

OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

The states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved Coastal Zone Management Programs. Where applicable, the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management

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Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- (X) Permit, license or assent from State.
- (X) Permit from local wetland agency or conservation commission.
- (X) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

COMMENTS

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact Christina M. Comeau at (978) 318-8705, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.

for

Kevin R. Kotelly, P.E. Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices by email, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	

CROSS SOUND FERRY

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

STRUCTURES, DREDGING & FILL APPLICATION, COASTAL 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

JANUARY 3 2019 REVISED JULY 12, 2019

LEGEND

EDGE OF WATER

MAJOR CONTOUR

MINOR CONTOUR

TREE LINE

UTILITY POLE

TIMBER PILING

NOTES:

- 1. NAVD 88 DATUM USED.
- 2. MHW = 1.8' (NGVD 29), 0.9' (NAVD 88) MLW = -0.9' (NGVD 29), -1.9' (NAVD 88) CJL = 3.10' (NGVD 29), 2.10' (NAVD 88)
- 3. TOPOGRAPHY AND PLANIMETRIC FEATURES ARE FROM PHOTOGRAMMETRIC AERIAL MAPPING PREPARED BY GOLDEN AERIAL SURVEYS INC. (PHOTOS DATED: 4/25/2007). A-2 PROPERTY BOUNDARY SURVEY COMPLETED BY MILONE & MACBROOM, INC. (MMI) ON 1/19/1999 AND 4/21/2014. T-2 BATHYMETRIC SURVEY COMPLETED BY MMI ON 1/9/2017. ADDITIONAL BATHYMETRIC SURVEY COMPLETED BY MMI ON 1/9/2019.

PREPARED FOR:

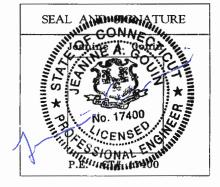
CROSS SOUND FERRY SERVICES, INC. 2 FERRY STREET NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT 06320 BUSINESS PHONE: 860-442-5349

APPRODUCTION OF THE PER STATE PER STATE PER STATE STAT

PROJECT VICINITY MAP

LIST OF DRAWINGS:

- 1 TITLE SHEET WITH LOCATION MAP
- 2 TAX ASSESSOR'S MAP
- 3 SITE PLAN EXISTING CONDITIONS
- 4 SITE PLAN EXISTING CONDITIONS NORTH
- 5 SITE PLAN EXISTING CONDITIONS SOUTH
- 6 SITE PLAN PROPOSED CONDITIONS
- 7 SITE PLAN = PROPOSED CONDITIONS NORTH
- 8 SITE PLAN PROPOSED CONDITIONS SOUTH
- 9 SECTIONS A A' AND B B'
- 10 SECTIONS C C' AND D D'
- 11 SECTIONS E-E'
- 12 PROPOSED ACTIVITY DETAILS



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EXPANSION OF EXISTING FERRY TERMINAL

ON: THAMES RIVER
AT: NEW LONDON, CT

TITLE SHEET

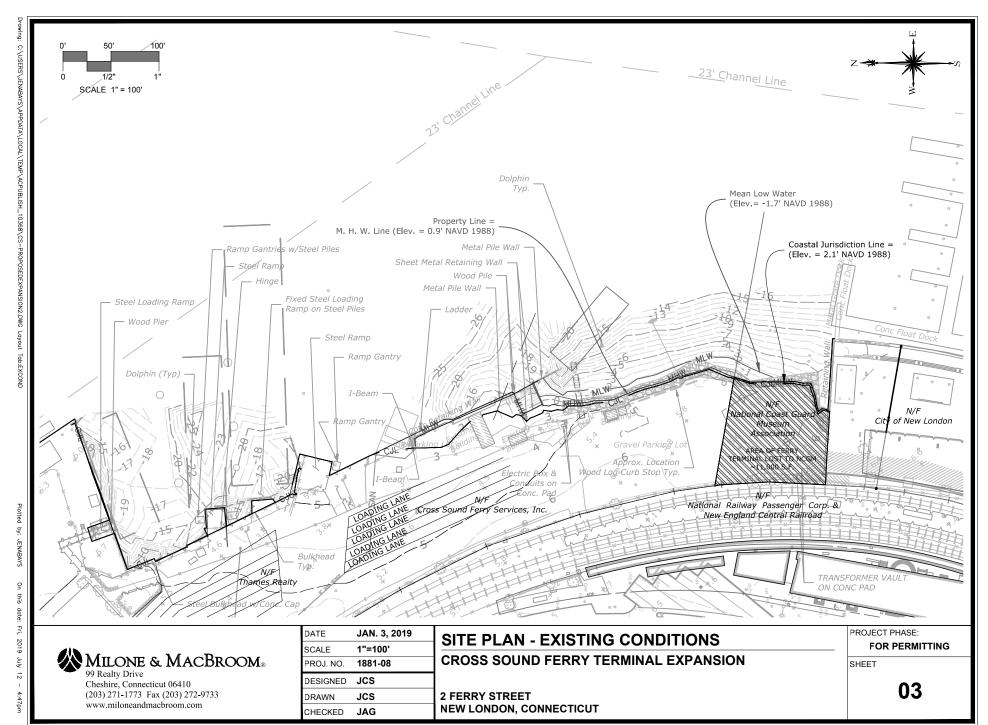
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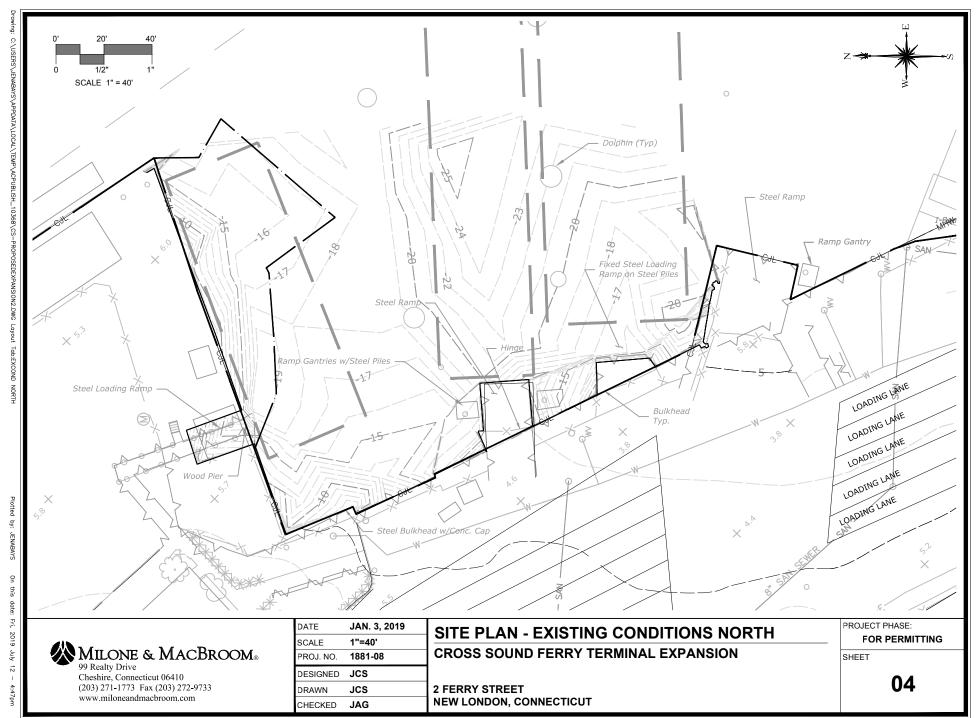
THAMES SHIPYARD & REPAIR CO., INC. NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

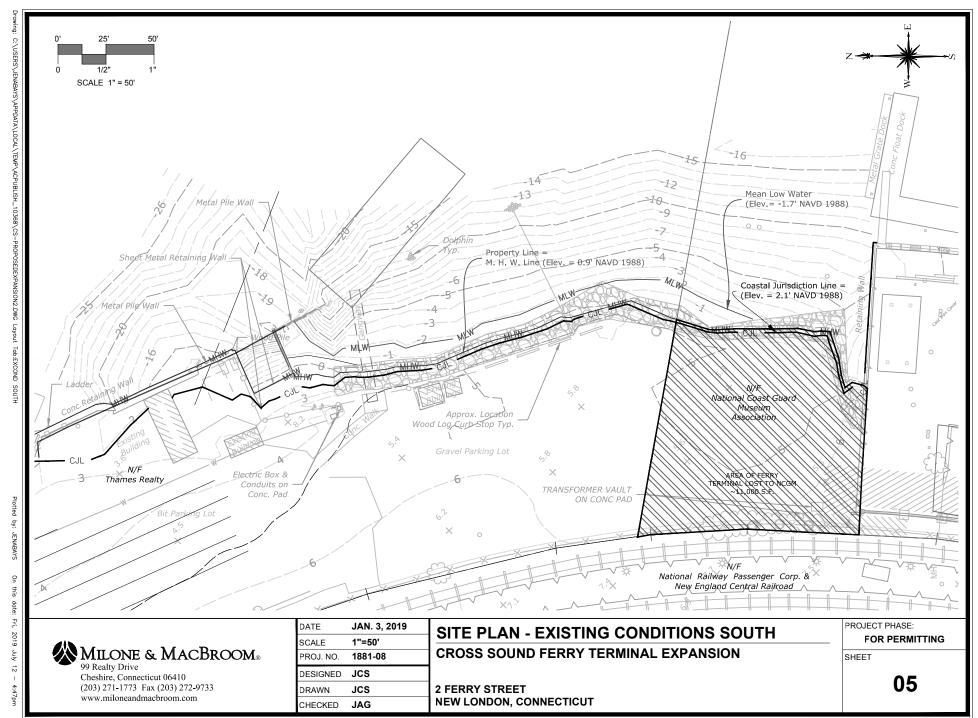
 DATE	JAN. 3, 2019	SHEET

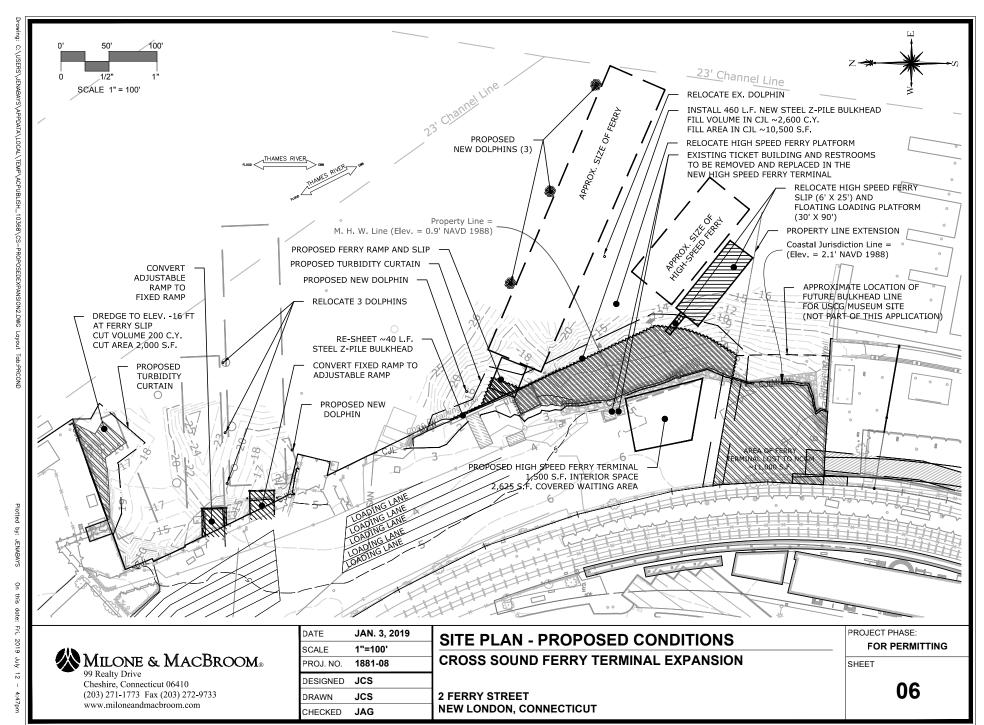
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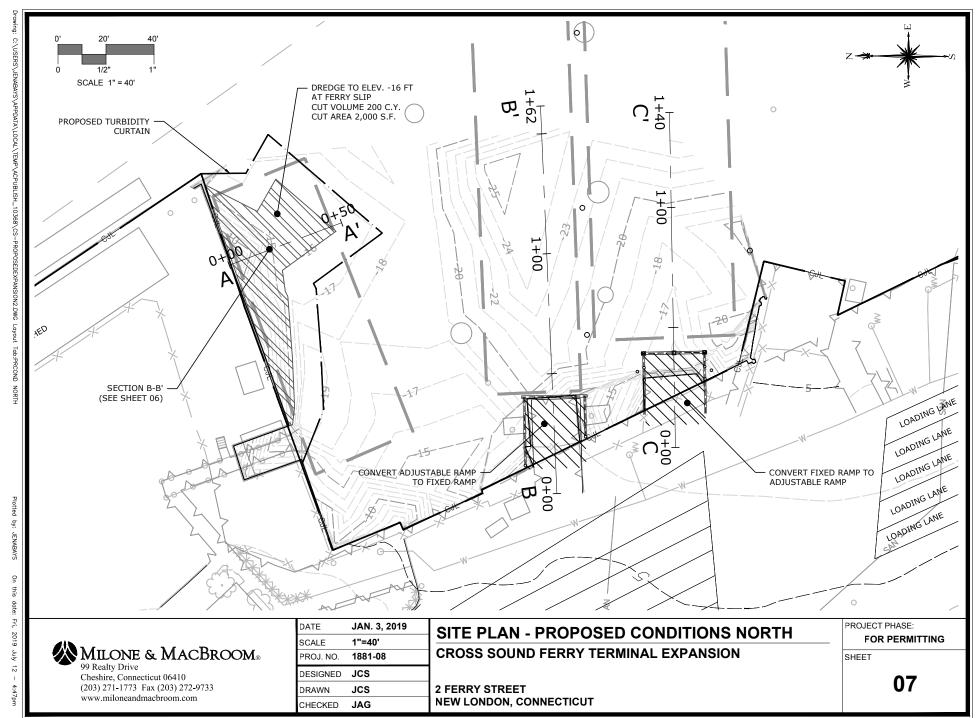
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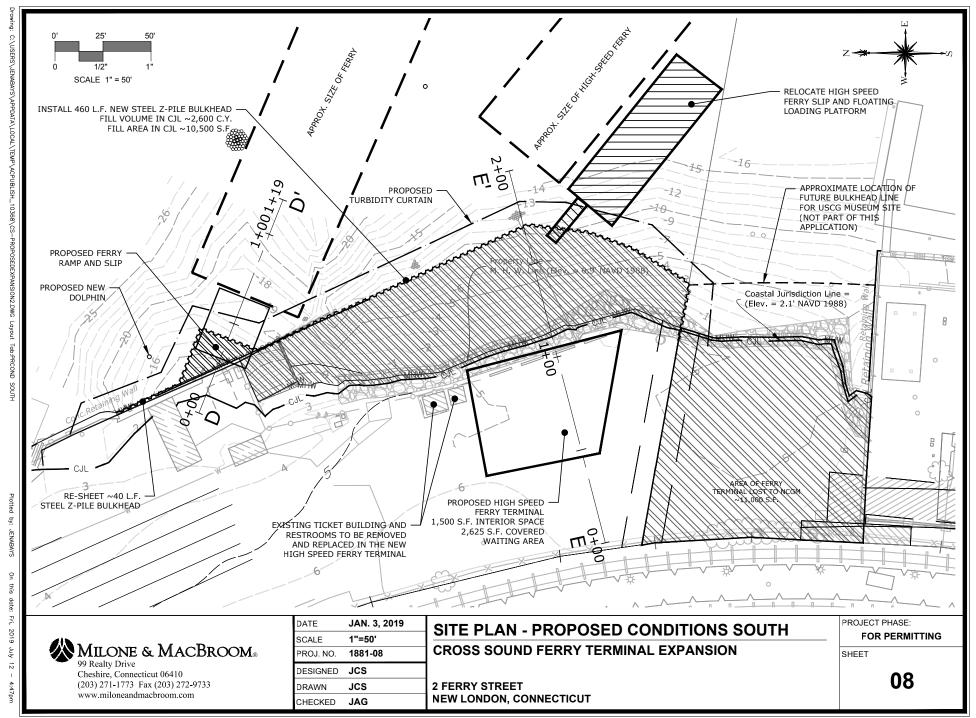


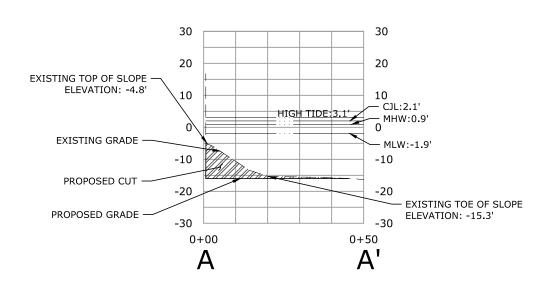


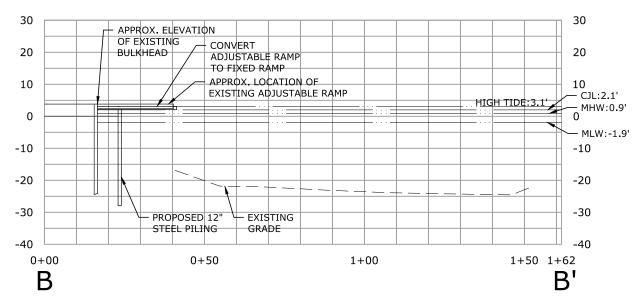


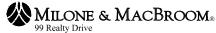












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DATE	JAN. 3, 2019
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PROJ. NO.	1881-08
DESIGNED	JCS
DRAWN	JCS
CHECKED	JAG
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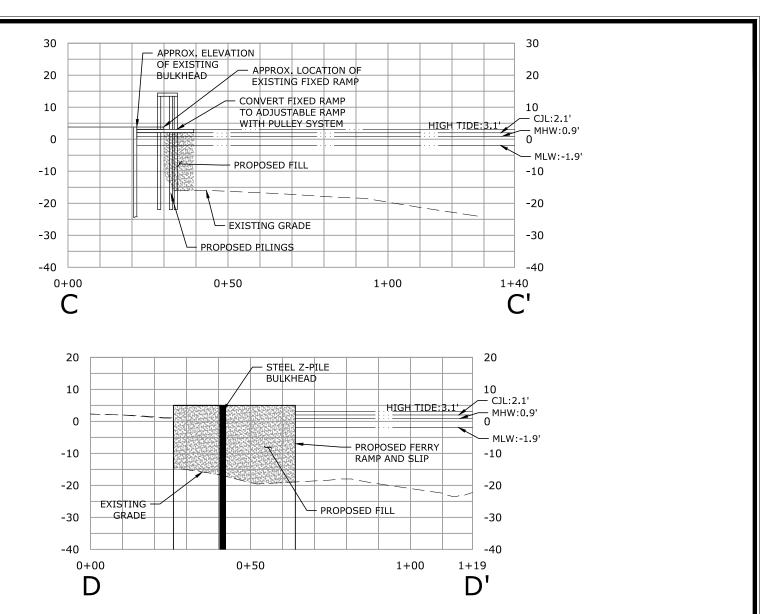
SECTIONS A - A' AND B - B'

CROSS SOUND FERRY TERMINAL EXPANSION

2 FERRY STREET NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT PROJECT PHASE: FOR PERMITTING

SHEET

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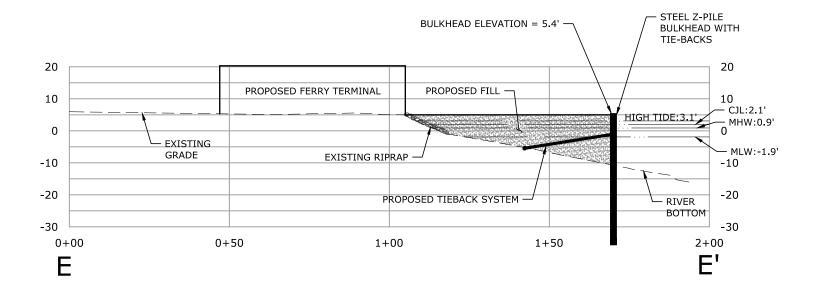
DATE	JAN. 3, 2019	SECTIONS C - C' AND D - D'
SCALE	1"=30'	
PROJ. NO.	1881-08	CROSS SOUND FERRY TERMINAL EXPANSION
DESIGNED	JCS	
DRAWN	JCS	2 FERRY STREET
CHECKED	JAG	NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

FOR PERMITTING

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PROJECT PHASE:

SHEET



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DATE	JAN. 3, 2019
SCALE	1"=30'
PROJ. NO.	1881-08
DESIGNED	JCS
DRAWN	JCS
CHECKED	JAG

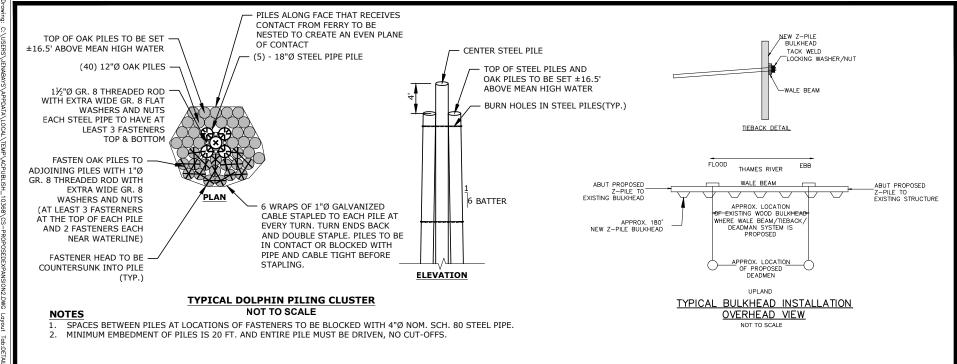
SECTION E - E'

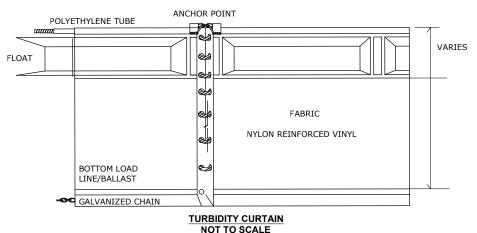
CROSS SOUND FERRY TERMINAL EXPANSION

2 FERRY STREET NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT PROJECT PHASE:
FOR PERMITTING

SHEET

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DATE	JAN. 3, 2019	PROPOSED ACTIVITY DETAILS		
SCALE	AS NOTED	CROSS SOUND FERRY TERMINAL EXPANSION		
	1001 00			
PROJ. NO.	1881-08	CROSS SOUND FERRY TERMINAL EXPANSION		
DESIGNED	JCS			
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CHECKED	JAG	NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT		

FOR PERMITTING

PROJECT PHASE:

SHEET