PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers ® New England District 696 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2751 Comment Period Begins: March 29, 2022 Comment Period Ends: April 13, 2022 File Number: NAE-2021-00379 In Reply Refer To: Cori M. Rose Phone: (978) 318-8306 E-mail: cori.m.rose@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from **CONNECTICUT COLLEGE C/O TOM HOBAICA AT 270 MOHEGAN AVENUE, NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT 06320**. This work is proposed in the western shoreline of the Thames River at the address identified above. The work area site coordinates are 41.38157 North Latitude and - 72.09752 West Longitude.

Shoreline Wall Construction

The work proposed includes the removal of existing fixed and floating structures including a 100-ft. long by 10-ft. wide, 80-ft. long by 12-ft. wide and 20-ft. long by 10-ft. wide rowing and sailing program floating docks, associated ramps, and a wooden bulkhead landing. Upon removal of the existing structures a 10-ft. wide access ramp will be graded waterward at the southern extent of the work area to provide equipment access to the shoreline. Either a temporary sheet pile enclosure or porta-dam will be installed at the southern excavation area five to 20 feet waterward of the wall footing to allow dewatering of the wall footing excavation area and minimize movement of construction-related suspended sediment. Following encapsulation of the work area, excavation will occur with excavators reaching over from the upland. Material will be removed immediately above and waterward of the high tide line (2.0-ft. NAVD88) to prepare the site for installation of a new reinforced concrete retaining wall approximately 425 linear feet in length. The soil at the site will be excavated to a depth of approximately 2-ft. below the mean low water elevation -3.7-ft. NAVD88 to establish secure footing for the new wall. The estimated 400 cubic yards of soil and stone removed from the 2,500 sq. ft. area waterward of the high tide line will be stockpiled on site for reuse.

The wall foundation footing will be prepared with crushed stone wrapped in geotextile fabric to form base matting. The reinforced base mats will be affixed in place and then concrete will be poured in place to construct the footing. Approximately 400 cubic yards of concrete will be placed over a 3,000 sq. ft. area for the wall and a 35 linear foot return at the southern extent of the project. Upon construction of the concrete wall the area behind the it will be backfilled and excavated stony sediment will be used to top dress it to pre-project grade. The larger stock-piled boulders will be reset approximately 4 to 5 ft. waterward of the new wall over an area of 1,000 sq. ft. The northern portion of the site (upstream of the sailing program concrete bulkhead) landward and upslope of the high tide line will be stabilized with the remaining armor stone taken from the site.

Sailing Program Dock Modifications

Construct a new 42-ft. long by 10-ft. wide pile supported timber pier leading to the existing, relocated 36-ft. long by 8-ft. wide hinged ramp and pile-supported hoist bar that terminates at an anchor and chain-affixed expanded sailing floating program dock system consisting of five (5) new 20-ft. long by 12-ft. wide center floats, 14 new 20-ft. long by 10-ft. wide dinghy floats and a 32-ft. long by 10-ft. wide end "tee" float. The floating docks as designed will terminate in water depth of approximately -3-ft. NAVD88. In total, the new

sailing dock will extend approximately 246-ft. beyond mean high water and a footprint of 2,400 sq. ft. (increase of 1,160 s. ft.). The pile installation and dock construction is expected to occur from the water via a barge mounted crane. Piles for the pier support will be 12-inch diameter (or smaller) timber driven to 10 to 15-ft. embedment depth by impact hammer. A previously authorized 32-ft. long wooden sailboat launch ramp will be relocated north of the new fixed pier and affixed to a new steel sheet-pile bulkhead located above mean high water.

Rowing Program Dock Modifications

Construct a new 24-ft. long by 10-ft. wide pile supported ramp landing pier leading to a new 60-ft. long by 8-ft. wide hinged access ramp terminating at a 150-ft. long by 15-ft. wide floating rowing dock. Piles for the landing pier will be 12-inch diameter (or smaller) timber driven to 10 to 15-ft. embedment depth by impact hammer and the floating docks will terminate in water depth of approximately -3-ft. NAVD88. The dock system will be affixed by anchor and extend approximately 215-ft. beyond mean high water.

Construct a new 40-ft. long by 8-ft. wide pile supported timber pier leading to a 30-ft. long by 4-ft. wide ramp terminating at a 100-ft. long by 10-ft. wide wood or modular floating docks with float restraint pilings supplemented by anchor support, as needed. The entire structure will extend approximately 150-ft. waterward of mean high water and terminate in water depth of approximately -4.5 ft. NAVD88.

The purpose of these structures is to provide reasonable access to navigable waters for the educational institution's recreational rowing and sailing program. The improvements area anticipated to improve safety at the site which possesses a wide-open exposure to wind and wave condition and extensive boat wakes.

Living Shoreline

The application seeks to retain and maintain a 35-linear foot section of concrete-cast reef ball living shoreline consisting of 30 concrete units spaced approximately 1-foot apart and install an additional 365 linear feet of similar reef ball stabilization. The reef ball units are, and will be, installed between -2 and -3 ft. NAVD88. The project also seeks to install 300 linear feet of pile-restrained tree drop stabilization to a depth of -5 ft. NAVD88 for stabilization of a 20,000 sq. ft. area. Some work will occur above the high tide line to regrade the eroded and disturbed stream bank to install gravel access ramps to allow equipment to access and tend the living shoreline units.

The tree drops and extended living shoreline component of the project is anticipated to offset the adverse impact of the new/modified structures at the site, to protect the shoreline and adjacent nearshore riverine habitat from ongoing erosion, enhance ecological nearshore habitat function and enable future natural reestablishment of tidal marsh at this location.

The work is shown on the enclosed plans entitled "SHOREFORNT MODIFICATIONS," on 14 sheets dated "May 17, 2021" revised through "1-5-22."

The recreational structures have been modified to avoid and minimize adverse impact on shallow nearshore habitat. In addition, the work is anticipated to generate some level of turbidity, even though the applicant will conduct the work at/or approximating the lower tide level. A turbidity curtain of steel sheet pile enclosure will be used to protect water quality and enclose the work area. Turbidity curtains and other best management practices to minimize adverse impact to waters and aquatic resources will also be used.

AUTHORITY

Permits 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 (USACE), 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 USACE 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.

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. The USACE will submit an expanded EFH assessment to the National Marine Fisheries Service, who in turn will provide conservation recommendations to the USACE. The USACE will coordinate with the applicant regarding implementation of these recommendations. The EFH consultation 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).

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that the proposed work may impact properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Additional review and consultation to fulfil requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the permit review process.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The USACE 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 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.
- () Permit from local wetland agency or conservation commission.
- () 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 Ms. Cori M. Rose at (978) 318-8306, (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 USACE 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.

Kevin R Kotelly

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.



11/8/2021 2:08 PM

Conn-College Sali Floats Permit 2021_1-E.dwg

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- 1. REMOVE THE EXISTING 100±LF BY 10-FOOT WIDE ROWING PROGRAM FLOAT, HINGED RAMP AND WOOD BULKHEAD RAMP LANDING AND THE 80±LF BY 12-FT WIDE SAILING PROGRAM FLOAT WITH 10 FOOT BY 20-LF SAIL BOAT LANDING FLOAT AND HINGED RAMP.
- 2. REMOVE AND STOCK PILE 400±CY OF SHORELINE STONE FROM AN AREA OF 2,500±SF AT AND LANDWARD AND WATERWARD OF THE COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE AND HIGH TIDE LINE.
- 3. CONSTRUCT 425±LF OF REINFORCED CONCRETE RETAINING WALL, 400±CY OF CONCRETE OVER 3,000±SF INCLUDING THE 35±LF RETURN AT THE SOUTH END, AND INSTALL 600±CY OF ARMOR STONE OVER 1,500±SF ALL LANDWARD OF THE CT COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE AND HIGH TIDE LINE AND REINSTALL 400±CY OF STOCK PILED ARMOR STONE OVER 1,000±SF AT AND WATERWARD OF THE CJL.
- 4. CONSTRUCT A NEW 54±LF BY 10 FOOT WIDE FIXED WOOD PILE AND TIMBER PIER AND INSTALL A 143±LF X 32±FT WIDE SAILING PROGRAM FLOAT WITH HINGED RAMP, HOIST BAR AND 10 FOOT BY 20 FOOT RAMP LANDING FLOAT AND 10 FOOT WIDE BY 32±LF T" STAGING FLOAT AT THE END FOR AN OVERALL LENGTH OF 173±LF, PROJECTING OUT INTO THE RIVER 246±LF FROM THE MEAN HIGH WATER LINE AND 252±LF FROM THE HIGH TIDE LINE COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE AND RESTRAINED BY ANCHORS.
- 5. CONSTRUCT A NEW 40±LF BY 10 FOOT WIDE FIXED WOOD PILE AND TIMBER PIER AND INSTALL A NEW 150±LF BY 10 FOOT WIDE ROWING PROGRAM FLOAT WITH HINGED RAMP AND HOIST BAR PROJECTING OUT INTO THE RIVER 214±LF BEYOND MEAN HIGH WATER LINE AND 223±LF BEYOND THE HIGH TIDE LINE AND CT COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE AND RESTRAINED BY ANCHORS.
- 6.CONSTRUCT A NEW 40±LF BY 8-FOOT WIDE FIXED WOOD PILE AND TIMBER PIER AND REINSTALL 100±LF BY 10 FOOT WIDE FLOATING DOCK FOR THE COACHES/ CHASE BOATS WITH HINGED RAMP, HOIST BAR AND INCLUDING RESTRAINT PILES AND EXTENDING INTO THE RIVER 120±FEET BEYOND THE MEAN HIGH WATER LINE AND 128±FEET BEYOND THE HIGH TIDE LINE AND COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE.
- 7. CONSTRUCT LIVING SHORELINE IMPROVEMENTS AS SHOWN IN THE DRAWINGS UP TO 500 FEET NORTH OF THE SAILING PROGRAM DOCK AND 200 FEET SOUTH OF THE ROWING PROGRAM DOCK AND ALONG THE 'IN SHORE' BETWEEN THE DOCKS AS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED BY THE BOATING PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES. PROTECTING AN AREA OF 3,500±5F.
- 8. REGRADE THE BANK UPLAND OF THE SHORELINE AT THE NORTH END OF THE SITE AND SOUTH END OF THE SITE NEXT TO THE RETAINING WALL RETURN TO ACCOMMODATE TWO GRAVEL RAMPS DOWN TO THE CJL/ HTL FOR ACCESS TO AND TENDING TO MAINTENANCE OF THE LIVING SHORELINE FACILITIES, BOTH LANDWARD OF THE HIGH TIDE LINE AND CT COASTAL JURISDICTION LINE.

	PROJECT:	SHOREFRONT MODIFICATIONS
REVISED 9-29-21 D.I. ADDITIONAL SHEET	WATERWAY: DATE: APPLICANT: AGENT: DOCK Keith B. Nelso Mustic CT 00	3355 39 FAX 860 572 7569 DWG 20-11-3141



Keith B. Nellson P.E. Docko, Inc.



11/8/2021 2:10 PM

Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_3-L.dwg



Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_4 & 5 & 6-L.dwg



11/8/2021 2:10 PM

Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_4 & 5 & 6-L.dwg



11/8/2021 2:30 PM

Conn-College Sall Floats Permit 2021_5a-L_Additional Sheet.dwg



11/8/2021 2:10 PM

Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_4 & 5 & 6-L.dwg



11/8/2021 2:11 PM

Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_6-J-a_ADDITIONAL SHEET.dwg



Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_7-F.dwg



11/8/2021 2:12 PM

Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_8-E.dwg



11/8/2021 2:12 PM

Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021 9.dwg



11/8/2021 2:13 PM

Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_10-B.dwg



Conn-College Sail Floats Permit 2021_10a-B Additional Sheet.dwg