

# ENF Environmental Notification Form

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*Executive Office of Environmental Affairs*

EOEA No.: **13000**  
MEPA Analyst: **ANDREA DAMES**  
Phone: 617-626-**1028**

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: <b>Contract 01-309-007, Drainage Improvements in Dorchester</b>		
Street: <b>Hallet Street (adjacent #40)</b>		
Municipality: <b>Boston (Dorchester District)</b>	Watershed: <b>Neponset River</b>	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: <b>N 15364854.89733 E 1086688.62733 (US FT)</b>	Latitude: <b>42.16'58.47941"N</b>	Longitude: <b>71.02'49.13442"W</b>
Estimated commencement date: <b>Fall 2003</b>	Estimated completion date: <b>Spring 2004</b>	
Approximate cost: <b>\$1,700,000</b>	Status of project design: <b>75 %complete</b>	
Proponent: <b>Boston Water and Sewer Commission</b>		
Street: <b>980 Harrison Avenue</b>		
Municipality: <b>Boston</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>02119</b>
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: <b>David E. Denny</b>		
Firm/Agency: <b>Boston Water and Sewer Commission</b>	Street: <b>980 Harrison Avenue</b>	
Municipality: <b>Boston</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>02119</b>
Phone: <b>(617) 989-7421</b>	Fax: <b>(617) 989-7732</b>	E-mail: <b>Dennyde@bwsc.org</b>

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?  
 Yes  No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?  
 Yes (EOEA No. \_\_\_\_\_)  No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?  
 Yes (EOEA No. \_\_\_\_\_)  No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8))  Yes  No
  - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 11.09)  Yes  No
  - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11)  Yes  No
  - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)  Yes  No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): N/A

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?  
 Yes No  (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Boston Conservation Commission - Order of Conditions, MA DEP- Section 401 Water Quality Certification, MA DEM- Chapter 91 Waterways License, MassHighway-State Highway Access Permit, MDC- State Lands Access Permit

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- |  |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land            | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water           | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy          | <input type="checkbox"/> Air          | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations  | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Architech. Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
<b>LAND</b>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	0.56 acres			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	0.019	0	0.019	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		530 S.F.		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
<b>STRUCTURES</b>				
Gross square footage	0	0	0	
Number of housing units	0	0	0	
Maximum height (in feet)	0	0	0	
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>				
Parking spaces	0	0	0	
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0	
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0	
GPD wastewater gen/treatment	0	0	0	
Length of water/sewer mains	0	0	0	

**CONSERVATION LAND:** Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

- Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)  No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

- Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)  No

**RARE SPECIES:** Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

- Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)  No

**HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:** Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

**AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN:** Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_ **Neponset River Estuary** \_\_\_\_\_ )

No

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The project involves installing a tide gate on our existing drainage system to prevent inflow into conduits during high tide tides and increases storage availability during high tides. The project also includes 470' of shallow (3' deep) mechanical dredging to remove accumulated sediment and debris in a tidal creek.

The purpose of this project is flood control and storm damage prevention. This project will reduce upstream flooding that has resulted from tidal inflow and sediment buildup in Davenport Creek.

Removing sediment and debris will also aesthetically enhance the natural beauty of the creek in this section of the critical Neponset River Estuary habitat.

The section of the Davenport Creek is an important component of the Neponset River Estuary habitat system. The City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are committed to restoration of the system and have developed a Resource Management Plan for the Neponset River Estuary. This project is in comport with that Plan.

### **Alternatives**

**No Action-** This is not a viable alternative since large storm events cause periodic localized upstream flooding and associated property damage

**No Dredging and installation of tide gate-** Maintenance and life cycle cost effectiveness preclude this option. Re-sedimentation of Commission conduits, duplicity of required permits and mobilization costs of specialized contractors are why this alternative was not chosen.

Contract work to install the tide gate will require limited dredging and the construction of a temporary dam to prevent immediate re-sedimentation of the conduit structure in the Davenport Creek. The following permits are required to construct, dredge and install a tide gate and temporary dam in a tidal creek; Order of Conditions, 401 Water Quality Certification, Chapter 91 license and a MHD Access permit.

It is anticipated that permit granting authorities would require the Commission to dredge the creek beyond the tide gate as a part of the Order of Conditions. Permit and mobilization costs for dredging of between 100 and 1000 cubic yards are the same, therefore, no or very limited dredging is not a cost efficient alternative.

**Dredging and not installing a tide gate-** This alternative was rejected specifically because it does not limit tidal inflow into our existing drainage system and does not offer enough customer benefit.

### **Mitigation**

Short-term impacts to coastal resource areas will occur during construction and dredging, and include the following:

Temporary removal of, stockpiling and replacing salt marsh plants as required for access to dredging work. Necessary disturbance in the embankment of Hallet Street to install an excavation support system for the tide gate.

Any required temporary impacts to the resource areas will be performed in accordance with the Order of Conditions as issued by the Boston Conservation Commission.

There are no anticipated long term impacts to the coastal resource area.

To mitigate short-term impacts, the following measures will be employed. Erosion control in the form of silt fencing and hay bales, sediment curtains with sorbent booms and gravimetric measures will be performed as shown on the site plan prior to and during construction. These devices and measures will be maintained and are to remain in place until the conclusion of the project to ensure water quality.

Existing erosion of the Hallet Street embankment will be stabilized as shown on the plans and includes the placement of vegetative coir mat and reseeded of the slope at the conclusion of the project.

Viability of all resource area plants will be maintained during construction as directed and specified by the Boston Conservation Commissions Order of Conditions.

All lawn areas impacted by the construction operations will be loamed and seeded at the conclusion of the project.

## **LAND SECTION – all proponents must fill out this section**

### **I. Thresholds / Permits**

A. Does the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **land** (see 301 CMR 11.03(1))  
 Yes  No; if yes, specify each threshold:

### **II. Impacts and Permits**

A. Describe, in acres, the current and proposed character of the project site, as follows:

	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total</u>
Footprint of buildings	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Roadways, parking, and other paved areas	<u>0.019</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.019</u>
Other altered areas (describe)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Undeveloped areas	<u>0.56</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.56</u>

B. Has any part of the project site been in active agricultural use in the last three years?  
 Yes  No; if yes, how many acres of land in agricultural use (with agricultural soils) will be converted to nonagricultural use?

C. Is any part of the project site currently or proposed to be in active forestry use?  
 Yes  No; if yes, please describe current and proposed forestry activities and indicate whether any part of the site is the subject of a DEM-approved forest management plan:

D. Does any part of the project involve conversion of land held for natural resources purposes in accordance with Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?  Yes  No; if yes, describe:

E. Is any part of the project site currently subject to a conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction or watershed preservation restriction?  
 Yes  No; if yes, does the project involve the release or modification of such restriction?  
 Yes  No; if yes, describe:

F. Does the project require approval of a new urban redevelopment project or a fundamental change in an existing urban redevelopment project under M.G.L.c.121A?  Yes  No; if yes, describe:

G. Does the project require approval of a new urban renewal plan or a major modification of an existing urban renewal plan under M.G.L.c.121B? Yes  No  ; if yes, describe:

H. Describe the project's stormwater impacts and, if applicable, measures that the project will take