

ENF Environmental Notification Form

<i>For Office Use Only</i> <i>Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</i>	
EOEA No.:	13833
MEPA Analyst:	Holly Johnson
Phone:	617-626-1023

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: Little Namskaket Creek Salt Marsh Restoration Project		
Street: Skaket Beach Road		
Municipality: Orleans	Watershed: Cape Cod	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: E: 416,077 N: 4,626,771	Latitude: 41d 47' 25" Longitude: -70d 0' 36"	
Estimated commencement date: September '06	Estimated completion date: November 2006	
Approximate cost: \$150,000	Status of project design: 100% %complete	
Proponent: Town of Orleans		
Street: 19 School Road		
Municipality: Orleans	State: MA	Zip Code: 02653
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: William R. Hall, Jr., P.E., BCEE		
Firm/Agency: Stearns & Wheler, LLC	Street: 1545 Iyannough Road – Route 132	
Municipality: Hyannis	State: MA	Zip Code: 02601
Phone: (508) 362-5680	Fax: (508) 362-5684	E-mail: wrhalljr@stearnswheler.com

- 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): \$49,021 (Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management Wetlands Restoration Program).

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Local Notice of Intent; Permit pending: Army Corps of Engineers PGP.

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 checked="" 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 & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<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 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	7			
New acres of land altered		0.05 (Direct, Temporary) 0.02 (Direct, Permanent)		
Acres of impervious area	<0.2	0	<0.2	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		7.0 (Indirect, Permanent)		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	140	525		
Number of housing units	0	0		
Maximum height (in feet)				
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day				
Parking spaces				
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use				
GPD water withdrawal				
GPD wastewater generation/treatment				
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)				

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 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 (Inner Cape Cod Bay ACEC) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (You may attach one additional page, if necessary.)

A. The proposed project site lies upstream of a culvert that flows beneath Skaket Beach Road into the Little Namskaket Creek salt marsh. This culvert is identified on the Cape Cod Atlas of Tidally Restricted Salt Marshes as Site OR-3. Both the downstream salt marsh and the upstream brackish wetlands are classified as ACEC, and are estimated habitat of rare wildlife (see attached figures). It is believed that the upstream wetland was isolated from the salt marsh sometime in the early 20th century, probably for agricultural purposes. The earthen berm defining the isolation became Namskaket Road, and later Skaket Beach Road, a town way. Increasing the tidal exchange through this culvert will result in restoration of approximately 7 acres of former salt marsh habitat.

The existing culvert itself consists largely of a 15-inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) that crosses beneath Skaket Beach Road near the intersection with Gull Lane. It has experienced significant corrosion, and a section nearest the downstream end was recently replaced with 24-inch corrugated polyethylene pipe after the CMP collapsed. The Town's Highway Department has identified the repair/ replacement of the entire culvert as a high priority, and has recognized the significance of the structure in relation to the makeup of the upstream wetland.

B. Three alternatives are considered for this site: no action, replacing with a culvert of the same size as the existing culvert, and replacing the culvert with the proposed 4'x5' culvert.

If no action is taken, the existing culvert will continue to deteriorate, along with the roadway above the culvert. This will result in completely stopping the minimal amount of tidal flow that passes through currently. In addition, the road would deteriorate to such an extent that it would be impassable.

Replacing the culvert with a new culvert of the same size would prevent further deterioration of the pipe and roadway, but would not improve the tidal flow to the upstream marsh area.

The previous two alternatives are not feasible options. The culvert must be replaced, and the

installation of a 4'x5' culvert is seen as the most feasible alternative. A culvert of the same size as the existing culvert would be a lost opportunity to restore a seriously degraded salt marsh. In addition, the larger culvert will provide flood control for the upstream marsh area by means of the proposed tide gate. The tide gate is proposed to protect the low-lying properties surrounding the upstream marsh during extreme tidal surges.

C. This project is intended as a wetlands restoration project. The increased size of the culvert will allow an increased volume of water to flow to the upstream marsh. As mentioned previously, this is a seriously degraded salt marsh with abundant phragmites. The increased culvert size is anticipated to restore sufficient tidal flow to approximately 7 acres of the landward marsh. This restoration counteracts the minimal changes that will be made to resource areas in the vicinity of the culvert, mostly associated with grading of the stream channel to provide a smoother flow to the culvert and placement of rip rap for erosion control.