

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: 13123
MEPA Analyst: Desidera Buckley
Phone: 617-626-1044

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: Mallard Road Salt Marsh Restoration Project		
Street: Mallard Road		
Municipality: Quincy	Watershed: South Coastal	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: E: 243029, N: 890540 (Mass. SP)	Latitude: 42° 15' 50.9" Longitude: 70° 58' 42.4"	
Estimated commencement date: Nov. 03	Estimated completion date: Dec. 03	
Approximate cost: \$60,000	Status of project design: 95 %complete	
Proponent: City of Quincy, Department of Public Works		
Street: 55 Sea Street		
Municipality: Quincy	State: MA	Zip Code: 02169-2572
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Rosemary Nolan, Program Manager		
Firm/Agency: Quincy DPW	Street: 55 Sea Street	
Municipality: Quincy	State: MA	Zip Code: 02169-2572
Phone: (617) 376- 1953 376-1953	Fax: (617) 376-1969	E-mail: rnolan@ci.quincy.ma.us

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 301CMR 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): Mass. Wetlands Restoration Program (EOEA): FY02 GROWetlands Grant Program \$6,000 to City of Quincy for Design and Engineering of Mallard Road salt marsh project

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?

Yes (Specify _____) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: US Army Corps of Engineers 404

Wetlands Permit, Federal Consistency Review, Local Order of Conditions _____

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 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 (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Army Corps 404-PGP II • Federal Consistency Review
Total site acreage	0.7 Acres			
New acres of land altered				
Acres of impervious area				
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		4,500		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		23,000 (salt marsh)		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways				
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage				
Number of housing units				
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 (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 _____) 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.)

The Mallard Road salt marsh lies at the ends of Mallard Road and Post Island Road in the Hough's Neck area of Quincy. A gravel road was constructed as an extension of Seagull Road to Mallard Road that now separates the Mallard Road salt marsh from the Post Island salt marsh to the southwest. In 1992 an adjustable tide gate was installed at the east end of Post Island Road to increase tidal flow to the Post Island salt marsh. In 1997 a 12-inch culvert was installed under Mallard Road to promote tidal flow between the two marshes. Additional study conducted for the Quincy DPW has shown that this culvert is undersized and that the existing elevation and tidal hydrology of the Mallard Road salt marsh is insufficient to support native salt marsh vegetation. Only 25% of the salt marsh is dominated by typical salt marsh vegetation, such as *Spartina alterniflora*, *S. patens*, and *Salicornia* spp., while the remainder is comprised of the invasive common reed, *Phragmites australis*.

The City of Quincy, in partnership with the NOAA Restoration Center and the Mass. Wetlands Restoration Program, proposes to replace the undersized culvert beneath Mallard Road with an 18-inch concrete box culvert to allow for the required tidal flushing and restoration of appropriate hydrology. The increased soil salinity resulting from more frequent tidal flooding will favor salt marsh vegetation over the invasive *Phragmites*. Additionally, it is proposed to regrade disturbed portions of the salt marsh and adjacent *Phragmites* stands to lower the marsh substrate, further increasing the suitability of the habitat for salt marsh vegetation and other estuarine organisms. Grading within the salt marsh will be limited to elevations between 2.7' and 3.3' NAVD88. All areas that currently support healthy stands of native salt marsh vegetation, primarily those dominated by *Spartina* spp., will remain undisturbed.

In order to meet the project objectives of restoring healthy salt marsh vegetation to the Mallard Road salt marsh, no other alternatives were deemed feasible. Replacement of the undersized culvert and regrading of the marsh substrate are both crucial elements for restoring needed tidal hydrology. Neither element would achieve the project goals independently. To mitigate impacts, regrading will

be limited to disturbed areas dominated by *Phragmites*. Existing, viable salt marsh vegetation will remain undisturbed and will be staked out and protected by hay bales and silt fence during construction. Graded areas will be replanted with *Spartina* spp. by community volunteers. Erosion control will also be employed around the work area during culvert replacement. See the attached plans for additional details.