

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office**

**ENF Environmental Notification Form**

*For Office Use Only*  
*Executive Office of Environmental Affairs*

EOEA No.: 13147  
 MEPA Analyst: Anne Canaday  
 Phone: 617-626-1035

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: Marshfield Yacht Club		
Street: 11 Ridge Road		
Municipality: Marshfield	Watershed: South River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42° 07' 33" N	Longitude: 70° 41' 28" W
Estimated commencement date: Jan. 2004	Estimated completion date: June 2004	
Approximate cost: \$325,000	Status of project design: 100 %complete	
Proponent: Marshfield Yacht Club		
Street: 11 Ridge Road		
Municipality: Marshfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 02050
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Joseph M. Forns, Sr. Scientist		
Firm/Agency: Applied Marine Ecology Lab	Street: 25 Greengate Road	
Municipality: Falmouth	State: MA	Zip Code: 02540
Phone: (508) 540-4544	Fax: (508) 540-6070	E-mail:

- 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))            | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes            | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 11.09) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11)  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes            | <input type="checkbox"/> 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): None

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?  
 Yes (Specify US Army Corps of Engineers)  No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Order of Conditions; 410 Certification; Ch. 91 License; US Army Corps, Sec. 10 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 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
<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 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	1.01			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	0.25	0	0.25	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		45,803		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
<b>STRUCTURES</b>				
Gross square footage			N/A	
Number of housing units			N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)			N/A	
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>				
Vehicle trips per day	100	0	100	
Parking spaces	89	89	89	
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use			N/A	
GPD water withdrawal			N/A	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment			N/A	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)			N/A	

**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 Marshfield Yacht Club (MYC) owns four parcels along the South River located at 11 Ridge Road, Marshfield, Mass. Since its charter in 1956, the Club's membership is fixed at 350. Over the past forty-six years, the MYC developed two parcels with a Clubhouse and boating facility including paved parking; dredged within the South River, installed a steel sheet piling bulkhead and has two seasonally removed floating dock systems that accommodate 72 seasonal recreational boats belonging to individual members. The existing facility is authorized with 401 Water Quality Certification , MA Ch. 91 Licenses (Lic. Nos. 313 & 2945) and US Army COE permits. See aerial photo for existing conditions site description

To better accommodate its members, relieve public pressure to recreational water-borne access within the community and enhance the pleasure of recreational boating within this completely water-dependent development within this portion of the South River System, the MYC proposes to expand its facility on its two contiguous parcels. Since its inception more than forty-six years ago, this eventual expansion has been a goal of this community based recreational boating club. The MYC proposed project involves dredging approximately 8,279 cubic yards and maintaining 45,803 sq. ft. of intertidal and subtidal water area to expand the existing licensed seasonal recreational boat docking facility. The purpose is to provide all-tide navigational access to sixty additional seasonally installed floating dock boat slips.

Resource areas associated with this project include Land Under Ocean, Land Containing Shellfish, Coastal Beach, and Salt Marsh. Further, the entire South River has been designated as Outstanding Resource Waters- Shellfish. MYC has delineated these resource areas, conducted extensive investigations of the existing conditions, sampled and analyzed the sediment structure and composition, conducted shellfish inventories within the proposed work area and communicated their findings to local, state and federal environmental regulatory officials.

The proposed dredging will be undertaken during low tide conditions using shore-based mechanical means. Immediate resource areas will be protected during this seasonally restricted activity. All transfer and handling of dredged materials will be isolated and conducted upland and out of the immediate resource areas. Special measures will be undertaken to minimize impacts to the resources. All dewatered dredged materials will be trucked away and disposed of at a licensed upland facility.

Installation and seasonal removal of the proposed three floating dock systems will be undertaken in a similar fashion as is presently done with the existing two float systems. Seasonally, floats from each dock are disengaged and moved up to the boat-launching ramp to the immediate north of the site. There, members lift and transfer the floats for upland winter storage. Prior to winterization,

all floats are cleaned and repaired. In springtime, the process is reversed. At no time are floats stored or moved into or through any salt marsh or coastal beach resources.

## ALTERNATIVES AND IMPACTS

For this project, there are no offsite alternatives realistically available to the MYC. There are essentially three onsite alternatives for this project. They include- a no-build option, expansion at a reduced level and the proposed sixty slip alternative. The no-build alternative will not adequately address the recreational boating needs of the MYC membership. At the present time there are approximately 100 members on a waiting list for boat slips at the Club. Further, increased pressure for recreational boating access within the community puts demands on municipal resources that cannot be met with existing or proposed public facilities. Authorization and development of the MYC proposed expansion will free up additional public resources for the community.

Expansion of the site at a reduced scale will provide some relief to the Club and immediate public boating community. However, any expansion will still require significant dredging to provide all-tide navigational access. Any potential impacts from the initial dredging activity will be essentially the same for a smaller project. Since the proposed dredging will be conducted during a reasonably dormant biological period, the difference in dredging days within the seasonally prescribed dredging period will not cause any serious detrimental impacts to the immediate resources. Further, the result of any proposed dredging will provide significantly more intertidally exchanged water within this immediate portion of the River improving the general water quality. Providing less than sixty additional boat slips is not a cost-effective use of the financial resources of the MYC and will not significantly improve public access issues.

Potential impacts realized by the MYC proposed expansion include a minor short-term re-suspension of fine-fraction sediments during the dredging activity, temporary disturbance of the unvegetated portion of the coastal beach during the excavation and dredged material transport operations, temporary disturbance of the unpaved portion of the parking areas and minor impacts to water quality caused by pile driving activities. Comparison of water quality conditions at the existing facility during summertime operating conditions indicates no measurable impairment to water quality that can be directly attributed to the floating dock system. It is not envisioned there will be any measurable change to water quality by the additional sixty boats when adequate intertidal water circulation is provided. Sediment test results from the proposed dredging site indicate the substrate below the proposed dredging (-4 ft. MLW) is medium-coarse sand with little evidence of gravel and cobbles. This post-dredged seabed will provide a better substrate for potential shellfish productivity than presently exists.

## MITIGATION ACTIVITIES

The no-build alternative provides little realistic means of mitigation. A reduced scale activity will minimize the degree of mitigation reasonably affordable from this project. The proposed alternative involves a sufficient degree of actions to offer clearly measurable mitigation activities aimed at overall environmental enhancement. Mitigation activities resulting from the proposed MYC project include a significant mutually agreed on contribution by the MYC to the Town's wastewater pump-out program for recreational boating activities in the South River, expansion, development and protection of an additional 3,200 sq. ft. of salt marsh and approximately 4,100 sq. ft. of vegetated coastal beach resources. Further, dredging of an additional 8,279 cubic yards of seabed will enhance water quality by providing a significant increased volume of intertidally circulated water. The resulting substrate from the post-dredging activity will be more conducive to potential shellfish productivity because of increased water exchanges and better seabed texture and composition.