

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office

Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only

EEA#: _____

MEPA Analyst: _____

The information requested on this form must be completed in order to submit a document electronically for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Rock Harbor Commercial Wharf Improvement Project

Street Address: 113 Rock Harbor Road

Municipality: Orleans

Watershed: Cape Cod

**Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
416437.72 m E 4628050.00 m N**

**Latitude: 41° 47.995' N
Longitude: 70° 0.351' W**

Estimated commencement date: Nov 2022

Estimated completion date: May 2023

Project Type: Waterfront Redevelopment

Status of project design: 50% complete

Proponent: Town of Orleans

Street Address: 19 School Road

Municipality: Orleans

State: MA

Zip Code: 02653

Name of Contact Person: Christine Player

Firm/Agency: Foth

Street Address: 15 Creek Road

Municipality: Marion

State: MA

Zip Code: 02738

Phone: 508-762-0766

Fax: N/A

E-mail:

Christine.Player@Foth.com

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If this is an Expanded Environmental Notification Form (ENF) (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) or a Notice of Project Change (NPC), are you 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

(Note: Greenhouse Gas Emissions analysis must be included in the Expanded ENF)

Which MEPA review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

11.03(3)(b)(6) Construction, reconstruction or expansion of a pile-supported structure of 2,000 or more square foot (SF) base area, provided the structure occupies flowed tidelands or other waterways.

Which State Agency Permits will the project require? **MADEP Combined Water Quality Certification – Chapter 91 Waterways License; MACZM Consistency.**

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: **MA Seaport Economic Council is providing funding assistance for this project in the amount of \$147,200.00.**

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	5.62		
New acres of land altered		0.00	
Acres of impervious area	0.35	- 0.05 (total restored)	0.30
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0.00	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		-3,541.20 SF (total restored)	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0.00	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	±5,680 SF	±6,044 SF	±11,724 SF
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum height (feet)	Varies	Varies	Varies
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	±30-60 (in-season) ± 15 – 20 (off-season)	0	±30-60 (in-season) ± 15 – 20 (off-season)
Parking spaces	12	-2	10
WASTEWATER			
Water Use (Gallons per day)	±450 avg. GPD (in-season) ±20 avg. GPD (off-season)	0	±450 avg. GPD (in-season) ±20 avg. GPD (off-season)
Water withdrawal (GPD)	±450 avg. GPD (in-season) ±20 avg. GPD (off-season)	0	±450 avg. GPD (in-season) ±20 avg. GPD (off-season)
Wastewater generation/treatment* (GPD) <i>(*on-site vessel pump-out; 800 gal tank)</i>	10 GPD (in-season) 0 (off-season)	0	10 GPD (in-season) 0 (off-season)
Length of water mains (miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of sewer mains (miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Has this project been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # <u>11084</u>) <input type="checkbox"/> No			

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION – all proponents must fill out this section

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Describe the existing conditions and land uses on the project site:

The project site is located at 113 Rock Harbor Road within Rock Harbor, Orleans, MA and is identified by Town assessor's maps as Map 8 Parcels 1 and 7. Collectively, these two (2) Town-owned parcels consist of ±0.36 acres and ±5.26 acres, respectively, for a total of ±5.62 acres. The harbor area consists of a fairly narrow waterway which has an established 3-foot deep navigation channel which supports existing public water-dependent uses on both the Town of Orleans and Eastham sides of the harbor. Rock Harbor is rich in maritime history. It was the site of the War of 1812 skirmish in which the Orleans militia kept a British warship from docking. In the 19th century, Orleans had an active saltworks and a flourishing packet service run between Rock Harbor and Boston. Today, Rock Harbor serves as an essential economic hub that supports commercial fishing, shellfishing and charters within Cape Cod Bay. The harbor is also home to a winter fleet of quahog boats and also hosts the largest charter boat fishing fleet on Cape Cod in the summer months. The project site and the surrounding/adjacent areas of the harbor currently provide seasonal dockage for approximately 120 vessels from April through December. Vessels are comprised of approximately 21 sportfishing charter boats, 24 commercial fishing vessels, a Harbormaster search/rescue vessel, and the remainder consists of recreational boaters. Generally, a half dozen or so commercial fishing vessels will dock at the Commercial Wharf Facility during the off-season. The commercial fishing fleet targets everything from striped bass, bluefish, bluefin tuna, spiny dogfish, mackerel, surf clams, quahogs, softshell clams, bay scallops, blue mussels, razor clams, and lobsters.

(SEE ATTACHED PROJECT NARRATIVE EXHIBIT B FOR DETAILS)

Describe the proposed project and its programmatic and physical elements:

The proposed Commercial Wharf Improvement Project will consist of the construction of a new facility that addresses current aging infrastructure limitations/concerns as well as improves safety and modernizes commercial operations within Rock Harbor. Proposed improvements will include the installation of a new steel bulkhead, pile-supported commercial off-loading deck (including a high capacity, 1-ton hoist system), two timber piers and commercial floating dock systems with gangway access, a public landing and viewing area and extended pedestrian walkway. The proposed improvements will result in significant net restorative benefits to coastal resource areas and return previously filled tidelands to the Commonwealth.

(SEE ATTACHED PROJECT NARRATIVE EXHIBIT B FOR DETAILS)

NOTE: The project description should summarize both the project's direct and indirect impacts (including construction period impacts) in terms of their magnitude, geographic extent, duration and frequency, and reversibility, as applicable. It should also discuss the infrastructure requirements of the project and the capacity of the municipal and/or regional infrastructure to sustain these requirements into the future.

Describe the on-site project alternatives (and alternative off-site locations, if applicable), considered by the proponent, including at least one feasible alternative that is allowed under current zoning, and the reasons(s) that they were not selected as the preferred alternative:

A total of six (6) conceptual alternatives have been considered for the proposed project, including a No Build option. All of the alternatives have been developed in an effort to best meet the goals and objectives identified by the commercial fleet and endorsed by the Town and Board of Selectmen. Conceptual alternatives have been developed understanding that the selected alternative is critical the survivability of the working waterfront of Rock Harbor for the next 50 years. The **PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE** selected by the Town to advance into permitting will greatly improve existing marine infrastructure and commercial operations, productivity and safety along the century old working waterfront