



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES
235 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767

March 2, 2023

Town of Portsmouth
c/o Brian Woodhead
2200 East Main Road
Portsmouth, RI, 02871

**RE: Water Quality Certification (WQC): Public Boat Launch Facility, Weaver Cove
0 Burma Road, Assessor's Plat 50, Lot 7A, Portsmouth, RI
WQC/STW File No. 22-190**

Dear Mr. Woodhead:

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Office of Water Resources (RIDEM OWR) has reviewed the above-referenced project for compliance with the State Water Quality Regulations (250-RICR-150-05-1). The purpose of the project is to rebuild and upgrade an existing boat launch ramp. The existing concrete boat ramp will be removed and replaced with a new pre-cast reinforced concrete boat ramp, in addition, a new stone protection structure will be constructed SW of the new boat ramp. The total new fill deposited during this project will be approximately 686 cubic yards below the MHW, as further described in the application materials and site plans consisting of 8 sheets as prepared by GZA, dated September 7, 2022, and received by RIDEM OWR on September 14, 2022. The State water associated with this project is Weaver Cove (Narragansett Bay), class SA.

It has been determined that the above-referenced application is compliant with the requirements of the RI State Water Quality Regulations, provided that the Applicant complies with the above-referenced application materials and the following conditions:

- 1) You must notify the RIDEM OWR contact person identified below of the anticipated date of construction and your contractor's contact information, prior to any site disturbance.
- 2) Prior to construction, you must erect or post a sign resistant to the weather and at least twelve (12) inches wide and eighteen (18) inches long, which identifies the initials "DEM" and the application number(s) assigned to this project. The sign must be posted in a conspicuous location near the site access and maintained until the project is complete.
- 3) All fill material shall be clean and free of matter that could cause pollution of the waters of the State.
- 4) No sewage, refuse, or waste of any kind shall be discharged into waters of the State from activities associated with the proposed project. Any release of materials from the site associated with the project during the construction period will require immediate notification to RIDEM OWR.
- 5) Appropriate soil erosion, sedimentation, and turbidity controls shall be used and maintained in effective operating condition during in-water construction activities.

- 6) In-water work that produces greater than minimal turbidity or sedimentation shall be limited to the period between October 15 and January 31, of any year(s).
- 7) Soft-start methods in advance of piledriving or sheet-pile driving activities shall be used.
- 8) A copy of this WQC must be kept at the site at all times during site preparation, construction, and final stabilization. Copies of this WQC must be made available for review by any RIDEM or City/Town representative upon request.
- 9) Any alterations, additions, or modifications to the project design plans from that approved herein must first be reviewed and approved by RIDEM OWR.
- 10) You must notify the RIDEM OWR contact person identified below upon completion of the project.
- 11) This WQC shall expire on March 2, 2026. Project construction is to be completed by this date. You are required to submit a request for any modification(s) and/or extension(s).
- 12) This WQC does not relieve your obligation to obtain and adhere to any other applicable local, state and federal permits prior to commencing construction. Should any stipulation/condition identified within any other applicable permit be in conflict with the conditions set forth in this WQC, the applicant shall notify RIDEM OWR immediately.

You are required to adhere to all above Terms and Conditions and carry out this project in compliance with the State Water Quality Regulations at all times. Issuance of this certificate does not bar the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, nor any of its various Divisions, from initiating any investigation and/or enforcement actions that it may deem necessary for violations of this certificate or of any and all applicable statutes, regulations and/or permits.

This is the State's Water Quality Certification, which shall have the full force and effect of a permit issued by the Director. Violation of the Terms and Conditions of this Certification may result in violation of the State's Water Quality Regulations and appropriate enforcement action.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, you may contact me or Michael Arguello at Michael.Arguello@dem.ri.gov or (401)222-6820 ext 277-7602.

Sincerely,



Neal Personeus, Principal Environmental Scientist
neal.personeus@dem.ri.gov, 401-222-6820 ext 277-7610
Federal 401/State WQC Program; GWD/UIC Program
Office of Water Resources

ec: Charles Horbert, Deputy Administrator, Groundwater & Freshwater Wetlands Protection
Russell Morgan, PE, GZA
Amy Silva, CRMC
Daniel Breen, USACE



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT
696 VIRGINIA ROAD
CONCORD MA 01742-2751

December 1, 2022

Regulatory Division
File Number NAE-2022-02070

Mr. Brian Woodhead
Town of Portsmouth
2200 East Main Road
Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871
bwoodhead@portsmouthri.com

RI CRMC Application #: MOD 1994-11-030
RI DEM Application #: 2022-190

Dear Mr. Woodhead:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has reviewed your application to the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) to make improvements to the Weaver Cove public boat launch facility. The project will demolish the existing fixed pier, ramps, landings, and piles; replace the existing, concrete slab boat ramp with a pre-cast reinforced concrete ramp over crushed stone bedding in the same 30-foot wide by 100-foot long footprint; construct a single fixed pier, measuring 110 feet by 10 feet and supported by 24 timber piles; install a new timber groundout floating dock system that will be six feet wide with three 20-foot sections and one 24-foot section and supported by seven new steel piles; install a reinforced concrete abutment, measuring 20 feet long by 6 feet wide; and extend an existing riprap revetment south of the boat ramp. This project is located in Weaver Cove, part of the Narragansett Bay East Passage, on Burma Road in Portsmouth, Rhode Island (41.5739°N, 71.2880°W). It is shown on the enclosed plans titled "Weaver Cove Boat Ramp and Pier Improvement, Town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island," on eight sheets dated December 1, 2022.

Based on the information that you have provided, we verify that the Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) activity is authorized under General Permits 4 and 5 of the enclosed May 6, 2022, Federal permits known as the Rhode Island General Permits (GPs).

Please review the enclosed GPs carefully, including the general conditions beginning on page 43, to ensure that you and whoever does the work understand the requirements. A copy of the GPs and this verification letter shall be available at the project site throughout the time the work is underway. The GPs are also available at <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/State-General-Permits/Rhode-Island-General-Permit/>. Performing work within our jurisdiction that is not specifically authorized by this determination or failing to comply with any special condition provided





above and all of the terms and conditions of the GPs may subject you to the enforcement provisions of our regulations. You must perform this work in compliance with the terms and conditions of the GPs and the following special conditions:

1. The lowermost part of the floats shall be at least 18 inches above the substrate at all times.
2. In-water work that produces greater than minimal turbidity or sedimentation shall be limited to the period between October 15 and January 31, of any year(s).
3. Appropriate soil erosion, sedimentation, and turbidity controls shall be used and maintained in effective operating condition during in-water construction. Activities capable of producing greater than minimal turbidity or sedimentation shall be done during periods of low-flow or no-flow, when the tide is waterward of the work, or when controls are used to obtain dry work conditions.
4. You shall utilize soft-start methods in advance of pile-driving activities.
5. You must complete and return the enclosed Work Start Notification Form to this office at least two weeks before the anticipated starting date.

This authorization expires on May 6, 2027. You must commence or be under contract to commence the work authorized herein by May 6, 2027, and complete the work by May 6, 2028. If not, you must contact this office to determine the need for further authorization before beginning or continuing the activity. We recommend that you contact us *before* this authorization expires to discuss permit reissuance. Please contact us immediately if you change the plans or construction methods for work within our jurisdiction. We must approve any changes before you undertake them.

This permit does not obviate the need to obtain other Federal, state, or local authorizations required by law, as listed on page 2 of the GP. Performing work not specifically authorized by this determination or failing to comply with any special condition(s) provided above or all the terms and conditions of the GP may subject you to the enforcement provisions of our regulations.

This determination becomes valid only after the Rhode Island CRMC issues their required authorization. The CRMC contact information is provided on Page 55 of the GPs.

We continually strive to improve our customer service. For us to better serve you, we would appreciate your completing our Customer Service Survey located at <https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/>.



Please contact Daniel Breen, of my staff, at (978) 318-8831 or Daniel.B.Breen@usace.army.mil if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kevin R Kotelly

Kevin R. Kotelly, P.E.
Chief, Permits & Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

Enclosures

cc:

Igor Runge, Ph.D., GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc., Providence, RI; Igor.Runge@gza.com
Neal Personesus, RI DEM, Providence, RI; neal.personesus@dem.ri.gov
Lisa Turner, CRMC, Wakefield, RI; lturner@crmc.ri.gov
Erica Sachs, US EPA, Region 1, Boston, MA; sachs.eric@epa.gov
Roosevelt Mesa, NMFS, Gloucester, MA; roosevelt.mesa@noaa.gov
Sabrina Pereira, NMFS, Gloucester, MA; sabrina.pereira@noaa.gov



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Old State House 150 Benefit Street Providence, RI 02903

Telephone 401-222-2678
TTY 401-222-3700

Fax 401-222-2968
www.preservation.ri.gov

Mr. Raymond Coia, Chair
Coastal Resources Management Council
Stedman Government Center, 4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

CRMC File Number: 1994-11-030

Applicant: Town of Portsmouth

Town: Portsmouth

Response Date: 10/4/22

Dear Mr. Coia,

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission has reviewed the above- referenced project. It is our conclusion that this project will have no effect on any significant cultural resources (those listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places).

These comments are provided in accordance with 650-RICR-20-00-1.2.3 Areas of Historic and Archaeological Significance of the Coastal Resources Management Council. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Taylor, Senior Archaeologist, or Elizabeth Totten, Project Review Coordinator, at this office.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Emidy
Acting Executive Director
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

