

TO: **Karen Bolstridge**, Regional Representative
Dept. of Conservation, Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) - Bangor

FROM: Department of Marine Resources (DMR)

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PROJECT REVIEW

PROJECT: LURC Tracking #: 46168
Applicant: Lasell Island, LLC (Christopher Page)
Location: Lasell Island (West Penobscot Bay, Knox County)
Type of Project: After-The-Fact Breakwater

The above proposed project has been carefully reviewed and considered by DMR personnel.

DMR understands that the applicant has placed approximately 400 cubic yards of 2 to 3 ft. quarry stone to raise the elevation of what is purported to be ledge by several feet as protection for shoreline and an existing pier from northwesterly storms. This reportedly has resulted in the covering of 5,133 sq. ft. of intertidal below the Highest Annual Tide (HAT).

The project site is at the northwest extreme of an approximately 450 ft. x 700 ft. cove on the west side of Lasell Island. The cove has ledge outcropping on either side of its opening to the southwest. Upland of the proposed project site is a 62 acre island owned by the applicant. The supratidal is ledge. The intertidal is ledge, boulder and cobble with moderate rockweed cover. The applicant's pier is located to the SE of the breakwater.

This project has resulted in the loss of ~ 5,133 sq. ft. of rocky intertidal habitat that would typically provide attachment site for marine vegetation, which in turn provides shelter and food for a variety of marine invertebrates, juvenile fish and shorebirds. Compensation should be provided for this loss. It should also be noted that the applicant has not to our knowledge provided a report on the success of eelgrass replanting that was to be conducted as compensatory mitigation for the removal of eelgrass prior to dredging of a 100 ft. wide "fairway" through the cove to his pier in 2003.

Brian M. Swan
DMR Environmental Coordinator
Date: August 1, 2012