TO:

Andrea Lapointe, Project Manager

Dept. of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land & Water Quality

FROM:

Department of Marine Resources (DMR)

SUBJECT:

REQUEST FOR PROJECT REVIEW

PROJECT:

DEP Application #:

L-25657-4P-A-N

Applicant:

Richard & Susan Bates

Location:

St. George (St. George River)

Type of Project:

Pier, Ramp & Float

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

DMR personnel visited the proposed project site with representatives of the applicant and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on December 21, 2011 at 1430 (low water approx.: 1250).

DMR understands that the applicant is proposing to construct a 5 ft. x 72 ft. pier to extend from above the Highest Annual Tide (HAT) to Mean Low Water (MLW). This would be supported by a concrete abutment pinned to ledge above HAT and a 12 ft. x 12 ft. granite block pier constructed in "open" fashion just above MLW. The pier would have an E - W orientation with an average deck height of $\sim 6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. above the intertidal substrate. A 3 ft. x 40 ft. aluminum ramp would connect to a 16 ft. x 26 ft. seasonal float to provide ~ 5 ft. of water at MLW according to the permit application. The float would be stored in an upland location during the winter.

The proposed project site is located on the easterly shore of the St. George River just north of Teel Cove. The supratidal is ledge. The intertidal is ledge/boulder/cobble with abundant rockweed. DMR has identified eelgrass as being in the area through aerial photography. Eelgrass was also observed during the site visit and the permit application describes eelgrass as being "occasional".

This project as proposed should not cause any significant adverse impacts to traditional fishing, recreation, navigation, or riparian access. Adverse impacts to marine resources should not be significant provided the float and any associated moorings are not placed over any area of eelgrass. DMR, the Corps of Engineers and the applicant's agents during the December 21, 2011 site visit discussed the need to conduct a survey of the area for eelgrass so that the potential impacts to that resource could be evaluated. No such survey was included in the permit application. DMR recommends that a survey for eelgrass in the proposed project area be conducted.

Brian M. Swan

DMR Environmental Coordinator

Date: April 30, 2012