Applicant: General Public, State of Maine

Effective Date: October 14, 2020
Expiration Date: October 14, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GENERAL PERMITS FOR
THE STATE OF MAINE

The New England District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) hereby issues 23 General Permits (GPs), listed below, for activities subject to Corps jurisdiction in waters of the United States within the boundaries of the State of Maine including tribal lands, and in adjacent ocean waters to the seaward limit of the outer continental shelf. These GPs are issued in accordance with Corps regulations at 33 CFR 320 – 332 and specifically 33 CFR 325.2(e)(2). These GPs will protect the aquatic environment and the public interest while effectively authorizing activities that have no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse environmental effects.

I. CORPS JURISDICTION

1. Permits are required from the Corps for the following work:

a. The construction of any structure in, over, or under any navigable water of the U.S. (see 33 CFR 328), the excavating or dredging from or depositing of material in such waters, or the accomplishment of any other work affecting the course, location, condition, or capacity of such waters. The Corps regulates these activities under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (see 33 CFR 322);

b. The discharge of dredged or fill material and certain discharges associated with excavation into waters of the U.S. including wetlands. The Corps regulates these activities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (see 33 CFR 323); and

c. The transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposal in the ocean. The Corps regulates these activities under Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (see 33 CFR 324).

2. Related laws: Section 408 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1956, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Section 302 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, and Section 7(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

II. GENERAL CRITERIA

1. In order for activities to qualify for these General Permits (GPs), they shall meet the GPs terms and eligibility criteria on pages 1-4, all applicable general conditions (GCs) in Section IV, and terms of the Maine General Permits in Section V. Any activity not specifically listed may still be eligible for authorization under these GPs; prospective permittees are advised to contact the Corps for specific eligibility determination.

2. Under these GPs, activities may qualify for the following:

- **SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)**: Notification to the Corps is required at least two weeks before work commences; the Corps will acknowledge receipt and GP eligibility of the SV activity in writing.
- **PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)**: Notification to and written verification from the Corps is required. *No work under PCN may proceed until written verification from the Corps is received.*

The thresholds for activities eligible for SV and PCN are defined in the general conditions in Section IV and Maine General Permits in Section V.

3. Prospective permittees shall review:

a. Section I to determine if the activity requires Corps authorization.

b. Sections III , IV, and V to determine if the activity is eligible for authorization under these GPs, and specifically whether it is eligible for SV, or whether a PCN is required.

4. Prospective permittees are encouraged to contact the Corps with questions at any time (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Maine Project Office, 442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 350, Augusta, Maine 04330, ph. 207-623-8367). Pre-application meetings, whether arranged by the Corps or requested by a prospective permittee, are encouraged to facilitate the review of projects. Pre-application meetings and/or site visits help streamline the authorization process by alerting the prospective permittee to potentially time-consuming factors that are likely to arise during the evaluation of their project (e.g. avoidance, minimization and compensatory mitigation requirements, historic properties, endangered species, essential fish habitat, vernal pools, and dredging of contaminated sediments).

5. Permittees shall ensure compliance with all applicable GCs in Section IV and GPs in Section V. Non-compliance with these GPs and GCs may subject the permittee to criminal, civil, or administrative criminal penalties, and/or an ordered restoration, and/or the permit may be modified, suspended or revoked by the Corps.

III. PROCEDURES

1. State Approvals. Applicants are responsible for applying for and obtaining any required state or local approvals. Federal and state jurisdiction and review criteria may differ in some instances. State permits may be required for specific projects regardless of the GP category.

In order for authorizations under these GPs to be valid, when any of the following state approvals or statutorily-required reviews is also required, the approvals shall be obtained prior to the commencement of work in Corps jurisdiction:

- Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP): Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) permit, including permit-by-rule (PBR) and general permit authorizations; Site Location of Development Act permit; Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act permit; and Maine Hazardous Waste, Septage, and Solid Waste Management Act license.
- Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry: Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC) permit.
- Maine Department of Marine Resources: Aquaculture Leases and Licenses.
- Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands, Submerged Lands: Submerged Lands Lease.

2. How to Obtain/Apply for Corps Authorization.

a. **Self-Verification (SV)**: Prospective permittees shall confirm that the activity meets all the applicable terms and conditions of SV. Consultation with the Corps and/or other relevant federal and state agencies may be necessary to ensure compliance with the applicable general conditions (GCs) and related federal laws such as the National Historic Preservation Act (GC 15), the Endangered Species Act (GC 16), the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (GC 17), and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (GC 13). Activities that are eligible for SV are authorized under these GPs provided the prospective permittee has:

i. Confirmed that the activity meets all applicable terms and conditions of SV.

ii. Provided notifications to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) (the SHPO in the State of Maine is the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, or MHPC) and all five federally-recognized tribes in the State of Maine (Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, or THPOs) listed in Section VIII before submitting the SV to the Corps in order to be reviewed for the presence of historic, archeological, architectural, or tribal resources in the action area that the activity may affect (see GC 15). Prospective permittees are not required to wait for a response to their notifications before submitting the SV to the Corps.

iii. At least two weeks before work is to commence, submitted to the Corps a Self-Verification Notification Form (SVNF, page 36) with all of the following attachments: location map, project plans, and an Official Species List of federally threatened and endangered species that may occur in the activity's action area and the email address of the person who generated the list (see GC 16).

NOTE: A copy of a state permit application form may be an acceptable surrogate for the SVNF itself; however, the applicant shall not rely on the state permitting agency to provide the Corps a copy of their state permit application.

b. **Pre-Construction Notification (PCN)**: Notification to, and written verification from the Corps is required. For activities that do not qualify for SV or where otherwise required by the terms and conditions of the GPs, the prospective permittee shall submit a PCN and obtain written verification from the Corps before starting work in Corps jurisdiction. The Corps will coordinate review of all PCN activities with other federal and state agencies, as appropriate. The Corps will attempt to issue written verification of the PCN within 60 days of receiving a complete application.

All prospective permittees for PCN activities shall follow the instructions on found on pages 37 – 42, and in particular:

i. Submit directly to the Corps application form *ENG Form 4345* (pages 40 – 42), or the surrogate state permit application form as noted above.

ii. Provide project information outlined on pages 37 – 42 (Content of a Pre-Construction Notification).
iii. Submit an Official Species List of federally threatened and endangered species that may occur in the activity's action area and the email address of the person who generated the list (GC 16).
iv. Provide notifications to the SHPO (MHPC) and all five THPOs in the State of Maine listed in Section VIII before submitting the PCN to the Corps in order to be reviewed for the presence of historic, archeological, architectural, or tribal resources in the action area that the activity may affect (see GC 15). The PCN shall include documentation that MHPC and all of the THPOs were notified (a copy of the prospective permittee's cover letter or emails to MHPC and the THPOs is acceptable). Prospective permittees are not required to wait for a response to their notifications before submitting a PCN to the Corps.

c. **Individual Permit (IP):** Projects that are not eligible for these GPs require an IP (33 CFR 325.5(b)) and prospective permittees shall submit an application directly to the Corps. These GPs do not affect the Corps IP review process or activities exempt from Corps regulation. For general information regarding IPs prospective permittees are encouraged to contact the Corps. ***In addition, the Corps retains discretionary authority on a case-by-case basis to elevate GP-eligible activities to an IP based on concerns for the aquatic environment or for any other factor of the public interest (33 CFR 320.4(a)). Whenever the Corps notifies a prospective permittee that an IP is required, no work in Corps jurisdiction may be conducted until the Corps issues the required authorization in writing indicating that the work may proceed.***

d. **Emergency Situations:** Contact the Corps immediately in the event of an emergency situation for information on the verification process. Emergency situations are limited to sudden, unexpected occurrences that could potentially result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if corrective action requiring a permit is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process an application under standard procedures. Emergency work is subject to the same terms and conditions of these GPs as non-emergency work, and similarly, must qualify for authorization under these GPs; otherwise an IP is required. The Corps will work with all applicable agencies to expedite verification according to established procedures in emergency situations.

IV. GENERAL CONDITIONS

An activity is authorized under the General Permits (GPs) only if that activity and the permittee satisfy all of the applicable GPs terms and following general conditions (GCs):

1. Federal Jurisdiction.
2. Minimal Direct, Secondary and Cumulative Effects.
3. Other Permits.
4. Water Quality and Coastal Zone Management.
5. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains.
6. Discretionary Authority.
7. Single and Complete Project.
8. Use of Multiple General Permits.
9. Mitigation (Avoidance, Minimization, and Compensatory Mitigation).
10. Corps Projects and Property.
11. Navigation.
12. National Lands.
13. Wild and Scenic Rivers.
14. St. John/St. Croix Rivers.
15. Historic Properties.
16. Federal Threatened and Endangered Species.
17. Essential Fish Habitat.
18. Aquatic Life Movements and Management of Water Flows.
19. Spawning, Breeding, and Migratory Areas.
20. Vernal Pools.
21. Restoration of Special Aquatic Sites (Including Wetland Areas).
22. Invasive and Other Unacceptable Species.
23. Soil Erosion, Sediment, and Turbidity Controls.
24. Time-of-Year Work Windows/Restrictions.
25. Pile Driving and Pile Removal in Navigable Waters.
26. Temporary Fill.
27. Heavy Equipment in Wetlands or Mudflats.
28. Bank and Shoreline Stabilization Including Living Shorelines.
29. Stream Work and Crossings, and Wetland Crossings.
30. Utility Line Installation and Removal.
31. Storage of Seasonal Structures.
32. Aquaculture.
33. Permit(s)/Authorization Letter On-Site.
34. Inspections.
35. Maintenance.
36. Federal Liability.
37. Property Rights.
38. Previously Authorized Activities.
39. Transfer of GP Verifications.
40. Modification, Suspension, and Revocation.
41. Special Conditions.
42. False or Incomplete Information.
43. Abandonment.
44. Enforcement Cases.
45. Duration of Authorization.

1. Federal Jurisdiction.

a. Applicability of these GPs shall be evaluated with reference to federal jurisdictional boundaries (e.g. mean high water mark, high tide line, ordinary high water mark, and wetland boundary). Activities shall be evaluated with reference to "waters of the U.S." under the Clean Water Act (33 CFR 328) and "navigable waters of the U.S." under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 CFR 329). Prospective permittees are responsible for ensuring that the boundaries used satisfy the federal criteria defined at 33 CFR 328 – 229. These sections prescribe the policy, practice and procedures to be used in determining the extent of the Corps jurisdiction. Note: Waters of the U.S. includes all waters pursuant to 33 CFR 328.3(a), and in adjacent wetlands as that term is defined in 33 CFR 328.3(c).

b. Permittees shall identify on project plans wetlands, other special aquatic sites (SAS) including vegetated shallows (or submerged aquatic vegetation, SAV) and mudflats, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial and intermittent streams on the project site. Wetlands shall be delineated in accordance with the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual and the most recent regional supplement pertaining to the State of Maine. GP-eligible activities may utilize wetland determinations conducted by State of Maine staff in-lieu of a wetland delineation. For activities located in Essential Fish Habitat (GC 17), permittees shall also identify on project plans natural rocky habitats and shellfish areas in order to satisfy the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

2. Minimal Direct, Secondary and Cumulative Effects. To be eligible and subsequently authorized by these GPs, an activity shall result in no more than minimal individual and cumulative effects on the aquatic environment as determined by the Corps in accordance with the criteria listed within these GPs and GCs. This may require project modifications involving avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts to ensure that the net adverse effects of an activity are no more than minimal.

3. Other Permits. Permittees shall obtain other Federal, State, or local authorizations as required by law. Permittees are responsible for applying for and obtaining all required State of Maine or local approvals including a Flood Hazard Development Permit issued by the town/city. Work that is not regulated by the State of Maine, but is subject to Corps jurisdiction, may still be eligible for authorization under these GPs.

4. Water Quality and Coastal Zone Management.

a. Permittees shall satisfy any conditions imposed by the State of Maine and EPA, where applicable, in their Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) for these GPs, or in any Individual Section 401 WQC. See Section VIII for state-specific contact info and to determine if any action is required to obtain a 401 WQC. The Corps may require additional water quality management measures to ensure that the authorized activity does not cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. All projects authorized by these GPs shall be designed, constructed and operated to minimize or eliminate the discharge of pollutants.

b. Permittees shall satisfy any additional conditions imposed by the State of Maine in their Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Act of 1972 consistency concurrences for these GPs, or in any Individual CZM consistency concurrences. The Corps may require additional measures to ensure that the authorized activity is consistent with state coastal zone management requirements.

5. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains. The activity shall comply with applicable Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved State of Maine or municipal floodplain management requirements. Permittees should contact FEMA and/or the State of Maine Floodplain Management Program regarding floodplain management requirements (see Section VIII for Federal and state-specific contact info).

6. Discretionary Authority. Notwithstanding compliance with the terms and conditions of these GPs, the Corps retains discretionary authority to require a PCN or IP review based on concerns for the aquatic environment or for any other factor of the public interest (see 33 CFR 320.4(a)). This authority is invoked on a case-by-case basis whenever the Corps determines that the potential consequences of the proposal warrant a higher level of review based on the concerns stated above. This authority may be invoked for projects that may contribute to cumulative environmental impacts that are more than minimal or if there is a special resource or concern associated with a particular project.

7. Single and Complete Project. The term "single and complete project" is defined at 33 CFR 330.2(i) as the total project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers. These GPs shall not be used for piecemeal work and shall be applied to single and complete projects and as such, the same GP shall not be used more than once for the same single and complete project.

a. For non-linear projects, a single and complete project shall have independent utility. Portions of a multi-phase project that depend upon other phases of the project do not have independent utility. Phases of a project that would be constructed even if the other phases were not built can be considered as separate single and complete projects with independent utility.

b. Unless the Corps determines the activity has independent utility, all components of a single project and/or all planned phases of a multi-phased project (e.g., subdivisions should include all work such as roads, utilities, and lot development) shall be treated together as constituting one single and complete project. If any component of a single and complete project requires a PCN, the entire single and complete project shall be reviewed under PCN.

c. For linear projects such as power lines or pipelines with multiple crossings, a "single and complete project" is all crossings of a single water of the U.S. (i.e. single waterbody) at a specific location. For linear projects crossing a single waterbody several times at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project. However, individual channels in a braided stream or river, or individual arms of a large, irregularly-shaped wetland or lake, etc., are not separate waterbodies, and crossings of such features cannot be considered separately.

8. Use of Multiple General Permits. The use of more than one GP for a single and complete project is prohibited, except when the acreage loss of waters of the U.S. authorized by the GPs does not exceed the acreage limit of the GPs with the highest specified acreage limit. For example, if a road crossing over waters is constructed under GP 10, with an associated utility line crossing authorized by GP 9, if the maximum acreage loss of waters of the U.S. for the total project is ≥3 acres it shall be evaluated as an IP.

9. Mitigation (Avoidance, Minimization, and Compensatory Mitigation).

a. Activities shall be designed and constructed to avoid and minimize adverse effects, both temporary and permanent, to waters of the U.S. to the maximum extent practicable to ensure that adverse effects to the aquatic environment are no more than minimal.

b. Compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts to waters of the U.S., including direct, secondary and temporal loss, will generally be required for permanent impacts that exceed the SV limits (SV limits are detailed in Section V), and may be required for temporary impacts that exceed the SV limits, to offset unavoidable impacts which remain after all appropriate and practicable avoidance and minimization has been achieved and to ensure that the adverse effects to the aquatic environment are no more than minimal. Proactive restoration projects or temporary impact work with no secondary effects may generally be excluded from this requirement.

c. Mitigation proposals shall follow the guidelines found in the Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources; Final Rule April 10, 2008; 33 CFR 332 (which can be found at: *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Mitigation* under "Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources, 33 CFR 332 (Compensatory Mitigation Rule)") and any other regulation. Permittees considering the use of a monetary payment *in-lieu* of permittee-responsible mitigation as compensation for unavoidable impacts to waters of the U.S. in the State of Maine may utilize the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program (MNRCP). Information regarding this compensatory program can be found at: *www.mnrcp.org* For unavoidable jurisdictional impacts affecting federally-endangered Atlantic salmon and/or its critical habitat, permittees may be required to compensate for the impacts by utilizing the Maine Atlantic Salmon Restoration and Conservation Program. Information regarding this *in-lieu-fee* compensatory program can be found at: *www.maine.gov/dmr/science-research/searun/programs/ilffacts.html*

10. Corps Projects and Property.

a. Corps projects and property can be found at: *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works*

b. In addition to any authorization under these GPs, prospective permittees shall contact the Corps Real Estate Division at (978) 318-8585 for work occurring on or potentially affecting Corps properties and/or Corps-controlled easements to initiate reviews and determine what real estate instruments are necessary to perform work. Permittees may not commence work on Corps properties and/or Corps-controlled easements until they

have received any required Corps real estate documents evidencing site-specific permission to work.

c. Any proposed temporary or permanent modification or use of a Federal project (including but not limited to a levee, dike, floodwall, channel, anchorage, breakwater, seawall, bulkhead, jetty, wharf, pier, or other work built or maintained but not necessarily owned by the United States), which may obstruct or impair the usefulness of the Federal project in any manner, is not eligible for SV and requires review and approval by the Corps pursuant to 33 USC 408 (Section 408).

d. A PCN is required for all work in, over, under, or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Corps Federal Navigation Project (FNP) and may require permission under Section 408.

e. Any structure or work that extends closer to the horizontal limits of any FNP than a distance of three times the project's authorized depth shall be subject to removal at the owner's expense prior to any future Corps dredging or the performance of periodic hydrographic surveys.

f. Where a Section 408 permission is applicable, written verification for the PCN will not be issued prior to the decision on the Section 408 permission request.

11. Navigation

a. There shall be no unreasonable interference with general navigation by the existence or use of the activity authorized herein, and no attempt shall be made by the permittee to prevent the full and free use by the public of all navigable waters at or adjacent to the activity authorized herein.

b. Work in, over, under, or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of an FNP shall specifically comply with GC 10.

c. Any safety lights and/or signals prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard, State of Maine or municipality, through regulations or otherwise, shall be installed and maintained at the permittee's expense on authorized facilities in navigable waters of the U.S.

d. The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the U.S. require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the permittee will be required, upon due notice from the Corps, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the U.S. No claim shall be made against the U.S. on account of any such removal or alteration.

12. National Lands. Activities that impinge upon the value of any National Lands or Federal Properties including but not limited to a National Wildlife Refuge, National Forest, or any area administered by the National Park Service , U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or U.S. Forest Service are not eligible for SV and require PCN.

13. Wild and Scenic Rivers.

a. The following activities in designated rivers of the National Wild and Scenic River (NWSR) System, or in a river designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system, require a PCN unless the National Park Service has determined in writing to the prospective permittee that the proposed work will not adversely affect the NWSR designation or study status:

i. Activities that occur in NWSR segments, in and 0.25 miles up or downstream of NWSR segments, or in tributaries within 0.25 miles of NWSR segments.
ii. Activities that occur in wetlands within 0.25 miles of NWSR segments.
iii. Activities that have the potential to alter free-flowing characteristics in NWSR segments.

b. As of October 14, 2020, National Wild and Scenic Rivers and congressional study rivers in Maine include: the Allagash River beginning at Telos Dam continuing to Allagash checkpoint at Eliza Hole Rapids, approximately 3 miles upstream of the confluence with the St. John River (length = 92 92.5 miles); and 11.25 miles of the York River, in the State of Maine, from its headwaters at York Pond to the mouth of the river at York Harbor, plus tributaries (the York River is currently under study).

14. St. John/St. Croix Rivers. A PCN is required for any work within the Saint John and Saint Croix River basins that requires approval of the International Joint Commission. In addition, a PCN is required if any temporary or permanent use, obstruction or diversion of international boundary waters could affect the natural flow or levels of waters on the Canadian side of the line; or if any construction or maintenance of remedial works,

protective works, dams, or other obstructions in waters downstream from boundary waters could raise the natural level of water on the Canadian side of the boundary.

15. Historic Properties.

a. No undertaking shall cause effects (as defined at 33 CFR 325 Appendix C and 36 CFR 800) on properties listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unknown historic properties within the permit area, unless the Corps or another federal action agency has satisfied the consultation requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The majority of historic properties are not listed on the National Register of Historic Places and may require identification and evaluation by qualified historic preservation and/or archeological consultants in coordination with the Corps and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) (the SHPO in the State of Maine is the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, MHPC) and/or the five federally-recognized tribes in the State of Maine (Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, or THPOs). The MHPC, the THPOs, and the National Register of Historic Places can assist with locating information on:

i. Previously identified historic properties; and

ii. Areas with potential for the presence of historic resources, which may require identification and evaluation by qualified historic preservation and/or archaeological consultants in consultation with the Corps and MHPC and/or the THPO(s).

b. For activities eligible for these GPs, permittees shall ensure that the activity will not cause effects as stated above in 15(a). In order to comply with this condition, both SV and PCN prospective permittees shall notify MHPC and all five THPOs for their identification of historic properties. MHPC and the THPOs will generally respond within 30 days of receiving the notification if they believe that the activity may have an adverse effect to historic properties. A PCN is required if an activity may have an adverse effect to historic properties. The PCN shall be submitted as soon as possible if a proposed activity may cause effects as stated above in 15(a) a to ensure that the Corps is aware of any potential effects of the proposed activity on any historic property to ensure all Section 106 requirements are met.

c. All PCNs shall:

i. Show notification to MHPC and all five THPOs for their identification of historic properties;

ii. State which historic properties may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic properties or the potential for the presence of historic properties; and

iii. Include any available documentation from MHPC or the THPO(s) indicating that there are or are not historic properties affected.

d. The requirements to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA may be satisfied by a Programmatic Agreement (PA) or Programmatic Consultation (PC) with the Corps, New England District or another federal agency. New England District PAs and PCs are found at *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory*

e. If the permittee discovers any previously unknown historic, cultural or archeological remains and artifacts while accomplishing the activity authorized by these permits, the permittee shall immediately notify the district engineer of what was found, and avoid construction activities that may affect the remains and artifacts until the required coordination has been completed. The district engineer will initiate the Federal, Tribal and state coordination required to determine if the items or remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

f. Federal agencies should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA. Federal permittees shall provide the Corps with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements.

g. Federal and non-federal applicants should coordinate with the Corps before conducting any onsite archeological work (reconnaissance, surveys, recovery, etc.) requested by MHPC or the THPOs, as the Corps will determine the Permit Area for the consideration of historic properties based on 33 CFR 325 Appendix C. This is to ensure that work done is in accordance with Corps requirements.

16. Federal Threatened and Endangered Species.

a. No activity is authorized by these GPs which:

i. Is likely to directly or indirectly jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will directly or indirectly destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat or proposed critical habitat of such species;

ii. "May affect" a listed species or critical habitat, unless Section 7 consultation addressing the effects of the proposed activity has been completed;

iii. Is "likely to adversely affect" a listed species or critical habitat unless Section 7 consultation has been completed by the Corps or another lead action agency in coordination with the Corps under the provisions of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) or Programmatic Consultation (PC); or

iv. Violates the ESA.

b. All prospective permittees shall attach to their SVNF or PCN an Official Species List obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) found at: *https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac* and provide the email address of the person who generated the list.

c. For proposed activities in tidal waters, prospective permittees should also refer to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries' Section 7 Mapper for federally-listed species found at: *https://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html*

d. A PCN is required if a threatened or endangered species, a species proposed for listing as threatened or endangered, or designated or proposed critical habitat (all hereinafter referred to as "listed species or habitat"), as identified under the ESA, may be affected by the proposed work. An activity may remain eligible for SV if the only listed species affected is the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septrionalis*), and only after Section 7 consultation has been completed by the Corps under the 4(d) Rule Streamlined Consultation.

e. Federal agencies shall follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA while ensuring that the Corps and any other federal action agencies are included in the consultation process.

f. Non-federal representatives designated by the Corps to conduct informal consultation or prepare a biological assessment shall follow the requirements in the designation document(s) and the ESA. Non-federal representatives shall also provide the Corps with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements. The Corps will review the documentation and determine whether it is sufficient to address ESA compliance for the GP activity, or whether additional ESA consultation is necessary.

g. The requirements to comply with Section 7 of the ESA may be satisfied by a Programmatic Agreement (PA) or Programmatic Consultation (PC) with the Corps, New England District or another federal agency. New England District PAs and PCs are found at: *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory*

17. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

a. PCN activities in tidal waters and the following rivers and streams, including all tributaries to the extent that they are currently or were historically accessible for salmon migration, shall be reviewed for the potential to adversely affect EFH (activities meeting SV criteria have been determined to result in no more than minimal adverse effects to EFH and therefore need no additional review):

Androscoggin River	Aroostook River	Boyden River	Dennys River
Ducktrap River	East Machias River	Hobart Stream	Kennebec River
Machias River	Narraguagus River	Orland River	Passagassawaukeag River
Patten Stream	Penobscot River	Pleasant River	Presumpscot River
Saco River	Sheepscot River	St. Croix River	Tunk Stream
Union River			

b. Prospective permittees may be required to describe and identify potential adverse effects to EFH and should refer to the NOAA Fisheries' EFH Mapper found at: *www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/map/essential-fish-habitat-mapper*

c. The requirements to comply with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act may be satisfied by a Programmatic Agreement (PA) or Programmatic Consultation (PC) with the Corps, New England District or another federal agency. New England District PAs and PCs are found at: *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory*

18. Aquatic Life Movements and Management of Water Flows.

a. No activity may substantially disrupt the necessary life cycle movements of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the waterbody, including those species that normally migrate through the area, unless the activity's primary purpose is to impound water. Unless otherwise stated, activities permanently impounding water in a stream require a PCN to ensure impacts to aquatic life species are avoided and minimized. All permanent and temporary crossings of waterbodies and wetlands shall be:

i. Suitably spanned, bridged, culverted, or otherwise designed and constructed to maintain low flows to sustain the movement of those aquatic species; and

ii. Properly aligned and constructed to prevent bank erosion or streambed scour both adjacent to and inside the crossing.

b. To avoid adverse impacts on aquatic organisms, the low flow channel/thalweg shall remain unobstructed during periods of low flow, except when it is necessary to perform the authorized work.

c. For work in tidal waters, in-stream controls (e.g. cofferdams) should be installed in such a way as to not obstruct fish passage.

d. To the maximum extent practicable, the preconstruction course, condition, capacity, and location of open waters must be maintained for each activity, including stream channelization, storm water management activities, and temporary and permanent road crossings, except as provided below. The activity must be constructed to withstand expected high flows. The activity shall not restrict or impede the passage of normal or high flows, unless the primary purpose of the activity is to impound water or manage high flows. The activity may alter the pre-construction course, condition, capacity, and location of open waters if it benefits the aquatic environment (e.g. stream restoration or relocation activities).

e. Activities that temporarily or permanently adversely impact upstream or downstream flood conditions require a PCN.

19. Spawning, Breeding, and Migratory Areas.

a. Jurisdictional activities in waters of the U.S. such as certain excavations, discharges of dredged or fill material, and/or suspended sediment producing activities that provide value as fish migratory areas, fish and shellfish spawning or nursery areas, or amphibian and migratory bird breeding areas, during spawning or breeding seasons shall be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable.

b. Jurisdictional activities in waters of the U.S. that provide value as breeding areas for migratory birds must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. The permittee is responsible for ensuring their action complies with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. The permittee is responsible for contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Maine Field Office (see Section VIII for contact info) to determine applicable measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds or eagles, including whether "incidental take" permits are necessary and available under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for a particular activity.

20. Vernal Pools.

a. A PCN is required if a discharge of dredged or fill material is proposed within a vernal pool depression located within waters of the U.S.

b. GC 20(a) above does not apply to projects that are within a municipality that meets the provisions of a Corps-approved vernal pool Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) and are otherwise eligible for SV, and the applicant meets the requirements to utilize the vernal pool SAMP.

21. Restoration of Special Aquatic Sites (Including Wetland Areas).

a. In areas of authorized temporary disturbance, if trees are cut they shall be cut at or above ground level and not uprooted in order to prevent disruption to the wetland soil structure and to allow stump sprouts to revegetate the work area, unless otherwise authorized.

b. The introduction or spread of invasive plant species in disturbed areas shall be controlled. If construction mats are to be used in areas of invasive plant species, they shall be thoroughly cleaned before re-use.

c. Wetland areas where permanent disturbance is not authorized shall be restored to their original condition and elevation. Original condition means protection and/or removal of existing soil and vegetation, and replacement back to the original location such that the original soil layering and vegetation schemes are

approximately the same, unless otherwise authorized. Restoration shall typically commence no later than the completion of construction.

d. Upon completion of construction, all areas of authorized disturbed wetland area shall be stabilized with a wetland seed mix containing only plant species native to New England and shall not contain any species listed in the "Invasive and Other Unacceptable Plant Species" Appendix K in the "New England District Compensatory Mitigation Guidance" found at: *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Mitigation*

22. Invasive and Other Unacceptable Species.

a. The introduction or spread of invasive or other unacceptable plant or animal species on the project site or areas adjacent to the project site caused by the site work shall be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. For example, construction mats and equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned and free of vegetation and soil before and after use. The introduction or spread of invasive plant or animal species on the project site caused by the site work shall be controlled.

b. No cultivars, invasive or other unacceptable plant species may be used for any mitigation, bioengineering, vegetative bank stabilization or any other work authorized by these GPs. However, non-native species and cultivars may be used when it is appropriate and specified in a written verification, such as using *Secale cereale* (Annual Rye) to quickly stabilize a site. All PCNs shall justify the use of non-native species or cultivars.

c. For the purposes of these GPs, plant species that are considered invasive and unacceptable areprovided in Appendix K "Invasive and Other Unacceptable Plant Species" of the most recent "New England District Compensatory Mitigation Guidance" and is found at: *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Mitigation* The June 2009 "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Invasive Species Policy" provides policy, goals and objectives and is located at *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Invasive-Species* If an Invasive Species Control/Management Plan has been prepared it should be included with any SV or PCN.

23. Soil Erosion, Sediment, and Turbidity Controls.

a. Adequate sedimentation and erosion control management measures, practices and devices, such as phased construction, installation of sediment control barriers (i.e. silt fence, vegetated filter strips, geotextilesilt fences, erosion control mixes, hay bales or other devices) downhill of all exposed areas, retention of existing vegetated buffers, application of temporary mulching during construction, and permanent seeding and stabilization shall be installed and properly maintained to reduce erosion and retain sediment on-site during and after construction. They shall be capable of preventing erosion; of collecting sediment, suspended and floating materials; and of filtering fine sediment.

b. Temporary sediment control barriers shall be removed upon completion of work, but not until all disturbed areas are permanently stabilized. The sediment collected by these sediment barriers shall be removed and placed at an upland location and stabilized to prevent its later erosion into a waterway orwetland.

c. All exposed soil and other fills shall be permanently stabilized at the earliest practicable date.

24. Time-of-Year Work (TOY) Windows/Restrictions. In-water work shall be conducted during the following TOY work windows (work allowed) under SV and any in-water work proposed during the following TOY restrictions (no work) shall be reviewed under PCN (and shall contain written justification for deviation from the work allowed windows). The term "in-water work" does not include conditions where the work site is "in-the-dry" (e.g. intertidal areas exposed at low tide). The term also does not include work contained in a cofferdam so long as the cofferdam was installed and subsequently removed within the work allowedwindow.

	TOY Restriction (***no work***)	TOY Work Window (***work allowed***)
Non-tidal waters	Oct. 1st to Jul. 14th	Jul. 15th to Sep. 30th
Tidal waters	Apr. 10th to Nov. 7th	Nov. 8th to Apr. 9th

Alternate work windows proposed under PCN will generally be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and/or Maine Department of Marine Resources and resulting written verifications may include species-specific work allowed windows.

25. Pile Driving and Pile Removal in Navigable Waters.

a. Derelict, degraded, or abandoned piles and sheet piles in the project area shall be removed in their entirety as practicable and properly disposed of in an upland location and not in wetlands. In areas of fine-grained substrates, piles/sheets shall be removed by direct, vibratory, or clamshell pull method in order to minimize potential turbidity and sedimentation impacts. If removal is not practicable, said piles/sheets shall be cut off or driven to a depth of at least one foot below substrate.

b. Work involving pile installation and/or removal should adhere to one of the five methods below:

i. "In-the-dry", or

ii. In-water between Nov. 8th to Apr. 9th, or

iii. Drilled and pinned to ledge, or

iv. Vibratory hammers used to install any size and quantity of wood, concrete, or steel, or impact hammers limited to one hammer and <50 piles installed/day with the following: wood piles of any diameter, concrete piles ≤18-inches diameter, steel piles ≤12-inches diameter if: (1) the hammer is ≤3,000 pounds and a wood cushion or equivalent is used between the hammer and steel pile, or (2) a soft start is used. Soft starts require an initial set of three strikes from the impact hammer at 40% energy, followed by a 1-minute waiting period between subsequent three-strike sets. The soft-start procedure shall be conducted any time hammering ceases for more than 30 minutes.

26. Temporary Fill.

a. Temporary fills, including but not limited to construction mats and corduroy roads shall be entirely removed as soon as they are no longer needed to construct the authorized work. Temporary fill shall be placed in its original location or disposed of at an upland site and suitably contained to prevent its subsequent erosion into waters of the U.S.

b. All temporary fill and disturbed soils shall be stabilized to prevent its eroding into waters of the U.S. where it is not authorized. Work shall include phased or staged development to ensure only areas under active development are exposed and to allow for stabilization practices as soon as practicable. Temporary fill shall be placed in a manner that will prevent it from being eroded by expected high flows.

c. Unconfined temporary fill authorized for discharge into waters of the U.S. shall consist of material that minimizes impacts to water quality (e.g. washed stone, stone, etc.).

d. Appropriate measures shall be taken to maintain normal downstream flows and minimize flooding to the maximum extent practicable when temporary structures, work, and discharges of dredged or fill material, including cofferdams, are necessary for construction activities, access fills, or dewatering of construction sites. Materials shall be placed in a location and manner that does not adversely impact surface or subsurface water flow into or out of the wetland. Temporary fill authorized for discharge into wetlands shall be placed on geotextile fabric or other appropriate material laid on the pre-construction wetland grade where practicable to minimize impacts and to facilitate restoration to the original grade. Construction mats are excluded from this requirement.

e. Construction debris and/or deteriorated materials shall not be placed or otherwise located in waters of the U.S.

27. **Heavy Equipment in Wetlands or Mudflats.** Operating heavy equipment (drill rigs, fixed cranes, etc.) within wetlands shall be minimized, and to the maximum extent practicable such equipment shall not be stored, maintained or repaired in wetlands. Where construction requires heavy equipment operation in wetlands, the equipment shall: a) have low ground pressure (typically <3 psi); b) be placed on swamp/construction/timber mats (herein referred to as "mats") that are adequate to support the equipment in such a way as to minimize disturbance of wetland soil and vegetation; or c) be operated on adequately dry or frozen wetlands such that shear pressure does not cause subsidence of the wetlands immediately beneath equipment and upheaval of adjacent wetlands. Mats are to be placed in the wetland from the upland or from equipment positioned on mats if already working within a wetland. Other support structures that are capable of safely supporting equipment may be used with written Corps authorization. Similarly, the permittee may request written authorization from the Corps to waive use of mats during frozen or dry conditions. Construction mats should be managed in accordance with construction mat best management practices (BMPs) found at:
www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/State-General-Permits/Maine-General-Permit

28. Bank and Shoreline Stabilization Including Living Shorelines.

a. Projects involving construction of or repair, replacement, and maintenance of bank or shoreline stabilization structures including living shorelines within Corps jurisdiction shall be designed to minimize environmental effects, effects to neighboring properties, scour, etc. to the maximum extent practicable.

b. Prospective permittees shall design and construct these stabilization projects using this sequential avoidance and minimization process: avoidance of aquatic resource impacts, diversion of overland flow, vegetative stabilization, living shorelines, stone-sloped surfaces, and walls/bulkheads. New vertical walls/bulkheads shall only be used in situations where reflected wave energy can be tolerated. Prospective permittees proposing new vertical walls/bulkheads shall provide written justification demonstrating why other methods of stabilization are not practicable and how the surrounding area would be affected by the resulting reflected wave energy.

Additional conditions to meet SV eligibility criteria for *non-tidal* bank and shoreline stabilization activities:

a. Fill shall be ≤500 linear feet in total length as measured below the plane of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), includes total if more than one stream bank.
b. Fill placed below the plane of the OHWM shall be ≤1 cubic yard per linear foot.
c. Fill shall not be angled steeper than 1H:1V.
d. No discharge of fill in special aquatic sites other than wetlands.
e. Stone revetment shall be comprised of angular material.
f. No material shall be of the type, or placed in any location, or in any manner, to impair surface water flow into or out of any water of the U.S.
g. No material shall be placed in a manner that will be eroded by normal or expected high flows (properly anchored trees and treetops may be used in low energy areas).
h. The activity shall not be a stream channelization activity.

Additional conditions to meet SV eligibility criteria for *tidal* bank and shoreline stabilization activities:

a. All in-water work shall be conducted "in-the-dry".
b. Fill shall be ≤500 linear feet in total length as measured below the plane of the high tide line (HTL) and shall be ≤200 linear feet in total length as measured below the plane of the mean high water mark (MHWM), includes total for more than one bank. Vertical structures shall be ≤200 linear feet in total length as measured below the plane of the MHWM and shall be ≤18 inches waterward of the existing vertical face.
c. Fill placed below the plane of the HTL shall be ≤1 cubic yard per linear foot.
d. Stone revetment shall be comprised of angular material.
e. Shall not impact special aquatic sites (SAS, incl. submerged aquatic vegetation, SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitats are ≤100 square feet, and impacts to intertidal and shellfish areas are ≤1,000 square feet).
f. No structures/fill shall be steeper than 1H:1V.
g. No new groins, breakwaters, or jetties.

29. Stream Work and Crossings, and Wetland Crossings.

a. A PCN is required for all new and replacement crossings in navigable waters.

b. In order to effectively size and configure crossings in navigable waters, new and replacement crossings shall consider factors including but not limited to: local tidal elevations over the range of tidal heights, basin topography and bathymetry, existing and proposed road elevations. Flood risk tolerance, conditions of habitat and natural community types present, and sea level rise during the useful life of the crossing.

c. A PCN is required for activities that result in unavoidable impacts to wetlands in excess of SV thresholds.

d. In-stream work and crossings and wetland crossings shall adhere to all applicable GCs including but not limited to:

i. GC 16 (Federally Threatened and Endangered Species)
ii. GC 17 (Essential Fish Habitat)
iii. GC 18 (Aquatic Life Movements and Management of Water Flows)

iv. GC 23 (Soil Erosion, Sediment and Turbidity Controls)
v. GC 24 (Time-of-Year Work Windows/Restrictions)
vi. GC 26 (Temporary Fill)
vii. GC 28 (Bank Stabilization)

e. Slip Lining. Work resulting in a decreased width, height, or diameter of an existing crossing (e.g. slip lining and invert lining) is discouraged and requires PCN. Written justification shall be provided for this activity.

f. Culvert Extensions. A PCN is required for any extension to an existing culvert.

g. Scour protection or armoring of the inlet and/or outlet of a crossing shall not disrupt normal flow patterns or substantially disrupt the necessary life cycle movements of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the waterbody, including those species that normally migrate through the area (see GC 18).

h. The permittee shall maintain the work authorized herein in good condition and in conformance with the terms and general conditions of this permit to facilitate aquatic life passage as stated in GC 18. Culverts that develop "hanging" inlets or outlets, result in bed washout, or a stream that doesn't match the characteristics of the substrate in the natural stream channel such as mobility, slope, stability confinement will require maintenance or repair to comply with this GC (this does not apply to temporary stream crossings).

Additional conditions to meet SV eligibility criteria for Stream Work and Crossings:

a. Crossings shall be designed and constructed using the techniques and principles outlined in Stream Simulation, Stream Smart, Habitat Connectivity Design.
b. Crossings shall be designed to be at least 1.2 times bankfull width. Any footings, abutments, and/or abutment armoring shall also be at least 1.2 times bankfull width.
c. Crossings shall have a natural bottom substrate under or within the structure matching the characteristics of the substrate in the natural stream channel. Crossings shall be designed and constructed with appropriate streambed forms and streambed characteristics so that water depths and velocities are comparable to those found in the adjacent natural channel at a variety of flows.
d. Crossings shall include a bank on both sides of the stream matching the horizontal profile of the existing stream and banks in order to allow terrestrial passage for wildlife and to prevent undermining of the footings as applicable.
e. Closed bottom culverts shall be embedded at least 25 percent of the maximum height of the culvert.
f. No unconfined fill or excavation in flowing waters is allowed. In-stream construction work shall be conducted "in-the-dry" under no-flow conditions or by using cofferdams, temporary flume pipes, culverts, etc. Downstream flows shall be maintained during in-stream construction. It is recommended that project plans include pertinent details for working in-the-dry and maintaining downstream flows.
g. Conditions (a) thru (e) immediately above do not apply to temporary stream crossings; however, in addition to conditions (f) immediately above, temporary stream crossings shall adhere to the following:
    i. Be placed on geotextile fabric or other material where practicable to ensure restoration to the original grade. Soil may not be used to construct or stabilize these structures and rock shall be large enough to allow for easy removal without disrupting the streambed.
    ii. Be designed and maintained to withstand and pass high flows. Water height shall be no higher than the top of the culvert's inlet. A minimum culvert diameter of two feet is required to pass debris. Culverts shall be aligned to prevent bank erosion or streambed scour.
    iii. Be equipped with energy dissipating devices installed downstream if necessary to prevent scour.
    iv. Be designed and maintained to prevent soil from entering the waterbody.
    v. Be removed upon the completion of work. Impacts to the streambed or banks requires restoration to their original condition using the methods in (a) above.

PCN Conditions for Stream Work and Crossings:

a. Crossings are recommended to meet the conditions for SV; written justification shall be provided for any deviation from SV conditions.

b. Crossings shall be designed using the least intrusive and environmentally damaging method following this sequential minimization process: 1) spans with no stream impacts, 2) spans with stream impacts, and 3) embedded culverts with Stream Simulation, Stream Smart, or Habitat Connectivity.

Additional Conditions for Wetland Crossings:

a. New and replacement wetland crossings that are permanent shall be constructed in such a manner as to preserve hydraulic and ecological connectivity, at its present level, between the wetlands on either side of the road. Crossing structures commonly include but are not limited to spans and culverts. To meet this condition, spans or culverts should be placed at least every 50 feet with an opening at least 2 feet high and 3 feet wide at ground level. Closed bottom culverts should be embedded at least 6 inches and should have a natural bottom substrate within the structure. Alternative crossing designs that preserve wetland hydraulic and ecological connectivity (e.g. "rock sandwiches) may also be considered.

b. Any work that results in flooding, or impacts to wetland drainage from the upgradient side of the wetland crossing does not qualify for SV.

c. In the case of non-compliance, the permittee shall take necessary measures to correct wetland damage due to lack of hydraulic and ecological connectivity.

30. Utility Line Installation and Removal.

a. Utility lines in jurisdictional waters should be installed subsurface and shall be maintained in such a way so that they remain subsurface. If it is necessary to discharge dredged or filled material to keep such utility lines buried or restore them to their original subsurface condition, a PCN and written verification from the Corps may be required (e.g., in the case of side casting into wetlands from utility trenches).

b. For subsurface utility lines the bottom and side slope cover associated with the initial installation under Federal Navigation Projects (FNPs) is a technical determination. The depth requirement varies based on geotechnical (composition of bottom materials and layering), hydraulic (current, or wave induced scour depth), navigation (propeller induced scour depth and ships' anchor penetration), maintenance dredging (penetration of barge spuds), construction factors (energy from blasting potentially transmitted to utility crossings), physical conditions (exposed open water conditions or sheltered/harbor conditions), and the proposed location of the utility crossing within any FNP or within navigable waters, including areas dredged by others. On a case-by-case basis, the Corps will determine the depth and cover requirements for each proposed utility crossing. Additional conditions to the GP will be attached to address pre and post installation requirements. In waterways that do not have existing FNPs, this depth should be taken as two feet below the existing bottom or maximum depth of proposed dredging, as applicable.

c. Aerial utility lines crossing navigable waters require PCN and shall meet minimum clearances per 33 CFR 322.5(i).

d. For horizontal directional drilling work, returns of drilling fluids to the surface (i.e., frac-outs) are not authorized and require restoration to the maximum extent practicable in accordance with the terms and conditions of these GPs. The permittee and its contractor shall have onsite and shall implement the procedures detailed in a frac-out contingency plan for monitoring drilling operations and for the immediate containment, control and recovery/removal of drilling fluids released into the environment should a discharge of material occur during drilling operations.

e. For new installations within waters of the U.S., any abandoned or inactive utility lines should be removed and faulty lines (e.g., leaking hazardous substances, petroleum products, etc.) shall be removed or repaired to the extent practicable. A PCN is required if they are to remain in place, e.g., to protect sensitive areas or ensure safety.

f. No work shall drain a water of the U.S. by providing a conduit for water on or below the surface. Trench plugs installed along pipelines may be effective.

g. Trenches should be backfilled with native sediment immediately after completion of work.

h. Pre-construction elevations should be re-established. Any additional material needed to accomplish this should be of consistent type and grain-size as the existing substrate sediment.

i. Utility line activities in non-tidal waters adjacent to special aquatic sites, and all work in tidal waters should utilize horizontal directional drilling as practicable.

31. Storage of Seasonal Structures. Seasonal or recreational structures such as pier sections, floats, aquaculture structures, etc. that are removed from the waterway for a portion of the year shall be stored in an upland location and not in wetlands, tidal wetlands, their substrate, or on mudflats. These seasonal structures may be stored on the fixed, pile-supported portion of a structure that is waterward of the mean high water mark or the ordinary high water mark, e.g. the storage of a ramp or gangway on the pile-supported pier. Seasonal storage of structures in navigable waters, e.g., in a protected cove, requires prior Corps approval and local harbormaster approval.

32. Aquaculture. Activities involving the cultivation of Atlantic salmon and other salmonids, or other federally-listed threatened or endangered species are not eligible for authorization under these GPs. All other aquaculture activities shall adhere to all applicable GCs including but not limited to:

a. GC 3 (Other Permits) In particular, permittees shall maintain a current State of Maine Department of Marine Resources lease or license.
b. GC 10 (Corps Projects and Property)
c. GC 11 (Navigation)
d. GC 16 (Federal Threatened and Endangered Species)
e. GC 17 (Essential Fish Habitat)
f. GC 18 (Aquatic Life Movements and Management of Water Flows)
g. GC 31 (Storage of Seasonal Structures)

Additional conditions to meet SV eligibility criteria for Tidal Aquaculture:

a. Shall not exceed 400 square feet in area.
b. Shall receive signed approval from Harbormaster or appropriate Town Official.
c. Shall not include enclosures or impoundments.
d. Shall not be located in or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a FNP.
e. Shall not be located in or impinge upon the value of National Lands and Federal Properties including but not limited to National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges.
f. Shall not impact special aquatic sites (SAS, incl. submerged aquatic vegetation, SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitats are ≤100 square feet, and impacts to intertidal and shellfish areas are ≤1,000 square feet.
g. No structures, cages, gear, or shell hash shall be located in/within 25 feet of SAV.
h. All gear, except for mooring tackle, when not in use on the site shall be stored in an upland location above the mean high water mark and not on wetland (incl. salt marsh).

33. Permit(s)/Authorization Letter On-Site. The permittee shall ensure that a copy of the terms and conditions of these GPs and any accompanying authorization letter with attached plans are at the site of the work authorized by these GPs whenever work is being performed and that all construction personnel performing work which may affect waters of the U.S. are fully aware of the accompanying terms and conditions. The entire permit authorization shall be made a part of any and all contracts and subcontracts for work that affects areas of Corps jurisdiction at the site of the work authorized by these GPs. This shall be achieved by including the entire permit authorization in the specifications for work. The term "entire permit authorization" means all terms and conditions of the GPs, the GPs, and the authorization letter (including its drawings, plans, appendices and other attachments) and subsequent permit modifications as applicable. If the authorization letter is issued after the construction specifications, but before receipt of bids or quotes, the entire permit authorization shall be included as an addendum to the specifications. If the authorization letter is issued after receipt of bids or quotes, the entire permit authorization shall be included in the contract or subcontract. Although the permittee may assign various aspects of the work to different contractors or subcontractors, all contractors and subcontractors shall be obligated by contract to comply with all environmental protection provisions contained within the entire GP authorization, and no contract or subcontract shall require or allow unauthorized work in areas of Corps jurisdiction.

34. Inspections. The permittee shall allow the Corps to make periodic inspections at any time deemed necessary in order to ensure that the work is eligible for authorization under these GPs, is being, or has been performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of these GPs. To facilitate these inspections, the permittee shall

complete and return to the Corps the Work-Start Notification Form and the Compliance Certification Form when either is provided with an authorization letter. The Corps may also require post-construction engineering drawings and/or photographs for completed work or post-dredging survey drawings for any dredging work to verify compliance.

35. Maintenance. The permittee shall maintain the activity authorized by these GPs in good condition and in conformance with the terms and condition of these permits. This does not include maintenance dredging, related disposal, or beach nourishment projects, which are subject to review thresholds for GP 5 on page 30, unless specified in written authorization from the Corps.

36. Federal Liability. In issuing these permits, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for the following:

a. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of other permitted or unpermitted activities or from natural causes;

b. Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of current or future activities undertaken by or on behalf of the U.S. in the public interest;

c. Damages to persons, property, or to other permitted or unpermitted activities or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit;

d. Design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work; or

e. Damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit.

37. Property Rights. Per 33 CFR 320.4(g)(6), these GPs do not convey any property rights, either in real estate or material, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to property or invasion of rights or any infringement of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

38. Previously Authorized Activities.

a. Projects that received prior authorization from the Corps (via Category 1 or 2) and that completed authorized work under the previous nationwide permits, programmatic permits, regional general permits or letters of permission, shall remain authorized in accordance with the original terms and conditions of those authorizations, including their terms, general conditions, expiration date, and any special conditions provided in a written verification.

b. Activities authorized pursuant to 33 CFR Part 330.3 ("Activities occurring before certain dates") are not affected by these GPs.

c. Any work not commenced, not under contract to commence, nor completed that was originally authorized by the Corps under the GP in effect between October 13, 2015 and October 13, 2020 remains authorized subject to the terms and general conditions of this GP along with any special conditions included in written authorizations. Exception: if previously authorized work has not commenced or not under contract to commence and a new federally-listed threatened or endangered species may be affected, the Corps shall consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or NOAA Fisheries prior to re-authorizing the work under these GPs. Requests for re-authorization shall include an Official Species List per GC 16.

39. Transfer of GP Verifications. If the permittee sells the property associated with a GP verification, the permittee may transfer the GP verification to the new owner by submitting a letter to the Corps to validate the transfer. A copy of the GP verification shall be attached to the letter, the letter shall contain the name, address, phone number and email of the transferee (new owner), shall include the following statement and signature, and be mailed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Maine Project Office, 442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 350, Augusta, Maine 04330:

> "When the structures or work authorized by these GPs are still in existence at the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of these GPs, including any special conditions, will continue to be binding on the new owner(s) of the property."
>
> _____
> Transferee Printed Name
>
> _____
> Transferee Signature Date

40. Modification, Suspension, and Revocation. These GPs and any individual authorization issued thereof may be either modified, suspended, or revoked, in whole or in part, pursuant to the policies and procedures of 33 CFR 325.7, and any such action shall not be the basis for any claim for damages against the U.S.

41. Special Conditions. The Corps may independently or in coordination with federal resource agencies impose special conditions on a project authorized pursuant to these GPs that are determined necessary to minimize adverse navigational and/or environmental effects, or based on any other factor of the public interest. Failure to comply with all terms and conditions of the authorization, including special conditions, constitutes a permit violation and may subject the permittee to criminal, civil or administrative penalties and/or an ordered restoration.

42. False or Incomplete Information. If the Corps makes a determination regarding the eligibility of a project under these GPs and subsequently discovers that it has relied on false, incomplete or inaccurate information provided by the permittee, the Corps may determine that the GP authorization is not valid; modify, suspend or revoke the authorization; and the U.S. Government may institute legal proceedings.

43. Abandonment. If the permittee decides to abandon the activity authorized under these GPs, unless such abandonment is merely the transfer of property to a third party, he/she may be required to restore the area to the satisfaction of the Corps.

44. Enforcement cases. These GPs do not apply to any existing or proposed activity in Corps jurisdiction associated with an ongoing Corps or EPA enforcement action, until such time as the enforcement action is resolved or the Corps or EPA, as appropriate, determines that the activity may proceed independently without compromising the enforcement action.

45. Duration of Authorization.

a. These GPs expire on October 14, 2025 unless otherwise specifically indicated in an individual authorization letter. Activities authorized under these GPs that have either commenced or are under contract to commence in reliance upon this authorization will have an additional year from the expiration date to complete the work. The permittee must be able to document to the Corps' satisfaction that the activity commenced or was under contract to commence by the expiration date of these GPs. If work is not completed within the one year extended timeframe, the permittee must contact the Corps. The Corps may issue a new authorization, provided the activity meets the applicable terms and conditions of the Maine GPs that are in effect at the time.

b. Activities authorized under these GPs will remain authorized until these GPs expire, unless discretionary authority has been exercised on a case-by-case basis to modify, suspend, or revoke the authorization in accordance with 33 CFR 325.2(e)(2). Activities completed under the SV or PCN authorizations of these GPs will continue to be authorized after its expiration date.

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Tammy R. Turley
Chief, Regulatory Division

V. MAINE GENERAL PERMITS

An activity is authorized under General Permits 1 through 23 listed below only if that activity and the permittee satisfy all of the applicable GP terms and general conditions. Any activity not specifically listed may still be eligible for authorization under these GPs; prospective permittees are advised to contact the Corps for specific eligibility determination.

1. Repair, Replacement, and Maintenance of Authorized Structures and Fills;
Repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of any previously authorized, currently serviceable structure, or fill and minor expansions thereof.

2. Moorings
New moorings and mooring fields, the relocation of previously authorized moorings, expansions, boundary reconfigurations or modifications of previously authorized mooring fields, conversion of mooring types (e.g. private to rental), and maintenance and replacement of moorings. Moored floats, lobster cars, rafts, and similar float structures are not included in this GP.

3. Structures, Floats and Lifts
New, expansions, reconfigurations or modifications of structures for navigational access in waters of the U.S. including but not limited to temporary/seasonal or permanent pile and crib-supported piers, floats, stairs, shore outhauls, and boat and float lifts/ways. Floats may include lobster cars, work floats, moored floats, swim floats, and shellfish upweller floats.

4. Aids to Navigation, and Temporary Recreational Structures
Aids to navigation and regulatory markers which are approved by and installed in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard (see 33 CFR, chapter I, subchapter C, part 66) and temporary buoys, markers, small floating docks, and similar structures placed for recreational use during specific events such as fireworks displays, water skiing competitions, and boat races or seasonal use.

5. Dredging, Disposal of Dredged Material, Beach Nourishment, and Rock Removal and Relocation
New, maintenance, and improvement dredging, including: a) Disposal of dredged material at a confinedaquatic disposal, beach nourishment, near shore, designated open water or ocean water disposal site(s), provided the Corps finds the dredged material to be suitable for such disposal; (b) Beach nourishment not associated with dredging; (c) Rock removal and relocation for navigation.

6. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges and Causeways
Discharges of dredged or fill material incidental to the construction and modification of bridges across navigable waters of the U.S., including cofferdams abutments, foundation seals, piers, approach fills, and temporary construction and access fills provided that the USCG authorizes the construction of the bridge structure under Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 or other applicable laws.

7. Bank and Shoreline Stabilization Including Living Shorelines
Bank stabilization activities necessary for erosion protection along the banks of lakes, ponds, streams, and marine/tidal waters. Includes bulkheads, seawalls, riprap, revetments or slope protection & similar structures as well as vegetative planting, soil bioengineering or alternative techniques that are a combination of the two (i.e. living shorelines), specifically for the purpose of shoreline protection.

8. Residential, Commercial and Institutional Developments, and Recreational Facilities
Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S for the construction or expansion of: residences and residential subdivisions; commercial and institutional buildings or subdivisions; and recreational facilities; and attendant features including but not limited to roads, parking lots, garages, stormwater management facilities, yards, and utilities.

9. Utility Line Activities

Activities required for (a) the construction, maintenance, relocation, repair, & removal of utility lines, including outfall and intake structures, and the associated excavation, backfill, or bedding for utility lines; (b) the construction, maintenance or expansion of utility line substation facilities associated with a power/utility line in non-tidal waters; and (c) the construction and maintenance of foundations for overhead utility line towers, poles, and anchors provided the foundations are the minimum size necessary and separate footings for each tower leg (rather than a larger single pad) are used where feasible. This GP authorizes the construction of access roads to facilitate construction of the above activities provided the activity, in combination with all other activities included in one single and complete project.

10. Linear Transportation Projects

Activities required for the construction, expansion, modification, or improvement of linear transportation projects (e.g., driveways, roads, highways, railways, trails, airport runways, and taxiways) and attendant features.

11. Mining Activities

Temporary or permanent discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. for mining activities.

12. Boat Ramps and Marine Railways

Temporary or permanent discharges of dredged or fill material, excavation and other work in waters of the U.S. required for the construction of temporary or permanent boat ramps and marine railways.

13. Land and Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities and Hydropower Projects

Structures and work and discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. for the construction, expansion, modification or removal of: (a) land-based renewable energy production facilities (e.g. solar and wind) and their attendant features; (b) water-based wind or hydrokinetic renewable energy generation pilot projects and their attendant features; and (c) discharges of dredged or fill material associated with hydropower projects. Attendant features may include, but are not limited to, land-based collection and distribution facilities, control facilities, and parking lots.

14. Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches and Mosquito Management

Discharges to modify the cross-sectional configuration of currently serviceable drainage ditches constructed in waters of the U.S., for the purpose of improving water quality by regrading the drainage ditch with gentler slopes, which can reduce erosion, increase growth of vegetation, and increase uptake of nutrients and other substances by vegetation. Also authorized are mosquito reduction activities.

15. Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances

Activities conducted in response to a discharge or release of oil and hazardous substances that are subject to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (40 CFR 300) including containment, cleanup, and mitigation efforts, provided activities are done under either (i) The Spill Prevent, Control & Countermeasure Plan require by 40 CFR 112.3; (ii) The direction or oversight of the Federal on-site coordinator designated by 40 CFR 300; or (iii) Any approved existing State, regional or local contingency plan provided that the Regional Response Team (if one exists in the area) concurs with the proposed response efforts or does not object to the response effort. Activities required for the cleanup of oil releases in waters of the U.S. from electrical equipment that are governed by EPA's polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) spill response regulations at 40 CFR 761. Booms placed in tidal waters. Use of temporary structures & fills for spill response training exercises.

16. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste

Specific activities to effect the containment, stabilization or removal of hazardous or toxic waste materials, including court ordered remedial action plans or related settlements which are performed, ordered or sponsored by a government agency with established legal or regulatory authority.

17. Scientific Measurement Devices
Scientific devices for measuring and recording scientific data, such as staff gauges, tide and current gauges, meteorological stations, water recording and biological observation devices, water quality testing and improvement devices, and similar structures.

18. Survey Activities
Survey activities such as soil borings, core sampling, seismic exploratory operations, plugging of seismic shot holes and other exploratory-type bore holes, exploratory trenching and historic resources surveys (but not recovery).

19. Agricultural Activities
Regulated discharges of dredged or fill material in non-tidal waters of the U.S. for agricultural activities, including the construction of building pads for farm buildings. Authorized activities include: (a) installation, placement, or construction of drainage tiles, ditches, or levees; mechanized land clearing; land leveling; the relocation of existing serviceable drainage ditches; and similar activities; (b) construction of farm ponds, excluding perennial streams, provided the farm pond is used solely for agricultural purposes; and (c) discharges of dredged or fill material to relocate existing serviceable drainage ditches constructed in non-tidal streams.

20. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices
Activities in waters of the U.S. associated with fish and wildlife harvesting devices including pound nets, crab and lobster traps, crab dredging, eel pots, duck blinds, and clam and oyster digging, fish aggregating devices, and small fish attraction devices such as open water fish concentrators (sea kites, etc.). This GP does not include aquaculture activities.

21. Habitat Restoration, Establishment and Enhancement Activities
Activities in waters of the U.S. associated with the restoration, enhancement and establishment of non-tidal and tidal wetlands and riparian areas, including invasive, non-native or nuisance species control; the restoration and enhancement of non-tidal streams and other non-tidal open waters; the relocation of non-tidal waters, including non-tidal streams & associated wetlands for reestablishment of a natural stream morphology and reconnection of the floodplain; the restoration and enhancement of shellfish, finfish and wildlife; and the rehabilitation or enhancement of tidal streams, tidal wetlands and tidal open waters; provided those activities result in net increases in aquatic resource functions and services. Also included are shellfish enhancement measures including but not limited to “brushing”, clam pots, boxes, and netting.

22. Stream and Wetland Work and Crossings
Activities required for the construction, expansion, modification, or improvement of linear transportation projects that cross waters of the U.S. (e.g., driveways, roads, highways, railways, trails, airport runways, and taxiways) and attendant features. Crossing structures include, but are not limited to temporary or permanent jurisdictional spans, bridges, culverts, and fords. Any stream channel modification is limited to the minimum necessary to construct or protect the project; such modifications must be in the immediate vicinity of the project.

23. Aquaculture
The installation of buoys, floats, racks, trays, nets, lines or other structures in waters of the U.S. for the containment and cultivation of fish, shellfish and seaweed/kelp. Also authorized are anchored upweller floats, small-scale shellfish hatchery seawater intake/discharge structures, and discharges of dredged or fill material associated with cultivation such as the placement of cultch or spatted-shell on bottom.

USER NOTE: All Self-Verification and Pre-Construction Notification activities shall comply with all applicable terms (pages 1 - 4), General Conditions (pages 5 - 19), and additional terms below.

GENERAL PERMITS FOR THE STATE OF MAINE		
A. INLAND WATERS AND WETLANDS	Inland Waters and Wetlands are defined as waters that are regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, including rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands, and ***excludes Section 10 Navigable Waters of the U.S.*** The jurisdictional boundaries are the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) in the absence of adjacent wetlands; beyond the OHWM to the limit of adjacent wetlands when adjacent wetlands are present; and the wetland limit when only wetlands are present. For the purposes of these GPs and designated activities, fill placed in the area between the mean high water mark (MHWM) and the high tide line (HTL), and in the bordering and contiguous wetlands to tidal waters are reviewed in the Navigable Waters section below beginning on page 28.	
	Activities not meeting the Self-Verification terms below require Pre-Construction Notification and activities not meeting the Pre-Construction Notification terms below require an application for an Individual Permit (IP).	
GENERAL PERMIT #	**SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)**	**PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)**
1. Repair, Replacement, and Maintenance of Authorized Structures and Fills *(for stream crossings see GP 22)*	Repair, replacement, and maintenance of existing, currently serviceable, authorized fills with no expansion or change in use, provided: • Conditions of the original authorization apply. • Minor deviations in fill design allowed. • The repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of those structures or fills destroyed or damaged by storms, floods, fire or other discrete events is authorized, provided the work is commenced, or is under contract to commence, within two years of the date of their destruction or damage. • Drawdown of impoundments for dam/levee repair does not exceed 18 months and one growing season (Apr-Sept).	Repair, replacement, and maintenance of existing authorized fills not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
2. Moorings	Not Applicable – these activities in non-navigable inland waters do not require Corps authorization.	Not Applicable – these activities in non-navigable inland waters do not require Corps authorization.
3. Structures, Floats, and Lifts	Pile-supported structures, floats and lifts located in non-navigable inland waters do not require Corps authorization. Solid fill or crib-supported structures with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.	Fill activities associated with structures, floats, and lifts not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
4. Aids to Navigation and Temporary Recreational Structures	Not Applicable – these activities in non-navigable inland waters do not require Corps authorization.	Not Applicable – these activities in non-navigable inland waters do not require Corps authorization.
5. Dredging, Disposal of Dredged Material, Beach Nourishment, and Rock Removal and Relocation	Those activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No stream channelization, relocation, or loss of streambed including impoundments or discharges of tailings into streams.	Those activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
6. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges and Causeways	Not applicable in inland waters and wetlands; see B. Navigable Waters on page 31 below.	Not applicable in inland waters and wetlands; see B. Navigable Waters on page 31 below.
7. Bank and Shoreline Stabilization Including Living Shorelines (see also GC 28)	Bank and shoreline stabilization activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • Fill is ≤500 LF in total length as measured below the plane of the OHWM, includes total if more than one stream bank. • Fill placed below the plane of the OHWM is ≤1 CY per linear foot. • There is no discharge in special aquatic sites other than wetlands. • Revetment is comprised of angular material. • In-stream work is limited to Jul. 15th to Sep. 30th • No structures angled steeper than 1H:1V.	Bank and shoreline stabilization activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
8. Residential, Commercial and Institutional Developments, and Recreational Facilities	Those developments and facilities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts. Fill area includes all temporary and permanent fill, and regulated discharges associated with excavation. Provided: • The historic fill and proposed fill area <15,000 SF specifically complies with GC 5 Single and Complete Projects. • No work in special aquatic sites other than wetlands.	Those developments and facilities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts. *Mechanical clearing of areas within Corps jurisdiction without grubbing or other soil disturbance >3 acres as a secondary impact may still be eligible for PCN at the discretion of the Corps.*
9. Utility Line Activities (see also GC 30)	Utility line activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill (excluding mats), and associated secondary impacts, provided: • There is no permanent change in pre-construction contours in waters in the U.S. • Material resulting from trench excavation is temporarily side cast into waters of the U.S. for <3 months and is placed in such a manner that is not dispersed by current or other forces. • The line does not run parallel to, or along a streambed. • No stream channelization, relocation, or loss of streambed including impoundments. • There is no discharge in special aquatic sites other than wetlands. • Construction mats of any area necessary to conduct activities provided mats are removed as soon as work is completed and shall be in place no longer than one single growing season. • In-stream work is limited to Jul. 15th to Sep. 30th • In-water work is conducted in-the-dry. • Intake structures that are dry hydrants used exclusively for firefighting activities with no stream impoundments. • Construction mats of any area necessary to conduct activities provided mats are removed as soon as work is completed and shall be in place no longer than one single growing season.	Utility line activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts. *Mechanical clearing of areas within Corps jurisdiction without grubbing or other soil disturbance >3 acres as a secondary impact may still be eligible for PCN at the discretion of the Corps.*

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
10. Linear Transportation Projects *(for stream crossings refer to GP 22)*	Linear transportation activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill (excl. mats), and associated secondary impacts, provided: • The historic fill and proposed fill area <15,000 SF specifically complies with GC 5 Single and Complete Projects. • There is no discharge in special aquatic sites other than wetlands. • Construction mats of any area necessary to conduct activities provided mats are removed as soon as work is completed and shall be in place no longer than one single growing season.	Linear transportation activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts. *Mechanical clearing of areas within Corps jurisdiction without grubbing or other soil disturbance >3 acres as a secondary impact may still be eligible for PCN at the discretion of the Corps.*
11. Mining Activities	Mining activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No stream channelization, relocation, or loss of streambed including impoundments.	Mining activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
12. Boat Ramps	Boat ramps with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, and temporary fills.	Boat ramps not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
13. Land and Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities and Hydropower Projects	Those facilities and projects with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No stream channelization, relocation, or loss of streambed including impoundments. • No new water-based facilities are eligible.	Those facilities and projects not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts. *Mechanical clearing of areas within Corps jurisdiction without grubbing or other soil disturbance >3 acres as a secondary impact may still be eligible for PCN at the discretion of the Corps.*
14. Reshaping Existing Ditches and Mosquito Management	Not applicable in inland waters and wetlands; see B. Navigable Waters on page 33 below.	Not applicable in inland waters and wetlands; see B. Navigable Waters on page 33 below.
15. Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances	The SVNF or a surrogate state reporting form may be submitted after-the-fact for response operations. This GP also authorizes the use of temporary structures and fills in waters of the U.S. for spill response training exercises with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts (*SVNF is required prior to the activity*).	Those response operations not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
16. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste	Those cleanup activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No stream channelization, relocation, or loss of streambed including impoundments. • The activity does not involve establishing new disposal sites or expanding existing sites used for the disposal of hazardous or toxic waste.	Those cleanup activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts. • The activity does not involve establishing new sites for the disposal of hazardous or toxic waste.
17. Scientific Measurements Devices	Those devices with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No biological sampling devices. • Devices do not restrict or concentrate movement of aquatic organisms. • Upon completion of use, the devices and any associated fills shall be removed in their entirety.	Those devices not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
18. Survey Activities	Those survey activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • Exploratory trenches are restored in accordance with GC 21. • No discharge of excavated material from test wells for oil and gas exploration (the plugging of such wells is authorized).	Those survey activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
19. Agricultural Activities	Those agricultural activities subject to Corps jurisdiction with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No stream channelization, relocation, or loss of streambed including impoundments.	Those agricultural activities subject to Corps jurisdiction not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
20. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement and Attraction Devices and Activities	Not applicable in inland waters and wetlands; see B. Navigable Waters on page 34 below.	Not applicable in inland waters and wetlands; see B. Navigable Waters on page 34 below.
21. Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement	Those activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No water impoundments allowed. • No conversion of a stream to wetland or vice versa, a wetland to a pond or uplands, or one wetland type to another. • No dam removal.	Those activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
22. Stream and Wetland Work and Crossings (see also GC 29)	Stream work and crossings with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No work in designated or proposed critical habitat for endangered species. • Crossings are designed and constructed using the techniques and principles outlined in Stream Simulation, Stream Smart, or Habitat Connectivity Design. • Crossings are designed to be 1.2 times bankfull width. • Crossings have a natural bottom substrate. • Crossings include a bank on both sides of the channel. • Closed bottom culverts are embedded at least 25% of the maximum width of the culvert. • In-stream work is limited to Jul. 15th to Sep. 30th • In-stream work is conducted "in-the-dry". • No slip lining. • No culvert extensions. • No stream channelization, relocation, or loss of streambed including impoundments. Wetland work and crossings, provided: • No flooding or impacts to wetland drainage from the upgradient side of the crossing.	Stream and Wetland Work and Crossings not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.
23. Aquaculture (see also GC 32)	Aquaculture activities with <15,000 SF of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts, provided: • No water impoundments allowed. • No conversion of i) a stream to wetland or vice versa, a wetland to a pond or uplands, and ii) one wetland type to another.	Aquaculture activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <3 acres of permanent and/or temporary inland waterway and/or wetland fill, and associated secondary impacts.

USER NOTE: All Self-Verification and Pre-Construction Notification activities shall comply with all applicable terms (pages 1 - 4), General Conditions (pages 5 - 19), and additional terms below.

B. NAVIGABLE WATERS	**Navigable Waters of the U.S. are defined as** those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide in addition to the non-tidal portions of the following federally-designated waters in Maine (the Kennebec River to Moosehead Lake, the Penobscot River to the confluence of the East and West Branch at Medway and, Lake Umbagog within the State of Maine) (Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899). The jurisdictional limits are the mean high water mark (MHWM) in tidal waters and the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) in non-tidal portions of the federally-designated navigable rivers. For the purposes of these GPs, fill placed in the area between the mean high water mark (MHWM) and the high tide line (HTL), and in the bordering and contiguous wetlands to tidal waters are also reviewed in this Navigable Waters section.	
	Activities not meeting the Self-Verification terms below require Pre-Construction Notification and activities not meeting the Pre-Construction Notification terms below require an application for an Individual Permit.	
GENERAL PERMIT #	**SELF-VERIFICATION**	**PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION**
1. Repair, Replacement, and Maintenance of Authorized Structures and Fills **See GC 25 for pile driving and removal conditions.*	Repair, replacement, or maintenance of previously authorized, currently serviceable structures or fills, provided: • Conditions of the original authorization apply. • No expansion or change in use. Shall be rebuilt in same footprint, however minor deviations in design allowed. • The repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of those structures or fills destroyed or damaged by storms, floods, fire or other discrete events is authorized, provided that work is commenced, or is under contract to commence, within two years of the date of their destruction or damage. • In-water work is conducted "in-the-dry" (see GC 24). • No impacts to special aquatic sites (SAS) (incl. submerged aquatic vegetation, SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal area ≤1,000 SF • Slope stabilization is ≤500 LF in total length as measured below the plane of the HTL and is ≤200 LF in total length as measured below the plane of the MHWM or OHWM. Vertical structures are ≤200 LF in total length as measured below the plane of the MHWM or OHWM and are ≤18 inches waterward of existing face. • Dam and flood control, or levee work does not alter water levels or flood elevations. • Discharge of accumulated bottom sediments from or through a dam is not more than *de minimus*. • Tide gate work has a Corps-approved operation and maintenance plan and no effect to hydraulic regime, or tide gates that solely convey stormwater and/or Maine National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System-permitted discharges.	Repair, replacement, or maintenance of previously authorized structures or fills not eligible for SV, provided: • ≤0.5 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
2. Moorings	Private, non-commercial, non-rental, single-boat moorings, provided: • Authorized by the local harbormaster/town. • Not associated with any boating facility (e.g. marinas). • Not located within a Federal Navigational Project (other than in a Federal Anchorage) or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Federal Navigation Project. Moorings in a Federal Anchorage must not be associated with a boating facility and must not be for rent. • No interference with navigation. • Mooring is not located in SAS (incl. SAV) or intertidal areas. Minor relocation of previously authorized moorings, provided: • Authorized by the local harbormaster/town. • Relocation is not within a Federal Navigational Project (other than in a Federal Anchorage) or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Federal Navigation Project. • No interference with navigation. • Relocated mooring is not located in SAS (incl. SAV) or intertidal areas. **SV Moorings above do not require a SVNF.*	Moorings not eligible for SV and don't require an IP. This includes private moorings with no harbormaster or means of local approval or moorings associated with a boating facility (e.g. marina). *Locating new moorings in SAS (incl. SAV) shall be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. If SAS cannot be avoided, consideration shall be given to alternative mooring systems that prevents mooring chains from resting or dragging on the bottom substrate at all tides.* An IP is required for moorings located within the horizontal limits, or with moored vessels that extend into the horizontal limits of a Federal Navigation Project (other than in a Federal Anchorage).
3. Structures, Floats, and Lifts *Cont'd below on page 30*	Reconfiguration of such existing authorized structures with all intertidal work conducted "in-the-dry" (see GC 24). Minor relocation of previously authorized floats provided: • Relocation is not into a Federal Navigation Project or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Federal Navigation Project (other than a Federal Anchorage). • No interference with navigation. • Not relocated in or within 25 feet of SAV. • Seasonal floats are stored above the MHWM and not on wetland (incl. salt marsh). New private, non-commercial ramp and float structures attached to land (no piers) or new floats provided: • Not located in or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Federal Navigation Project. • No interference with navigation. • No structure extends across >25% of the waterway width at mean low water. • Not located in or within 25 feet of SAV. • Ramp is <150 LF over salt marsh waterward of the MHWM and is ≥1:1 height:width ratio over salt marsh.	New structures, floats, and/or lifts including floatways/skidways, built to access waterway (both seasonal and permanent). Includes pile-supported, solid fill-supported, and crib-supported structures. Also includes expansions to existing authorized boating facilities (e.g. marinas). Provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF **See GC 25 for pile driving and pile removal conditions.* Compliance with the following is recommended: • *Lowermost part of floats are ≥18 inches above the substrate during all tides.* • *Structures are ≥1:1 height:width ratio over salt marsh.* • *Structures and floats are not located in or within 25 feet of SAV.* • *Moored vessels are not positioned over SAV.* • *Structures attached to land are located ≥ 25 feet from the property line (The Corps may require a letter of no objection from the abutter if located within 25 feet of the property line.)*

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
Cont'd from page 29	• Ramp and floats attached to land are located ≥25 feet from the property line. • Seasonal ramp and floats are stored above the HTL and not on wetland (incl. salt marsh). Compliance with the following is recommended: • *Lowermost part of floats is ≥18 inches above the substrate during all tides.*	• *No structure extends across >25% of the waterway width at mean low water.* • *Not located within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Corps Federal Navigation Project.* An IP is required for structures, floats, and/or lifts including floatways/skidways, located in such that they and/or vessels docked or moored at them are within the horizontal limits of a Corps Federal Navigation Project. An IP is also required for structures and floats associated with a new or previously unauthorized boating facility (e.g. marinas).
4. Aids to Navigation and Temporary Recreational Structures	Aids to navigation and regulatory markers which are approved by and installed in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard. (See 33 CFR 66, Chapter I, subchapter C). **These SV Aids do not require a SVNF.* Temporary buoys, markers, floats, etc. for recreational use during specific events, provided: • They are removed within 30 days after the specific event has concluded. • No interference with navigation. • No impact to SAV.	Aids and temporary structures not eligible for SV.
5. Dredging, Disposal of Dredged Material, Beach Nourishment, and Rock Removal and Relocation	Maintenance dredging of <1,000 CY for navigational purposes with upland disposal including return water from upland contained disposal area, provided: • Proper siltation controls are used. • No expansion of footprint. • No dredging in or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Federal Navigation Project. • Dredging operation is limited to Nov. 8th to Apr. 9th (it is recommended that in areas populated by winter flounder, dredging should cease by March 15th). • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal area ≤1,000 SF • No dredging within 25 feet of SAV. • No dredging in or within 100 feet of shellfish areas. • No blasting. • No dredging in designated or proposed critical habitat for endangered species.	Maintenance dredging not eligible for SV and new dredging <25,000 CY Includes return water from upland contained disposal areas. Disposal includes: • Upland. • Beach nourishment (above MHW line) of any area provided the dredging's primary purpose is navigation or the sand is from an upland source. • Open water & confined aquatic disposal if Corps finds the material suitable. Beach nourishment associated with dredging when the primary purpose is not navigation requires at least a PCN. Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF and Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
6. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges and Causeways	Discharges of dredged or fill material associated with U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges and Causeways, provided: • In-water work is conducted "in-the-dry" (see GC 24). • Discharge of dredged or fill material <15,000 SF • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal area ≤1,000 SF Compliance with the following is recommended: • *Discharge of dredged or fill material should not occur within 100 feet of SAV or within 25 feet of natural rocky habitat or other SAS.* *Note: new causeways and approach fills are not eligible for SV.*	Discharges of dredged or fill material associated with U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges and Causeways not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
7. Bank and Shoreline Stabilization Including Living Shorelines (see also GC 28)	Bank and shoreline stabilization activities, provided: • In-water work is conducted "in-the-dry" (see GC 24). • Fill is ≤500 LF in total length as measured below the plane of the HTL and is ≤200 LF in total length as measured below the plane of the MHWM or OHWM (includes total for more than one bank). Replacement vertical structures are ≤200 LF in total length as measured below the plane of the MHWM or OHWM and are ≤18 inches waterward of existing face. • Fill placed below HTL is ≤1 CY per linear foot. • Stone revetment is comprised of angular material. • No fills angled steeper than 1H:1V. • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal or shellfish areas ≤1,000 SF • No new groins, breakwaters, or jetties.	Bank and shoreline stabilization activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts, provided: • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
8. Residential, Commercial and Institutional Developments, and Recreational Facilities	Not Eligible	Residential, commercial and institutional developments and recreational facilities, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts, provided: • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF Conversions of previously authorized pile-supported buildings over navigable waters to residences, offices, or other non-water dependent uses require PCN. Floating house boats or businesses on floats require PCN.

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
9. Utility Line Activities (see also GC 30)	Repair, replacement, or maintenance of previously authorized, currently serviceable utilities with no expansion or change in use, provided: • Conditions of the original authorization apply. • In-water work limited to Nov. 8th to Apr. 9th. • Trenching or filling confined to existing footprint and <100 LF; trenches shall be backfilled immediately. • Jet-plow, fluidization, or other direct burial methods confined to existing footprint and <200 LF • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal or shellfish areas ≤1,000 SF • No work in designated or proposed critical habitat for endangered species. New work in, over, or under navigable waters including new outfalls and any intake structure work requires PCN. Aerial utility lines over navigable waters requires PCN.	Those utility activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
10. Linear Transportation Projects *(for stream crossings refer to GPs 6 and 22)*	Not Eligible	Linear transportation projects, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
11. Mining Activities	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
12. Boat Ramps and Marine Railways	No new boat ramps or marine railways. In-water work is conducted "in-the-dry" (see GC 24). No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal or shellfish areas ≤1,000 SF Boat ramp and marine railway work not eligible for maintenance (i.e. not currently serviceable) may be replaced "in-kind" with minor deviations provided: • Work is confined to the intertidal zone. • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal or shellfish areas ≤1,000 SF	Those ramps and railways not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts, provided: • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
13. Land and Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities and Hydropower Projects	Not Eligible	Work associated with those facilities and projects, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF For each single and complete project, no more than 10 generation units (e.g., wind turbines or hydrokinetic devices) may be authorized. No new impoundments.
14. Reshaping Existing Ditches and Mosquito Management	≤500 LF of drainage ditch will be modified. The reshaping of the ditch cannot increase drainage capacity beyond the original as-built capacity nor can it expand the area drained by the ditch as originally constructed (i.e., the capacity of the ditch shall be the same as originally constructed and it cannot drain additional wetlands or other waters of the U.S.). No new ditches or relocation of drainage ditches constructed in waters of the U.S.; the location of the centerline of the reshaped drainage ditch shall be approximately the same as the location of the centerline of the original drainage ditch. No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal or shellfish areas ≤1,000 SF	Those activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
15. Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances	The SVNF or a surrogate state reporting form may be submitted after-the-fact for spill response activities. This GP also authorizes the use of temporary structures and fills in waters of the U.S. for spill response training exercises (*SVNF is required prior to the activity*), provided: • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, impacts to intertidal or shellfish areas ≤1,000 SF, and impacts to tidal resources <0.5 acre	Those response operations not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
16. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste	Only booms placed for hazardous and toxic waste containment and absorption and prevention are eligible for SV. *A SVNF is not required for these eligible containment booms.*	Cleanup activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF An IP is require for the establishment of new disposal sites or expanding existing sites used for the disposal of hazardous or toxic waste.

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
17. Scientific Measurements Devices	Those scientific measurements devices, provided: • Devices do not restrict or concentrate movement of aquatic organisms. • No interference with navigation. • No blasting. • No biological sampling devices. • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, impacts to intertidal areas ≤1,000 SF, and impacts to tidal resources ≤0.5 acre • Upon completion of use, the devices and any associated structures or fills are removed in their entirety.	Those scientific measurements devices not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
18. Survey Activities	Those survey activities, provided: • No blasting. • No interference with navigation. • No seismic exploratory operations. • No oil and gas exploration. • No trenching or other silt-producing activities. • No fill for roads or construction pads. • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, impacts to intertidal areas ≤1,000 SF, and impacts to tidal resources <0.5 acre • No blasting. • No biological sampling devices. *A SVNF is not required for required sediment sampling for Corps-regulated dredge proposals.*	Those survey activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
19. Agricultural Activities	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
20. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement and Attraction Devices and Activities *(for aquaculture refer to GP 23)*	Those devices and activities, provided: • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, impacts to intertidal areas ≤1,000 SF, and impacts to tidal resources ≤0.5 acre • No interference with navigation. • No artificial reefs or enclosures • No impoundments or semi-impoundments for the culture or holding of motile species such as lobster, or the use of covered oyster trays or clam racks. • Structures and shell hash should not be located within 25 feet of SAV. • All gear, except for mooring tackle, when not in use on the site is stored in an upland location above the MHWM and not on wetland (incl. salt marsh). *A SVNF is not required for these eligible devices and activities.*	Those devices and activities not eligible for SV, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF Impoundments or semi-impoundments of waters of the U.S. for the culture or holding of motile species such as lobster and new fish weirs with an impounded area <0.5 acre

	SELF-VERIFICATION (SV)	PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)
21. Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement	Those activities, provided: • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, impacts to intertidal areas ≤1,000 SF, and impacts to tidal resources <0.5 acre • No thin layer deposition for salt marsh restoration. • SAS planting and transplanting is <100 SF • No artificial or living reefs. • The activity is authorized in writing by a local, state, or non-Corps federal environmental agency. Water impoundments require PCN. • No conversion of i) a stream to wetland or vice versa, wetland to a pond or uplands, and ii) one wetland type to another. • No dam removal.	Those activities not eligible for SV provided those activities are proactive and result in net increases in aquatic resource functions and services.
22. Stream and Wetland Work and Crossings (see also GC 29) (*see GP 6 for bridges & causeways*)	Not Eligible	Those crossings of tidal navigable water not including bridges and causeways, provided: • <1 acre temporary or permanent impacts, fill, excavation, and/or secondary impacts. • Temporary and/or permanent fill or excavation in SAV <1,000 SF • Permanent fill or excavation in other SAS <4,300 SF
23. Aquaculture* (see also GC 32)	Shellfish and marine algae installations that do not exceed 400 SF in area, provided: • Signed approval from Harbormaster or appropriate Town Official. • No enclosures or impoundments. • Not located in or within a distance of three times the authorized depth of a Federal Navigation Project. • Not located in or impinge upon the value of any National Lands or Federal Properties. • No impacts to SAS (incl. SAV), impacts to natural rocky habitat ≤100 SF, and impacts to intertidal and shellfish areas ≤1,000 SF • No structures, cages, gear, or shell hash located in/within 25 feet of SAV. • All gear, except for mooring tackle, when not in use on the site is stored in an upland location above the MHWM and not on wetland (incl. salt marsh).	Shellfish, finfish, and marine algae aquaculture (with the exception of Atlantic salmon and any other salmonid, or other federally-listed endangered or threatened species), or other aquaculture facilities with no more than minimal individual and cumulative impacts to environmental resources or navigation. This is inclusive but not limited to cages, nets, bags, racks, long lines, fences, posts, poles, predator screening, etc. ***State of Maine Aquaculture guidelines are provided at: *www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/index.html***

US Army Corps of Engineers ®
New England District

Section VI: Self-Verification Notification Form

(for all tidal and non-tidal projects in Maine subject to Corps jurisdiction)

At least two weeks before work commences, complete all fields (write "none" if applicable) below or use the fillable form found at www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/State-General-Permits/Maine-General-Permit/ The two-week lead time is not required for emergency situations. **Send this form, an Official Species List, and project plans to the following email address: cenae-r-me@usace.army.mil**

Maine Project Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 350
Augusta, Maine 04330

State Permit #: _____
Date of State Permit: _____
State Project Manager: _____

Permittee: _____
Address, City, State, Zip: _____
Email, Phone: _____

Agent: _____
Address, City, State, Zip: _____
Email, Phone: _____

Contractor: _____
Address, City, State, Zip: _____
Email, Phone: _____

Project Name: _____
Address, City, State, Zip: _____
Lat °N, Long °W: _____ Tax Map/Lot: _____
Waterway Name: _____
Description of Work: _____

Proposed Starting Date: _____ Proposed Finish Date: _____

Area of wetland impact (SF): Permanent: _____ Temporary: _____
Area of waterway impact (SF): Permanent: _____ Temporary: _____

Work will be done under the following Section V General Permits (circle all that apply):

I. Inland Waters and wetlands:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
II. Navigable Waters:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23

Have MHPC and all five federally-recognized tribes in Maine been notified of the proposed work? _____Yes _____No

Your signature below, as permittee, indicates that you accept and agree to comply with the terms, eligibility criteria, and general conditions for Self-Verification under the Maine General Permit.

Permittee Signature: _____ Date: _____

US Army Corps
of Engineers ®
New England District

Section VII: Content of a Pre-Construction Notification

In addition to the following required information, the applicant must provide additional information as the Corps deems essential to make a public interest determination including, where applicable, a determination of compliance with the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines or ocean dumping criteria. Such additional information may include environmental data and information on alternate methods and sites as may be necessary for the preparation of the required environmental documentation. For a more comprehensive checklist, go to *www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory* >> Forms >> Application and Plan Guideline Checklist. Please check with the Corps for project-specific requirements.

Information required for all projects:

- □ DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS ARE ENCOURAGED (email PCN to **cenae-r-me@usace.army.mil**)
- □ Completed Corps application form (ENG Form 4345 attached below or found electronically at *www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/Obtain-a-Permit*) or appropriate state application form. Forms may need to be supplemented to include the information noted below.
- □ Proof of notification to MHPC and all five federally-recognized tribes (see Section VIII for contact info).
- □ Official Species List for any federally-listed endangered or threatened species and email address of the person who generated the list.
- □ Drawings, sketches, or plans (detailed engineering plans and specifications are not required) that are legible, reproducible (color is encouraged, but features must be distinguishable in black and white), no larger than 8.5”x11”, with bar scale (plans overlaid on aerial photos are discouraged). Wetland area impact sheets shall have the highest resolution possible to show work within Corps jurisdiction (do not just reduce project overview or cut large-scale plan into quadrant sheets). Provide locus map and a plan overview of the entire property with a key index to the individual impact sheets. A locus map be on a section of color USGS topographic map.
- □ Include:
  - □ All direct, secondary, permanent and temporary effects the project would cause, including the anticipated amount of impacts to waters of the U.S. expected to result from the activity, in acres, linear feet, or other appropriate unit of measure.
  - □ Any historic permanent fill associated with each single and complete project.
  - □ Cross-section views of all wetland and waterway fill areas and wetland replication areas.
  - □ Document on project plans wetlands, other special aquatic sites (SAS) including vegetated shallows (or submerged aquatic vegetation, SAV) and mudflats, natural rocky habitat, shellfish areas, vernal pools, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, and intermittent streams on the project site (GC1).
  - □ MLW line, MHW mark, and HTL elevations in tidal waters. Show OHWM elevation in lakes and non-tidal streams.
  - □ **Existing and proposed conditions.**
- □ Volume, type, and source of fill material to be discharged into waters and wetlands, including the area(s) (in square feet or acres) of fill in wetlands, below OHWM in inland waters and below the HTL in coastal waters.
- □ If applicable, a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions (see GC 21).

Information that may be required:

- □ Photographs of wetland/waterway to be impacted. Photos at low tide are preferred for work in tidal waters.
- □ For drawings, sketches, or plans:
  - □ The vertical datum for all coastal projects and projects in towns bordering coastal waters shall be in U.S. survey feet and referenced to MLLW and include current tidal epoch, with a reference chart showing conversion factor to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. Do not use local datum. See *www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory* >> Forms and Publications >>Vertical Datum - FEMA (Jul 2007);
  - □ The horizontal state plane coordinates shall be shown on plan and elevation views and shall be in the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83) State Plane Coordinate System in U.S. survey feet.
- □ For the construction of a filled area or pile or float-supported platform, the use of, and specific structures to be erected on, the fill or platform.
- □ For the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing of it in ocean waters, the source of the material; the purpose of the discharge, a description of the type, composition and quantity of the material; the method of transportation and disposal of the material; and the location of the disposal site.
- □ For the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., include a statement describing how impacts to waters of the U.S. are to be avoided and minimized. Include either a statement describing how impacts to waters of the U.S. are to be compensated for or a statement explaining why compensatory mitigation should not be required for the proposed impacts.
- □ Purpose and need for the proposed activity;
- □ Limits and coordinates of any Federal Navigation Project in the vicinity of the project area.
- □ Limits and coordinates of any proposed mooring field, reconfiguration zone or aquaculture activity. Provide coordinates for all corners;
- □ Schedule of construction/activity;
- □ Names and addresses of adjoining property owners;
- □ Location and dimensions of adjacent structures;
- □ Alternatives analysis;
- □ Wetland delineation data sheets;
- □ List of authorizations required by other federal, interstate, state, or local agencies for the work, including all approvals received or denials already made.
- □ Identification and description of potential impacts to Essential Fish Habitat (see GC 17).
- □ Identification of potential discharges of pollutants to waters, including potential impacts to impaired waters, in the project area.
- □ Invasive Species Control Plan (see GC 22). For sample control plans, see *www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Invasive-Species*
- □ Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) maps. Contact the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (Section VIII) or online at *www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/conservation/action_plan.html*

Information for dredging projects that may be required:

- □ Sediment testing, including physical (e.g., grain-size analysis), chemical and biological testing. For projects proposing open water disposal, applicants must contact the Corps as early as possible regarding sampling and testing protocols. Sampling and testing of sediments without such contact should not occur and if done, would be at the applicant's risk.
- □ The area in square feet and volume of material to be dredged below mean high water.
- □ Existing and proposed water depths.
- □ Type of dredging equipment to be used.
- □ Nature of material (e.g., silty sand).
- □ Any existing sediment grain size and bulk sediment chemistry data for the proposed or any nearby projects.
- □ Information on the location and nature of municipal or industrial discharges and occurrence of any contaminant spills in or near the project area.
- □ Shellfish survey.
- □ Location of the disposal site (include locus sheet).
- □ Identification and description of any potential impacts to Essential Fish Habitat.
- □ Delineation of submerged aquatic vegetation (e.g., eelgrass beds).

Information for tidal crossing projects that may be required:

- □ A graphic longitudinal elevation profile plot of the tidal stream channel thalweg, both up and downstream of the proposed project site. Thalweg elevations shall extend from the crossing to beyond the zone of scour, channel widening, or other channel alteration resulting from the present or pre-existing crossings. The profile plot should include labeled elevations for the:
  - □ crossing invert and top of the inlet and outlet
  - □ roadbed crown
  - □ lowest and highest recorded tides at the site
  - □ reference datums, such as MLLW, MHHW, and astronomical high tide
  - □ hydraulic controls and nearest crossings that could influence or be influenced by the proposed crossing
- □ A graphic plot of continuous tidal water levels recorded up and downstream, simultaneously, of the proposed crossing for an entire lunar cycle. The water level plot should include labeled elevations for the:
  - □ crossing invert and crossing top at the inlet and outlet
  - □ roadbed crown
  - □ reference datums, such as MLLW, MHHW, and astronomical high tide
- □ A map showing projected extents of maximum flooding within the area influenced by the crossing under current conditions and as a result of sea level rise. The present minimum sea level rise scenario suggested for planning purposes by the Maine Climate Council Scientific and Technical Subcommittee is the Intermediate Scenario, which projects an increase of 3.0-4.6 feet by 2100.

Information for aquaculture projects that may be required:

- □ Maine Aquaculture guidelines and joint Corps/Maine DMR applications may be found at: *www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/index.htm*
- □ In addition to the information required above, applications should also include:
  - □ Results of coordination with Harbor Master and U.S. Coast Guard
  - □ Whether canopy predator nets are being used.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT

33 CFR 325. The proponent agency is CECW-CO-R.

Form Approved - OMB No. 0710-0003 Expires: 02-28-2022

The public reporting burden for this collection of information, OMB Control Number 0710-0003, is estimated to average 11 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or burden reduction suggestions to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, at whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR APPLICATION TO THE ABOVE EMAIL.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authorities: Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, Section 103, 33 USC 1413; Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers; Final Rule 33 CFR 320-332. Principal Purpose: Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Routine Uses: This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public and may be made available as part of a public notice as required by Federal law. Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can a permit be issued. One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see sample drawings and/or instructions) and be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned. System of Record Notice (SORN). The information received is entered into our permit tracking database and a SORN has been completed (SORN #A1145b) and may be accessed at the following website: http://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNsIndex/DOD-wide-SORN-Article-View/Article/570115/a1145b-ce.aspx

(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)

1. APPLICATION NO.	2. FIELD OFFICE CODE	3. DATE RECEIVED	4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETE

(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)

5. APPLICANT'S NAME	8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (agent is not required)
First - Middle - Last -	First - Middle - Last -
Company -	Company -
E-mail Address -	E-mail Address -
6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS:	9. AGENT'S ADDRESS:
Address-	Address-
City - State - Zip - Country -	City - State - Zip - Country -
7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NOs. w/AREA CODE	10. AGENTS PHONE NOs. w/AREA CODE
a. Residence b. Business c. Fax	a. Residence b. Business c. Fax

STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

11. I hereby authorize,_____to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this permit application.

_____ _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE

NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY

12. PROJECT NAME OR TITLE (see instructions)

13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (if applicable)	14. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (if applicable)
	Address
15. LOCATION OF PROJECT	City - State- Zip-
Latitude: ◦N Longitude: ◦W	

16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (see instructions)

State Tax Parcel ID Municipality

Section - Township - Range -

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

18. Nature of Activity (Description of project, include all features)

19. Project Purpose (Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions)

USE BLOCKS 20-23 IF DREDGED AND/OR FILL MATERIAL IS TO BE DISCHARGED

20. Reason(s) for Discharge

21. Type(s) of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards:

Type Amount in Cubic Yards	Type Amount in Cubic Yards	Type Amount in Cubic Yards

22. Surface Area in Acres of Wetlands or Other Waters Filled (see instructions)

Acres

or

Linear Feet

23. Description of Avoidance, Minimization, and Compensation (see instructions)

24. Is Any Portion of the Work Already Complete? ☐ Yes ☐ No IF YES, DESCRIBE THE COMPLETED WORK

25. Addresses of Adjoining Property Owners, Lessees, Etc., Whose Property Adjoins the Waterbody (if more than can be entered here, please attach a supplemental list).

a. Address-

City - State - Zip -

b. Address-

City - State - Zip -

c. Address-

City - State - Zip -

d. Address-

City - State - Zip -

e. Address-

City - State - Zip -

26. List of Other Certificates or Approvals/Denials received from other Federal, State, or Local Agencies for Work Described in This Application.

AGENCY	TYPE APPROVAL*	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	DATE APPLIED	DATE APPROVED	DATE DENIED

* Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building, and flood plain permits

27. Application is hereby made for permit or permits to authorize the work described in this application. I certify that this information in this application is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE SIGNATURE OF AGENT DATE

The Application must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) or it may be signed by a duly authorized agent if the statement in block 11 has been filled out and signed.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

Section VIII: Agency Contacts

1. Federal

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Maine Project Office
442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 350
Augusta, Maine 04330
(207) 623-8367; (207) 623-8206 (fax)
Email: cenae-r-me@usace.army.mil

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
5 Post Office Square
Suite 100 (OEP05–2)
Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912
(617) 918-1589

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Maine Field Office
P.O. Box A
East Orland, Maine 04431
(207) 469-7300; (207) 902-1588 (fax)
(Federal endangered species)

National Marine Fisheries Service
Maine Field Office
17 Godfrey Drive, Suite 1
Orono, Maine 04473
(207) 866-7379; (207) 866-7342 (fax)
(Federal endangered species)

FEMA Region 1
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division
99 High Street 6th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
(floodplains)

Federal Emergency Management Agency
99 High Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
(877) 336-2734
(Floodplain Management)

National Marine Fisheries Service
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930
(978) 281-9102; (978) 281-9301 (fax)
(Federal endangered species & EFH)

National Park Service
North Atlantic Region
15 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
(617) 223-5203
(Wild and Scenic Rivers)

Commander (dpb)
First Coast Guard District
One South Street - Battery Building
New York, New York 10004-1466
(212) 668-7021; (212) 668-7967 (fax)
(bridge permits)

2. State of Maine

a. Department of Environmental Protection (*State permits & Water Quality Certifications*)

Augusta Regional Office
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 287-7688

Southern Maine Regional Office
312 Canco Road
Portland, Maine 04103
(201) 822-6300

Eastern Maine Regional Office
106 Hogan Road
Bangor, Maine 04401
(207) 941-4570

Northern Maine Regional Office
1235 Central Drive
Presque Isle, Maine 04769
(207) 764-0477

b. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

i. Maine Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC) (*State permits & Water Quality Certifications for the unorganized areas of the State*)

Augusta Office
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022
(207) 287-2631; (207) 287-7439 (fax)

Greenville Regional Office
43 Lakeview Drive
P.O. Box 1107
Greenville, Maine 04441
(207) 695-2466; (207) 695-2380 (fax)

Western Region Office
932 U.S. Route 2
East Wilton, Maine 04992
(207) 670-7492; (207) 287-7439 (fax)

Downeast Regional Office
106 Hogan Road, Suite 8
Bangor, Maine 04401
(207) 215-4685; (207) 941-4222 (fax)

Ashland Regional Office
45 Radar Road
Ashland, Maine 04732-3600
(207) 435-7963; (207) 435-7184 (fax)

Eastern Region Office
191 Main Street
East Millinocket, Maine 04430
(207) 399-2176; (207) 746-2243 (fax)

ii. Maine Coastal Program

21 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 707-2324; (207) 624-6024 (fax)
(CZM consistency determinations)

iii. Division of Parks and Public Lands

22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 287-3061; (207) 287-6170 (fax)
(submerged lands leases)

iv. Maine Floodplain Management Program

17 Elkins Lane
Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 287-8063
(floodplains)

c. Department of Marine Resources

21 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 633-9500; (207) 624-6024 (fax)
(aquaculture leases/licenses)

3. Historic Properties

a. State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)

Kirk F. Mohney, Director
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
65 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0065
(207) 287-2132; (207) 287-2335 (fax)

b. Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs)

Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
88 Bell Road
Littleton, Maine 04730
(207) 532-4273, x215; (207) 532-6883 (fax)
istjohn@maliseets.com

Aroostook Band of Micmacs
7 Northern Road
Presque Isle, Maine 04769
(207) 764-1972; (207) 764-7667 (fax)
jdennis@micmac-nsn.gov

Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians
Pleasant Point Reservation
P.O. Box 343
Perry, Maine 04667
(207) 853-2600; (207) 853-6039 (fax)
soctomah@gmail.com

Penobscot Nation
Cultural and Historic Preservation Dept.
12 Wabanaki Way
Indian Island, Maine 04468
(207) 817-7471
chris.sockalexis@penobscotnation.org

Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians
Indian Township Reservation
P.O. Box 301
Princeton, Maine 04668
(207) 796-2301; (207) 796-5256 (fax)
soctomah@gmail.com

Section IX: Definitions

Action Area: The "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook – Procedures for Conducting Consultation and Conference Activities Under Section 7 of the ESA," defines action area as "all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action. [50 CFR 402.02]."

Agricultural Activities: The Clean Water Act exempts certain discharges associated with normal farming, ranching, and forestry activities such as plowing, cultivating, minor drainage, and harvesting for the production of food, fiber, and forest products, or upland soil and water conservation practices (Section 404(f)(1)(A)). Prospective permittees are strongly advised to contact the Corps for a determination of whether their activity is exempt or requires a permit.

Attendant Features: Occurring with or as a result of; accompanying.

Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment and Enhancement: The Corps will decide if a project qualifies and must determine in consultation with federal and state agencies that the net effects are beneficial. The Corps may refer to Nationwide Permit 27 published in the January 6, 2017 Federal Register. Activities authorized here may include, but are not limited to: the removal of accumulated sediments; the installation, removal, and maintenance of small water control structures, dikes, and berms; the installation of current deflectors; the enhancement, restoration, or establishment of riffle and pool stream structure; the placement of in-stream habitat structures; modifications of the stream bed and/or banks to restore or establish stream meanders; the backfilling of artificial channels and drainage ditches; the removal of existing drainage structures; the construction of small nesting islands in inland waters**;** the construction of open water areas; the construction of native shellfish species habitat over unvegetated bottom for the purpose of habitat protection or restoration in tidal waters; shellfish seeding; activities needed to reestablish vegetation, including plowing or discing for seed bed preparation and the planting of appropriate wetland species; mechanized land clearing to remove non-native invasive, exotic, or nuisance vegetation; and other related activities. Only native plant species shall be planted at the site.

Biodegradable: A material that decomposes into elements found in nature within a reasonably short period of time and will not leave a residue of plastic or a petroleum derivative in the environment after degradation. Examples of biodegradable materials include jute, sisal, cotton, straw, burlap, coconut husk fiber (coir) or excelsior. In contrast, degradable plastics break down into plastic fragments that remain in the environment after degradation.

Boating facilities: These provide, rent or sell mooring space, such as marinas, yacht clubs, boat yards, dockominiums, town facilities, land/home owners, etc. Not classified as boating facilities are piers shared between two abutting properties or town mooring fields that charge an equitable user fee based on the actual costs incurred.

Bordering and Contiguous Wetlands: A bordering wetland is immediately next to its adjacent waterbody and may lie at, or below, the ordinary high water mark (mean high water mark in navigable waters) of that waterbody and is directly influenced by its hydrologic regime. Contiguous wetlands extend landward from their adjacent waterbody to a point where a natural or manmade discontinuity exists. Contiguous wetlands include bordering wetlands as well as wetlands that are situated immediately above the ordinary high water mark and above the normal hydrologic influence of their adjacent waterbody.

Brushing: The placement of tree boughs, wooden lath structure, or small-mesh fencing on mudflats, or any bottom disturbance (e.g., discing, plowing, raking, etc.), to enhance recruitment of shellfish.

Buffer Zone: The buffer zone of an FNP is equal to three times the authorized depth of the FNP.

Construction mats: Constructions, swamp and timber mats (herein referred to as "construction mats") are generic terms used to describe structures that distribute equipment weight to prevent wetland damage while facilitating passage and providing work platforms for workers and equipment. They are comprised of sheets or mats made from a variety of materials in various sizes. A timber mat consists of large timbers bolted or cabled together. Corduroy roads, which are not considered to be construction mats, are cut trees and/or saplings with the

crowns and branches removed, and the trunks lined up next to one another. Corduroy roads are typically installed as permanent structures. Like construction mats, they are considered as fill whether they are installed temporarily or permanently.

Cumulative effects: See "Direct, secondary, and cumulative effects."

Currently Serviceable: Useable as-is or with some maintenance, but not so degraded as to essential require reconstruction.

Direct, secondary, and cumulative effects:
Direct Effects: The loss of aquatic ecosystem within the footprint of the discharge of dredged or fill material. Direct effects are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.
Secondary Effects: These are effects on an aquatic ecosystem that are associated with a discharge of dredged or fill materials, but do not result from the actual placement of the dredged or fill material. Information about secondary effects on aquatic ecosystems shall be considered prior to the time final Section 404 action is taken by permitting authorities. Some examples of secondary effects on an aquatic ecosystem are a) aquatic areas drained, flooded, fragmented, or mechanically cleared, b) fluctuating water levels in all impoundment and downstream associated with the operation of a dam, c) septic tank leaching and surface runoff from residential or commercial developments on fill, and d) leachate and runoff from a sanitary landfill located in waters of the U.S. See 40 CFR 230.11(h).
Cumulative Effects: The changes in an aquatic ecosystem that are attributable to the collective effect of a number of individual 1) discharges of dredged or fill material, or 2) structures. Although the impact of a particular discharge may constitute a minor change in itself, the cumulative effect of numerous such piecemeal changes can result in a major impairment of the water resources and interfere with the productivity and water quality of existing aquatic ecosystems. See 40 CFR 230(g).

Dredging:
Maintenance Dredging: Includes areas and depths previously authorized by the Corps and dredged.
The Corps may require proof of authorization. Maintenance dredging typically refers to the routine removal of accumulated sediment from channel beds to maintain the design depths of navigation channels, harbors, marinas, boat launches and port facilities. Routine maintenance dredging is conducted regularly for navigational purposes (typically at least once every ten years) and does not include any expansion of the previously dredged area or depth. The Corps may review a maintenance dredging activity as new dredging if sufficient time has elapsed to allow for the colonization of SAS, shellfish, etc. The main characteristics of maintenance dredging projects are variable quantities of material; soft, uncompacted soil; contaminant content possible; thin layers of material; occurring in navigation channels and harbors; repetitive activity
New Dredging: Dredging of an area or to a depth that has never been authorized by the Corps or dredged.

Dredged material & discharge of dredged material: These are defined at 323.2(c) and (d). The term dredged material means material that is excavated or dredged from waters of the U.S.

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH): This is broadly defined to include those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity.

Fill material & discharge of fill material: These are defined at 323.2(e) and (f). The term fill material is defined as material placed in waters of the U.S. where the material has the effect of either replacing any portion of a water of the U.S. with dry land or changing the bottom elevation of any portion of a water of the U.S.

Fill area: Fill area includes all temporary and permanent fill (including mats), and regulated discharges associated with excavation.

Federal navigation projects (FNPs): These areas are maintained by the Corps; authorized, constructed and maintained on the premise that they will be accessible and available to all on equal terms; and are comprised of Federal Anchorages, Federal Channels and Federal Turning Basins. The buffer zone is equal to three times the authorized depth of a FNP. More information on the following FNPs is provided at *www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/navigation.aspx* >> Navigation Projects.

Flume: An open artificial water channel, in the form of a gravity chute that leads water from a diversion dam or weir completely aside a natural flow. A flume can be used to measure the rate of flow.

Frac out: During normal drilling operations, drilling fluid travels up the borehole into a pit. When the borehole becomes obstructed or the pressure becomes too great inside the borehole, the ground fractures and fluid escapes to the surface.

Habitat Connectivity Design: projects designed and constructed for consistency with natural stream dimensions, profiles, and dynamics, in accordance with the following technical references: U.S. Forest Service guide (Forest Service Stream-Simulation Working Group 2008), augmented by documents published by the states of Washington (Barnard et al. 2013), Vermont (Bates and Kirn 2009) and California (Love and Bates 2009).

Independent utility: A test to determine what constitutes a single and complete non-linear project in the Corps regulatory program. A project is considered to have independent utility if it would be constructed absent the construction of other projects in the project area. Portions of a multi-phase project that depend upon other phases of the project do not have independent utility. Phases of a project that would be constructed even if the other phases were not built can be considered as separate single and complete projects with independent utility.

Individual Permit: A Department of the Army authorization that is issued following a case-by-case evaluation of a specific structure or work in accordance with the procedures of 33 CFR 322, or a specific project involving the proposed discharge(s) in accordance with the procedures of 33 CFR 323, and in accordance with the procedures of 33 CFR 325 and a determination that the proposed discharge is in the public interest pursuant to 33 CFR 320.

Living Shoreline: Living shorelines stabilize banks and shores in coastal waters along shores with small fetch and gentle slopes that are subject to low-to mid-energy waves. A living shoreline has a footprint that is made up mostly of native material. It incorporates vegetation or other living, natural "soft" elements alone or in combination with some type of harder shoreline structure (e.g., oyster or mussel reefs or rock sills) for added protection and stability. Living shorelines shall maintain the natural continuity of the land-water interface, and retain or enhance shoreline ecological processes. Living shorelines must have a substantial biological component, either tidal or lacustrine fringe wetlands or oyster or mussel reef structures.

Maintenance:

a. The repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of any previously authorized, currently serviceable structure or fill, or of any currently serviceable structure or fill authorized by 33 CFR 330.3 – "Activities occurring before certain dates," provided that the structure or fill is not to be put to uses differing from those uses specified or contemplated for it in the original permit or the most recently authorized modification.

- Minor deviations in the structure's configuration or filled area, including those due to changes in materials, construction techniques, or current construction codes or safety standards that are necessary to make repair, rehabilitation, or replacement are authorized.
- Currently serviceable means useable as is or with some maintenance, but not so degraded as to essentially require reconstruction.
- No seaward expansion for bulkheads or any other fill activity is considered SV maintenance.
- Only structures or fills that were previously authorized and are in compliance with the terms and condition of the original authorization can be maintained as a non-regulated activity under 33 CFR 323.4(a)(2), or in accordance with the SV or PCN thresholds in Section V.

b. The state's maintenance provisions may differ from the Corps and may require reporting and written authorization from the state.

c. Contact the Corps to determine whether stream crossing replacements require a PCN.

d. Exempted Maintenance. In accordance with 33 CFR 323.4(a)(2), any discharge of dredged or fill material that may result from any of the following activities is not prohibited by or otherwise subject to regulation under Section 404 of the CWA: "Maintenance, including emergency reconstruction of recently damaged parts, of currently serviceable structures such as dikes, dams, levees, groins, riprap, breakwaters, causeways, bridge abutments or approaches, and transportation structures. Maintenance does not include any modification that changes the character, scope, or size of the original fill design."

The following definition is also applicable:

Minor deviations: Deviations in the structure's configuration or filled area, including those due to changes in materials, construction techniques, or current construction codes or safety standards, which are necessary to make repair, rehabilitation, or replacement are permitted, provided the adverse environ-mental effects resulting from such repair, rehabilitation, or replacement are minimal.

Marina reconfiguration zone: A Corps-authorized area in which permittees may rearrange pile-supported structures and floats without additional authorizations. A reconfiguration zone does not grant exclusive privileges to an area or an increase in structure or float area.

Natural Rocky Habitats: Natural rocky habitats are intertidal and subtidal substrates composed of pebble-gravel, cobble, boulder, or rock ledge and outcrops. Manufactured stone (e.g. cut or engineered rip-rap) is not considered a natural rocky habitat. Natural rocky habitats are either found as pavement (consolidated pebble-gravel, cobble, or boulder areas) or as a mixture with fines (i.e. clay and sand) and other substrates.

Navigable waters of the U.S.: See Waters of the U.S. below.

Overall project: See "single and complete linear project" below.

Practicable: Available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes.

Permanent impacts: Permanent impacts means waters of the U.S. that are permanently affected by filling, flooding, excavation, or drainage because of the regulated activity. Permanent impacts include permanent discharges of dredged or fill material that change an aquatic area to dry land, increase the bottom elevation of a waterbody, or change the use of a waterbody.

Pre-construction notification (PCN): A request submitted by a prospective permittee to the Corps for confirmation that a particular activity is authorized by this GP. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information about the proposed work and its anticipated environmental effects. Pre-construction notification may be required by the terms and conditions of these GPs. A PCN may be voluntarily submitted in cases where PCN is not required and the project proponent wants confirmation that the activity is authorized under this GP.

Re-establishment: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/ historic functions to a former aquatic resource. Re-establishment results in rebuilding a former aquatic resource and results in again in aquatic resource area and functions.

Rehabilitation: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural/historic functions to a degraded aquatic resource. Rehabilitation results in a gain in aquatic resource function, but does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area. Restoration: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. For the purpose of tracking net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: re-establishment and rehabilitation.

Restoration: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. For the purpose of tracking net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: re-establishment and rehabilitation.

Riffle and pool complexes: Riffle and pool complexes are special aquatic sites under the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. Riffle and pool complexes sometimes characterize steep gradient sections of streams. Such stream sections are recognizable by their hydraulic characteristics. The rapid movement of water over a course substrate in riffles results in a rough flow, a turbulent surface, and high dissolved oxygen levels in the water. Pools are deeper areas associated with riffles. A slower stream velocity, a streaming flow, a smooth surface, and a finer substrate characterize pools.

Secondary effects: See "Direct, secondary, and cumulative effects."

Shellfish Areas: Areas that currently support molluscan shellfish. Information regarding these locations can be obtained from the State of Maine GeoLibrary Data Catalog at: *www.maine.gov/geolib/catalog.html*

Shellfish seeding: The placement of shellfish seed and/or suitable substrate to increase shellfish production. Shellfish seed consists of immature individual shellfish or individual shellfish attached to shells or shell fragments (i.e., spat on shell). Suitable substrate may consist of shellfish shells, shell fragments, or other appropriate materials placed into waters for shellfish habitat.

Single and complete linear project: A linear project is a project constructed for the purpose of getting people, goods, or services from a point of origin to a terminal point, which often involves multiple crossings of one or more waterbodies at separate and distant locations. The term "single and complete project" is defined as that portion of the total linear project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers that includes all crossings of a single water of the U.S. (i.e., a single waterbody) at a specific location. For linear projects crossing a single or multiple waterbodies several times at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project for the purposes of this GP. However, individual channels in a braided stream or river, or individual arms of a large, irregularly shaped wetland or lake, etc., are not separate waterbodies, and crossings of such features cannot be considered separately.
The overall project, for purposes of this GP, includes all regulated activities that are reasonably related and necessary to accomplish the project purpose.

Single and complete non-linear project: For non-linear projects, the term "single and complete project" is defined at 33 CFR 330.2(i) as the total project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers. For non-linear projects, the single and complete project shall have independent utility (see definition).

Special aquatic sites (SAS): These are defined at 40 CFR 230 Subpart E. They include sanctuaries and refuges, wetlands, mud flats, vegetated shallows (submerged aquatic vegetation, SAV), coral reefs, and riffle and pool complexes.

Stream: The term "stream" in the document means rivers, streams, brooks, etc.

Stream bed: The substrate of the stream channel between the ordinary high water marks. The substrate may be bedrock or inorganic particles that range in size from clay to boulders. Wetlands contiguous to the stream bed, but outside of the ordinary high water marks, are not considered part of the stream bed.

Stream channelization: The manipulation of a stream's course, condition, capacity, or location that causes more than minimal interruption of normal stream processes. A channelized stream remains a water of the United States.

Stream Simulation: A method for designing and building road-stream crossings intended to permit free and unrestricted movements of any aquatic species. Reference:
https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Stream-and-River-Continuity/

Stream Smart Design: projects designed to allow the stream to act like a stream by passing fish and wildlife as well as the higher flows that come with large infrequent storms while protecting the stability of the road and public safety. Stream Smart Design follows the "Four S's": The culvert must SPAN the stream, allowing for passage of aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. The culvert has to be SET at the right elevation. The SLOPE of the culvert must match the stream. There must be SUBSTRATE (natural sediment) in the crossing. Reference:
www1.maine.gov/mdot/publications/docs/brochures/pocket_guide_stream_smart_web.pdf

Temporary impacts: Temporary impacts include waters of the U.S. that are temporarily filled, flooded, excavated, drained or mechanically cleared because of the regulated activity.

Temporal loss: The time lag between the loss of aquatic resource functions caused by the permitted impacts and the replacement of aquatic resource functions at the compensatory mitigation site(s) (33 CFR 332.2).

Utility line: Any pipe or pipeline for the transportation of any gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substance, for any purpose, and any cable, line, or wire for the transmission for any purpose of electrical energy, telephone, and telegraph messages, and radio and television communication. The term 'utility line' does not include activities that drain a water of the U.S., such as drainage tile or French drains, but it does apply to pipes conveying drainage from another area.

Vegetated shallows/Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV): Permanently inundated areas that under normal circumstances support communities of rooted aquatic vegetation, such as eelgrass in marine systems as well as a number of freshwater species in rivers and lakes. Note: Eelgrass surveys should be conducted be conducted between May and October unless otherwise directed.

Vernal pools (VPs): The State of Maine, Department of Environmental Protection has specific protections for VPs. For the purposes of these GPs, VPs are depressional wetland basins that typically go dry in most years and may contain inlets or outlets, typically of intermittent flow. Vernal pools range in both size and depth depending upon landscape position and parent material(s). In most years, VPs support one or more of the following obligate indicator species: wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*), spotted salamanders (*Ambystoma maculatum*), blue-spotted salamanders (*Ambystoma laterale*), and fairy shrimp (*Eubranchipus* sp.). However, they should preclude sustainable populations of predatory fish.

Water dependency: activity requiring access or proximity to or siting within a special aquatic site (SAS) to fulfill its basic project purpose.

Water diversions: Water diversions are activities such as bypass pumping (e.g., "dam and pump") or water withdrawals. Temporary flume pipes, culverts or cofferdams where normal flows are maintained within the stream boundary's confines aren't water diversions. "Normal flows" are defined as no change in flow from pre-project conditions.

Weir: A barrier across a river designed to alter the flow characteristics. In most cases, weirs take the form of a barrier, smaller than most conventional dams, across a river that causes water to pool behind the structure (not unlike a dam) and allows water to flow over the top. Weirs are commonly used to alter the flow regime of the river, prevent flooding, measure discharge and help render a river navigable.

Waters of the United States (U.S.)

Waters of the U.S.: The term waters of the U.S. and all other terms relating to the geographic scope of jurisdiction are defined at 33 CFR 328. Also see Section 502(7) of the Federal CWA [33 USC 1352(7)]. Waters of the U.S. include jurisdictional wetlands. Not all waters and wetlands are jurisdictional. Contact the Corps with any questions regarding jurisdiction.

Navigable waters: Refer to 33 CFR 329. These waters include the following federally-designated navigable waters in New England. This list represents only those waterbodies for which affirmative determinations have been made; absence from this list shall not be taken as an indication that the waterbody is not navigable: In Maine, navigable waters are those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide in addition to the non-tidal portions of the following federally-designated waters in Maine (the Kennebec River to Moosehead Lake, the Penobscot River to the confluence of the East and West Branch at Medway and, Lake Umbagog within the State of Maine).

Non-tidal wetland: A non-tidal wetland is a wetland that is not subject to the ebb and flow of tidal waters. Non-tidal wetlands contiguous to tidal waters are located landward of the high tide line (i.e., spring high tide line).

Tidal wetland: A tidal wetland is a jurisdictional wetland that is inundated by tidal waters. Tidal waters rise and fall in a predictable and measurable rhythm or cycle due to the gravitational pulls of the moon and sun. Tidal waters end where the rise and fall of the water surface can no longer be practically measured in a predictable rhythm due to masking by other waters, wind, or other effects. Tidal wetlands are located channelward of the high tideline.

Chelsea Herrera

From: Code Enforcement <codeenforcementplanning@baileyville.org>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 6:34 AM
To: Daniel Parker
Subject: Re: MEDMR Woodland Pulp Fish Passage System Project application

Good morning Daniel,

I would have emailed you a response back last Friday, but the Town Manager was off that day. I felt more comfortable responding after a sit-down conversation with him first on his take on any permitting requirements locally. I was able to have that conversation with him this morning and after looking at your plans and everything you have supplied me with so far on the project, at this time we feel that no permits would be required locally. There are no major buildings other than the fishway and bridge being built. If at some point you are going to be building a separate building for storage or similar usage, then a permit will be required. You can contact me at that time and we can discuss that permit.

Thank you for keeping me updated on this project and I hope that once this begins that there could be a time when I can visit the project progress if that's OK.

Thanks

Jamie Bohanon
CEO Town of Baileyville

From: Daniel Parker <dparker@verdantas.com>
Sent: Friday, May 2, 2025 3:56 PM
To: Code Enforcement <codeenforcementplanning@baileyville.org>
Subject: RE: MEDMR Woodland Pulp Fish Passage System Project application

Good afternoon,

I am inquiring about the status of our application for the Baileyville permit for the Woodland fish passage system refurbishment project. Can you update me on the permit and if we have any tasks to complete to issue the permit? Thanks.

Dan Parker
Hydropower Practice Lead
O. 508.500.6264 ext. 6458 | C. 315.261.2158
30 Shrewsbury Street, Holden, MA 01520

From: Daniel Parker <dparker@verdantas.com>
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2024 2:18 PM

To: Code Enforcement <codeenforcementplanning@baileyville.org>
Subject: RE: MEDMR Woodland Pulp Fish Passage System Project application

Thanks, Jamie. I appreciate you investigating this and the potential waiver of fees. I am managing the permits for this project – there are many! Greg Allen at Verdantas Flow Labs is the lead for Verdantas as consultant to Maine Dept of Marine Resources. Sean Ledwin is the lead at ME DMR. I will check with both of them to see who should be the lead for this local permit. We will determine that, fill out the application and return it to you.

Dan Parker
Hydropower Practice Lead
O. 508.500.6264 ext. 6458 | C. 315.261.2158
30 Shrewsbury Street, Holden, MA 01520

From: Code Enforcement <codeenforcementplanning@baileyville.org>
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2024 2:04 PM
To: Daniel Parker <dparker@verdantas.com>
Subject: Re: MEDMR Woodland Pulp Fish Passage System Project application

Good Afternoon Dan,

After our conversation on Friday and during the day today, a building permit is required for this project and that I am able to approve that permit, not the Planning Board. The cost of the permit will be based on the amount the project is estimated to cost plus $.20 per square foot on any new construction. I also had a conversation with our Town Manager Chris Loughlin, and during that conversation it was discussed that once the permit and fees are figured out that that price figure would go in front of the Town Council and could possibly be waived. I'm not a part of that decision but I am aware of several other projects that the mill has completed with permits and the Council has waived those fees. .

I have attached the building permit to this email for you to fill out. You may email the completed form back to me to process through my office. If you are the spokesperson that will be in charge of this project and need to receive the approved permit I can send that back to you along with the final answer from the Town Council on any waived fees. If you are only required to get a copy of the approved permit and someone else must receive it then that would be fine also.

I am usually in the office Monday - Friday 8am-430pm. My contact information is as follows.

Office 427-3442
Cell 214-8200
Fax 427-6200

Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate if you have any further questions.

Jamie Bohanon
CEO Town of Baileyville

From: Daniel Parker <dparker@verdantas.com>
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2024 3:06 PM
To: codeenforcementplanning@baileyville.org <codeenforcementplanning@baileyville.org>
Subject: MEDMR Woodland Pulp Fish Passage System Project application

Hi Mr. Bohanon,
Thank you for returning my call and providing the information that you have on the Woodland Pulp Fish Passage system improvement project. For your files, I am attaching the complete Maine Waterways Development and Conservation Act application. Please let me know if you need additional information in order to determine if any local permits are required. Thank you.

Dan Parker
Hydropower Practice Lead
O. 508.500.6264 ext. 6458 | C. 315.261.2158
30 Shrewsbury Street, Holden, MA 01520

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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

WOODLAND PULP LLC	) MAINE WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT AND
Baileyville, Washington County	) CONSERVATION ACT
WOODLAND FISH PASSAGE	) WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	)
L-031368-34-A-N (approval)	) MWDCA – MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

Pursuant to the provisions of the Water Classification Program, 38 M.R.S. §§ 464–470, the Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act, 38 M.R.S. §§ 630–638, the Administrative Regulations For Hydropower Projects, 06-096 C.M.R. 450 (effective September 1, 1987), and Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has considered the application of WOODLAND PULP LLC (Woodland or Applicant) with the supportive data and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY

A. Application

On October 28, 2024, Woodland submitted an application to the Department pursuant to the Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act (MWDCA) for the proposed upgrade and expansion of the fish passage system at the Woodland Dam located on the St. Croix River in the Town of Baileyville, Washington County, Maine. The Department accepted the application for processing on November 5, 2024. The Department requested further information, and the Applicant supplemented their application materials on November 8, 2024, and February 28, 2025.

B. History

The Woodland project is an existing generating facility located on the St. Croix River. The Woodland Dam was constructed in 1906, pre-dating the Federal Power Act. Fish passage was integrated at the dam in the 1960s. The Woodland Dam is licensed through Congressional Authorization and does not possess or require a license with the FERC. There is no current or expired Water Quality Certification (WQC) for the Woodland Project.

C. Existing Project Features and Operations

The Woodland Dam is a concrete gravity structure founded on bedrock, incorporating a powerhouse, headworks, emergency spillway, principal spillway, process water intake, and fish ladder. The dam and spillway span approximately 1,910 feet, with the dam measuring 730 feet in length and 48 feet in height.

The main spillway is a concrete gravity structure with five manually operated Tainter gates, each measuring 6 by 12.5 feet. The emergency spillway, also a concrete gravity structure, consists of two sections- Canadian and American. Both are equipped with flashboards supported by bolted brackets and are manually placed and removed. A low concrete retaining wall directs flow in the emergency spillway around an island in the downstream channel, located approximately 250 feet left of the corner pier dividing the Canadian and American Sections.

The non-overflow section on the right abutment (American side) is referred to as the hydraulic wall. The wall is 795 feet long, with a maximum height of 37 feet and a crest width of 5 at an elevation of 141 feet mean sea level (MSL). To the left of the hydraulic wall, the headworks and powerhouse contain seven turbine generator units with a combined flow of 3,200 cubic feet per second (cfs) at 48 feet of head.[1]

Operating in run-of-river mode, the dam creates a 1,200-acre impoundment with a maximum depth of 24 feet and storage capacity of 4,380 acre-feet. The drainage area at Woodland Dam covers 1,360 square miles.

A 730-foot Denil fish ladder was built in 1965 to provide upstream fish passage, primarily for Atlantic salmon. The fish ladder has a channel width of 4 feet and a wall height of 7 feet and is made of concrete. The exit flume is located between the powerhouse and Tainter gates, with the main section of the fish ladder wrapping around the island to the tailrace by the powerhouse.

2. SUMMARY OF PROJECT PROPOSAL

Woodland proposes to upgrade and expand the existing upstream and downstream fish passage systems, construct a new fish lift, and construct a permanent access bridge.

The main Project area is located on an island that is surrounded by the existing fish ladder. The Applicant proposes to remove most of the existing fish ladder to make room for the new one, leaving 130 feet of the existing fish ladder to remain in place. The exit flume will be kept in the same location and the entrance will be moved just south of the bypass reach. The proposed pool and chute style fish ladder will have 8-foot-wide by 8-foot-long pools, with 8-inch drops per pool. The remaining 130 feet of the existing fish ladder will be filled to support the embankment that wraps around the island to the proposed fish lift.

Based on the location of the current fish passage and other dam facilities, the Applicant proposes to construct the high-capacity fish lift on the island separating the powerhouse and spillway. The fish lift is to be constructed in the tailrace, next to the powerhouse, and connected to the fish ladder's exit flume.

[1] Head is the height of the water level at the headworks, or an upstream point, of a waterway, and the water surface at a given point downstream. NOAA https://forecast.weather.gov/glossary.php

The Applicant proposes to construct a permanent access bridge over the tailrace to the island to provide maintenance access to the island once the project is complete. Construction of the bridge requires building three land-based abutments.

Bedrock will be excavated to prepare for the construction of the bridge abutments, fish ladder, and fish lift. Additional soil excavation will be required for the new sections of the fish ladder. In total, approximately 6,000 square feet of bedrock will be excavated. To complete the structures, 2,210 square feet of permanent fill will be placed for the fish lift, 1,690 square feet for the fish ladder, and 685 square feet for the bridge abutments.

The Project proposal includes detailed plans to: install sediment and erosion control measures; construct the access bridge; excavate bedrock and soils; install earthfill cofferdams and turbidity curtains; dewater the work area; and construct the fish ladder and fish lift.

The Applicant will develop and implement measures to mitigate potential Project effects on water quality caused by erosion and sedimentation according to the Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control Best Management Practices Manual for Designers and Engineers (October 2016) (BMPs) and the Maine Erosion and Sediment Control Practices Field Guide for Contractors (2014). These measures will be in place before work begins and will remain in use until the work area is stabilized.

A. Site Preparation

The site will be accessed through an existing road on the Applicant's property. A permanent access bridge will be installed over the tailrace, providing construction access to the island. Construction materials will be stored off-site or within the contractor staging area.

The Applicant proposes to take preliminary steps before work begins to mitigate erosion and sedimentation impacts. The applicant proposes to install sediment barriers surrounding the construction and staging areas. All erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed according to Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control BMPs. To conduct work in the dry and mitigate for any excavation or work materials that may be discharged into the waterway during project activities, temporary cofferdams and turbidity curtains will be installed. The cofferdam to dewater the fish ladder work area will extend from the shoreline on the bypass reach side of the island, under the existing overhead transmission lines to the shoreline area where the bridge abutment project area is. The cofferdam for the bridge abutment project area will directly surround the excavation area between the fish ladder and fish lift project area. The cofferdam for the fish lift project area will extend from the wall of the powerhouse in the tailrace to the shoreline next to the bridge abutment project area. A turbidity curtain will follow the same paths surrounding each cofferdam and completely encompass the cofferdams on the outside. The Applicant will inspect the erosion control devices for damage or impediments that may damage or impair effectiveness.

The proposed fish passage improvements involve phased work. The mobilization phase will take place from June to July of 2025. The bridge construction project will take place

between June 2025 and January 2026. Fish ladder construction will take place between September 2025 and October 2026. Construction of the fish lift will take place between December 2025 and July 2027. Exit flume modifications to the fish ladder will take place between December 2025 and July 2027. Intake work will take place between October 2025 and July 2027. Project demobilization will occur by September of 2027.

B. Water Control

Project activities will not result in changes to water levels or flows in the St. Croix River. Headpond levels at the Project are affected by the use of the spillway and Tainter gates. Project work areas are secluded to the island between the bypass reach and tailrace, leaving flow from the dam and powerhouse unaffected.

The Applicant will follow BMPs to limit any temporary adverse impacts to water quality. Construction of the entrance, training walls, and bypass cast-in-place[2] concrete structures will be performed "in the dry" utilizing a two-sided sheet pile wall cofferdam. The Project will not alter the physical structure of the dam, hydro generation equipment, water levels, or flows. No significant impacts to water quality are expected as a result of the proposed construction activities, and the turbidity curtain and silt fence will prevent adverse environmental impacts.

C. Construction

As described above, erosion controls will be deployed before and during construction, to limit any temporary adverse impacts to water quality, soil stability, and water resources of the St. Croix River. This includes the installation of silt fences and turbidity curtains. A silt fence will be installed around staging areas, and the bridge abutment project area on the mainland side. Sedimentation settling basins or water filtering bags will be utilized onshore and will have a vegetative buffer.

Temporary cofferdams will be installed at each project work area so that excavation and construction activities can occur in the dry. 220 square feet of area will be dewatered in the headpond and 16,180 square feet of area will be dewatered in the tailrace for a total of 16,400 square feet of dewatered area in the Project boundary. 7,700 square feet of temporary fill is required to construct the earthfill cofferdams.

Through the removal of portions of the existing fish ladder, 1,580 square feet of concrete will be demolished and removed. Collectively, 6,000 square feet of bedrock will be excavated within the project boundary for the foundation of the fish lift, fish ladder, and bridge abutments. Further, 1,050 cubic yards of concrete will be needed to construct the fish lift, fish ladder, and bridge abutments. 2,210 square feet of permanent fill is required to construct the fish lift, 1,690 square feet for the fish ladder, and 685 square feet collectively for the bridge abutments.

[2] Cast-in-place concrete is a casting method where concrete is directly poured and cured on site in the concrete's finished position.

D. Stabilization and Closeout

Once construction of the fish passages and the bridge is complete, all construction-related debris, tools, equipment, and construction materials will be removed from the site. Excavated material and temporary fill will be removed from the dewatered work area. The temporary cofferdams will be removed, and water will be restored to the area. Throughout the Project, downstream flows will be maintained through the bypass reach and tailrace surrounding the island. New concrete will be cured for at least seven days before rewatering begins.

Disturbed areas of soil will be seeded or mulched to mitigate the potential for soil erosion. The staging area and work area will be returned to their original condition while silt fences remain in place. After all access road maintenance, staging area stabilization, and construction activities are completed, the silt fence or sediment barrier will be removed. The turbidity curtain surrounding the work area will be removed after all work is complete.

E. Testing and Operation Management

Project activities will not change operations and will remain in run-of-river mode during and after the Project. The existing fish ladder will remain in operation for the 2025 season. Fish passage during the 2026 season will be accommodated by a temporary facility on or off-site with a trap and haul program if the proposed fish ladder is not ready for Spring of 2026. A trap and haul program will be implemented until fish passage facilities are operational.

Head pond levels are affected by the operation of the spillways and Tainter gates. The Project will not affect or alter the flow volume, rate, or timing in the St. Croix River. Head pond water surface elevations average between 143.4-145.4 feet and the average tailwater surface elevation. The average annual dependable capacity is 5,250 kilowatts and the maximum generation capacity is just under 9,000 kilowatts. The average annual generation is 13,590 megawatt-hours.

After construction is complete, the fish lift enhancements will be tested to ensure that all components of the fish lift; including pumps, diffuser, associated gates, and conduits; are functioning properly. Hydrology and flow will be tested to simulate conditions for migrating fish. If problems with the newly installed fish passage facilities are observed, Woodland must consult with Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW), relevant federal agencies, contractors, and engineers to ensure proper functioning of the fish passage facilities.

3. JURISDICTION

A. Hydropower Project Permit

The proposed construction of fish passage improvements at the Woodland Project qualifies as the structural alteration of a hydropower project under the terms of the Maine Waterway

Development and Conservation Act (MWDCA), 38 M.R.S. §§ 630–637. Section 633 of the MWDCA provides that no person may initiate construction or reconstruction of a hydropower project, or structurally alter a hydropower project in ways that change water levels or flows, without first obtaining a permit from the Department. Pursuant to Section 634-A, the Department administers the permit process for projects located wholly or partly within an organized municipality.

B. Water Quality Certification

The proposed fish passage improvement at the Woodland Project qualifies as an "activity…which may result in (a) discharge into the navigable water (of the United States)" under the Clean Water Act (CWA). Section 401 of the CWA requires that any Applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct such an activity obtain a certification from the State in which the discharge originates or will originate, and that the activity will comply with applicable State water quality standards. Therefore, Woodland requires water quality certification for the installation of additional fish passage. The Department issues water quality certification under Section 635-B of the MWDCA.

C. Terms and Conditions

Section 635 of the MWDCA provides that, upon receipt of a properly completed application, the Department shall either (1) approve the proposed project upon such terms and conditions as are appropriate and reasonable to protect and preserve the environment and the public's health, safety and general welfare, (2) disapprove the proposed project, or (3) schedule a hearing on the proposed project.

4. APPLICABLE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

A. Classification

The St. Croix River meets the definition of a river, stream or brook pursuant to 38 M.R.S. § 480-B(9). The Woodland Lake impoundment and the Project area from the Woodland Dam to tidewater is classified as Class C. 38 M.R.S. §§ 467(13)(A)(3)-(4).

B. Designated Uses

Class C waters shall be of such quality that they are suitable for the designated uses of drinking water supply after treatment; fishing; agriculture; recreation in and on the water; industrial process and cooling water supply; hydroelectric power generation; navigation; and as habitat for fish and other aquatic life. 38 M.R.S. § 465(4)(A).

C. Numeric Criteria

The dissolved oxygen content of Class C waters may not be less than 5 parts per million or 60% saturation, whichever is higher, except that in identified salmonid spawning areas where water quality is sufficient to ensure spawning, egg incubation and survival of early

life stages, that water quality sufficient for these purposes must be maintained. In order to provide additional protection for the growth of indigenous fish, the following standards apply. 38 M.R.S. § 465(4)(B).

D. Narrative Standards

Discharges to Class C waters may cause some changes to aquatic life, except that the receiving waters must be of sufficient quality to support all species of fish indigenous to the receiving waters and maintain the structure and function of the resident biological community. For the purpose of allowing the discharge of aquatic pesticides or chemicals approved by the department and conducted by the department, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or an agent of either agency to restore biological communities affected by an invasive species, the department may find that the discharged effluent will not cause unacceptable changes to aquatic life as long as the materials and methods used will ensure the support of all species of indigenous fish and the structure and function of the resident biological community and will allow restoration of nontarget species. 38 M.R.S. § 465(4)(C).

E. Antidegradation

The Department may only approve water quality certification if the standards of classification of the waterbody and the requirements of the State's antidegradation policy will be met. The Department may approve water quality certification for a project affecting a waterbody in which the standards of classification are not met if the project does not cause or contribute to the failure of the waterbody to meet the standards of classification. 38 M.R.S. § 464(4)(F).

5. BURDEN OF PROOF

The Department's Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters, 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 2 (repealed and replaced September 15, 2024) provide that an applicant for a license[3] has the burden of proof to affirmatively demonstrate to the Department that all applicable licensing criteria in statute or rule have been met. For those matters relating to licensing criteria that are disputed by evidence the Department determines is credible, the applicant has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the licensing criteria are satisfied.[4]

6. DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

The Department shall evaluate whether an applicant has demonstrated that the following criteria have been met, as set forth in 38 M.R.S. § 636:

[3] "License" means the whole or any part of a new license, amended license, renewal license, transfer, surrender, variance, certification, approval, or similar form of permission issued by the Department. 06-096 CMR 2(1)(O).
[4] 06-096 CMR 2(10)(F).

A. Financial Capability and Technical Ability

The total estimated cost of the Project is $41,000,000. Funds for this Project have been secured and awarded through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 2023 Fish Passage Opportunity, 2024 Fish Passage Opportunity, Passamaquoddy Tribe Award, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, USFWS Fish Passage 2023, USFWS Fish Passage 2024, and Maine Jobs and Recovery Act.

The Maine Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions shows that Woodland Pulp LLC is a legally existing Limited Partnership in good standing under the laws of the State of Maine.

Woodland has approved the project and, through a partnership with the Maine Department of Marine Resources has secured the $41,000,000 necessary to complete this Project. The Department finds that the Applicant has provided sufficient evidence to demonstrate that it has the financial capability and technical ability to complete the Project.

B. Public Safety

Project activities will take place entirely on the Applicant's property, for which there is no public access. Recreational use is restricted due to the Project taking place on the Woodland Pulp Power Plant site. Contracted security services provide 24-hour security coverage for Woodland Pulp. If access to areas outside of the project boundary is necessary, a temporary 8-foot-high chain link fence will be installed.

The Department finds that the Applicant has provided evidence to demonstrate that public safety will not be adversely impacted during the repairs.

C. Public Benefits

1. Employment

The Applicant plans to use Maine-based subcontractors and to source materials for maintenance activities from local companies to the extent possible. The Applicant collaborated with MDMR to solicit contractor bids for the project. Workers from the Project will benefit the local economy of Baileyville through general purchases of food, gas, and other miscellaneous items.

2. Taxes

Proposed Project activities affecting impoundments and changes to downstream flows are temporary in nature to facilitate project needs. Therefore, no impact to property values or property taxes are expected because of water level changes from this Project.

3. Other Costs and Public Benefits

Benefits of the Project include ensured safety for dam operation and increased recreational opportunities upstream once fish passage improvements are completed. Additional economic benefits will be generated through positive impacts on fishing, guiding, elvers[5], river herring harvests, and the Maine lobster industry.

Based on its review of the information provided by the Applicant, the Department determines that the Project will have little or no public costs. The Department finds that the Project will result in small economic benefits to the public including creation of employment opportunities for workers of the State and local economic benefits from general purchases by contracted personnel. The Department finds that the public will benefit from the increased recreational opportunities upstream and downstream of the Woodland Dam once fish passage improvements are implemented.

D. Traffic Movement

1. Applicant Proposals

The site will be accessed through the private roads on the Applicant's property. A permanent bridge will be constructed on the Applicant's property to access the island where work will be conducted. This bridge will not have public access. The main roads leading to the Applicant's property are frequented by loaded mill and logging trucks.

2. Discussion and Finding

There may be a temporary, minimal increase in truck traffic in Baileyville during portions of the project. Vehicle traffic will mostly occur on private land owned by the Applicant. No adverse impacts on existing traffic movement are expected from the proposed activity.

E. Maine Land Use Planning Commission

No part of the left spillway abutment repair is located within the jurisdiction of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC). Therefore, consistency with LUPC zoning is not applicable.

[5] Juvenile eel harvest.

F. Environmental Mitigation

1. Review Standard

The MWDCA, at 38 M.R.S. § 636(6), establishes that an applicant must demonstrate that reasonable provisions have been made to realize the environmental benefits of the project, if any, and to mitigate its adverse environmental impacts. The Department's Administrative Regulations for Hydropower Projects, which implement the MWDCA, define "mitigation" to include any action taken or not taken in order to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, eliminate, or compensate for actual or potential adverse environmental impacts. Such actions include minimizing potential impacts by controlling the timing of an activity. 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 450 § 3(I). Whether an applicant's provisions to realize environmental benefits or to mitigate adverse environmental impacts are reasonable depends in part upon the significance of the resource(s) affected. 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 450 § 5(F).

2. Applicant's Proposals

The Applicant proposes fish passage improvements at Woodland Dam and indicates that the modifications should enhance fish passage for anadromous fish and other fish species. The new fish passage systems will contribute to the resilience of target populations by decreasing incidental and delayed mortality during travel between free-flowing and impounded sections of the St. Croix River. The Applicant proposes to reduce and mitigate the environmental impacts associated with the proposed Project by taking various actions related to the natural environment and water quality, as discussed elsewhere in this order.

Environmental impacts associated with the proposed work will be temporary in nature. Preliminary impacts are related to the establishment of cofferdams to dewater work areas. Additional impacts include the mobilization of construction equipment and construction activities. Construction impacts from the Project include the demolition of part of the existing fish ladder; excavation of bedrock and soils; pouring concrete for the bridge abutments, fish lift, and fish ladder; and the installation of various exit flume and intake modifications. Further impacts include the removal of excavated concrete material, ledge, and soils from the work site to the staging areas for disposal.

The Applicant proposes sufficient methods to mitigate adverse environmental impacts due to Project activities. The Woodland Dam will continue to operate as normal throughout the construction of the fish passages. Construction activities will be performed "in the dry" by installing cofferdams. The Applicant will implement Maine soil and erosion control BMPs and control construction material storage areas.

As a result, the Department finds that there are no long-term impacts anticipated with the project. Environmental impacts associated with the proposed work will be temporary in nature and are related to the installation of the cofferdam and associated dewatering. As needed water will be pumped out of work areas to settlement basins on

shore. Construction materials will be stored off-site or within the contractor staging area.

3. Impacts Associated with the Fish Passage Enhancements

Potential impacts include decreased water quality from shoreline erosion and sedimentation or work-related sediment, debris, or discharge. Sedimentation can elevate nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in aquatic habitats and increase primary productivity. This can result in the proliferation of algae and aquatic plants, and eventually, harmful algal blooms which can cause anoxic conditions in the water column. Additionally, sedimentation can alter water clarity and change the characteristics of the riverbed. For example, large-scale sedimentation can convert a cobbled or rocky substrate to a sand or silt substrate which, over time, can alter the macroinvertebrate community structure. Ultimately sedimentation has detrimental impacts on aquatic habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms. Shoreline sedimentation may occur through the movement of equipment and construction materials from the laydown areas through the shoreline access areas to the work areas. Potential risks for concrete or ledge debris material, poured concrete, or disturbed soils to be discharged downstream during fish passage construction will be mitigated with silt fences, and performing work in the dry.

"Fresh" concrete can be toxic to aquatic life unless properly cured prior to coming into contact with surface water. Installation of the fish passage facilities requires concrete work which may have a detrimental impact on water quality. Flow diversion from the work area will be achieved by constructing cofferdams and dewatering the work area as described above to excavate materials and install fresh concrete in the dry.

To monitor and mitigate impacts from the new concrete, work will be performed in the dry, and the concrete will be cured for at least seven days before rewatering.

4. Cofferdam Alternative Analysis

The Department has found that the use of earthfill cofferdams can result in significant sedimentation into waterways, especially during cofferdam installation and removal. Sedimentation can result in a decline in water quality, damage to aquatic habitat, and injury to fish and other aquatic organisms, and can degrade scenic, aesthetic, and recreational uses and values.

The Applicant has evaluated the availability, feasibility, and practicality of alternatives to the use of earthfill cofferdams as part of the proposed fish passage construction activities and submitted a Cofferdam Alternatives Analysis on February 28, 2025.

The Project requires access below the current water levels to complete work on the fish passage structures and bridge abutments. Four separate cofferdams will be installed, a 400-foot cofferdam in the bypass reach for the fish ladder project area; a 250-foot cofferdam in the tailrace for the fish lift project area; a 120-foot cofferdam for the

bridge abutment project area in the tailrace; and a 110-foot cofferdam for the bridge abutment project area on the mainland side of the tailrace. The two-sided, sheet pile wall cofferdams will be filled with bank run gravel with stones less than 6 inches in diameter, and well graded. The total dewatered area will be 14,740 square feet, 14,520 square feet in the tailrace, and 220 square feet in the headpond. 7,700 square feet of temporary fill will be required between all four cofferdams.

The Applicant proposes to install and remove all cofferdams at the same time in the mobilization and closeout process. Each of the dewatered Project areas will remain dewatered the entire duration of the Project, beginning in June of 2025 and ending in September of 2027. None of the four cofferdams will restrict flow in either the bypass reach or the tailrace, resulting in no changes to water levels or flows.

The geographical layout of the project boundary limits cofferdam alternatives. The uneven rock riverbed does not allow for steel sheets to be driven into the riverbed or safely installing PortaDam[6] structures. The depth required to reach the Project area is too deep for standard sandbags to withstand.

Based on the evidence in the record, the Department finds the Applicant has made reasonable provisions to avoid permanent impacts. An earthfill cofferdam is the safest, most cost-effective, and durable option for the Project.

G. Environmental and Energy Considerations

38 M.R.S. § 636(7) provides that the Department shall approve a project when it finds that the Applicant has demonstrated that, among other things, the advantages of the project are greater than the direct and cumulative adverse impacts over the life of the project based upon specified environmental and energy considerations. The Department's Administrative Rules for Hydropower Projects provide that this "balancing" criterion is satisfied if, in the Department's judgment, the Applicant has demonstrated that the weight of the advantages of the project is greater than the weight of the direct and cumulative impacts over the life of the project based on the specified environmental and energy considerations. The Department's Administrative Rules for Hydropower Projects further provide that determining whether the advantages of a project are greater than its adverse impacts require attaching value or weight to the project's various benefits and harms. See 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 450 § (5)(A)(7).

1. Soil Stability and Wetlands

a. Sedimentation and Soil Stability

The main Project area is located on an island that is surrounded by the existing fish ladder. During construction activities portions of the existing fish ladder will be

[6] PortaDam is a specific temporary cofferdam system that is designed to be a free-standing structure without penetrating the ground.

removed, then replaced with either sections of the fish lift or new fish ladder. Once the Project is completed the island will be entirely contained again.

Soil borings were performed at the Project site by New England Boring Contractors (NBEC) to visually confirm bedrock contact, quality, and assess rock quality designation. A Verdantas field geologist conducted oversight of subsurface explorations, measured groundwater levels, prepared field test pit and boring logs, and collected soil and rock samples.

The proposed Project will require the use of machinery, excavation and disturbance of soils as discussed in other sections of this Order. Cofferdams and turbidity curtains will be installed surrounding the fish lift construction area in the tailrace and fish ladder construction area in the bypass reach to prevent materials from entering the river. In areas where groundwork will be performed silt fences will be utilized. The Applicant proposes to remove excavated concrete and bedrock materials for off-site disposal. After completion of the Project, disturbed areas in the staging and access areas will be graded and seeded or mulched before the removal of silt fences. The Applicant will apply Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control BMPs during Project construction to limit any temporary adverse impacts to water quality from sedimentation.

b. Wetlands

Habitat associated with the site is riverine in nature, associated with the St. Croix River. The waters surrounding the project are Classified as Class C. Wildlife resources at and in the vicinity of the Project are associated with wetland habitat to the extent it is present. The Applicant has proposed to install silt fences, earthfill cofferdams, and turbidity curtains to surround the cofferdams to prevent any wash of fill or installation materials from reaching downstream habitat. The Department finds that the Applicant has proposed to take appropriate steps to minimize potential negative impacts construction activities may have on any wetlands and the resources found there.

2. Fish and Wildlife Resources

a. Fish Resources

Historically, the rivers and lakes above the St. Croix River dams supported large runs of river herring (alewife and blueback herring), Atlantic salmon, American shad, sea lamprey, and American eel. The current upstream fish passage at the Project was completed in 1966 and is designed with a focus on Atlantic Salmon. The existing fish ladder passes river herring in limited numbers, recent studies[7] demonstrate the need for new fish ladders built to modern standards. It was

[7] Studies conducted by the St. Croix International Waterway Commission (SCIWC) in 2021, 2022, and 2023, a report commissioned by the International Joint Commission (IJC) for the St. Croix Watershed Board (2021), and a recent Passamaquoddy Tribe management plan (Peskotomuhkati 2022).

determined that a fish lift alone would not provide the necessary capacity to move river herring if future returns meet its potential for high production after the Project is completed, therefore the Applicant proposes to upgrade the existing fish ladder as well. The second fish passage is expected to add extra capacity during peak migration periods, provide passage across a wider range of flows, reduce delays in migration, and extend the area where passage is possible along the dam face.

The American eel is expected to benefit from improved upstream and downstream passage from the removal of the Milltown Dam and greater survival resulting from the improved passage at the Woodland and Grand Falls Dams. The Milltown Dam was removed in 2023 and restored 10 miles of mainstem river habitat to sea-run fish, setting the stage for improved fish passage at the Woodland Dam.

St. Croix river herring and other species of anadromous fish will benefit by accessing available spawning habitat upstream of the Woodland and Grand Falls Dams. The installation and operation of modernized fish passage systems will contribute to the resilience of target populations by decreasing incidental and delayed mortality during travel between free-flowing and impounded sections of the St. Croix River System. The proposed fish passage configuration at Woodland will also allow managers to implement selective passage to prevent the spread of invasive species if desired.

Run-of-river operations will continue during and after the Project. The Applicant proposes no changes in water levels or flows. The existing Denil fish ladder will be utilized during the 2025 season. An alternative fish passage (trap and haul) will be utilized during construction until the new fish ladder is opened. Anticipated impacts and activities will be short-term and temporary in duration.

b. Wildlife Resources

The wildlife habitat in the Project vicinity on the Woodland side of the St. Croix River is composed of urban development. Habitat on the Canadian side of the St. Croix River is mostly forested. The main project area located on the island is developed and self-contained.

The Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) resource list from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was utilized to assess wildlife resources. It is a generated list of fish and wildlife species and critical habitats in the Project area that could be affected by activities. The list includes additional areas of influence, which are areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in the Project area.

Species potentially affected by activities in the Project area include the Canada Lynx, Northern Long-eared Bat, Tricolored Bat, Monarch Butterfly, Bald Eagle, Black-billed cuckoo, and Veery.

The Northern Long-eared Bat is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, but no critical habitat, bat hibernacula, or maternity roost trees are identified within the Project area, and no vegetation removal has been proposed that may impact the species. The Monarch Butterfly is listed as a candidate under the ESA, but no critical habitat has been identified within the Project area.

The Bald Eagle is protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act but is not a Bird of Conservation Concern in the Project area. The Black-billed Cuckoo is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout their range in the continental United States and Alaska. The Veery is a Bird of Conservation Concern only, in particular, Bird Conservation Regions in the continental United States. The IPaC resource list did not identify any critical habitats in the Project boundaries. Minimal negative impacts to wildlife are expected.

c. Discussion and Finding

MDMR and MDIFW had an opportunity to review the Project construction plans. Both agencies provided no objections to the proposed Project. The Department finds that Project activities will have positive impacts to fish resources, and minimal impacts to wildlife resources, provided that the Applicant utilizes adequate erosion and sedimentation controls.

3. Historic and Archaeological Resources

The Applicant consulted with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on the Project in accordance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA). On October 28, 2024, the SHPO found that no historic properties (architectural or archaeological) will be affected. The Department finds that the Project is expected to have no anticipated impact on historic or archaeological resources.

4. Public Rights of Access

Currently, there is no direct public access to the Project area, which is located on private property owned by the Applicant. The Department finds that the proposed repair will not result in any significant harm to public rights of access to and use of the surface waters of the State.

5. Flood Control

The proposed Project has no long-term impacts on flood control. No change in water levels or flows are proposed. The Department finds that proposed construction activities will not result in a significant impact on the flood control benefits or hazards of the Woodland Pulp project.

6. Hydroelectric Energy Benefits

The existing Woodland Pulp Project houses seven turbine generators with an average annual dependable capacity of 5,250 kilowatts (kW) and an average annual generation of 13,590 megawatt-hours. The Applicant proposes no changes to power generation. Construction activities will not permanently change the generating capacity of the dam. Based on the Applicant's proposal and information in the record, the Department determines the proposed Project will not affect hydroelectric energy benefits.

7. Analysis of Project Advantages and Impacts

After consideration of the benefits and harms of the project, as discussed above, the Department finds that the advantages of the project are greater than the direct and cumulative adverse impacts over the life of the project. Specifically, the advantages of the improved fish passage outweigh the adverse, short-term impacts of construction activities necessary to complete the Project.

H. Water Quality

Pursuant to Section 635-B of the MWDCA, the Department must determine whether there is a reasonable assurance that the proposed activity associated with an MWDCA permit will not violate applicable water quality standards.

The section of the St. Croix River within the Project boundary is classified as Class C. The Applicant's proposed measures related to erosion and sedimentation control outline how the Applicant will mitigate potential degradation of water quality throughout the construction activities. The Applicant will be performing work in the dry by utilizing cofferdams and turbidity curtains, installing silt fences, and ensuring Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control BMPs will be implemented during Project construction.

Based on the Applicant's proposals and the Department's review, the Department finds that there is a reasonable assurance that the proposed project will not violate applicable state water quality standards provided the Applicant implements the proposed erosion and sedimentation controls and adheres to Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control BMPs.

5. REVIEW PROCESS

The Department requested Project review from the Department's Division of Environmental Assessment, the Maine Department of Marine Resources, the Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry, MDIFW, MHPC, and Department of Transportation (DOT). Woodland Pulp LLC's application for a MWDCA permit and water quality certification for the construction and expansion of fish passage was accepted as complete for processing by the Department on November 5, 2024.

6. DRAFT PERMIT

The draft permit was sent to the Agent on March 24, 2025. The Agent had minor edits on the draft permit.

BASED on the above findings of fact and the evidence contained in the application and supporting documents, and subject to the Conditions listed below, which are appropriate and reasonable to protect and preserve the environment and the public's health, safety and general welfare, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The Applicant has the financial capacity and technical ability to undertake the project.

2. The Applicant has made adequate provision for the protection of public safety.

3. The project will result in some economic benefit to the community.

4. The Applicant has made adequate provisions for traffic movement out of and into the development area.

5. The project is not located within the jurisdiction of the Land Use Regulation Commission.

6. The Applicant has made reasonable provisions to realize the environmental benefits of the project, if any, and to mitigate the adverse environmental impacts of the project, provided the Applicant complies with the requirements above and the corresponding conditions below.

7. The advantages of the project are greater than the direct and cumulative adverse impacts over the life of the project, provided that the Applicant complies with the requirements above and the corresponding conditions below.

8. There is a reasonable assurance that the project will not violate applicable State water quality standards.

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of WOODLAND PULP LLC to construct improved fish passage facilities as described in Finding 1, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations:

1. Standard Conditions of Approval for projects under the Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act, a copy attached.

2. The Applicant shall acquire all other necessary permits from municipalities or the federal government to conduct this project.

3. The Applicant shall implement the proposed erosion and sedimentation controls and the Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control BMPs, including the following:

   a. Silt fences shall be installed before the start of work and must be removed after completion of work when the work area is stabilized;

b. Seed and mulch any disturbed area of the access road or shoreline where appropriate after construction activities are complete prior to removing erosion and sedimentation controls.

4. The Applicant shall implement the Maine Erosion and Sedimentation Control BMPs and Maine Erosion and Sediment Control Practices Field Guide for Contractors, including the following that pertain to concrete:

   a. Install silt fences and a turbidity curtain downstream or surrounding the work area prior to installing fresh concrete;

   b. Install all concrete within the cofferdam and silt curtain;

   c. Not wash tools, forms, etc. in or adjacent to the waterbody and not discharge concrete wash water to the resource;

   d. Cure fresh concrete in forms for a minimum of seven days; and

   e. Ensure flows over the cured concrete equal or exceed 15 gallons per square foot.

5. Any cofferdam fill placed in the waterway or within the 100-year floodway boundaries of the waterway shall consist of clean granular fill free from plant matter, lumps or balls of clay and other deleterious substances. That portion passing a No. 200 sieve shall not exceed 10% fines, by weight. All cofferdam fill shall be removed following completion of fish ladder enhancement activities.

6. In addition to any specific erosion and sedimentation control measures included in the Department reviewed plan, the Applicant and its agents shall take all necessary measures to ensure that project activities do not result in erosion or sedimentation during or following the approved activities.

7. All removed vegetation, debris and construction spoils shall be reused, recycled, or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the Maine Solid Waste Management Regulations.

8. In the event that any provision, or part thereof, of this permit and/or certification is declared to be unlawful by a reviewing court, the remainder of the permit and/or certification will remain in full force and effect and will be construed and enforced in all respects as if such unlawful provision, or part thereof, has been omitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

THIS APPROVAL DOES NOT CONSTITUTE OR SUBSTITUTE FOR ANY OTHER REQUIRED STATE, FEDERAL OR LOCAL APPROVALS NOR DOES IT VERIFY COMPLIANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE SHORELAND ZONING ORDINANCES.

DONE AND DATED IN AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS 10TH DAY OF APRIL, 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY:_____
For: Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner

PLEASE NOTE THE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES.

CB/L-031368-34-A-N /ATS93329

Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act (MWDCA) Standard Conditions

Unless otherwise specifically stated in the approval, all Administering Agency, Commissioner, and Director approvals are subject to the following standard conditions:

(1) **Limits of Approval**. Project approval is limited to and includes the proposals and plans contained in the application and supporting documents submitted and affirmed to by the Applicant. All variances from the plans and proposals contained in said documents are subject to the review and approval of the Administering Agency prior to implementation.

(2) **Noncompliance**. Should the project be found, at any time, not to be in compliance with any of the conditions of approval or should the permittee construct or operate the project in any way other than as specified in the application or supporting documents, as modified by the conditions of approval, then the terms of approval will be considered to have been violated.

(3) **Compliance with all Applicable Laws**. The permittee shall secure and appropriately comply with all applicable federal, state and local licenses, permits, authorizations, conditions, agreements, and orders prior to or during construction and operation of the permitted project.

(4) **Inspection and Compliance**. Authorized representatives of the Administering Agency or the Attorney General must be granted access to the premises of the permittee at any reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting the construction or operation of the project and assuring compliance by the permittee with the conditions of approval.

(5) **Initiation and Completion of Construction**. If construction is not commenced within 3 years and completed within 7 years from the date of issuance of the Authorizing Agency's permit, the approval will lapse, unless a request for an extension of these deadlines has been approved by the Administering Agency.

(6) **Construction Schedule**. Prior to the start of construction, the permittee shall submit a final construction schedule for the project to the Administering Agency.

(7) **Approval Included in Contract Bids**. A copy of the project's approval must be included in or attached to contract bid specifications for the project.

(8) **Approval Provided to Contractor**. Work done by a contractor pursuant to the project's approval may not begin before a copy of the approval has been provided to the contractor by the permittee.

(9) **Notification of Project Operation**. The permittee shall notify the Commissioner or Director of the commencement of commercial operation of the project within 10 days prior to such commencement.

(10) **Assignment or Transfer of Approval**. Written consent to transfer an approval must be applied for no later than two weeks after the assignment or transfer of ownership of property covered by an approval under these Rules. Pending Administering Agency determination on the application

for a transfer or assignment of ownership of an existing approval, the person(s) to whom such property is assigned or transferred shall abide by all of the terms and conditions of that approval and is jointly and severally liable with the original permittee for any violation of the terms and conditions thereof. To obtain the Administering Agency's approval of transfer, the proposed assignee or transferee must demonstrate the financial capability and technical ability to (1) comply with all terms and conditions of the approval and (2) satisfy all other applicable statutory criteria. As used in this paragraph, "transfer of ownership" means a change in the legal entity that owns a project that is the subject of a permit issued pursuant to this chapter. A sale or exchange of stock (or in the case of a limited liability corporation, of membership interests), or a merger, is not a transfer of ownership for the purposes of this rule provided the legal entity that owns the project remains the same.

Revised September 2016

DEP INFORMATION SHEET

Appeals to the Board of Environmental Protection

Date: November 2024 Contact: Clerk.BEP@maine.gov or (207) 314-1458

SUMMARY

This document provides information regarding a person's rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal of: (1) a final license decision made by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"); or (2) an insurance claim-related decision ("Clean-up and Response Fund decision") made by the Commissioner or the Office of State Fire Marshal pursuant to 38 M.R.S. § 568-A.

Except as explained below, there are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a license decision made by the Commissioner or a Clean-up and Response Fund decision: (1) an administrative appeal before the Board of Environmental Protection ("Board"); or (2) a judicial appeal before Maine's Superior Court. An aggrieved person seeking review of a license decision or Clean-up and Response Fund decision made by the Board may seek judicial review in Maine's Superior Court.

An appeal of a license decision made by the DEP Commissioner or the Board regarding an application for an expedited wind energy development (35-A M.R.S. § 3451(4)), a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S. § 480-HH(1)), or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S. § 636-A) must be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court sitting as the Law Court.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

LEGAL REFERENCES

A person filing an appeal with the Board should review the applicable rules and statutes, including the DEP's Chapter 2 rule, *Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters* (06-096 C.M.R. ch. 2); Organization and Powers, 38 M.R.S. §§ 341-D(4) and 346; and the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, 5 M.R.S. § 11001.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Within 30 calendar days of the date of: (1) a final license decision of the Commissioner; or (2) a Clean-up and Response Fund decision, an aggrieved person may appeal to the Board for review of that decision. "Aggrieved person" means any person whom the Board determines may suffer a particularized injury as a result of a Commissioner's license decision or a Clean-up and Response Fund decision. A complete appeal must be received by the Board no later than 5:00 p.m. on the 30th calendar day of the decision being appealed. With limited exception, untimely appeals will be dismissed.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

An appeal to the Board may be submitted via postal mail or electronic mail (e-mail) and must contain all signatures and required appeal contents. An electronic filing must contain the scanned original signature of the appellant(s). The appeal documents must be sent to the following address.

Chair, Board of Environmental Protection
c/o Board Clerk
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0017
Clerk.BEP@maine.gov

The DEP may also request the submittal of the original signed paper appeal documents when the appeal is filed electronically. The risk of material not being received in a timely manner is on the sender, regardless of the method used.

At the time an appeal is filed with the Board, the appellant must send a copy of the appeal to: (1) the Commissioner of the DEP (Maine Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0017); (2) the licensee, if the appellant is not the licensee; and (3) if a hearing was held on the application, any intervenors in that hearing proceeding. For appeals of Clean-up and Response Fund decisions made by the State Fire Marshal, the appellant must also send a copy of the appeal to the State Fire Marshal. **Please contact the Board Clerk at clerk.bep@maine.gov or DEP staff at 207-287-7688 with questions or for contact information regarding a specific license or Clean-up and Response Fund decision.**

REQUIRED APPEAL CONTENTS

A written appeal must contain the information specified in Chapter 2, section 23(B) or section 24(B), as applicable, at the time the appeal is submitted. **Please carefully review these sections of Chapter 2**, which is available online at https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/06/chaps06.htm, or contact the Board Clerk to obtain a copy of the rule. Failure to comply with the content of appeal requirements may result in the appeal being dismissed pursuant to Chapter 2, section 23(C) or section 24(C).

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD

1. *Be familiar with the administrative record.* Generally, the record on which the Board decides an appeal is limited to the record prepared by the agency in its review of the application, any supplemental evidence admitted to the record by the Board Chair and, if a hearing is held on the appeal, additional evidence admitted during the hearing. A person who seeks to appeal a decision to the Board is encouraged to contact the DEP (or State Fire Marshal for Clean-up and Response Fund decisions made by that agency) to inspect the record before filing an appeal.

2. *Be familiar with the applicable rules and laws.* An appellant is required to identify the licensing criterion or standard the appellant believes was not satisfied in issuing the decision, the bases of the objections or challenges, and the remedy sought. Prior to filing an appeal, review the decision being appealed to identify the rules and laws that are applicable to the decision. An appellant may contact the DEP or Board staff with any questions regarding the applicable rules and laws or the appeal procedure generally.

3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* If a license has been granted and it has been appealed, the license normally remains in effect pending the processing of the appeal. Unless a separate stay of the decision is requested and granted (*see* Chapter 2, section 23(M)), the licensee may proceed with an approved project pending the outcome of the appeal. Any activity initiated in accordance with the approved license during the pendency of the appeal comes with the risk of not knowing the outcome of the appeal, including the possibility that the decision may be reversed or modified by the Board.

4. *Alternative dispute resolution.* If the appeal participants agree to use mediation or another form of alternative dispute resolution ("ADR") to resolve the appeal and so notify the Board, the Board will not hear the matter until the conclusion of that effort, provided the participants engaged in the alternative dispute resolution demonstrate satisfactory progress toward resolving the issues. *See* Chapter 2, section 23(H) or contact the Board Executive Analyst (contact information below) for more information on the ADR provision.

WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD

The Board will acknowledge receipt of each appeal and develop a service list of appeal participants and any interested persons for use in the appeal proceeding. Electronic mail (e-mail) is the preferred method of communication during an appeal proceeding; however, the Board reserves the right to require paper copies of all filings. Once the Board Chair rules on the admissibility of all proposed supplemental evidence, the licensee (if the licensee is not the appellant) may respond to the merits of the appeal. Instructions specific to each appeal will be provided in correspondence from the Board Executive Analyst or Board Chair. Generally, once all filings in an appeal proceeding are complete, the DEP staff will assemble a packet of materials for the Board (Board packet), including a staff recommendation in the form of a proposed Board Order. Once available, appeal participants will receive a copy of the Board packet and an agenda with the meeting location and start time. Once finalized, the meeting agenda will be posted on the Board's webpage https://www.maine.gov/dep/bep/index.html. Appeals will be considered based on the administrative record on appeal and oral argument at a regular meeting of the Board. *See* Chapter 2, Section 23(I). The Board may affirm all or part of the decision under appeal; affirm all or part of the decision under appeal with modifications, or new or additional conditions; order a hearing to be held as expeditiously as possible; reverse the decision under appeal; or remand the decision to the Commissioner or State Fire Marshal, as applicable, for further proceedings.

II. JUDICIAL APPEALS

The filing of an appeal with the Board is not a prerequisite for the filing of a judicial appeal. Maine law generally allows aggrieved persons to appeal final license decisions to Maine's Superior Court (*see* 38 M.R.S. § 346(1); Chapter 2; 5 M.R.S. § 11001; and M.R. Civ. P. 80C). A judicial appeal by a party to the underlying proceeding must be filed with the Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of notice of the Board's or the Commissioner's decision. For any other aggrieved person, an appeal must be filed within 40 days of the date the decision was rendered. An appeal to court of a license decision regarding an expedited wind energy development, a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project, or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project may only be taken directly to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. *See* 38 M.R.S. § 346(4), the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, statutes governing a particular license decision, and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure for substantive and procedural details applicable to judicial appeals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal procedure, for administrative appeals contact the Board Clerk at clerk.bep@maine.gov or 207-287-2811 or the Board Executive Analyst at bill.hinkel@maine.gov or 207-314-1458, or for judicial appeals contact the court clerk's office in which the appeal will be filed.

Note: This information sheet, in conjunction with a review of the statutory and rule provisions referred to herein, is provided to help a person to understand their rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal, and to comply with notice requirements of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, 5 M.R.S. § 9061. This information sheet is not intended to supplant the parties' obligations to review and comply with all statutes and rules applicable to an appeal and insofar as there is any inconsistency between the information in this document and the applicable statutes and rules, the relevant statutes and rules apply.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT OFFICE
696 VIRGINIA ROAD
CONCORD MASSACHUSETTS 01742-2751

March 26, 2025

Regulatory Division
Maine Section

Sean Ledwin
Maine Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Sea-Run Fisheries and Habitat
21 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04330
Via Email: Sean.M.Ledwin@maine.gov

Dear Mr. Ledwin:

This letter is in response to the application you submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New England District for a Department of the Army general permit verification. We have assigned this project file number NAE-2024-01900, which you should reference in all correspondence with this office.

A review of the information provided indicates the proposed work is to construct a fish ladder and fish lift requiring 3900 square feet (SF) of permanent fill below the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) of the St. Croix River. To facilitate construction, an additional 360 SF of permanent fill for construction of a U.S. Coast Guard approved access bridge, 7700 SF of temporary fill for a coffer dam, and excavation of 7370 SF of bedrock and pre-existing concrete fills are also required. All temporary fills will be removed in their entirety upon completion of the work and restored to their pre-construction elevations and contours. The project is located at 114 Mill St, at Latitude 45.158700º and Longitude -67.401860º; in Baileyville, Washington County, Maine. The work is shown on the enclosed plans titled "WOODLAND FISH LIFT PASSAGE DESIGN", on 7 sheets, and dated 1/13/2025.

Based on the information you have provided, we verify that the activity is authorized under Regional General Permit #21 – Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities of the federal permit known as the Maine General Permits (GPs). If the extent of the project area and/or nature of the authorized impacts to waters are modified, a revised application must be submitted to this office for written approval before work is initiated. You can find a copy of these permits at: https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/State-General-Permits/

Any deviation from the terms and conditions of the permit, or your submitted plans, may subject the permittee to the enforcement provisions of our regulations. Therefore, in the event changes to this project are contemplated, it is recommended you coordinate with this office prior to proceeding with the work. This office must approve

any changes before you undertake them. You must perform this work in compliance with the terms and conditions of the GPs listed above, and also in compliance with the following special conditions:

Project Specific Special Conditions:

1. The permittee shall complete and return the enclosed Work-Start Notification Form to this office at least two weeks prior to the anticipated construction start date.

2. You must maintain the activity herein in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this authorization. You are not relieved of this requirement if you abandon the permitted activity, although you may make a good faith transfer to a third party in compliance with a general condition of these GPs. Should you wish to cease to maintain the authorized activities, or should you desire to abandon it without a good faith transfer, you must obtain a modification of this authorization from this office, which may require restoration of the area.

3. The applicant shall ensure that the project will not implement fencing that could unintentionally trap Canada Lynx. Rationale: This condition is included to ensurecompliance with the Endangered Species Act.

This verification is valid until October 14, 2025. You must commence or be under contract to commence the work authorized herein by October 14, 2025 and complete the work by October 14, 2026 (ONE YEAR AFTER VERIFICATION EXPIRATION). If not, you must contact this office to determine the need for further authorization before beginning or continuing the activity. It is recommended that you contact this office before this authorization expires to discuss if permit reissuance is a possibility.

This GP verification and any associated authorizations does not preclude the necessity to obtain any other federal, state, or local permits, licenses, and/or certifications, which may be required.

If you have any questions related to this verification or have issues accessing documents referenced in this letter, please contact Zachary Normile, Project Manager at 978-318-8916, or by email at zachary.normile@usace.army.mil. This agency continually strives to improve our customer service. To better serve you, please complete the Customer Service Survey located at:https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/.

Sincerely,

Roberta K. Budnik

For: Peter D. Olmstead
Chief, Maine Section
Regulatory Division

Enclosures

Cc:
Matthew Bernier, NOAA; matthew.bernier@noaa.gov
Nathan Margason, U.S. EPA, Region 1, Boston, MA; Margason.Nathan@epa.gov
Keegan Feero, Maine DEP; keegan.feero@maine.gov

Work-Start Notification Form

File Number: NAE-2024-01900 State: Maine County: Washington

Permittee: Maine Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Sea-Run Fisheries and Habitat, Sean Ledwin
Date Verification Issued: 3/26/2025
Project Manager: Zachary Normile

At least two weeks prior to commencing the activity authorized by this permit, sign this certification and return it to the following address:

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
New England District
Attn: Zachary Normile
442 Civic Center Dr Suite 350
Augusta, Maine 04330
or
zachary.normile@usace.army.mil
978-318-8916

Please note that your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by a U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) representative. Failure to comply with any terms or conditions of this authorization may result in the USACE suspending, modifying or revoking the authorization and/or issuing a Class I administrative penalty, or initiating other appropriate legal action.

The people (e.g. contractor) listed below will do the work, and they understand the permit's conditions and limitations.

Contractor Name/Contractor Firm: _____
Business Address: _____
_____
Contractor Phone and Email: _____

Proposed Construction Dates: Start: _____ Finish: _____

_____ _____
Signature of Permittee Date

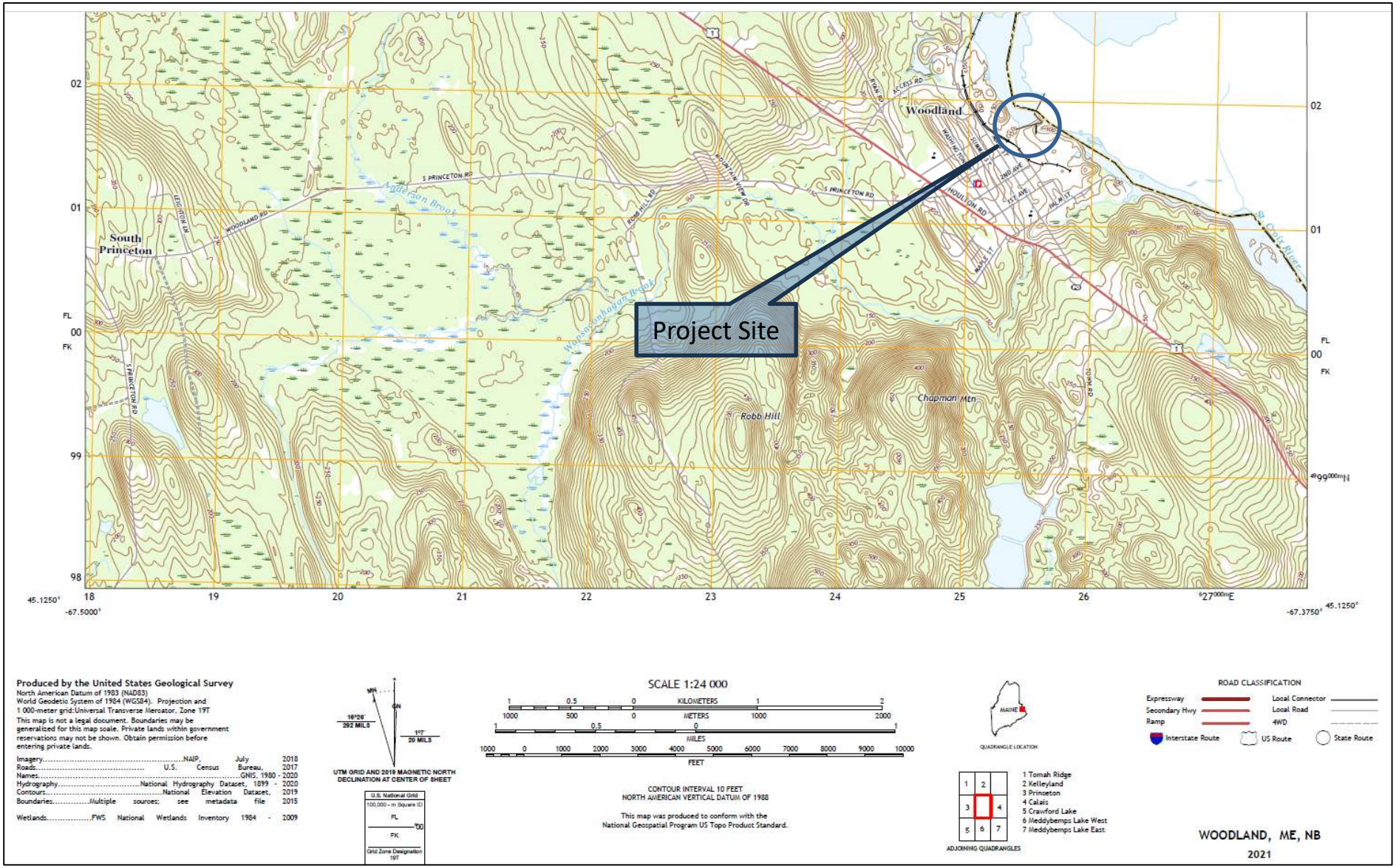
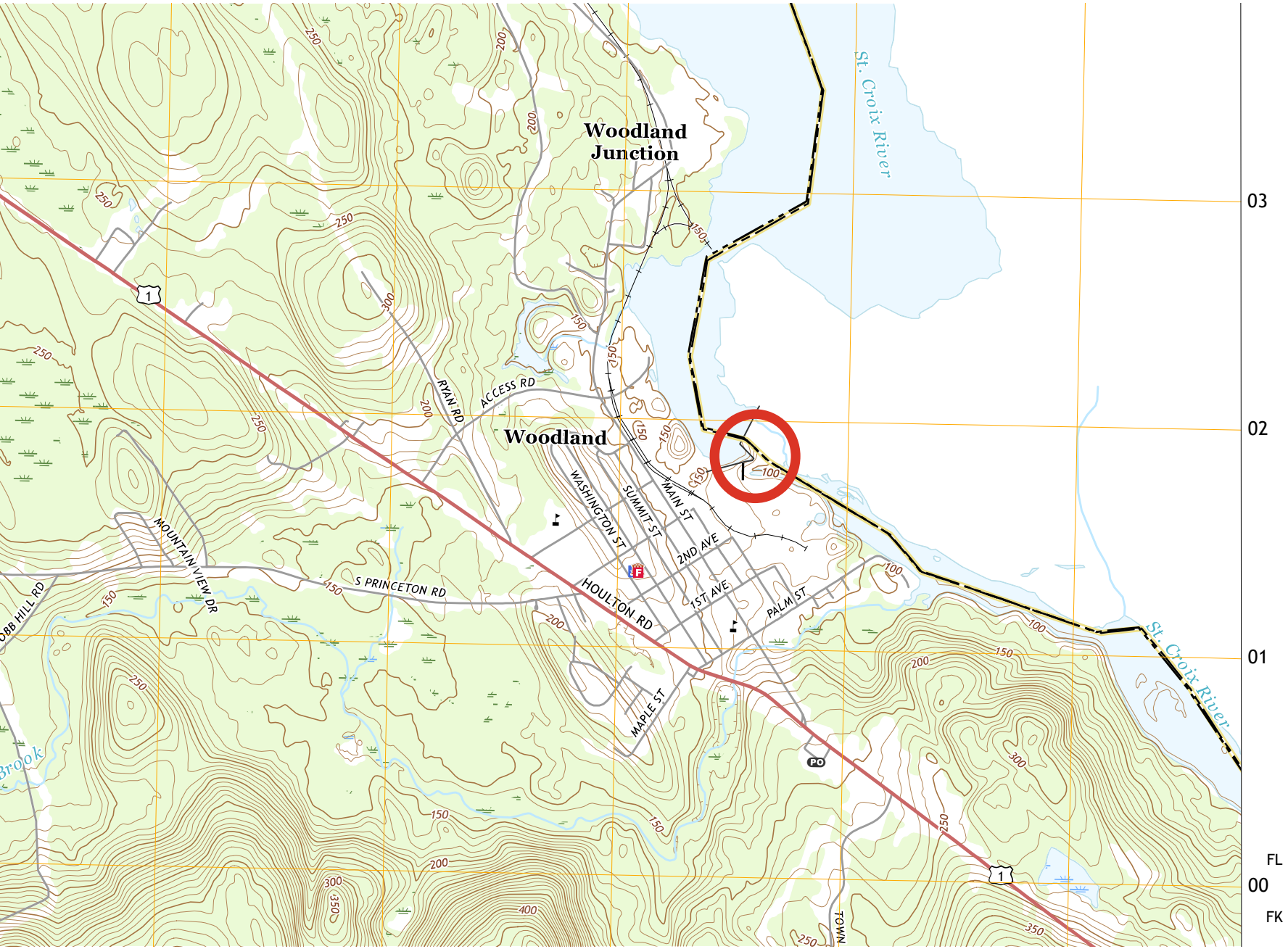
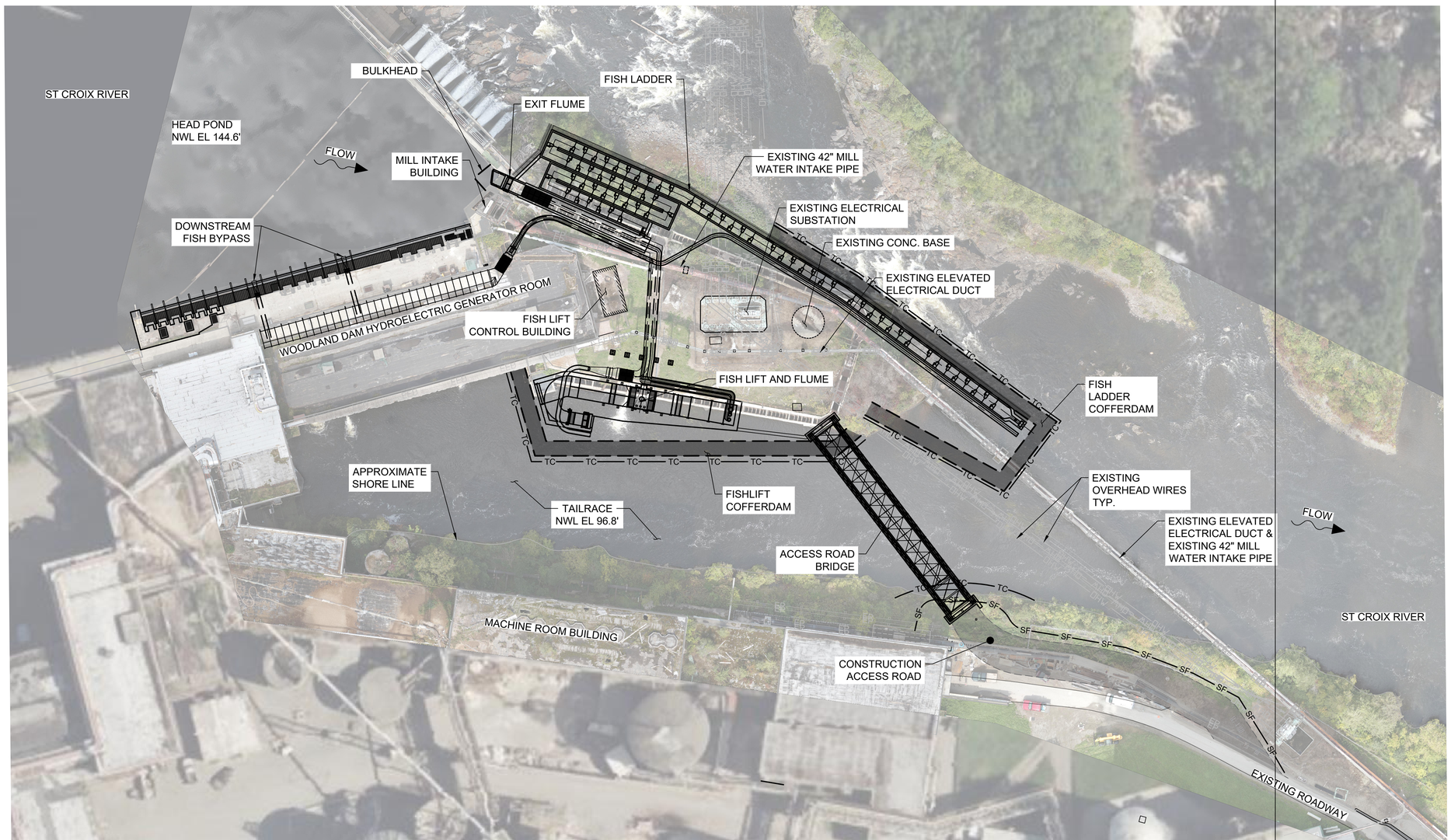


Exhibit 2. USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map- Woodland Quadrangle (2021).

WOODLAND FISH LIFT PASSAGE DESIGN
January 13, 2025



USGS Topographic Map ME_Woodland_20210203_TM_geo
Project Area



SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1"=40'

N

40' 0 40' 80'

NOTES:

1. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY THE LOCATIONS, ELEVATIONS, AND DIMENSIONS OF ALL EXISTING UTILITIES AND STRUCTURES.
2. SEE DRAWING G-131 FOR TYPICAL EROSION CONTROL AND DEWATERING DETAILS.
3. COFFERDAMS DEPICTED ON THIS DRAWING ARE NOT MANDATED BY THE OWNER. COFFERDAMS ARE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR.
4. AREAS WHERE PERMANENT DISTURBANCE IS NOT AUTHORIZED SHALL BE RESTORED TO THEIR ORIGINAL CONDITION AND ELEVATION, WHICH UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE SHALL BE HIGHER THAN THE PRE-CONSTRUCTION ELEVATION. ORIGINAL CONDITIONS MEANS CAREFUL PROTECTION AND/OR REMOVAL OF EXISTING SOIL AND VEGETATION, AND REPLACEMENT BACK TO THE ORIGINAL LOCATIONS SUCH THAT THE ORIGINAL SOIL LAYERING AND VEGETATION SCHEMES ARE APPROXIMATELY THE SAME, UNLESS OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED.
5. VERTICAL DATUM IS BASED ON NAVD88
6. HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM NAD83 MAINE EAST ZONE.

LEGEND:

- SF SF — SILT FENCE
- TC TC — TURBIDITY CURTAIN
- COFFERDAM/BULKHEAD/DEWATERING STRUCTURE
- x x — EXISTING FENCE
- OHW — OVERHEAD WIRES
- GW GW — GUIDE WIRES
- EBP — EXISTING BURIED PIPE
- EP EP — EXISTING PIPE
- EED — EXISTING ELECTRICAL

0% DESIGN
FOR C[redacted]TION
DATE: [redacted]

REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE / REVISION	REVISED BY
2/29/2024	60% DESIGN	M. GRAESER
4/10/2023	30% DESIGN	M. GRAESER

VERIFY SCALE
BAR IS ONE INCH ON ORIGINAL DRAWING
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WOODLAND FISH LIFT PASSAGE DESIGN

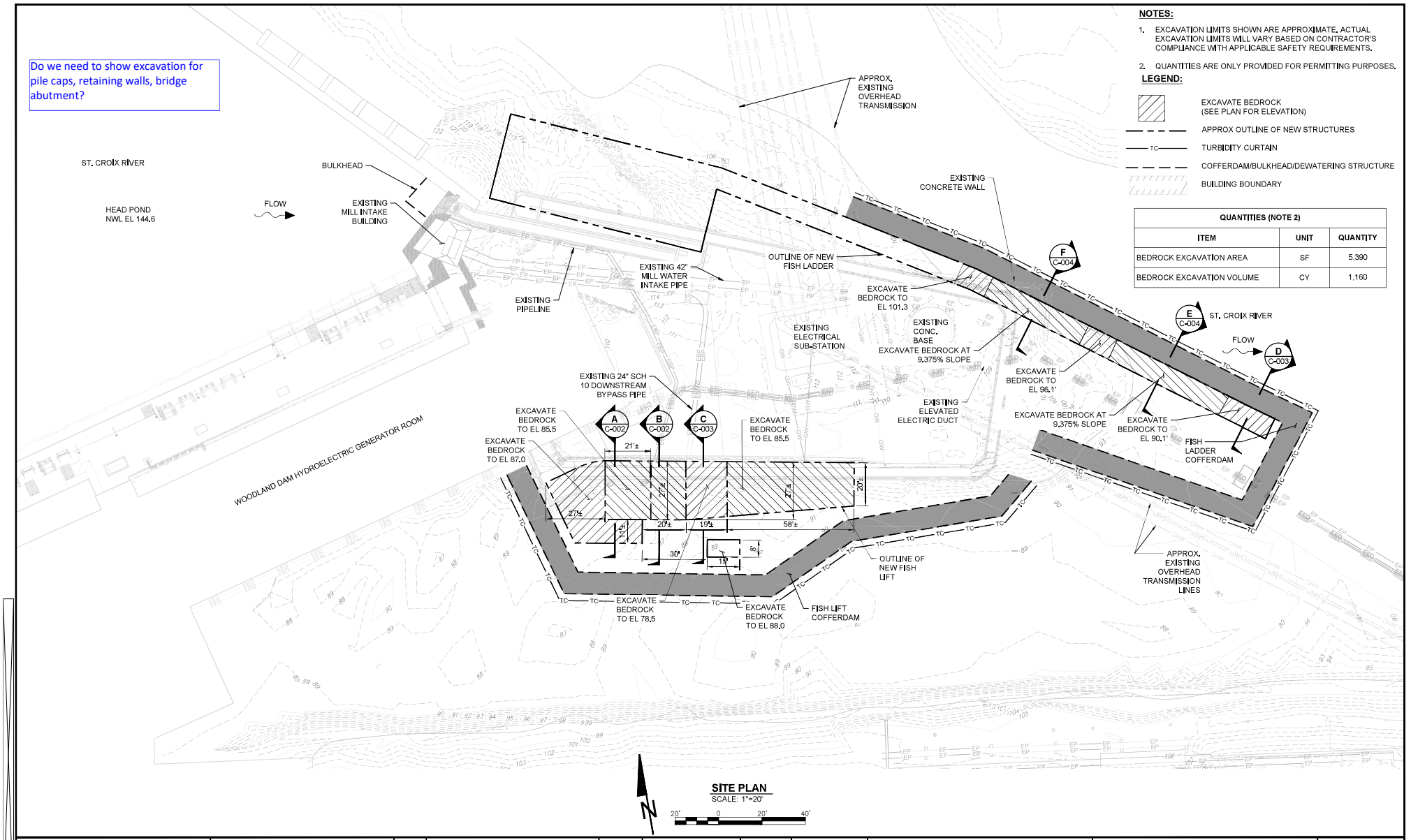
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

January 13, 2025

EROSION CONTROL AND DEWATERING PLAN

PROJECT:	16667
DRAWN BY:	B. TRABANT
DESIGNER:	M. GRAESER
APPROVED BY:	M. GRAESER
SHEET:	8 OF 111
DRAWING:	G-130

Do we need to show excavation for pile caps, retaining walls, bridge abutment?



SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1"=20'
20' 0 20' 40'

NOTES:

1. EXCAVATION LIMITS SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE. ACTUAL EXCAVATION LIMITS WILL VARY BASED ON CONTRACTOR'S COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.
2. QUANTITIES ARE ONLY PROVIDED FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES.

LEGEND:

- EXCAVATE BEDROCK (SEE PLAN FOR ELEVATION)
- APPROX OUTLINE OF NEW STRUCTURES
- TC — TURBIDITY CURTAIN
- COFFERDAM/BULKHEAD/DEWATERING STRUCTURE
- BUILDING BOUNDARY

QUANTITIES (NOTE 2)		
ITEM	UNIT	QUANTITY
BEDROCK EXCAVATION AREA	SF	5,390
BEDROCK EXCAVATION VOLUME	CY	1,160

ALDEN — a verdantas company

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DATE: [redacted]

REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE / REVISION	REVISED BY
7/31/2024	90% DESIGN	M. GRAESER
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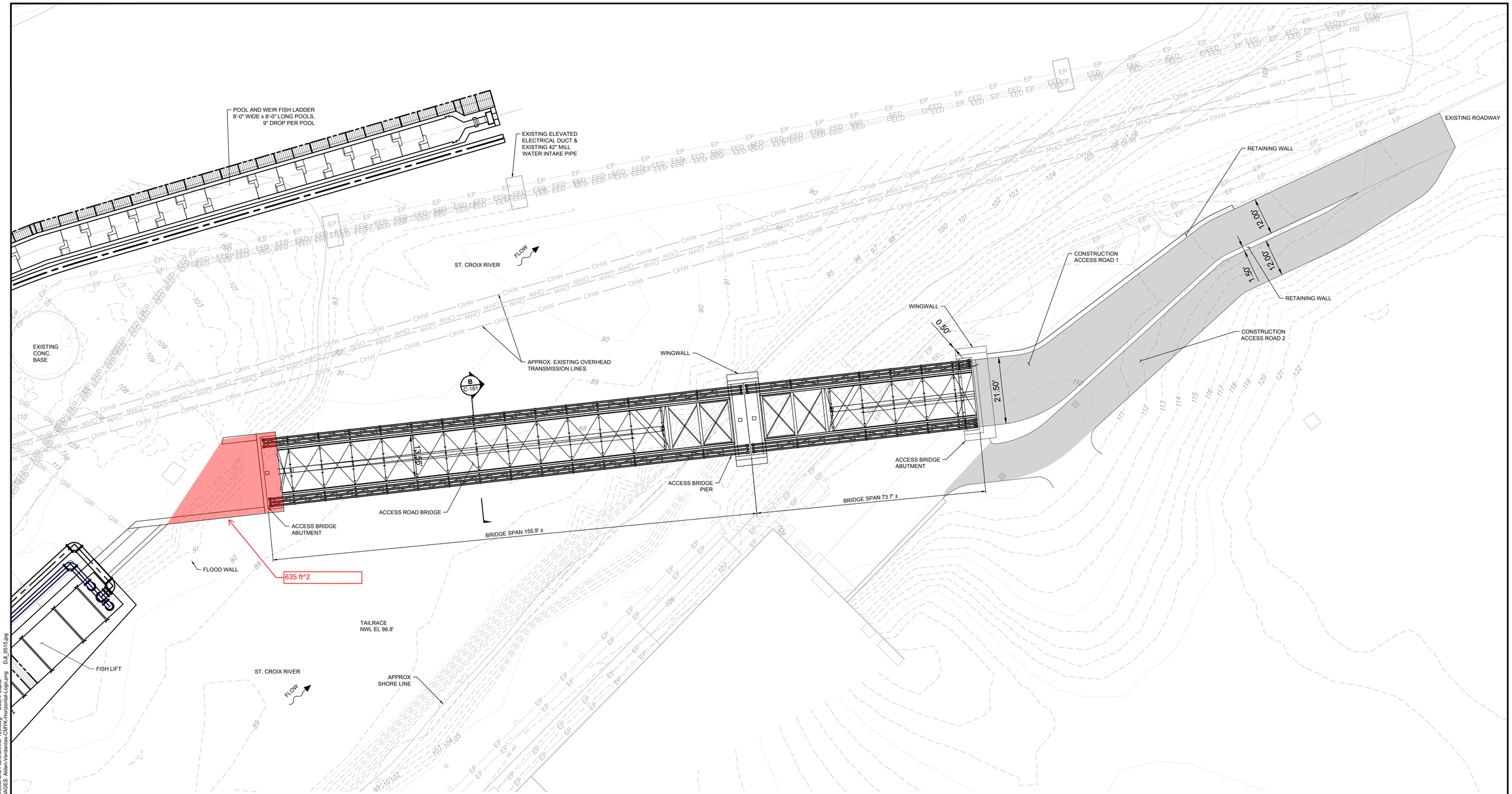
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

January 13, 2025

EXCAVATION PLAN

PROJECT:	16667
DRAWN BY:	B. TRABANT
DESIGNER:	M. GRAESER
APPROVED BY:	M. GRAESER
SHEET:	14 OF 133
DRAWING:	C-001



ACCESS BRIDGE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 15'

0 15' 30'

1" = 15'

DWG: Z:\Project Files\MA-NZ\MEDMR\16667 - Woodland Fish Lift Design\CAD\Sheets and Plans\Civil\C-180.dwg USER: lspitz
DATE: Sep 27, 2024 8:41am XREFS: STRC-Title Block-16667 IMAGES: Alden-Verdantas-CMYK-Horizontal-Logo.png
PBASE DJI_0515.jpg

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DATE: [redacted]

REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE / REVISION	REVISED BY
7/31/2024	90% DESIGN	M. GRAESER
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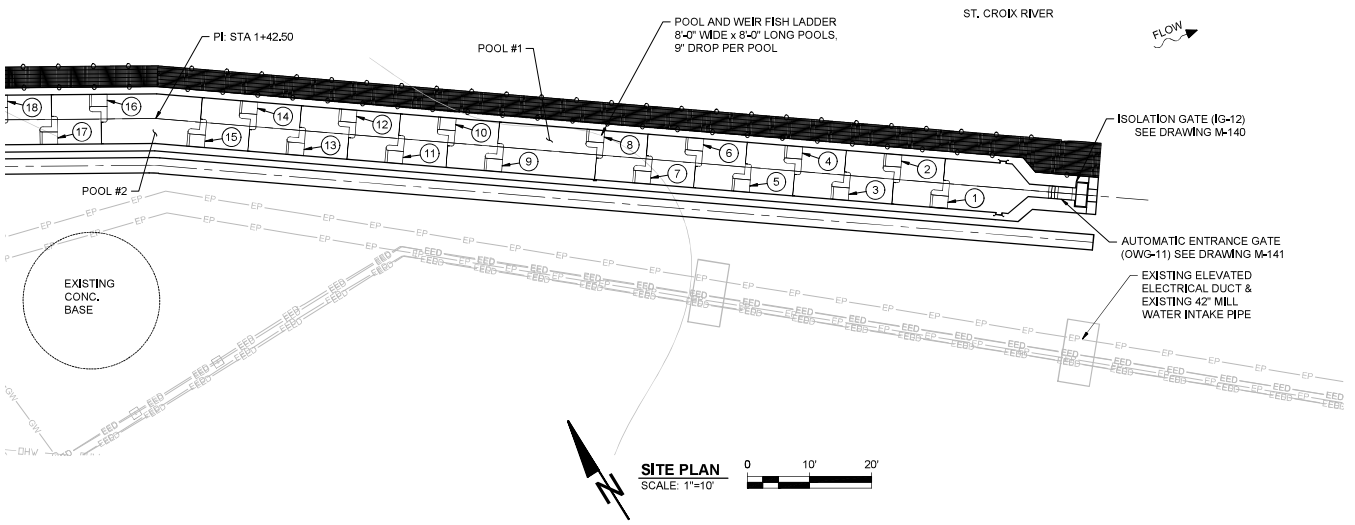
WOODLAND FISH LIFT PASSAGE DESIGN

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

January 13, 2025

ACCESS BRIDGE GENERAL PLAN

PROJECT:	16667
DRAWN BY:	B. TRABANT
DESIGNER:	M. GRAESER
APPROVED BY:	M. GRAESER
SHEET:	32 OF 133
DRAWING:	C-180

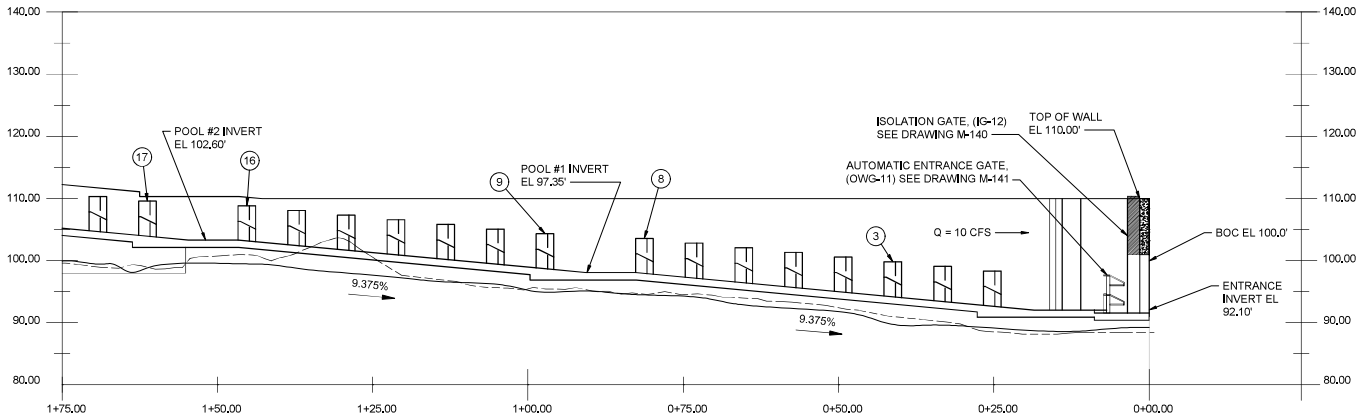


SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1"=10'
0 10' 20'

WEIR NUMBER	WEIR CREST ELEVATION
17	107.10
16	106.35
15	105.60
14	104.85
13	104.10
12	103.35
11	102.60

10	101.85
9	101.10
8	100.35
7	99.60
6	98.85
5	98.10
4	97.35
3	96.60

2	95.85
1	95.10



FISH LADDER PROFILE
SCALE: 1"=10'
0 10' 20'

a verdantas company

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DATE: [redacted]

REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE / REVISION	REVISED BY
7/31/2024	90% DESIGN	M. GRAESER
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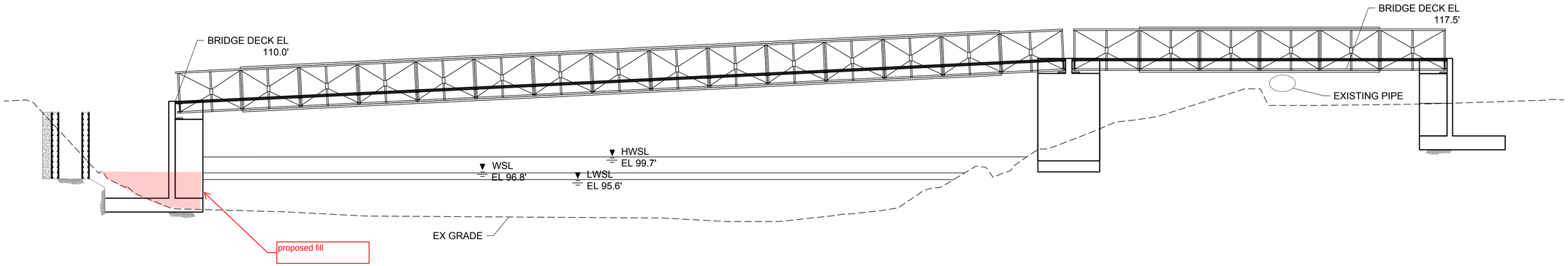
WOODLAND FISH LIFT PASSAGE DESIGN

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

January 13, 2025

FISH LADDER PLAN & PROFILE

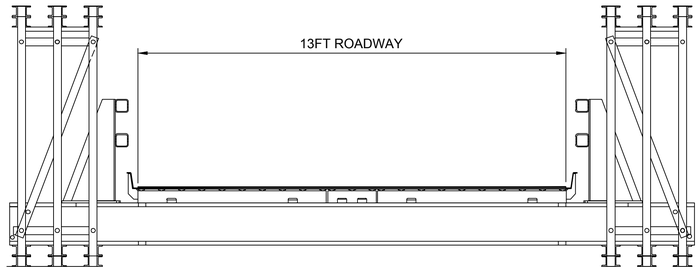
PROJECT:	16667
DRAWN BY:	B. TRABANT
DESIGNER:	M. GRAESER
APPROVED BY:	M. GRAESER
SHEET:	27 OF 133
DRAWING:	C-143



A C-180 **ACCESS BRIDGE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT SECTION**

SCALE: 1" = 10'

0 20' 40'



B C-180 **ACCESS BRIDGE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT SECTION**

SCALE: 1" = 5'

0 5' 10'

DWG: Z:\Project Files\MA-NZ\MEDMR\16667 - Woodland Fish Lift Design\CAD\Sheets and Plans\Civil\C-181.dwg USER: hpoltz
DATE: Oct 23, 2024 11:19am XREFS: STRC-Title Block-16667 PBASE_Sections PBASE IMAGES: Alden-Verdantas-CMYK-Horizontal-Logo.png DJI_0515.jpg

a verdantas company

90% DESIGN
NOT FOR C[redacted]TION
DATE: [redacted]

REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE / REVISION	REVISED BY
7/31/2024	90% DESIGN	M. GRAESER
2/29/2024	60% DESIGN	M. GRAESER
4/10/2023	30% DESIGN	M. GRAESER

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WOODLAND FISH LIFT PASSAGE DESIGN

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

January 13, 2025

ACCESS BRIDGE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT SECTIONS

PROJECT:	16667
DRAWN BY:	B. TRABANT
DESIGNER:	M. GRAESER
APPROVED BY:	M. GRAESER
SHEET:	33 OF 133
DRAWING:	C-181

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
GREATER ATLANTIC REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICE
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

March 21, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR: John Catena
Northeast and Great Lakes Regional Supervisor
Office of Habitat Conservation
NOAA Restoration Center

FROM: Julie Crocker for
Jennifer Anderson
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Protected Resources

SUBJECT: ESA Section 7 Consultation for Woodland Dam Fishway Construction on the St. Croix River, Baileyville, ME

We have completed consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in response to your letter received March 14, 2025 regarding the above-referenced project. We have reviewed your consultation request and Biological Assessment. Based on our knowledge, expertise, and your materials, we concur with your determination that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) any ESA-listed species. As noted in your letter, the St. Croix River is not within the range of the endangered Gulf of Maine distinct population segment (DPS) of Atlantic salmon; as such, we do not expect that any ESA listed Atlantic salmon would occur in the action area. Please note that our determination of NLAA for shortnose sturgeon or any DPS of Atlantic sturgeon is based on a determination that exposure of individuals of any sturgeon to effects of the action are extremely unlikely to occur and therefore, effects are discountable. As noted in your letter, there is no designated critical habitat for any species under NMFS jurisdiction in the action area.

This consultation addresses actions proposed by NMFS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; you have communicated to my staff that the Restoration Center is acting as the lead Federal agency for this consultation and that role was coordinated with the other action agencies, consistent with 50 CFR 402.07.

As described in the submitted materials, the Applicant will adhere to a set of identified best management practices (BMPs). Our concurrence is based on our understanding that all the measures described in the BA are incorporated into the proposed action. Based on this analysis, we concur that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect the subject listed species and as all effects will be insignificant or discountable.

As explained in the BA, use of the fishway by ESA listed species is not expected; we agree that based on the best available information, this is extremely unlikely to occur. In the unexpected event that an ESA listed species is detected in the fishway, NMFS staff should be contacted immediately so that safe-handling instructions can be provided. We anticipate that notification

procedures will be developed in cooperation with Maine DMR and Woodland. In the event that unanticipated capture or collection, including capture or collection in the fishway without injury, occurs, additional coordination with NMFS would be necessary to determine if additional coordination under ESA section 7 or section 10 is required to ensure that appropriate exemptions for otherwise prohibited take are secured.

This concludes consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA for the proposed Federal actions. Re-initiation of consultation is required and shall be requested by you or us, where discretionary Federal involvement or control over the action has been retained or is authorized by law and: (a) if new information reveals effects of the action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered in the consultation; (b) if the identified action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat that was not considered in the consultation; or, (c) if a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the identified action. No take of listed species is anticipated or exempted. If there is any incidental take, reinitiation would be required. We have considered recent changes to the regulations governing interagency consultations and affirm that the substantive analysis and conclusions articulated in this letter of concurrence would not have been any different under the 2024, 2019, or pre-2019 regulations.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on issues related to federally protected species in Maine. Should project plans change or new information becomes available that changes the basis for this determination, or if you have any questions or concerns about these comments, please contact David Bean (david.bean@noaa.gov) or Rory Saunders (rory.saunders@noaa.gov).

ec: Bean, Saunders - GAR PRD
Bernier - NOAA RC
Ledwin, - MDMR
Normile – USACE
Cross - USFWS

File Code: H:\Section 7 Team\Section 7\non-fisheries\ACOE\Informal\2025\ Woodland Dam Fishway construction
ECO: GARFO-2025-00668

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
55 CAPITOL STREET
65 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

KIRK F. MOHNEY
DIRECTOR

October 28, 2024

Mr. Sean Ledwin
Bureau of Sea Run Fisheries and Habitat
Maine Department of Marine Resources
21 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Project: MHPC# 1411-24 Woodland Pulp LLC; 144 Main St; Woodland Dam Improvements to Fish Passage System

Town: Baileyville, ME

Dear Mr. Ledwin:

In response to your recent request, the Commission has reviewed the information received October 9, 2024 to continue consultation on the above referenced project in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).

Based on the information submitted, I have concluded that there will be no historic properties (architectural or archaeological) affected by this proposed undertaking, as defined by Section 106.

Please contact Megan M. Rideout of our staff if we can be of further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kirk F. Mohney

Kirk F. Mohney
State Historic Preservation Officer

Chelsea Herrera

From: Normile, Zachary M CIV USARMY CENAE (USA) <Zachary.M.Normile@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 1:04 PM
To: Ledwin, Sean M; Cross, Amanda S; david.bean; donald.dow; Latti, Elizabeth; Whittum, Kory
Cc: Clark, Casey; Hammer, Lars; Gregory Allen; Daniel Parker
Subject: RE: in-water work window

Hi all,

As long as the Services agree, I don't see any reason why this would not work. We would just need to see their concurrence in writing so we can save that documentation to the file.

Thank you,
Zach Normile
USACE Regulatory
Maine Project Office
Office #: 978-318-8496
Mobile #: 207-447-0996

From: Ledwin, Sean M <Sean.M.Ledwin@maine.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 15:51
To: Cross, Amanda S <amanda_cross@fws.gov>; david.bean <david.bean@noaa.gov>; donald.dow <Donald.Dow@noaa.gov>; Latti, Elizabeth <Elizabeth.Latti@maine.gov>; Whittum, Kory <Kory.Whittum@maine.gov>
Cc: Normile, Zachary M CIV USARMY CENAE (USA) <Zachary.M.Normile@usace.army.mil>; Clark, Casey <Casey.Clark@maine.gov>; Hammer, Lars <Lars.Hammer@maine.gov>; Gregory Allen <gallen@verdantas.com>; Daniel Parker <dparker@verdantas.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] in-water work window

Hi all,

The construction of the Woodland Fishway projects starting this summer will need to involve in-water work beyond the general TOY Work Window in order to complete the beneficial project and reduce impacts which could result in longer delays for fish passage at the new fishways as the construction requires the fishways to be decommissioned during replacement and potential cost overruns that would prevent us from completing the project as intended. Based on the species present and potential impacts, we would like to propose that the TOY Restriction be limited to May 15-June 30th to limit impacts to the upstream migrating fish runs of alosines. We believe with other provisions this would be very protective of all potential species and in-water work would still be limited to just essential components with the majority of work being completed in the dry. We would propose the remaining time would be allowable for in-water work. I have copied the provision for alternative work windows in the USACE permit below. Zach please let us know how best to proceed but my understanding is we can request email concurrence from the respective agencies for this alternative. Please give me a call if you have any questions. I have included folks from our engineering firm if you have any specific construction questions. Thank you for considering. Sean

24. Time-of-Year Work (TOY) Windows/Restrictions. In-water work shall be conducted during the following TOY work windows (work allowed) under SV and any in-water work proposed during the following TOY restrictions (no work) shall be reviewed under PCN (and shall contain written justification for deviation from the work allowed windows). The term "in-water work" does not include conditions where the work site is "in-the-dry" (e.g. intertidal areas exposed at low tide). The term also does not include work contained in a cofferdam so long as the cofferdam was installed and subsequently removed within the work allowed window.

TOY Restriction (***no work***)	TOY Work Window (***work allowed***)
Non-tidal waters Oct. 1st to Jul. 14th	Jul. 15th to Sep. 30th
Tidal waters Apr. 10th to Nov. 7th	Nov. 8th to Apr. 9th

Alternate work windows proposed under PCN will generally be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and/or Maine Department of Marine Resources and resulting written verifications may include species-specific work allowed windows.