

## MacNeil, Jami

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**From:** MacNeil, Jami  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 08, 2019 10:08 AM  
**To:** 'Cally Aldrich'  
**Subject:** RE: letter concerning a permit application

Dear Mrs. Aldrich,

Thank you for your comments regarding the construction of a boat ramp and pier system in Alna as proposed by Jeffrey Spinney. The Department is currently reviewing the application under Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act. The Department accepted the application for processing on September 9, 2019. The statutory deadline for the Department to reach a final decision on the application is January 7, 2020; however, the goal date for a decision is November 15, 2019. Written comments will be accepted until a decision is issued.

Your comments will be added to the file and your concerns will be considered during the review of the project. The Department's record, which includes the application of specific interest to you, is available to be viewed at any time. Feel free to contact the Department's File Room at (207) 287-7843 to request a day and time that is convenient for you to view the record.

You may contact me with additional concerns, questions, or comments. I can be reached at (207) 446-4894 or via email at [jami.macneil@maine.gov](mailto:jami.macneil@maine.gov).

Sincerely,

**-Jami MacNeil**

Environmental Specialist III  
Bureau of Land Resources  
Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
(207) 446-4894 | [jami.macneil@maine.gov](mailto:jami.macneil@maine.gov)

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**From:** Cally Aldrich <[brooksie1207@gmail.com](mailto:brooksie1207@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 06, 2019 5:18 PM  
**To:** MacNeil, Jami <[Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov](mailto:Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov)>  
**Subject:** letter concerning a permit application

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Ms MacNeil,

I sent this letter to you via USPS today, but was afraid you might not receive it by the Oct 8th deadline. I just received news from Carol Ervin that we may email you our concerns, so am sending my letter by email and USPS. Here is my letter to you and I thank you in advance for your time and consideration:

Carolyn Aldrich  
333 Golden Ridge Rd  
Alna, ME 04535

Oct 6, 2019

Jami MacNeil  
Project Manager, Environmental Specialist II

Bureau of Land Resources  
Maine Dept of Environmental Protection  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Ms. MacNeil,

I am writing you concerning the application of Jeffrey Spinney, 126 Golden Ridge Rd Alna, ME 04535, for a permanent boat launch and separate dock/ramp/float with permanent cement support pilings.

I am 70 years old and grew up from the age of 9 until college at Juniper Hill, 180 Golden Ridge Rd, a property which extends to the Sheepscot River. My brother, A. McKinne Stires bought the house and land from my mother's estate following her death in 2003. His daughter, Anne Stires, currently runs a private place-based education school for children pre-K to grade 4 at this site. The children spend approximately 80% of their school day outside, including studies down at the river of shore-land ecology, including plants, animals and birds. As a child, until I left for college, my brother, sister and I spent much of our summers down at the river, swimming and enjoying the complete peace and quiet afforded by such a unique area. The water at low tide is fresh, as the head waters of the Sheepscot are drawn to the sea, and salt at high tide as the sea waters come upriver. I realized, even in my young child-hood, what a very special place this was. We had a canoe and spent much time paddling up the Sheepscot and also the Dyer River which branches off from the Sheepscot at the Sheepscot bridge.

16 years ago, my husband and I were fortunate enough to buy a house on Golden Ridge Rd, approximately 1/2 mile south of Juniper Hill, my childhood home. I frequently walk my dog on the path going down to the river at Juniper Hill, where I often see many forms of wildlife, including Great Blue Heron, Osprey, American Bald Eagles, and once a Snowy Egret. In 61 years, I have never seen a power boat on this section of the river, above the bridge. My step-father had a small power boat, but would always put in in Wiscasset at the public boat launch and travel upriver as far as the reversing falls in Sheepscot and then back down to Wiscasset.

I am not a scientist and thus, cannot tell you what ecological damage this large, permanent boat ramp, launch and dock and ensuing power boats and jet skies might do to this precious area, but I do know that a very unique and beautiful area will be forever changed. In his application for a permit for his "recreational club" of boaters and hunters, Mr Spinney says, in his own words, "Swimming, boating, duck hunting, fishing are the most common things that our members do in this section of river Sheepscot and its tributary the Dyer River. This location provides for access in a unique area where it would otherwise not be possible due to the old mill dam falls in Sheepscot Village." His choice of the term "unique area" is exactly why I am imploring you to deny Mr Spinney's application for this permit. I am heart-broken to think that this unspoiled, wild area may soon be lost forever.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Carolyn Aldrich