

MacNeil, Jami

From: MacNeil, Jami
Sent: Tuesday, October 08, 2019 10:07 AM
To: Doreen Conboy
Subject: RE: public comment/ Alna dock

Dear Mrs. Conboy,

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.

Sincerely,

-Jami MacNeil

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

From: Doreen Conboy <thebend@tidewater.net>
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2019 8:53 AM
To: MacNeil, Jami <Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov>
Subject: public comment/ Alna dock

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Doreen Conboy

Box 538

Alna, Maine 04535

October 4, 2019

Jami MacNeil

Project Manager, Environmental Specialist II

Bureau of Land Resources

Maine Department of Environmental Protection

17 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Jami,

I am writing to express my concern over the construction of a proposed concrete boat launch and large dock/ramp/float that would be built in Alna on the Sheepscot River.

My husband and I, long time year round Alna residents, own riverfront property north of the proposed site. We have a conservation easement with Midcoast Conservancy and have supported its predecessor organization to protect and preserve the Sheepscot. Because of our location we would not be as impacted as others closer to the site.

Alna's zoning ordinances have thus far prohibited permanent structures from being built by the river and the shoreline has been protected with set back limits for construction. The gains from this strategy can be seen in the river as it exists today, largely unspoiled and free from development. The stewardship of Midcoast Conservancy along with effective regulation has allowed everyone to enjoy the rare distinction given to the Sheepscot as a wild and scenic river.

Traditional uses of boating, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, and fishing were and are, currently enjoyed in such a way that the character and health of the river has been kept intact. That *character* is a feature which has attracted residents and visitors -whether they use the river or not. That character can't be quantified, and yet – scenic, historic, full of plant, animal and marine life, it affects us all.

Building a dock is of course reasonable, but I feel in this location the scale of the project and proposed construction methods would forever change the river and possibly jeopardize what decades of stewardship have earned for us all.

Sincerely,

Doreen Conboy