

## MacNeil, Jami

---

**From:** MacNeil, Jami  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2019 2:08 PM  
**To:** Carol Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Spinney dock project, Sheepscot River, 126 Golden Ridge Road

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Gardner,

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, a decision may be issued prior to that deadline. Written comments will be accepted until a decision is issued.

Your comments will be added to the file and will be considered during the review of the project. The Department's record, which includes the application of specific interest to you, including the latest revised plans submitted on December 11, 2019, 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)

---

**From:** Carol Gardner <carol.gardner@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2019 1:44 PM  
**To:** MacNeil, Jami <Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov>  
**Subject:** Spinney dock project, Sheepscot River, 126 Golden Ridge Road

**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 Jami:

We are concerned with the Spinney boat ramp and dock project at 126 Golden Ridge Road in Alna, ME. We live just downstream of Mr. Spinney's property, at 238 Golden Ridge; only a few parcels separate our waterfront property from his. We are concerned about the impact that a 12' wide paved boat ramp, fill, and an increase in boat traffic—especially motor boat traffic—in a shallow section of the river will have on water quality and wildlife. We do not take exception to his desire to build a dock. Rather, we believe the size and scope of this project to be out of scale for the river at such a shallow point.

As I'm sure you know, the Sheepscot is one of only two rivers in Midcoast Maine with an existing, but endangered, population of wild Atlantic salmon. At low tide, the river abutting Mr. Spinney's property is as shallow as 2-3 feet. From experience, I know that navigating a kayak or canoe through there at low tide is a challenge. Yet the proposal seeks to create a truck ramp and dock for power boats that draw significantly more water. Moreover, the project is not intended

for individual or family use, but for a club with many members: one that promises to significantly increase motor traffic on an extremely peaceful section of the river. Having lived on the river for seven years, I have never witnessed a motorized boat in that section of the river.

We ask DEP to carefully consider whether the newly built infrastructure and increased powerboat traffic will cause changes to the channel; will increase runoff and turbidity (a negative indicator for salmon); will impact the fish and other wildlife in that section of the river. We also ask DEP to consider how the infrastructure for a hunting and fishing club, parking for multiple vehicles, motorized boats, and boat ramp will alter the character of that section of the Sheepscot river.

Thank you.

Carol Gardner & Xavier Comas  
238 Golden Ridge Road  
Alna, ME 04535