

US Army Corps
of Engineers
New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
New York, N.Y. 10278-0090
ATTN: Regulatory Branch

PUBLIC NOTICE

In replying refer to:

Public Notice Number: 2004-00292-J1
Issue Date: July 8, 2004
Expiration Date: August 6, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York District, Corps of Engineers has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 403).

APPLICANT: Todd Smircina
3 Carpenter Road
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

ACTIVITY: Install a fixed pier assembly; breakwater and jet ski lift

WATERWAY: Raritan River

LOCATION: Township of New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

A detailed description and plans of the applicant's activity are enclosed to assist in your review.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION MUST BE PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO REACH THIS OFFICE BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE. otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity.

Any person may request, in writing, before this public notice expires, that a public hearing be held to collect information necessary to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons why a public hearing should be held. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight

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as that furnished at a public hearing.

Our preliminary determination is that the activity for which authorization is sought herein is not likely to affect any Federally endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. However, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), the District Engineer is consulting with the appropriate Federal agency to determine the presence of and potential impacts to listed species in the project area or their critical habitat.

Based upon a review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, there are no known sites eligible for, or included in, the Register within the permit area. Presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost by work accomplished under the required permit.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). A complete description of the project is given in the attached Work Description. The District Engineer has made the preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effects are not likely to be substantial. Further consultation with NMFS regarding EFH impacts and conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

Pursuant to Section 307 (c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456 (c)], for activities under consideration that are located within the coastal zone of a state which has a federally approved coastal zone management program, the applicant has certified in the permit application that the activity complies with, and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with, the approved state coastal zone management program. By this public notice, we are requesting the state's concurrence with, objection to, or waiver of the applicant's certification. No permit decision will be made until one of these actions occur. For activities within the coastal zone of New Jersey the applicant's certification and accompanying information is available from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Coastal Regulation, CN 401, 501 East State Street, Second Floor, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0401, Telephone Number (609) 633-2289. Comments regarding the applicant's certification should be so addressed.

In addition to any required water quality certificate and coastal zone management program concurrence, the applicant has obtained or requested the following governmental authorization for the activity under consideration:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Permit

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the activity to any persons known by you to be interested and who did not receive a copy of this notice. If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact this office at (212) 264-3912 and ask for Sophie Ettinger.

For more information on New York District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>


For Richard L. Tomer
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

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WORK DESCRIPTION

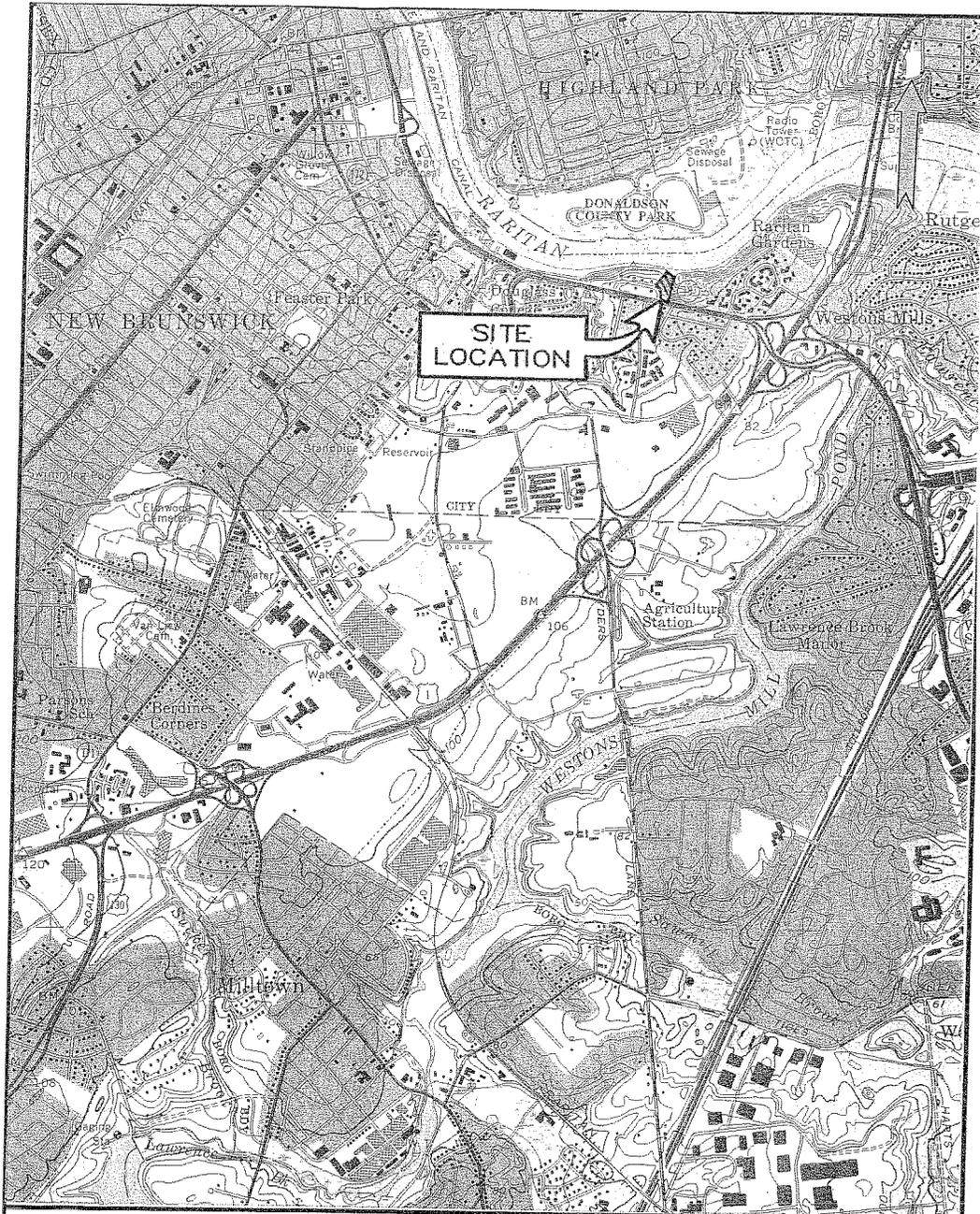
The applicant, Todd Smircina, has requested Department of the Army authorization to construct a fixed pier assembly, jet ski, and breakwater in the Raritan River in the Township of New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

The work would involve construction of a fixed pier assembly consisting of 4 foot wide by 35 foot long and 6 foot wide by 30 foot long sections of fixed timber pier, a 4 foot wide by 20 foot long chocked float, a 5 foot by 5 foot jet ski lift.

Also, applicant proposes to install approximately 65 linear feet of open breakwater. A minimum of 1/2 inch of space would be provided between four-inch wide planks and an 18 inch wide opening would be provided between river bed and bottom of the breakwater. The area behind the breakwater would be vegetated with tidal freshwater wetlands plants.

The proposed work could have a minor adverse impact on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and EFH-managed species as a result of a temporary increase in turbidity during construction. Although this may adversely affect the feeding success of some EFH-managed species or their prey, it is expected that fish populations would avoid the area of disturbance. In addition, the proposed structure would provide attachment surfaces for encrusting organisms, which could increase the forage base for EFH-managed species or their prey and provide additional ecological functions.

The stated purpose of this project is to provide an adequate mooring facility for the applicant's vessel.



MASER
 CONSULTING P.A.
 Consulting, Municipal & Environmental Engineers
 Planners • Surveyors • Landscape Architects

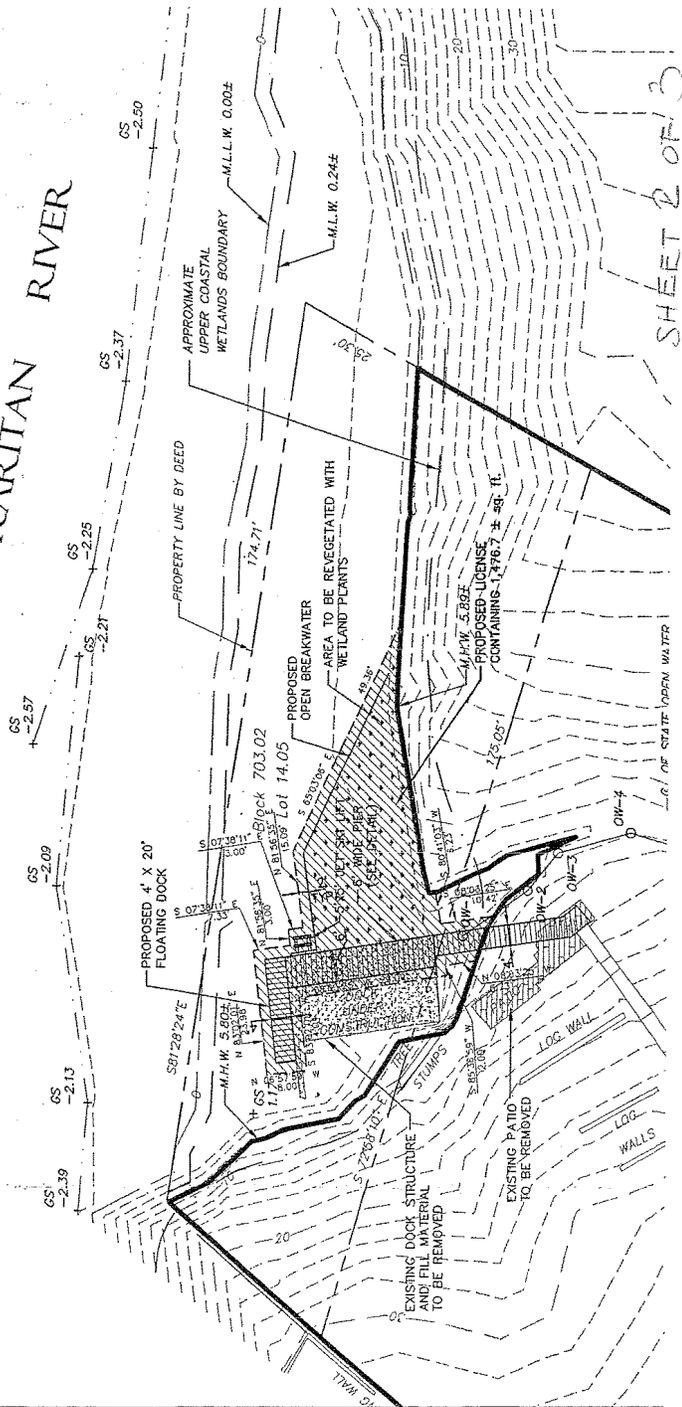
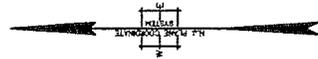
TOMS RIVER OFFICE
 224 Route 37 East
 Unit 2
 Toms River, NJ 08753
 Phone (732) 349-3400
 Fax (732) 349-1572
 E-mail: solutions@maserconsulting.com

U.S.G.S. MAP
 BASE MAP TAKEN FROM U.S.G.S. MAP OF NEW JERSEY
 NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ - QUADRANGLE
 SCALE: 1" = 2,000'
 N 602,050 ft. E 2,092,700 ft.

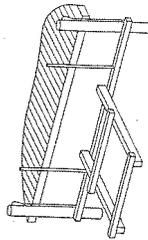
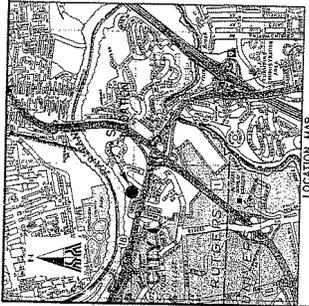
SHEET 1 OF 3

PORTION OF GRANT BY ACT OF LEGISLATURE TO THE UNITED DELAWARE
 RARITAN CANAL CO., CAMDEN AND AMBOY RAILROAD AND TRANSPORTATION
 CO., AND THE NEW JERSEY RAILROAD AND TRANSPORTATION CO.,
 MARCH 31, 1869.

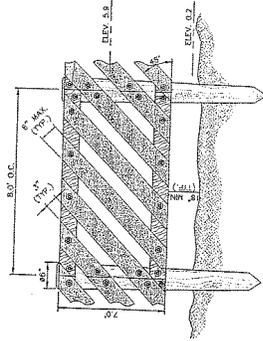
RARITAN RIVER



SHEET 2 OF 3

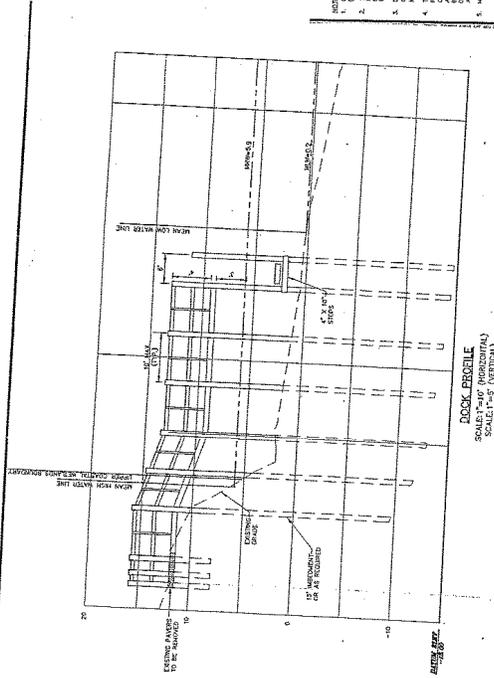


CONCEPTUAL SKIRT LIFT DETAIL (CONCEPTUAL)
N.E.S.



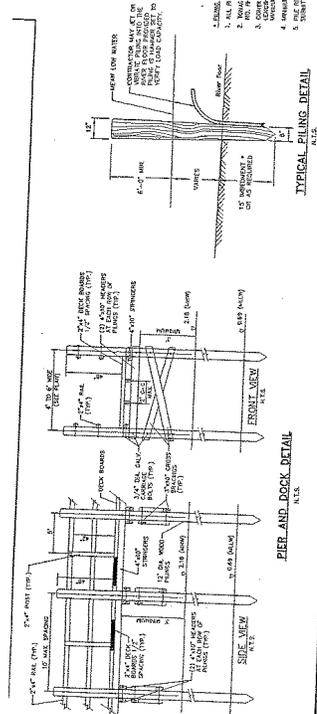
NOTE: REINFORCED CONCRETE SHALL BE USED THROUGHOUT. ALL REINFORCING SHALL BE #4 BARS. REINFORCING SHALL BE PLACED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DESIGNER'S REQUIREMENTS. MATERIALS SHALL BE SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL BY THE DESIGNER.

BREAKWATER DETAIL (CONCEPTUAL)
N.E.S.



DOCK PROFILE
SCALE: 1/4\"/>

NOTES:
1. CONSULT SURVEYORS AND ENGINEERS FOR ANY REQUIRED MAP (SCALE 1/4\"/>



FRONT AND DOCK DETAIL
N.E.S.

TYPICAL PILING DETAIL
N.E.S.