	Public Notice		
US Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District Wanamaker Building 100 Penn Square East Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390 ATTN: CENAP-OP-R	Public Notice No. CENAP-OP-R-2015-112	Date 7-24	
	Application No.	File No.	
	In Reply Refer to: REGULATORY BRANCH		

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments and recommendations from the public concerning issuance of a Department of the Army permit for the work described below.

<u>APPLICANT</u> :	Winter's Sailing Center, Incorporated 8 Reserve Avenue Riverside, New Jersey 08075	
AGENT	S.T. Hudson Engineers Incorporated	

AGENT: S.T. Hudson Engineers, Incorporated 900 Dudley Avenue Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002

WATERWAY: Dredge Harbor (a tidal basin off the Delaware River)

LOCATION: Decimal Latitude: 40.035819° North; Longitude: -74.975771° West The project site is located within Dredge Harbor, off the Delaware River, immediately southwest (down-river) from the mouth of Rancocas Creek. The affected areas are the Winter's Sailing Center and Riverside Marina and Yacht Sales in Delran Township, Burlington County, New Jersey. Both marinas are located on the southwest side of Norman Avenue, to the northwest of St. Mihiel Drive. Winter's address is: 8 Reserve Avenue; Riverside's address is: 73 Norman Avenue. Both properties are indicated as Block 1, Lot 9. In addition to the two marinas (owned by the same individual), dredging is also proposed within an access channel leading from the marinas to the mouth of the basin. The proposed location for disposal of dredged material is on Amico Island, Block 1, Lots 6, 7 and 8, which is owned by Burlington County. A location map is included with this notice.

<u>ACTIVITY</u>: The applicant proposes to perform maintenance dredging of two marina basins within Dredge Harbor and an access channel between the marinas and the mouth of the basin where it connects to the Delaware River. The applicant has requested a ten-year maintenance dredging permit. The applicant proposes to initially dredge 65,000 cubic yards, with allowance for up to 65,000 additional cubic yards in one more event prior to December 31, 2026 (the proposed expiration date of any permit issued by this office). Dredging would be by hydraulic (cutter-head) method, with the dredged material pumped via pipeline to an existing confined disposal facility (CDF) located on the adjacent Amico Island. The CDF is

approximately 5 acres in size. Following settling, return water from the CDF would be discharged back into Dredge Harbor. The sediments to be dredged are mainly fine-grained,

averaging about 15 percent sand content. The total area requested to be authorized for dredging is 21.7 acres, with 9.3 acres of that proposed for the initial event. The applicant proposes to make improvements to the CDF berms to create additional capacity required for the initial dredging event. Future dredging would require further work to create capacity. Dredging would be to a depth of -4.0 feet below mean low water (MLW), with an additional 2.0 feet of allowable over-dredge for a total maximum depth of -6.0 feet below MLW.

Winter's Sailing Center has a total of 200 boat slips. Riverside Marina has a total of 180 boat slips. In addition to the proposed dredging, the applicant seeks authorization to maintain certain prior modifications to marina dock structures which occurred subsequent to previous Corps authorizations for marina dock structures. This office has issued previous permits to both Winter's Sailing Center and Riverside Marina for maintenance dredging, bulkheads and dock structures in the 1980s and 1990s. Previous Corps file numbers include: CENAP-OP-R-1986-1485, CENAP-OP-R-1987-1826, CENAP-OP-R-1997-1219 and CENAP-OP-R-1997-2187. Some of the existing dock structures were authorized by those permits, while other structures have been authorized by Corps Nationwide Permits issued on July 19, 1977, for structures or work completed before December 18, 1968. Structures to be authorized (within Riverside Marina) include an existing 8' x 73' "L"-shaped floating dock (at the end of the existing and previously authorized "A" dock) and an 8' x 290' floating dock (fuel dock).

The State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), is currently reviewing an application for an Individual Permit and Water Quality Certificate for the proposed maintenance dredging (NJDEP File No. 0310-02-0001.3 WFD150001 IP). The NJDEP previously issued a Waterfront Development Permit to legalize dock structures and authorize other work at Winter's Sailing Center on September 5, 2014 (NJDEP File No. 0310-13-0003.1).

The applicant has stated the following as their position with regard to (a) avoidance and minimization of impacts to aquatic resources, and (b) compensatory mitigation for such impacts:

- a) "Impacts to the receiving body by the return water will be minimized by the required hold time within the CDF. This holding time (based on flow rate and dike height) is achieved by a weir system that holds back water until the return water reaches a designated height. The return water then tops the weir board system and flows into the discharge pipe."
- b) "We do not offer any mitigation and feel none is needed as the only impacts are temporary and occur during the dredging operation itself. There are no permanent loss of habitat (i.e. filling) associated with this project."

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The applicant's stated purpose is: "To maintain needed water depth to safely operate and access marinas at Dredge Harbor."

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work is not likely to adversely affect the following federally listed (endangered) species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended: shortnose sturgeon (<u>Acipenser brevirostrum</u>) and Atlantic sturgeon, New York Bight Distinct Population Segment (<u>Acipenser oxyrinchus</u>). This determination is based, in part, on a proposed inclusion of a seasonal restriction prohibiting dredging between March 15 and July 31, inclusive, of any year. As the evaluation of this application continues, including consultation with the National Marine

Fisheries Service (NMFS), additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

The decision whether to issue (or modify) a permit will be based on an evaluation of the activity's probable impact including its cumulative impacts on the public interest. The 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 work must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the work will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and welfare of the people. A Department of the Army permit (or modification) will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

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 the preparation of an 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.

Comments on the proposed work should be submitted, in writing, within 15 days to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3390.

Review of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located within the permit area of the work.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). A preliminary assessment of the species listed in the "Guide to Essential Fish Habitat Designations in the Northeastern United States, Volume IV: New Jersey and Delaware," dated March 1999, and the "National Estuarine Inventory Data Atlas, Volume 1: Physical and Hydrologic Characteristics," dated November 1985, indicates that the proposed work would not have a substantial adverse effect on any managed species. The project location is within the "tidal fresh zone" of the Delaware River (i.e. less than 0.5 ppt even under low flow conditions). As such, it does not experience salinity levels within the general habitat parameters for any managed species. However, several prey species used by managed species would make use of this area. With the inclusion of a seasonal restriction prohibiting hydraulic dredging between March 15 and July 31, inclusive, of any year, impacts to these prey species would not be more than minimal. Based upon the above analysis, the Corps of Engineers has determined that the

proposed project would not have a direct, indirect, site-specific, or habitat-wide impact on EFH, or upon the managed species and their life stages listed in the above referenced EFH guide,

either individually, cumulatively or synergistically. The proposed project would not eliminate, diminish, nor disrupt the functions of EFH, and no other conservation recommendations are proposed at this time.

In accordance with Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, applicants for Federal Licenses or Permits to conduct an activity affecting land or water uses in a State's coastal zone must provide certification that the activity complies with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved State Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. No permit will be issued until the State has concurred with the applicant's certification or has waived its right to do so. Comments concerning the impact of the proposed and/or existing activity on the State's coastal zone should be sent to this office, with a copy to the State's Office of Coastal Zone Management.

In accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a Water Quality Certificate is necessary from the State government in which the work is located. Any comments concerning the work described above which relate to Water Quality considerations should be sent to this office with a copy to the State.

The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Any person may request, in writing, to the District Engineer, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state in writing, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Additional information concerning this permit application may be obtained by calling James Boyer at (215) 656-5826, by electronic mail to <u>James.N.Boyer@usace.army.mil</u>, or by writing to this office at the above address.

Samuel L. Reynolds Acting Chief, Regulatory Branch































P:NDrafting/Drawing Files/W/Winters Marina/2049-01 Winters - Dredge Harbor - Maint Dredge Permit/Small Permit/Small Permits/USACE Submitta/7049-01_W-2026_Winters_Maint Dredge Permit_Small_Sht 13 & 14_Rev-1.dwg

