

**Subject:** Pubusky/Taylor Docket #2021-P-W-0016

**Date:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 6:07:01 PM Eastern Daylight Time

**From:** Arnie Edelstein

**To:** HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the above referenced application, in which the applicants propose to conduct wetland restoration activities, construct a new wetland walkway, and replace an existing docking facility with a fixed pier, gangway, platform, and dock.

We have no objection to the applicants removing the existing structure and replacing it with a proportionally sized docking facility. We encourage their use of the waterway and their enjoyment of the wetlands.

We are also gratified that the applicants intend to restore 200 feet of DNREC-regulated wetland vegetation, which has been seriously degraded by the applicants' use of an ATV to access the existing dock.

We do, however, have the following concerns:

1. The scope of the project seems excessive for a non-commercial docking facility in a regulated wetland environment.
2. The aggregate size of the proposed walkways, piers, dock, and platform are out of character for the location when compared against adjacent and nearby docking facilities.
3. The size and location of the proposed docking facility will hamper the use of the wetland perimeter by kayakers who regularly use the cove to observe and enjoy wildlife. Likewise, the scope of the construction will likely disrupt the existing wildlife in their native wetland habitat.
4. The application does not accurately characterize the existing pier and dock. The proposal states that a 30' x 4' pier and 6' x 50' pier and dock are present at the applicant's property. Although the actual dimensions are not verified, the existing structures appear to be considerably smaller; the dock is nominally 26' and the pier is nominally 24'. Regardless of the pier and dock's actual dimensions, the proposed docking facility is not a like-for-like replacement and the discrepancy calls into question the integrity of this section of the application.

If the above concerns are adequately addressed, we have no objection to the removal of the existing structure, the rehabilitation of its current access point through the wetlands, and its replacement with a more modest docking facility.

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