

## CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

South Coast District Office  
301 Ocean Blvd., Suite 300  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 590-5071

**W7b**

Staff: M.Vaughn – LB  
Date: August 22, 2019

**ADMINISTRATIVE PERMIT**

**Application No.** 5-19-0052

**Applicant:** Yamamoto, Pham, Zelden, Bjork, Tornheim, Gironda

**Agent:** Usmita Pokhrel, Bellingham Marine

**Project Description:** Like for like replacement of a six slip boat dock float.

**Project Location:** 16331 & 16335 Niantic Circle, 3933, 3943 & 3953 Mistral Drive,  
16386 Maruffa Circle, Huntington Beach, Orange County  
(APNs: 178-034-06, 178-034-05, 178-034-02, 178-034-01, 178-041-57)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION**

The findings for this determination, and for any special conditions, appear on subsequent pages.

NOTE: P.R.C. Section 30624 provides that this permit shall not become effective until it is reported to the Commission at its next meeting. If one-third or more of the appointed membership of the Commission so request, the application will be removed from the administrative calendar and set for public hearing at a subsequent Commission meeting. Our office will notify you if such removal occurs.

This permit will be reported to the Commission at the following time and place:

**Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 9:00 am**  
Newport Beach Civic Center, Council Chambers  
100 Civic Center Drive  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

IMPORTANT - Before you may proceed with development, the following must occur: Pursuant to 14 Cal. Admin. Code Sections 13150(b) and 13158, you must sign the enclosed duplicate copy acknowledging the permit's receipt and accepting its contents, including all conditions, and return it to our office. Following the Commission's meeting, and once we have received the signed acknowledgement and evidence of compliance with all special conditions, we will send you a Notice of Administrative Permit Effectiveness.

**BEFORE YOU CAN OBTAIN ANY LOCAL PERMITS AND PROCEED WITH DEVELOPMENT, YOU MUST HAVE RECEIVED BOTH YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE PERMIT AND THE NOTICE OF PERMIT EFFECTIVENESS FROM THIS OFFICE.**

JOHN AINSWORTH  
Executive Director

By: Meg Vaughn  
Title: Coastal Program Analyst

**STANDARD CONDITIONS**

This permit is granted subject to the following standard conditions:

1. **Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment.** The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
2. **Expiration.** If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date the Commission voted on the application. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.
3. **Interpretation.** Any questions of intent or interpretation of any term or condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
4. **Assignment.** The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.
5. **Terms and Conditions Run with the Land.** These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS: SEE PAGES SIX THROUGH TEN.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION (continued):**

The Executive Director hereby determines that the proposed development is a category of development, which, pursuant to PRC Section 30624, qualifies for approval by the Executive Director through the issuance of an Administrative Permit. Subject to Standard and Special Conditions as attached, said development is in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act of 1976 and will not have any significant impacts on the environment within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act. If located between the nearest public road

and the sea, this development is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3.

## **FINDINGS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION**

### **A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project includes replacement of a six slip boat dock float with new six slip boat dock float. The proposed new float will have the same configuration and dimensions as the float to be removed. The existing four piles are to remain in place and to be re-used in the same location. The existing five gangways (one gangway is shared) are to be re-used with the new float. Overwater coverage will remain the same at 1,943 square feet.

The subject site is associated with the six residentially zoned, harbor front lots at 16331& 16335 Niantic Circle, 3933, 3943 & 3953 Mistral Drive, in Huntington Harbour in the City of Huntington Beach (**Exhibit 1**). The proposed dock float is generally consistent with the size and configuration of similarly situated docks in the Huntington Harbour area, is consistent with past Commission issued permits, and impacts to eelgrass are not expected. The dock will be used for boating related purposes to serve six single-family residences. Single-family residences and associated private boat dock systems characterize the subject site and the surrounding area.

The new boat dock float will be constructed on land and floated into position. No anchoring or other bottom disturbing activities will occur. The float will be connected to the existing piles and gangways using hand tools. Silt curtains will be utilized to control turbidity during all construction activities. Floating booms will be maintained around the project site to capture any floating debris that may inadvertently enter the water during the entire construction process. Divers will recover non-buoyant debris accidentally discharged into the water as soon as possible after the loss. Floating debris will be removed from the water and disposed of properly. The contractor will ensure that no debris, rubbish, oil or petroleum products related to construction will be allowed to enter into or be placed where they may be washed by rainfall or runoff into the water. All debris and trash generated by construction activities will be disposed of properly as soon as possible or at the end of each day.

The storage or placement of construction material, debris, or waste in a location where it could be discharged into coastal waters would result in an adverse effect on the marine environment. The proposed project includes measures to help ensure protection of coastal waters and marine resources during construction. The applicant has applied for permits from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and these permits are pending coastal development permit approval. To ensure that all impacts (pre- and post- construction) to water quality are minimized and to reduce the potential for construction related impacts on water quality, the Commission imposes **Special Condition No. 1**, which requires, but is not limited to, appropriate storage and handling of construction equipment and materials to minimize the potential of pollutants to enter coastal waters and the continued use and maintenance of post construction BMPs.

The subject site was surveyed for eelgrass and *Caluerna taxifolia* (The Niantic, Mistral, and Maruffa Dock Owners Association dock Replacement Project Baseline Eelgrass Survey, prepared by Marine Taxonomic Services (MTS), dated 1/11/2019) (Survey). The Survey determined that no *Caluerna taxifolia* was present at the site. Regarding eelgrass, the survey states:

*“The survey results indicated that there is a single eelgrass patch growing within the project area (Figure 2 [Exhibit 3]). The eelgrass patch covered a small area totaling 4.9 square meters and encompassed approximately 20 eelgrass turions total. The eelgrass was generally healthy and growing at moderate to low density and canopy height.”*

The Survey concludes:

*“The results of this baseline survey indicate that eelgrass grows at the end of the south western most dock finger. The Project will not impact this eelgrass or any other eelgrass that might later be identified prior to construction. This determination is made because the proposed reconstruction of the docks will not shade any of the existing eelgrass resources at the Project site. The proposed dock footprint is identical to the existing with no alteration of existing uses. This means there will be no operational changes and therefore the likelihood for longer-term impacts to eelgrass is also negligible. The data presented within this report can be used by the permitting agencies to either concur with the above evaluation or else determine the extent of impacts and the means to move the project forward within the context of local and regional regulations and permits.”*

No *Caluerpa taxifolia* was discovered within the vicinity of the project site. Eelgrass was found to be present in the southwest corner, near the further extent of the boat dock float. No bottom disturbing activities are proposed and the float will have the same dimensions and configuration of the existing float. In addition, the float will be replaced by floating it out and floating the new float in. For these reasons, no impacts to eelgrass are anticipated. Eelgrass surveys completed during the active growth phase of eelgrass (typically March through October) are valid for 60 days with the exception of surveys completed in August – October, such as the subject survey. A survey completed in August - October is valid until the resumption of the following active growth phase (i.e., March 1). *Caluerpa taxifolia* surveys are valid for 90 days. The project is agendized for the September 11-13, 2019 Coastal Commission hearing, so the eelgrass survey is currently valid. However, the *Caluerpa taxifolia* survey has expired.

Eelgrass impacts are not expected, however that cannot be known without surveys current at the time construction commences. Valid eelgrass and *Caulerpa taxifolia* surveys will be required prior to beginning of the boat dock float replacement work. If the surveys reveal the presence of either eelgrass or *Caulerpa taxifolia*, additional steps will be required. Therefore, the Commission imposes **Special Conditions No. 2 and No. 3**, which identify the procedures necessary to be completed prior to beginning any construction. Also, if any *Caulerpa taxifolia* is found on the project site, **Special Condition No. 3** identifies the procedures necessary to be completed prior to beginning any construction.

The subject site is located within the City of Huntington Beach, which has a certified Local Coastal Program (LCP). However, due to the project location seaward of the mean high tide line, the project is within an area of the Commission’s retained permit jurisdiction. Nonetheless, the City’s certified LCP may be used as guidance. In this area of Huntington Harbour, the water area is owned by the State but administered by the City of Huntington Beach. The land use designation at the water portion of the site is Open Space – Water Recreation (OS – W) and zoned Open Space Water

Recreation. The applicants' properties (the land) are designated and zoned for residential use in the certified LCP. The proposed development is consistent with the City's certified LCP, specifically with Implementation Plan Chapter 213) Open Space District, which allows private boat docks abutting residential uses in Huntington Harbour in the Open Space Water Recreation zone. The City of Huntington Beach reviewed the proposed plans and issued an Approval-in-Concept dated 10/15/2018.

The proposed development is located seaward of the mean high tide and is within the Commission's original permit jurisdiction. The standard of review for development within the Commission's original permit jurisdiction is Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. The City's certified LCP is advisory in nature and may provide guidance for development.

Most of the Huntington Harbour water frontage is developed with single-family homes on lots supported by bulkheads, many of which have cantilevered decks and boat docks over public waters, including properties adjacent to the project site. The proposed boat dock is associated with the single-family residences on the applicants' property. The proposed multi-slip dock is similar in function to the other multi-slip docks typically located at the inland extent of the "U" created by residentially developed peninsulas within Huntington Harbour (**Exhibit 1.2**). The proposed development is consistent with past Commission actions on boat docks in the area.

The proposed dock will be constructed on a public waterway managed by the City. Currently, there is no direct public pedestrian access to public tidelands through the private residential lots at the subject site. The nearest public access is located at Humboldt Beach Park, a small, sandy harbor-front park approximately 1200 feet from the subject site. Therefore, the proposed project will not result in adverse impacts to public access. In order to preserve and maintain access to the public tidelands, **Special Condition No. 4** is imposed stating that the approval of a coastal development permit for the project does not waive any public rights or interest that exist or may exist on the property.

## **B. MARINE RESOURCES**

The proposed recreational boat dock development and its associated structures are an allowable and encouraged marine related use. The project design includes the minimum sized pilings and the minimum number of pilings necessary for structural stability. There are no feasible less environmentally damaging alternatives available. As conditioned, the project will not significantly adversely impact eelgrass beds and will not contribute to the dispersal of the invasive aquatic algae, *Caulerpa taxifolia*. Further, as proposed and conditioned, the project, which is to be used solely for recreational boating purposes, conforms to Sections 30224 and 30233 of the Coastal Act.

## **C. WATER QUALITY**

The proposed work will be occurring on, within, or adjacent to coastal waters. The storage or placement of construction material, debris, or waste in a location where it could be discharged into coastal waters would result in an adverse effect on the marine environment. To reduce the potential for construction related impacts on water quality, the Commission imposes special conditions requiring, but not limited to, the appropriate storage and handling of construction equipment and materials to minimize the potential of pollutants to enter coastal waters. To reduce the potential for post-construction impacts to water quality the Commission requires the continued use and

maintenance of post construction BMPs. As conditioned, the Commission finds that the development conforms to Sections 30230 and 30231 of the Coastal Act.

#### **D. PUBLIC ACCESS**

The proposed development will not affect the public's ability to gain access to, and/or to make use of, the coast and nearby recreational facilities. Therefore, as conditioned the development conforms with Sections 30210 through 30214, Sections 30220 through 30224, and 30252 of the Coastal Act.

#### **E. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM (LCP)**

The City of Newport Beach LCP was effectively certified on January 13, 2017. The proposed development is located seaward of the mean high tide and is within the Commission's original permit jurisdiction. The standard of review for development within the Commission's original permit jurisdiction is Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. The City's certified LCP is advisory in nature and may provide guidance for development. As conditioned, the proposed development is consistent with the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act.

#### **F. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

The City of Huntington Beach is the lead agency responsible for CEQA review. The City determined that the project qualifies for a CEQA exemption pursuant to Section 15301. As conditioned, there are no additional feasible alternatives or additional feasible mitigation measures available which will substantially lessen any significant adverse impact the activity would have on the environment. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned to mitigate the identified possible impacts, is consistent with CEQA and the policies of the Coastal Act.

### **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

This permit is granted subject to the following special conditions:

#### **1. Water Quality**

##### **A. Construction Responsibilities and Debris Removal**

- (1) No demolition or construction materials, equipment, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may enter sensitive habitat, receiving waters or a storm drain, or be subject to wave, wind, rain or tidal erosion and dispersion;
- (2) Any and all debris resulting from demolition or construction activities, and any remaining construction material, shall be removed from the project site within 24 hours of completion of the project;
- (3) Demolition or construction debris and sediment shall be removed from work areas each day that demolition or construction occurs to prevent the accumulation of sediment and other debris that may be discharged into coastal waters;
- (4) Machinery or construction materials not essential for project improvements will not be allowed at any time in the intertidal zone;
- (5) If turbid conditions are generated during construction a silt curtain will be utilized to control turbidity;

- (6) Floating booms will be used to contain debris discharged into coastal waters and any debris discharged will be removed as soon as possible but no later than the end of each day;
- (7) Non buoyant debris discharged into coastal waters will be recovered by divers as soon as possible after loss;
- (8) All trash and debris shall be disposed in the proper trash and recycling receptacles at the end of every construction day;
- (9) The applicant shall provide adequate disposal facilities for solid waste, including excess concrete, produced during demolition or construction;
- (10) Debris shall be disposed of at a legal disposal site or recycled at a recycling facility. If the disposal site is located in the coastal zone, a coastal development permit or an amendment to this permit shall be required before disposal can take place unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment or new permit is legally required;
- (11) All stock piles and construction materials shall be covered, enclosed on all sides, shall be located as far away as possible from drain inlets and any waterway, and shall not be stored in contact with the soil;
- (12) Machinery and equipment shall be maintained and washed in confined areas specifically designed to control runoff. Thinners or solvents shall not be discharged into sanitary or storm sewer systems;
- (13) The discharge of any hazardous materials into any receiving waters shall be prohibited;
- (14) Spill prevention and control measures shall be implemented to ensure the proper handling and storage of petroleum products and other construction materials. Measures shall include a designated fueling and vehicle maintenance area with appropriate berms and protection to prevent any spillage of gasoline or related petroleum products or contact with runoff. The area shall be located as far away from the receiving waters and storm drain inlets as possible;
- (15) Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Good Housekeeping Practices (GHPs) designed to prevent spillage and/or runoff of demolition or construction-related materials, and to contain sediment or contaminants associated with demolition or construction activity, shall be implemented prior to the on-set of such activity; and
- (16) All BMPs shall be maintained in a functional condition throughout the duration of construction activity.

**B. Best Management Practices Program**

By acceptance of this permit the applicant agrees that the long-term water-borne berthing of boat(s) in the approved dock and/or boat slip will be managed in a manner that protects water quality pursuant to the implementation of the following BMPs.

- (1) Boat Cleaning and Maintenance Measures:
  - a. In-water top-side and bottom-side boat cleaning shall minimize the discharge of soaps, paints, and debris;
  - b. In-the-water hull scraping or any process that occurs under water that results in the removal of paint from boat hulls shall be prohibited. Only detergents and cleaning components that are designated by the manufacturer as phosphate-free and biodegradable shall be used, and the amounts used minimized; and

- c. The applicant shall minimize the use of detergents and boat cleaning and maintenance products containing ammonia, sodium hypochlorite, chlorinated solvents, petroleum distillates or lye.

(2) Solid and Liquid Waste Management Measures:

- a. All trash, recyclables, and hazardous wastes or potential water contaminants, including old gasoline or gasoline with water, absorbent materials, oily rags, lead acid batteries, anti-freeze, waste diesel, kerosene and mineral spirits will be disposed of in a proper manner and will not at any time be disposed of in the water or gutter.

(3) Petroleum Control Management Measures:

- a. Boaters will practice preventive engine maintenance and will use oil absorbents in the bilge and under the engine to prevent oil and fuel discharges. Oil absorbent materials shall be examined at least once a year and replaced as necessary. Used oil absorbents are hazardous waste in California. Used oil absorbents must therefore be disposed in accordance with hazardous waste disposal regulations. The boaters will regularly inspect and maintain engines, seals, gaskets, lines and hoses in order to prevent oil and fuel spills. The use of soaps that can be discharged by bilge pumps is prohibited;
- b. If the bilge needs more extensive cleaning (e.g., due to spills of engine fuels, lubricants or other liquid materials), the boaters will use a bilge pump-out facility or steam cleaning services that recover and properly dispose or recycle all contaminated liquids; and
- c. Bilge cleaners which contain detergents or emulsifiers will not be used for bilge cleaning since they may be discharged to surface waters by the bilge pumps.

**2. Eelgrass Survey(s).**

A. Pre-Construction Eelgrass Survey. Pre-Construction Eelgrass Survey. A valid pre-construction eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) survey shall be completed during the period of active growth of eelgrass (typically March through October). The pre-construction survey shall be completed within 60 days before the start of construction. The survey shall be prepared in full compliance with the "California Eelgrass Mitigation Policy" dated October 2014 (except as modified by this special condition) adopted by the National Marine Fisheries Service and shall be prepared in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The applicant shall submit the eelgrass survey for the review and approval of the Executive Director within five (5) business days of completion of each eelgrass survey and in any event no later than fifteen (15) business days prior to commencement of any development. If the eelgrass survey identifies any eelgrass within the project area which would be impacted by the proposed project, the development shall require an amendment to this permit from the Coastal Commission or a new coastal development permit.

B. Post-Construction Eelgrass Survey. If any eelgrass is identified in the project area by the survey required in subsection A of this condition above, within 30 days of completion of construction if completion of construction occurs within the active growth period, or within the first 30 days of the next active growth period following completion of construction that occurs outside of the active growth period, the applicant shall survey



the project site to determine if any eelgrass was adversely impacted. The survey shall be prepared in full compliance with the “California Eelgrass Mitigation Policy” dated October 2014 (except as modified by this special condition) adopted by the National Marine Fisheries Service and shall be prepared in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The applicant shall submit the post-construction eelgrass survey for the review and approval of the Executive Director within thirty (30) days after completion of the survey. If any eelgrass has been impacted by project construction, the applicant shall replace the impacted eelgrass at a minimum 1.38:1 ratio on-site, or at another appropriate location subject to the approval of the Executive Director, in accordance with the California Eelgrass Mitigation Policy. Any exceptions to the required 1.38:1 mitigation ratio found within CEMP shall not apply. Implementation of mitigation shall require an amendment to this permit or a new coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment or new permit is legally required.

**3. Pre-construction *Caulerpa Taxifolia* Survey**

- A. Not earlier than 90 days nor later than 30 days prior to commencement or re-commencement of any development authorized under this coastal development permit (the “project”), the applicant shall undertake a survey of the project area and a buffer area at least 10 meters beyond the project area to determine the presence of the invasive alga *Caulerpa taxifolia*. The survey shall include a visual examination of the substrate.
- B. The survey protocol shall be prepared in consultation with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.
- C. Within five (5) business days of completion of the survey, the applicant shall submit the survey:
  - (1) for the review and approval of the Executive Director; and
  - (2) to the Surveillance Subcommittee of the Southern California Caulerpa Action Team (SCCAT). The SCCAT Surveillance Subcommittee may be contacted through California Department of Fish & Wildlife (858/467-4218) National Marine Fisheries Service (562/980-4043).
- D. If *Caulerpa taxifolia* is found within the project or buffer areas, the applicant shall not proceed with the project until 1) the applicant provides evidence to the Executive Director, subject to concurrence by the Executive Director, that all *C. taxifolia* discovered within the project and buffer area has been eliminated in a manner that complies with all applicable governmental approval requirements, including but not limited to those of the California Coastal Act, or 2) the applicant has revised the project to avoid any contact with *C. taxifolia*. No revisions to the project shall occur without a Coastal Commission approved amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

**4. Public Rights**

The approval of this permit shall not constitute a waiver of any public rights that exist or may exist on the property. The permittee shall not use this permit as evidence of a waiver of any public rights that may exist on the property.

**5. Resource Agencies**

The permittee shall comply with all requirements, requests and mitigation measures from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with respect to preservation and protection of water quality and marine environment. Any change in the approved project that may be required by the above-stated agencies shall be submitted to the Executive Director in order to determine if the proposed change shall require a permit amendment pursuant to the requirements of the Coastal Act and the California Code of Regulations.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PERMIT RECEIPT/ACCEPTANCE OF CONTENTS**

I/We acknowledge that I/we have received a copy of this permit and have accepted its contents including all conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signing