

## CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

South Coast District Office  
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Long Beach, CA 90802  
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# Th6a



Staff: M. Vaughn – LB  
Date: 2/20/2020

## ADMINISTRATIVE PERMIT

**Application No.** 5-18-1059

**Applicant:** Steve Ramelot

**Agent:** Janelle LaPlanca, South Shore Marine

**Project Description:** Remove “U” shaped boat dock float and gangway and construct a new 110 feet long by 8 feet wide rectangular float and new 4 feet by 24 feet gangway, and retain and re-use three, 14” diameter, concrete piles in a new location

**Project Location:** 16442 Malden Circle, Huntington Beach, Orange County  
APN: 178-411-16

## 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:

**Thursday, March 12, 2020 9:00 am**  
Hilton Scotts Valley  
6001 La Madrone Drive  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**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 NINE.**

**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 removal of a 725 square foot, "U" shaped boat dock float and 3 feet by 18 feet gangway ([Exhibit 2](#)) and construction of a new 110 feet long by 8 feet wide rectangular float and new 4 feet by 24 feet gangway ([Exhibit 3](#)). Three, 14-inch diameter, concrete piles will be retained and re-used in a new location. The subject site is associated with the residentially zoned, harbor front lot at 16442 Malden Circle, in Huntington Harbour in the City of Huntington Beach, Orange County ([Exhibit 1](#)). The dock will be used for boating related purposes to serve the adjacent single-family residence. The majority of the residentially zoned land fronting Huntington Harbor is developed with single-family residences and associated private boat docks, such as at the subject site. The proposed dock float is generally consistent with the size and configuration of similarly situated docks in the Huntington Harbour area. The total overwater area of the existing "U" shaped boat dock float and gangway is 779 square feet. The total overwater area of the proposed rectangular boat dock float and 4 feet by 24 feet gangway is 976 square feet. Thus, the proposed project would result in an increase in overwater coverage of 197 square feet. While the proposed project will result in an increase in over water coverage, it is a relatively minimal increase and the proposed dock will be similar to other boat docks in the project area.

Silt curtains will be utilized to control turbidity during all construction activities. Floating booms will be maintained around the project site during the entire construction process to capture any floating debris that may inadvertently enter the water. 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 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. During relocation of the three existing piles, a safety boom will be installed around each pile. The three existing piles will be removed and relocated using a barge and crane. The new, rectangular boat dock float will be constructed on land and floated into position. The removed dock will be disposed of at a recycle/demolition facility on land. No soaps, paints, detergents or any products containing ammonia, sodium hypochlorite, chlorinated solvents, petroleum distillates or lye will be used on the dock and will not be allowed to drain into the harbor.

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 and 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

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provide guidance for development. The water area within which the boat dock project is proposed is land use designated Open Space Water Recreation (OS-W) and zoned Waterways Recreation (WR). A private boat dock associated with single family residential development on the adjacent lot is recognized by the City's certified LCP as an allowable use, specifically in Implementation Plan Chapter 213 Open Space District, which allows private boat docks abutting residential uses in Huntington Harbour in the Waterways Recreation zone. The City of Huntington Beach reviewed the proposed plans and issued an Approval-in-Concept dated 7/30/2018 from the Planning Department. In addition, the Public Works Department approved Harbor Permit No. 1327 on 7/30/2018 for the proposed boat dock project.

The proposed dock is located in the water area bayward of the associated single family residence, on Main Channel in Huntington Harbour. Main Channel is owned and administered by the California State Lands Commission (SLC). Development in this area requires review and approval from SLC, typically in the form of a lease agreement. The applicant has obtained a valid lease agreement from the SLC for the proposed boat dock.

The subject site was surveyed for eelgrass and *Caulerpa taxifolia* (Dive Works, 7/6/2019, (Survey)). The Survey found that no eelgrass or caulerpa was present in the project vicinity. 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). *Caulerpa taxifolia* surveys are valid for 90 days. Both the eelgrass and *Caulerpa taxifolia* surveys have expired.

No impacts are expected to occur to eelgrass with the proposed project because no eelgrass was observed in the project vicinity. Although eelgrass impacts are not expected, that cannot be known with certainty without surveys current at the time construction commences. Valid eelgrass and *Caulerpa taxifolia* surveys will be required prior to beginning of the boat dock 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 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. 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.

Currently, there is no direct public pedestrian access to public tidelands through the private residential lot at the subject site. The nearest public access is located approximately 400 feet north of the subject site, across the channel, along the public walkway on Trinidad Island; public access into harbor waters is available approximately 1500 feet northwest of the subject site from the harbor-front beach at Seabridge Park; and approximately 2500 feet southwest of the site at Sunset Beach, a sandy, oceanfronting public beach. The proposed project will not result in any new 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 is not expected to impact eelgrass beds or 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)**

An LCP for the City of Huntington Beach was effectively certified in March 1985. However, the proposed development is occurring within an area of the Commission's original permit jurisdiction, due to the project location seaward of the mean high tide line. Consequently, the standard of review is the Coastal Act and the City's LCP may be used as guidance. As

conditioned, the proposed development is consistent with Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act and with the certified LCP for the area.

## **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. Typically, projects are exempt from CEQA pursuant to section 15303 of the CEQA Guidelines when they consist of construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. 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 are prohibited at any time in the intertidal zone;
- (5) If turbid conditions are generated during construction, a silt curtain shall be utilized to control turbidity;
- (6) Floating booms shall be used to contain debris discharged into coastal waters and any debris discharged shall be removed as soon as possible but no later than the end of each day;
- (7) Non buoyant debris discharged into coastal waters shall 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 shall 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 shall be disposed of in a proper manner and shall not at any time be disposed of in the water or gutter.

(3) Petroleum Control Management Measures:

- a. Boaters shall practice preventive engine maintenance and shall 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 shall 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 shall 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 shall 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 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 California Eelgrass Mitigation Policy 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 *Caulerpa 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 *Caulerpa 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.

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**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