



Ad Hoc Committee – Thatchbed Island

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**Bruce Glowac
Bob Robinson
Paul Greenberg
Harwood Comstock**

Jeff Going, Chairman

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May 25, 2022 at 10 AM, Meeting room A, Essex Town Hall

Attendance: Robinson, Comstock, Greenberg, Going

Update and review of COP 20217248 concerning removal/relocating two rock piles formerly attached to Thatchbed, currently hazards to navigation. Not having received review by USACE, a close review of the new General Permit 9 gave the answer for this project, Self-Verification.

Following the requirements, a Self-Verification form was completed and signed by First Selectman Needleman, which has been sent to USACE with a Notice of Action. DEEP Fisheries gave clearance for the project after June 30 to clear various species of fish spawning in or around Essex Harbor. Connecticut River Dock and Dredge has been notified that work can be done starting in July.

We will re-mark the Mean Low Mark for placement of the rocks per COP. A “V” will be formed by the new rock location with one leg running east to west approximately 100 linear feet and a similar leg running south to north approximately 100 linear feet a total of about 200 cubic yards of rock. The new rock location will be about 5 feet above Mean Low Water or a little more than a foot above Mean High Water. The new location for the rocks will be visible at high tide and welcome Cormorants, Sea Gulls, birds, etc.

Update and review of preservation/restoration project using dredge materials and Envirotubes. After DEEP review, we have filed an applications for a Structure/Dredge/Fill Wetlands permit. The application has been reviewed by USACE and numerous other entities, including DEEP Fisheries, which again has said that action would be clear after June 30. So, hoped for time line for this project is fall 2023

The plan uses dredge material from Essex Yacht Club, Middle Cove Marina, Town of Essex and others to fill the tubes, creating a perimeter barrier that will contain additional dredge material. This area will begin using the new rock location as a “cornerstone” that will also provide protection for the southeast corner of the tube placement.

This project will provide savings and simplify dredging in Essex Harbor.

The Ad Hoc Committee will begin to increase awareness of the projects now that we can take action with the rock relocation.

Motion for Adjournment: Robinson, 2nd Comstock. In Favor - Robinson, Comstock, Greenberg
Approved 3 - 0