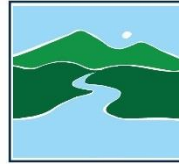


# Response Summary for Shoreland Protection Individual Permit Application



VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
**WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION**  
LAKES & PONDS PROGRAM

<p><b>Permittee:</b> James McNearney <b>Waterbody:</b> Lake St. Catherine <b>Permit Number:</b> 263</p>	<p><b>Parcel SPAN:</b> 492-155-11018 <b>Parcel Address:</b> 572 Cones Point Road, Poultney</p>
<p>The above referenced Shoreland Protection Individual Permit #263 authorizes creating 700 square feet of cleared area in order to remove shoreline vegetation for a shoreline stabilization project.</p> <p>The application was placed on public notice between March 04, 2016 and April 04, 2016. Public comments were received during the notice period.</p> <p>The following is a summary of the comments and the Department’s responses to those comments. Some of the comments were paraphrased and edited for clarity and combined where appropriate.</p>	
<p><b>1. Comment: From Michael Adams, Army Corps of Engineers</b></p> <p>Your project will involve work in waters under Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction and will require prior authorization from the Corps.</p> <p><b>1. Response:</b> The Department worked with the applicant to confine all shoreline stabilization work above the mean water level. Under the submitted, revised plans, the applicant will no longer need to apply for an Army Corps of Engineers permit.</p> <p><b>2. Comment: From Shawn Good, Fisheries Biologist, Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife</b></p> <p>Drawing 02 shows the conceptual post-construction condition. It appears they are proposing to add a new private concrete boat ramp which will extend almost 20-feet out into the lake. This is not described in the application form. It also appears they want to place more boulders along nearly 200-feet of shoreline north of the proposed stone terrace. The photos included in the application indicate that the shore will be “reinforced and replanted”, which I take to mean excavated and replaced with an unnatural material, perhaps the mentioned Gabion baskets. The application form indicates that Gabion baskets will be used in places along the shoreline, and in Section C as shown in the Cross Section schematics, in the area north of the concrete ramp and under the proposed patio terrace, they show Gabion baskets in the water, with a stone retaining wall built on top of the Gabion baskets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The overall modifications and disturbance to the shoreline seem excessive, and I don’t see any major erosion issues or collapsing shoreline in the provided photos that would indicate this work is necessary to protect water quality or fish and fish habitat.</li> <li>• The construction of unnatural shorelines will actually negatively impact fish habitat through the removal and elimination of natural shoreline material.</li> <li>• I don’t support the use of Gabion baskets, as they have a history of eroding, getting undercut, spilling material, and eventually collapsing.</li> <li>• I don’t support the excavating of the lake bottom and construction of a private concrete ramp for canoes and jetskis.</li> <li>• The excavation of the shoreline shown on Page 4, second photo to be replaced with riprap or boulders also seems unnecessary.</li> </ul>	

**2. Response:** The Department worked with the applicant to modify the submitted plans. The project area is now confined to a steep, 700-square foot area of shoreline where stabilization activities will take place above mean water level. No gabion baskets will be installed in the water. The slope will be re-planted with native vegetation and boulders will be placed at no greater density than 15% of the slope area. Vegetation will be planted throughout. The concrete canoe and jet ski ramp shown in the drawing plans is an existing structure. It will be replaced with pervious stone pavers and not extend below mean water level.