



NY/NJ BAYKEEPER®

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52 West Front Street • Keyport, New Jersey 07735 • Tel: (732) 888-9870 • Fax (732) 888-9873
www.nynjbaykeeper.org • email: mail@nynjbaykeeper.org

A Subsidiary of
The American Liberal Society

Member of the
Waterkeeper Alliance

US Army Corps of Engineers New York
District Attention: Regulatory Branch
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
New York, NY 10278-0090

July 19, 2010

File Number: NAN-2010-00733-WCA

Dear Chief Richard L. Tomer, USACE Regulatory Branch,

The NY/NJ Baykeeper supports The Friends of Liberty State Park (FOLSP) request for a public hearing on Liberty National Marina (LNM).

The Liberty State Park Public Boat Launch has created public access for recreational opportunities and has become an increasingly popular venue for the residents in a highly urban area to enjoy water access safely. We have two primary concerns:

- 1) that proposed Liberty National Marina could jeopardize the safety of boaters and kayakers who regularly use the public boat launch. The proximity of the proposed marina would limit the room to safely maneuver a boat as it is launched; and,
- 2) That the dredging required for the marina could disturb or destroy important benthic habitat .

Therefore we request that the marina, if allowed be moved further away from the Liberty State Park public boat launch, and that a study of the habitat in the area proposed for dredging for the marina be undertaken and results be considered carefully before deciding on whether dredging in this area is appropriate. These are the issues we believe warrant a public hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gregory A. Remaud
Deputy Director
NY/NJ Baykeeper