**VIMS Shoreline Permit Application Report # 01-1256**

**APPLICANT:**  
DOWNS, RUTH W.

**Immediate Waterway:**  
Stutts Creek

**Locality:**  
MATHEWS COUNTY

**Purpose:**  
Erosion Control

**Application Type:**  
Wetlands

**Site Inspection:**  
7/9/01

**Report Date:**  
7/17/01

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**Type of Activity** | **Proposed Extent** | **Project Location**
--- | --- | ---
Bulkhead (ft) | 212 | Mathews County
  - Impact Sand Flat Community (Type XIV) (ft²) | 1396 |
  - Fill Sand Flat Community (Type XIV) (ft²) | 1396 |
  - Impact Saltmarsh Cordgrass Community (Type I) (ft²) | 75 |
  - Fill Saltmarsh Cordgrass Community (Type I) (ft²) | 75 |
  - Impact Saltmeadow Community (Type II) (ft²) | 225 |
  - Fill Saltmeadow Community (Type II) (ft²) | 225 |
  - Impact Subaqueous Bottom (ft²) | 0 |
  - Fill Subaqueous Bottom (ft²) | 0 |
Riprap (ft) | 98 | S
  - Impact Saltmarsh Cordgrass Community (Type I) (ft²) | 354 |
  - Fill Saltmarsh Cordgrass Community (Type I) (ft²) | 177 |

**Total Impacts (ft²)** | **Total Impacts (Wetlands)**
--- | ---
2050 | 2050
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Subaqueous)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Beach/Dune)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fill (ft²)</td>
<td>1873</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTICE

The Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) is aware that regulatory or administrative bodies who weigh the overall potential public and private benefits and detriments in arriving at decisions must also consider other factors such as economics, aesthetics, zoning, or community desires. INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS REPORT IS, THEREFORE, ONLY THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES INPUT INTO THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS.

This assessment is based on biological, chemical, geological, and physical factors affecting the marine environment at and in the vicinity of the proposed activity. Parameters of the marine environment which may influence recreational, commercial, or industrial activities which are dependent on the marine environment are also considered where applicable.

Comments:

We have reviewed this application from a marine environmental perspective and it is our opinion that the individual and cumulative adverse impacts resulting from the proposed 118 ft. riprap revetment will be minimal provided the toe of the structure follows the existing contour of the eroded marsh scarp and is aligned as channelward as practicable from existing wetland vegetation. In addition, no fill material should placed in wetlands landward of the riprap revetment.

However, the proposed 212 ft. bulkhead warrants careful consideration. The proposed structure will result in the filling of approximately 1696 square feet of vegetated and non-vegetated wetlands. To reduce impacts to the marine environment and provide some habitat value, we recommend constructing a riprap revetement that follows the existing contour of the shoreline as an alternative to the bulkhead. However, if the bulkhead is permitted we suggest aligning the structure landward to reduce impacts to non-vegetated wetlands while protecting the eastern shoreline of the basin from erosion.
Hydrologic units represent smaller, isolated watersheds defined by topography and flow direction. These units can be thought of as insulated ecosystems or landscapes within which resources can be managed at a larger scale. The cumulative impact of a project to resources within a hydrologic unit may be significantly greater than the impact to the larger watershed above.
Permit Site Study Area

Mathews County
MIDDLE PENINSULA BAYSHORE
Stutts Creek
To Wetlands Board: Please indicate Wetlands Board action on this sheet and return to VIMS

Application Number: 01-1256
Name: Downs, Ruth W.
Locality: Mathews County
Waterway: Stutts Creek

Please check here if this application was approved as proposed ____
Complete the form below if the application was modified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>PROPOSED</th>
<th>PERMITTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bulkhead (ft)</td>
<td>212</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Sand Flat Community (Type XIV) (ft²)</td>
<td>1396</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fill Sand Flat Community (Type XIV) (ft²)</td>
<td>1396</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Saltmarsh Cordgrass Community (Type I) (ft²)</td>
<td>75</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fill Saltmarsh Cordgrass Community (Type I) (ft²)</td>
<td>75</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Saltmeadow Community (Type II) (ft²)</td>
<td>225</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fill Saltmeadow Community (Type II) (ft²)</td>
<td>225</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Subaqueous Bottom (ft²)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>177</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments: __________________________________________________________________________________
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__________________________________________________________________________________
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Certified by: __________________________________________  
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