VIMS Shoreline Permit Application Report # 02-1781

**APPLICANT:** JOHN M. WALKER, ET AL.
**Immediate Waterway:** Pretty Lake
**Locality:** CITY OF NORFOLK
**Purpose:** Improve Navigation
**Application Type:** Subaqueous
**Site Inspection:** 9/26/02
**Report Date:** 2/25/03

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Activity</th>
<th>Proposed Extent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Dredging (yd³)</td>
<td>3573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Subaqueous Bottom (ft²)</td>
<td>41473</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (ft²)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Wetlands)</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Subaqueous)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Beach/Dune)</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Total Fill (ft²)</td>
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**Project Location**

City of Norfolk
ATTENTION

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.

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.

Comments:

The applicants propose to clamshell dredge 3,573 cubic yards of material associated with creating mooring basins and approximately 945 linear ft. of navigation channel, henceforth referred to as Pretty Lake ancillary channel C-3, to a depth of –4.0 ft. MLW to improve recreational boating access. We have reviewed this proposal from a marine environmental perspective and it is our opinion that the proposed dredging will result in direct impacts to 41,473 sq. ft. (0.95 acres) of subaqueous bottom habitat and potential secondary impacts to nonvegetated wetlands within the 4X buffer.

The dredge material is anticipated to consist of a mixture of fine-grained sediment. Consequently, clamshell dredging will remove the existing benthic community and resuspend sediment in the water column, resulting in a temporary reduction in water quality. However, impacts to water quality and the benthic community are expected to be relatively temporary in nature, with a new community becoming established over time with organisms adapted to the new depth, sediment composition, and available food supply. The quality of the re-established benthic community will also be a function of boating activity.

Although no direct impacts to vegetated or nonvegetated wetlands are proposed, we recommend reducing the size of the proposed basins for the Garland (8420 Mona Ave.), Walker (8416 Mona Ave.) and Dennis (8089 Lynnbrook Dr.) properties by dredging only the area necessary for navigation and mooring. By reducing the length of the basins and increasing the angle at which the Walker basin connects with the channel, the applicants are provided reasonable access to navigable water while reducing unnecessary impacts to subaqueous bottom habitat.
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.
City of Norfolk
SOUTHERN BAYSHORE
Pretty Lake

Project site

Locality boundaries

Southern Bayshore watershed

Tidal Marsh Inventory - TMI
- Arrow Arum-Pickerelweed
- Big Cordgrass
- Black Needlerush
- Brackish Water Mixed
- Cattail
- Freshwater Mixed
- Reed Grass
- Saltbush
- Saltmeadow
- Saltmarsh Cordgrass
- Yellow Pond Lily

Rods
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary

Intertidal flat

Open water

0 0.5 1 Miles
To Wetlands Board: Please indicate Wetlands Board action on this sheet and return to VIMS

Application Number: 02-1781
Name: John M. Walker, et al.
Locality: City of Norfolk
Waterway: Pretty Lake

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

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Comments: __________________________________________________________________________________
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Certified by: __________________________________________