VIMS Shoreline Permit Application Report # 03-0755

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Activity</th>
<th>Proposed Extent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Structure (ft²)</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Brackish Water Mixed Community (Type XII) (ft²)</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact Subaqueous Bottom (ft²)</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (ft²)</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Wetlands)</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Subaqueous)</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (Beach/Dune)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fill (ft²)</td>
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**APPLICANT:**
- **Belle Isle State Park, et al.**
- **Locality:** Lancaster County
- **Immediate Waterway:** Mulberry Creek
- **Watershed:** Rappahannock River
- **Purpose:** Commercial Construction
- **Application Type:** Wetlands, Subaqueous
- **Site Inspection:** 6/13/03
- **Report Date:** 6/20/03
NOTE
The Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) recognizes that the regulatory process considers all aspects of a particular project, including socioeconomic factors. This report, however, only addresses marine environmental concerns.

Findings & Recommendations:
An open-pile extension to an existing boardwalk at Belle Isle State Park is proposed to provide public education about the functions and values of tidal wetland ecosystems. A binocular viewer and signs will be added to aid self-guided interpretation.

This project is clearly in the public's interest and there are no objections if the pier is constructed as proposed. Only minor environmental impacts will occur as a result of construction. The surrounding wetland vegetation and benthic communities are expected to recover quickly.

The partners involved with this project should be commended, including the Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Belle Isle State Park, Lancaster County, and the Lancaster County Wetlands Board. The Friends of Belle Isle also made the existing boardwalk loop possible.

Karen A. Duhring
Marine Scientist
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

Lancaster County
RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER
Mulberry Creek

Project site

Rappahannock River watershed

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

Roads
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary

Intertidal flat

Open water
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To Wetlands Board / VMRC: Please indicate Wetlands Board / VMRC action on this sheet and return to VIMS

Application Number: 03-0755
Name: Belle Isle State Park, et al
Locality: Lancaster County
Waterway: Mulberry 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>
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Please specify required modifications: _______________________________________________________
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Thomas A. Barnard, Director