

ALERT

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve proposal for their 182 foot permanent pier was heard late February. They were told to submit a new proposal. There have been three postponements since that time and it is now on the agenda of Conservation Commission for July 29, 2009. WBNERR must file the next proposal 7 days before that hearing (July 22 at noon). After that time, it will be available at the Commission for public review and prior to July 29. Often the office at Con Com is closed but I have found the best time to “catch” them is after 1 pm.

There are about 5 variances that they are requesting and must show proof. Because the land is in an ACEC area (Area of Critical Environmental Concern), this law prohibits dock construction in that zone except if they can show good cause for the public use. WBNERR claims to have limited public access.

A few of the other objections include: disruption to shellfish, actual use by “researchers” as opposed to the young people that patrol Washburn campsites, destruction to vegetation, construction from a barge (too shallow for a barge), no road access, maintenance of the area currently is poor to bad, no toilet facilities, no plan to restrict public from access and the aesthetics of this huge structure.

Send letters to:

Conservation Commissioners
Falmouth Conservation Committee
Town Hall
Falmouth, Ma 02540

Include the following:

A clear statement as to why you are opposed.

What effect it would have on you

A little background of how long you’ve been using the Bay, etc.

Thank you

Jim Downhill
Commodore