

New York State Canal Corporation

Design and Construction
Requirements for Residential/Non-Commercial
Docks, Decks, Platforms and Boat
Launches/Ramps



Office of Real Property Management

TAP-923B (07/2011)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS	2
A. GENERAL.....	2
B. NAVIGATION	3
III. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS	5
IV. APPENDIX A.....	6

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Design and Construction Requirements for Residential/Non-Commercial Docks, Decks, Platforms and Boat Launches/Ramps (TAP-9231B) (Requirements) is to provide specific, system-wide standards for docks, decks, platforms and boat launches/ramps on the Canal System.

These Requirements apply to residential/non-commercial docks, which can accommodate four or fewer boats, each of which shall not exceed 40 feet in length, with a maximum dock length of 100 feet.

Commercial and municipal docks will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Docks on reservoirs and feeder canals will be considered by the Canal Corporation (Corporation) on a case-by-case basis.

Any work to install a new dock, extend an existing dock or replace an existing dock will require a separate Work Permit. Simple maintenance such as replacing dock boards, or in kind components of residential docks do not require a Work Permit.

Should construction on Corporation Property require digging or any type of excavation work, New York State law requires the Permittee to notify the *Dig Safely New York* program at 1-800-962-7962 so that buried facilities in the area of the proposed construction can be identified and marked. This notification must be at least two (2) full work days (not including the day of the call, weekends or holidays) but not more than ten (10) work days prior to the start of work. For more information on the *Dig Safely New York* program, go to www.digsafelynewyork.com.

II. CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

A. GENERAL

As provided in TAP-923A, installations over, under, along and on Corporation Property shall conform to the requirements of the current New York State Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Construction and Materials the current New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes (19 NYCRR) and their referenced standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additionally, such installations shall meet the following requirements:

1. One dock per Occupancy Permit is allowed. More than one dock shall be treated as a commercial dock installation.
2. Docks and decks shall not restrict access (e.g., for trails, maintenance or operations) across Corporation Property.
3. Docks and slips shall have their design approved by the Division Canal Engineer. A standard approved dock minimum offset is attached as Appendix A.
4. Docks shall be set back at least 10 feet from property lines of adjacent upland owners (i.e., owner of property adjacent to the permit area on the side away from the water). Extensions of property lines across Corporation property to the water shall be as determined by the Corporation.
5. Decks or platforms shall have a maximum area of 500 square feet. This limit may include the area of a connecting dock or walkway.
6. No new boathouses are permitted.
7. Covered slips may have a roof only – no sides are permitted.
8. All electrical and plumbing services to docks, slips and decks shall meet all applicable local, state and federal codes.
9. No enclosed storage shall be permitted on docks or decks.
10. Flotation devices for docks shall be foam blocks, pontoons or other material manufactured specifically for flotation. Metal barrels, drums, or other containers that are not specifically made for flotation are prohibited.

11. Retaining walls, when a part of a dock request, shall be constructed of stone, concrete blocks, poured concrete or other materials acceptable to the Corporation and in accordance with the current New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes (19 NYCRR) and their referenced standards. Railroad ties, vehicle tires, creosote timbers, guide railing, and asphalt are not permitted.
12. Excavated slips, where permitted, shall be no larger than 1,000 square feet.
13. Excavated slips are not permitted where:
 - a. The Canal is in a raised embankment section;
 - b. An unstable or unsafe condition would be created; or
 - c. The Division Canal Engineer determines that there is insufficient Canal Right-of-Way, or a future trail would be impeded.
14. Slips, cuts, etc., must be lined with stone bank protection, riprap, or other method for protection against erosion and wave action as approved by the Corporation.
15. No dock installation will be permitted which may impair the integrity of an embankment, which shall be determined by the Canal Division Engineer.
16. Protection of the dock and moored boats from passing boat wakes is the Permittee's responsibility. Boats shall not be moored on the outer (Canal) side of wake protection devices.
17. Vehicle tires shall not be used for mooring purposes.
18. No enclosed storage shall be allowed on boat launches/ramps.
19. No permanent structure or foundations shall be erected on the Permit Area.
20. Boat launches and ramps shall be set back at least 10 feet from property lines of adjacent upland owners. Extensions of property lines across Corporation property to the water shall be as determined by the Corporation.

B. NAVIGATION

No dock shall interfere with Canal navigation, by either physically impeding navigation or obstructing the vision of boaters traveling on the Canal System.

1. As illustrated by Appendix A, docks shall have a minimum offset from edge of navigation channel (bottom angle):

- a. River section: 50 feet minimum offset.
 - b. Land cut section: 24 feet minimum offset (16 feet clear area plus 8 feet nominal boat width). Where a 24 feet offset is physically impossible, a dock with 4 feet maximum projection from the shoreline is allowable.
2. On curved sections of the Canal, the Corporation may require greater offsets than the offsets set forth in a. and b. above, to account for sight distance or vessel maneuverability considerations. The Division Canal Engineer may designate certain limited areas where docks are prohibited for navigation reasons.
3. Docks shall be parallel to shore in land cut areas.
4. Docks shall be at least 50 feet from Corporation navigation aids.
5. Docks and moored boats shall not hinder boaters' views of navigation aids or structures on the Canal System.

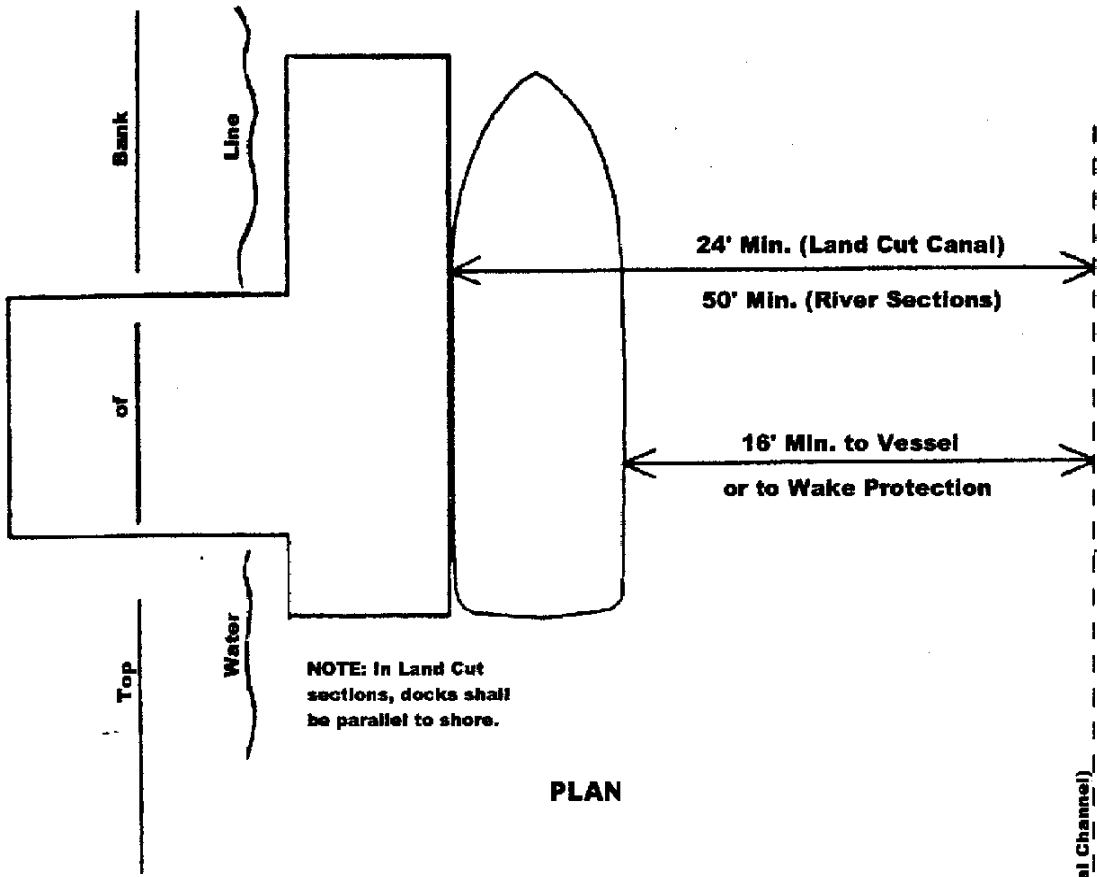
III. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the Environmental Law requirements detailed in TAP-922 Section III. L. and the Environment Requirements detailed in TAP-923A Section II B. , the following requirements must also be observed.

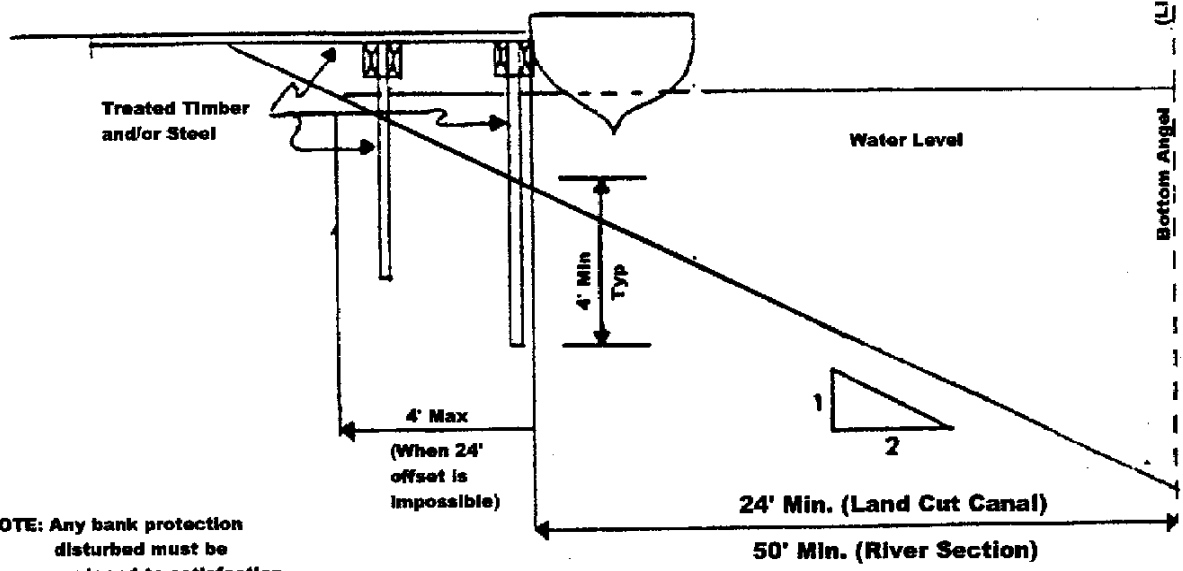
1. No creosote, pentachlorophenol or other hazardous materials shall be allowed. Only appropriate preservatives approved for use in a marine environment are permitted.
2. Slips or other excavations shall require a letter of no effect from the State Historic Preservation Office before permit issuance.
3. Slips or other excavations will require appropriate sampling and disposal of materials as directed by the Corporation.
4. Fills are prohibited within the limits of an established floodway, flowage easement or flood plain, unless mitigation measures approved by the Corporation and all other appropriate state and federal agencies are included.

IV. APPENDIX A

APPENDIX A - DOCK ALONG CANAL



PLAN



(Limit of Canal Channel)

Bottom Angel

-- Canal --