

My name is Ryan Larrabee, I am a commercial fisherman who has fished Carlton Stream since receiving my first elver license. The fishermen who use Carlton stream are mostly from the Peninsula - but I have been fortunate to meet many Native American fishermen whose roots in traveling fisheries go back further than anyone in this room. Every year members of the Wabunaki tribes are represented among the fishermen at Carlton Stream.

Many of you are familiar with the pressures the commercial fishermen are currently facing. The Elver fishery represents something critical to surviving as a commercial fisherman - stock diversity. In my lifetime I have seen our local fleets lose access to groundfish & shrimp. I have seen drastically reduced access to herring & scallops. Having access to a strong spring fishery that has healthy stocks is non-existent in my world - the only exception is the Elver fishery. We all have a responsibility to support access points for commercial fishermen because of the impact on our local economy. My homeport for commercial fishing for lobster is in Stonington - and that is a community that can attest to the financial impacts of outside pressures being placed on the commercial fishing fleet.

If the town of Blue Hill does not add a requirement during this permit process to retain seasonal access for the commercial fishermen at Carlton Stream, our historical access is not guaranteed. I am asking this committee to require access for the Elver fishermen to be put in writing as a stipulation of this permit. I know that is an unusual ask, however a verbal agreement that access will stay only lives in the lifetime of the man speaking it, ^{now it's} By adding it as a stipulation to the subdivision, it means access is secured for generations to come.

I would also ask that the vulnerability of the marine ecosystem in the Salt Pond be a consideration when exploring the size of this development. As a personal principle, I don't stand in the way of progress or development. In this case, the Town of Blue Hill and Sedgwick has the responsibility of fully exploring the impact a development this size will have on that delicate marine ecosystem. An environmental impact study would answer many of these questions. I am not sure if that has been part of the application process, if it has - I would like to have a copy of that as a stakeholder. If it has not been a requirement, I would ask this committee to consider the potential far reaching liability of approving a project like this without requiring one. Governor Mills just released a summary of Climate change and its impact on the state of Maine. Marine impacts was a key point in this presentation. Any Environmental assessment should include the latest baseline data to ensure that it accounts for our changing Marine ecosystem.

In closing, I am asking for two things. Make seasonal access to Carlton stream a stipulation of granting this permit AND consider requiring an Environmental impact study before moving forward, if you have not already. Thank you.