



CHAMPLIN'S MARINA EXPANSION APPEAL

Since 2003 Champlin's Marina has been trying to nearly double the size of its marina. Through years of hearings before the RI Dept. of Environmental Management and the RI Coastal Resources Management Council, the Committee for the Great Salt Pond, the Town of New Shoreham, The Land Trust, and the BI Conservancy have worked together to defend the Great Salt Pond from this massive development proposal. Finally this past February, the RI Superior Court in a 70-page decision denied Champlin's latest appeal of the CRMC decision which rejected the original application.

Champlin's Marina has now asked the Rhode Island Supreme Court to take up the case and reverse the Superior Court's decision. This means that the case will now go to the formal briefing and argument stage. The CGSP and the other Island groups in opposition will get a briefing schedule after the Superior Court transmits the record to the Supreme Court. The most likely trajectory would see briefs done and argument in early 2021, with a Supreme Court decision by next July.

What is at stake is the potential expansion of Champlin's main dock some 200 feet out into the Great Salt Pond with an addition of 2,990 linear feet of fixed piers and 775 linear feet of floating docks which will almost double the present size of the marina and displace between 30 and 40 Town rental moorings in the Town's Mooring Field "E". Total marina expansion into the Great Salt Pond, including the marina perimeter limit, would be approximately 13 acres. Since these waters belong to the people of the State of Rhode Island, this application represents a massive taking of public land that is a violation of the public trust doctrine with a significant detrimental impact to the fragile environment of the Pond.

For donations to help defeat this appeal before the RI Supreme Court please visit our website: cgspblockisland.org, click the "Donate" button.

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the environmental quality of the Great Salt Pond, including its shorelines and wetlands, and to promote appropriate and productive uses of the Pond's resources by residents, visitors and local businesses.

FUNDING: Individual contributions, membership dues, special events, program grants. IRS 501(c)3 non-profit. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please consider becoming a member of The Committee for the Great Salt Pond. For information and details, visit our website at cgspblockisland.org.