

## **SECTION 1: PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to insure boater and public safety, provide for consensus among towns bordering the territorial waters of Damariscotta, and to balance the public's interest in the recreational, commercial, natural and cultural resources and other uses in Damariscotta's waters in the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay.

## **SECTION 2: AUTHORITY**

This Ordinance has been prepared under the authority granted to the Town by 38 M.R.S.A. § 1-§13, operation of vessels and 30-A MRSA, Chapter 141, § 3001 – 3012, home rule ordinance promulgation.

## **SECTION 3: APPLICATION**

This Ordinance applies in all tidal waters of the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay within the Town of Damariscotta.

## **SECTION 4: ADMINISTRATION**

Pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. § 2 through 7, the responsibility for administration of this Ordinance shall be as follows:

### **4.1 Damariscotta Harbor Committee (Harbor committee) Composition:**

- a. The Harbor Committee shall be comprised of three members.
- b. Upon enactment of this Ordinance, the Board of Selectmen shall designate three members of the public to serve on the Harbor Committee. One member shall have an initial term of office of one year. One member shall have an initial term of two years. One member shall have an initial term of three years.
- c. Thereafter, as normal terms of office expire, appointment to the Committee shall be for three year terms.
- d. The Committee shall annually (calendar year), at the first meeting after the Board of Selectmen has appointed any new members, elect a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary from among its own members. Those so elected shall take office at the close of the meeting and shall continue in office until the next annual election. If the chairman's position becomes vacant, the vice-chairman shall succeed to that position and a new Vice Chairman shall be elected.
- e. If any Committee member's position becomes vacant, a replacement shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve out the remainder of the vacating member's term.
- f. The Board of Selectmen can, at any time, remove a member, with or without cause and initiate replacement.

- g. If a vacancy occurs within three months of a normal term's expiration, the Board of Selectmen may either leave the position vacant for the remainder of the term or appoint a new member whose term will fulfill the remainder of the unexpired term.

4.2 Committee authorization:

- a. oversee and plan the general operation of the activities on and in the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay including defining channels and their boundary lines in harbors and waterways,
- b. provide guidance in assigning suitable portions of harbors and other coastal and tidal waters for anchorages, mooring districts, town docking facilities and aquaculture sites,
- c. establish regulations for uses of the waterways, navigation lanes, anchorage areas, town docking facilities and moorings districts,
- d. oversee the duties of the Harbor Master in the implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance.
- e. adopt written policies and procedures to facilitate administration of the Ordinance,
- f. make recommendations for balancing the enhancement of harbor facilities with the conservation of natural, cultural and aesthetic resources for the long-range benefit of all stakeholders,
- g. assure public participation in deliberations and recommendations to the Board of Selectmen with four meetings per calendar year, one each quarter, with all meetings open to the public and following due public notice.

4.3 The Harbor Committee may meet jointly with the Newcastle Harbor Committee to coordinate administration of Damariscotta and Newcastle's waters in the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay.

4.4 Damariscotta River Harbor Master:

A Harbor Master shall be appointed annually by the Selectmen and receive compensation set by the Selectmen. The Harbor Master shall not make arrests or carry a weapon.

The duties of the Harbor Master are to:

- a. determine acceptable water locations of uses to insure boater and public safety.
- b. administer and enforce the regulations of this Ordinance.
- c. assign mooring sites; conduct inspections, relocation and/or removal of moorings.
- d. exercise jurisdiction over all moorings in the Harbor District of the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay; create, update and maintain waiting lists for moorings.

- e. update annually charts for Harbor Committee review (available at the Town office) depicting Damariscotta River/Great Salt Bay Harbor Districts, navigation channels, hazard areas, moorings, anchorage areas, public docks, boat launch facilities, aquaculture sites and marine protected areas.
- f. perform other statutory duties and responsibilities as set forth in 38 M.R.S.A. § 1-§13, or mandated by federal statute.
- g. exercise jurisdiction over the entry of any vessel into the harbor districts.
- h. promote safety within the Harbor Districts.
- i. assist local, County, State and Federal authorities in the operation of the Harbor Districts.
- j. attend all Committee meetings and be a non-voting advisor to the Harbor Committee.

#### 4.5 Deputy Harbor Master(s)

The Town may appoint one or two Deputy Harbor Masters, set their compensation and describe their responsibilities. A Deputy Harbor Master is authorized to exercise the powers and duties of the Harbor Master subject to the provisions of this Ordinance under the direction of the Harbor Master.

#### 4.6 Selectmen

The Selectmen shall have the authority to approve wharves, docks, and floats in District 1. The decision of the Selectmen may be appealed to the Lincoln County Superior Court within the time period prescribed for such appeals in the Damariscotta Board of Appeals Ordinance.

#### 4.7 Appeals

The Damariscotta Board of Selectmen shall hear appeals of decisions, orders, rulings or actions taken by the Harbor Committee, Harbor Master and Deputy Harbor Master(s) following guidelines established by the Damariscotta Board of Appeals Ordinance.

### **SECTION 5: PLAN & REGULATIONS ON ALL USES**

A districting plan of designated Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay tidal waters within Damariscotta is established to implement the purposes of this Ordinance. The Plan consists of designated locations and the regulations governing marine activities within them.

5.1 The Harbor Master shall promulgate a Harbor Map in consultation with the Harbor Committee.

5.2 Establishment of Harbor Districts:

There shall be four Districts as depicted on the map and as follows (Note: for consistency all measurements of districts start at prominent points on the westerly side of the River on the Newcastle side. The Districts defined below are those portions of the River on the Damariscotta

side of the River defined as the portion of the River eastward of the boundary line between Newcastle and Damariscotta in the River as mapped). See Damariscotta River District Map adopted as a part of this Ordinance for detailed presentation of district boundaries:

- a. District 1: Inner Harbor - On the Damariscotta side of the Damariscotta River from the western-most point of Lewis Point, a line perpendicular to the centerline of the channel to the Newcastle shore downstream to the southern-most edge of Walker's Point (Jack's Point) defined by a line across the Damariscotta River to the southern-most edge of Belknap's Point.
- b. District 2: Lower Harbor – On the Damariscotta side of the river from the southern boundary of District 1 (Inner Harbor) downstream to a line connecting the southernmost points of the Newcastle's boundary to the Damariscotta boundary.
- c. District 3: Upper Harbor - On the Damariscotta side of the Damariscotta River from the western-most point of Lewis Point upstream to the narrowest point of the river heading into Great Salt Bay and the Marine Protected Area.
- d. District 4: Great Salt Bay – On the Damariscotta side of the water body beginning at the southerly boundary of the Marine Protected Area northerly to the Damariscotta Town boundary.

### 5.3 Navigation Channels

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) designates some navigation channels of the Damariscotta River (the River) and Great Salt Bay (the Bay). The Harbor Master and Harbor Committee shall designate additional channels pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. §2 for the safe and convenient passage of vessels. To obtain approval by the Harbor Master or Selectmen for docks and permanent structures in and on waters of the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay and applicant must first receive approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE). Moorings, docks and other structures are prohibited in navigation channels except as authorized by the Harbor Master or Selectmen.

### 5.4 Aquaculture Sites

The Harbor Committee or Harbor Master shall depict on maps and charts each Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) approved site and indicate type of activity conducted.

### 5.5 Moorings Districts, Anchorage Areas and Public Docking and Boat Launch Areas

The Harbor Committee, in consultation with the Harbor Master, the DMR, the USCG and other authorities shall designate on the map and charts: mooring districts, anchorage areas, public docks and boat launch facilities. The Committee and Harbor Master shall also determine the duration of anchorage allowed and other time limits for use of water facilities.

### 5.6 Special criteria for Approval of Wharves, Docks, and Floats in District.

Due to greater activity, safety conditions, and other factors, District 1 is considered a special boater and public safety area. Any person wishing to install or erect a wharf, dock, or float in District 1 shall make application to the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen shall consider special criteria for all proposed wharves, docks, and floats in District 1.

Within 30 days of receiving an application, the Selectmen shall give at least 3 days' public notice of the application in a newspaper, published in the town or Lincoln County, and shall designate in the notice a day and time on which they or their designee will meet on or near the premises described, to examine the same and hear all parties interested.

To approve a use in District 1, the Selectmen must make affirmative findings that:

- a. The proposed use will not adversely affect public safety due to the strong tidal currents in District 1 with special consideration of the currents caused by the Damariscotta-Damariscotta Bridge.
- b. The proposed use will not adversely affect public safety due to the eddy currents in District 1.
- c. The proposed use and configuration will provide for safe ingress and egress to and from the proposed use location and be designed to prevent accident and public harm.
- d. The proposed use will not adversely affect public access to the water and placement of moorings.
- e. The proposed use will not adversely affect public safety or convenient use of the channels of the District 1 due to the density and proximity of other uses.
- f. The proposed use complies with all other aspects of this ordinance.

If, following such examination, hearing of all parties interested, and in consultation with the Harbor Master, the Selectmen decide that such placement, erection or extension will not be an obstruction to navigation or injury to the rights of others, that all required affirmative findings are met, and determine to allow the same, they shall issue a license under their hands to the applicant, authorizing the applicant to make such an erection or extension, and to maintain the same within the limits mentioned in such license. The Selectmen shall, within 10 days after the date of hearing, give written notice by mail of their decision to all parties interested.

## **SECTION 6: MOORINGS, DOCKS, FLOATS & USES**

The Harbor Master is responsible for making all decisions on the location, equipment, duration and rules for acquiring, maintaining, adjusting and removing moorings as set forth below. While mooring gear is owned and maintained by the mooring site assignee; the sites themselves are owned by the State, with permitting and management delegated through the Harbor Committee to the Harbor Master. Mooring registration fees are collected by the Town from mooring applicants.

## 6.1 Mooring Assignment Permits

Mooring assignment permits are required for all moorings. Only one boat may be secured at a mooring at a time without prior approval of the Harbor Master. Unattended rafting is not permitted. Mooring assignment permits are not transferable. Applicants shall not rent the rights to use a mooring assignment permit without a separate permit from the Army Corps of Engineers allowing commercial rental of moorings and from the Harbor Master for a Commercial Mooring.

## 6.2 Mooring Assignment Application

- a. Applications are available at the Town Office.
- b. Each non-commercial mooring assignment application shall identify the vessel or vessels for which the applicant is requesting a mooring assignment permit. Only vessel owners may apply and receive non-commercial mooring assignment permits. The applicant must provide proof of ownership at the time of application. Completed applications shall be submitted to the Harbor Master for review and approval.
- c. Each commercial mooring assignment application shall identify the commercial enterprise requesting the mooring assignment, the purposes for which the mooring assignment shall be used, and the maximum vessel size indicated for the mooring assignment. Except in cases of emergency, securing a vessel to a commercial mooring that exceeds the maximum vessel size indicated on the approved permit shall terminate the applicant's mooring assignment permit. The applicant must provide an Army Corps of Engineers permit authorizing commercial use at the time of application. Completed applications shall be submitted to the Harbor Master for review and approval.
- d. Permit fees shall be paid in full at the time of submitting a Registration Application, either new or renewal. Permit fees may be changed from time to time as recommended by the Harbor Committee and approved by the Board of Selectmen. No applications will be processed until all related fees, excise taxes, charges, or penalties have been paid in full.

## 6.3 Vacant Moorings

Moorings that are vacant for more than one year become subject to removal following 14 days notice sent by first class mail to the applicant's address indicated on the mooring assignment permit application.

## 6.4 Mooring Assignments

Applicants will be assigned an appropriate mooring site by the Harbor Master on a first come – first serve basis pursuant to the priority guidelines of Section 6.6(a).

- 6.5 The Harbor Master shall have authority to approve or disapprove a mooring permit application and/or assigning a mooring location to a Commercial Marine Facility only after a public hearing is held on the application, attended by the Harbor Master and Harbor Committee. No mooring permit will be issued or renewed to a Commercial Marine Facility

nor will there be an assignment of a mooring location for a Commercial Marine Facility, unless all necessary Army Corps of Engineers permits have been obtained.

## 6.6 Waiting lists

When there are more applicants for a mooring assignment than mooring spaces available, the Harbor Master shall create and maintain a waiting list in accordance with Section ~~6(5)(a)~~ 6(6)(a). When a mooring space becomes available it shall be offered in accordance with Section 6(6)(a) to the first applicant on the list for which its configuration is appropriate for the dimensions and weight of the applicant's vessel.

### a. Priority Guidelines

Moorings shall be assigned in accordance with the sequential priority category list, but subject to the exceptions to priority allocation under 6.6(b).

Sequential Priority Categories are:

1. Shorefront owners with a request for locations immediately adjacent to frontage;
2. Resident commercial vessel owners;
3. Resident pleasure vessel owners;
4. Non-resident commercial vessel owners;
5. Non-resident pleasure vessel owners;
6. Vessel owners with multiple mooring locations.

### b. Exceptions to Sequential Priority Allocation

1. If less than 10% of all moorings are currently assigned to non-resident commercial applicants, then the next available space, if suitable, shall be offered to the first such applicant on the list;
2. If less than 10% of all moorings are currently assigned to non-resident pleasure vessel applicants, then the next available space, if suitable, shall be offered to the first such applicant on the list;
3. If neither non-resident commercial or non-resident pleasure vessel applicants currently constitute 10% of moorings assigned, then whichever has the lowest percent shall be offered the first available and suitable space; and
4. Shorefront owners applying for a mooring in front of their property shall not be placed on a waiting list but assigned a mooring space, based only on the suitability of the location, the ownership of a vessel and payment of the fee. If mooring space fronting their property is not suitable they may apply in the usual manner for mooring space in the designated mooring areas

## c. Waiting Lists

Applicants may decline a mooring space when offered without losing their position on the list. Waiting list positions may be retained from one year to the next by submitting a new application before April 1st of the following year. Applications not renewed shall be removed from the waiting list on that date.

## 6.7 Mooring Reassignment

Moorings may be reassigned only by the Harbor Master.

## 6.8 Mooring Tackle Standards

a. Minimum mooring weight and type shall be established on a boat by boat basis by the Harbor Master based on the location of the mooring, weight and type of boat.

<b>GRANITE BLOCK MOORINGS</b>	<b>BOTTOM CHAIN</b>	<b>TOP CHAIN</b>
500 LB GRANITE BLOCK-BOATS TO 1,000 LBS	½" CHAIN	3/8" CHAIN
1,000 LB GRANITE BLOCK-BOATS TO 2,500 LBS	5/8" CHAIN	1/2" CHAIN
2,000 LB GRANITE BLOCK-BOATS TO 7,000 LBS	¾" CHAIN	1/2" CHAIN
3,000 LB GRANITE BLOCK-BOATS TO 12,000 LBS	¾" CHAIN	5/8" CHAIN
4,000 LB GRANITE BLOCK-BOATS TO 24,000 LBS	¾" CHAIN	5/8" CHAIN

<b>MUSHROOM ANCHORS</b>	<b>BOTTOM CHAIN</b>	<b>TOP CHAIN</b>
50 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 250 LBS	½" CHAIN	3/8" CHAIN
75 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 400 LBS	½" CHAIN	3/8" CHAIN
100 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 800 LBS	½" CHAIN	3/8" CHAIN
150 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 1,500 LBS	5/8" CHAIN	1/2" CHAIN
200 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 2,500 LBS	5/8" CHAIN	1/2" CHAIN
250 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 4,000 LBS	5/8" CHAIN	1/2" CHAIN
300 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 8,000 LBS	¾" CHAIN	5/8" CHAIN
400 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 14,000 LBS	¾" CHAIN	5/8" CHAIN
500 LB MUSHROOM-BOATS TO 24,000 LBS	¾" CHAIN	5/8" CHAIN

b. All moorings must have adequate bottom chain to reach the surface at half tide for complete top chain inspection by boat.

c. All moorings in the Inner Harbor (District 1) must have enough scope for double the water depth at high tide due to limited swinging room.

d. Boats outside the Inner Harbor must have a scope of three times the water depth at high tide.

e. All moorings must be equipped with a mooring buoy adequate to support its mooring chain at high tide.

#### 6.9 Mooring Markings

Permitees shall conspicuously affix a buoy identification to their buoy stating the owner's name and mooring space number.

#### 6.10 Transient Moorings

The Town of Damariscotta may provide transient moorings within its territorial jurisdiction on the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay.

#### 6.11 Change or Addition of Vessel

A non-commercial mooring assignment is valid only for the vessel or vessels indicated on the current application and approved by the Harbor Master. If different or additional vessels are to be secured at a non-commercial mooring assignment a revised application must be submitted to the Harbor Master for approval prior to securing the new vessel. A resubmitted application does not trigger the waiting list or priority allocation regulations of this ordinance.

#### 6.12 Floats on Moorings

Floats, not to exceed 6 x 18 feet in dimension, may be allowed on moorings but require Harbor Master approval to determine mooring size requirements and adequate swinging room

#### 6.13 Boats on Moorings, Docks or Floats

a. Boats 12 feet or less in length, with the owner's name and telephone number affixed thereon, used to access vessels moored or anchored in one of the designated Harbor Districts may tie up on a continuing basis at certain floats designated by the Harbor Master. Such boats are to be tied by the bow only in designated areas.

b. A person shall not place moorings, docks, or floats in navigation channels or hazard zones. The Harbor Master shall treat moorings, docks, or floats in navigation channels or hazard zones as abandoned watercraft and may order the owner to remove said object.

#### 6.14 Inspection of Moorings

All moorings must be inspected. Inspection shall be the responsibility of the mooring assignee with documentation to the Harbor Master. The mooring gear that can be accessed above the water surface must be inspected annually by a Harbor Master approved mooring inspector. Mooring bottom gear inaccessible from a boat must be inspected every three years by an approved diver. An ongoing record of inspections is maintained by the Harbor Master. When

deficiencies are noted, the Harbor Master will issue a written statement to the mooring assignee with appropriate remedies and a time frame for completing them.

#### 6.15 Mooring fees

Mooring fees will be assessed on an annual basis by the Board of Selectmen with input from the Harbor Committee. Fees will be collected at the town office.

#### 6.16 Non-compliance

In response to non-compliance with any provision of this section, the Harbor Master or Deputy Harbor Master may deny a permit application, revoke a permit, or direct mooring tackle to be removed from Damariscotta waters at the owner's expense and be subject to all other penalties under this ordinance.

#### 6.17 Temporary Use of Moorings or Floats

Temporary use of a mooring by a vessel other than the permitted one is allowed for up to 14 days provided the temporary vessel is of the same or smaller size and weight as the permitted vessel. The Harbor Master must be notified of such use.

#### 6.18 Use of Floating Commercial Docks

Commercial floats and docks may be permitted by application to the Harbor Master or Selectmen, if governed by Section 5.5, with design plans that meet generally accepted float and dock construction standards that are approved by the Army Corps of Engineers, and in consideration of the following criteria and in conformance with all other provisions of this ordinance:

- a. Overall physical location of the proposed project.
- b. The number and size of floating docks.
- c. The method of attachment, anchoring, mooring or securing the float or dock.
- d. Impact on other uses near or adjacent to the proposed project.
- e. Geographic location and overall configuration of the proposed project.

Floats and docks shall be inspected and registered annually by the Harbor Master with a fee paid by the owner to the Town. Annual inspections, submitted to the Harbor Master, consist of examination of the general condition of the float and its mooring system or its attachment to shore, and if multiple floats, attachment to each other. If there is access for the public and/or patrons and the floats are attached to the shore or to constructed facilities, the annual inspection is to include gangway, handrails, accessible life rings, and all other equipment required to meet boater and public safety standards.

## 6.19 Non-conforming Uses of Moorings or Floats or Docks

### a. Operation of Moorings of Floats

The on-going use of a mooring, float or dock in existence before the effective date of this Ordinance that becomes a non-conforming use as a result of the adoption of this Ordinance may continue so long as it meets equipment standards of this Ordinance and its use is not substantially changed. Substantial changes, as determined by the Harbor Master include, but are not limited to, substituting a heavier or longer boat, changing the dimensions, weight, chains or other gear of the mooring, float or dock or changing the location of the mooring, float or dock. When a substantial change is proposed, the change shall conform to the regulations of this Ordinance. Nothing in this Subsection precludes the annual inspections of non-conforming moorings, floats or docks for above-water gear and tri-annual inspections for underwater gear. Nothing in this Subsection precludes the Harbor Master from imposing or enforcing requirements of use to protect the public safety upon non-conforming uses.

b. A vacated non-conforming mooring or float shall be removed by the assignee.

## **SECTION 7: NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES**

### 7.1 Aquaculture, Clamming, Worming and Commercial Fishing

Applicants for aquaculture licenses in the Damariscotta River, the Great Salt Bay in the Town of Damariscotta shall be subject to the regulations and procedures of MRSA Title 12, Chapter 605 §6072 and the Maine Department of Marine Resources. Commercial and recreational clambers, wormers and fishermen shall be subject to the regulations of MRSA Title 12, Chapter 605 §6072 and all pertinent local ordinances and regulations of Damariscotta ordinances.

### 7.2 Wildlife Conservation

- a. In administering this ordinance, the Harbor Master shall consider impacts to wildlife by referring to existing wildlife documentation including, but not be limited to, inventory and information sources available through Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and the Maine Natural Areas Program. The Harbor Master shall also consult with local experts such as the Damariscotta River Association (DRA) and the Darling Marine Center regarding impacts on wildlife.
- b. The Harbor Master shall specifically consider impacts or potential impacts to critical wildlife habitat such as areas important to the migration of fish and other aquatic species, wildlife corridors, horseshoe crab spawning grounds, alewife migratory movements, eel grass beds, bird colonies and eagle nesting sites and any site or area associated with endangered, threatened or rare species.
- c. In siting moorings, floats, docks and other marine facilities and uses, the Harbor Master shall consider the impact on existing protected lands which serve the public through

water access, boat access, beach access, shore fishing, recreational mussel picking and other recreational fishing areas, kayaking and other recreational boating areas.

### 7.3 Historic and Archeological Resources

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) has identified prehistoric and historic archeological sites below the high water line of the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay. The Harbor Committee and Harbor Master shall cooperate with the MHPC in reviewing any conservation measures consistent with MHPC regulations within the designated harbor districts of Section 5. The Harbor Committee and Harbor Master shall cooperate with the MHPC in reviewing development proposals with structures located below the high water line when a MHPC permit is required.

## **SECTION 8: MARINAS**

### Marina Requirements

Consistent with the requirements administered by the Town Planning Board, the application, review and consideration for approval of moorings, slips, floats and floating docks of marinas shall be based on the requirements of Sections 5, 6 and 7 of this Ordinance.

### 8.2 Moorings and Shoreside Vehicle Parking

Marina owners shall provide no less than one parking space for each mooring or slip rental space. Parking spaces shall be provided for new marinas and expansions of existing marinas. Parking spaces and aisle width dimensions shall be as specified in the Town's Site Plan Review Ordinance regarding parking layout and design.

## **SECTION 9: ABANDONED WATERCRAFT, FLOATS, BOUYS, MATERIALS AND FISH SHANTIES**

### 9.1 Prohibition

No person shall abandon or cause to be abandoned any watercraft, fish shanty or related equipment or appurtenances within the waters of the Damariscotta River or Great Salt Bay in the Town of Damariscotta.

### 9.2 Presumption

Watercraft, floating docks, moorings, rafts and any other gear in the waters of the Damariscotta River and Great Salt Bay within the Town of Damariscotta without registration or an approved permit by the Harbor Master or another State or Federal agency shall be declared abandoned.

### 9.3 Procedures

Upon determining that watercraft, floating docks, moorings, rafts or other gear has been abandoned pursuant to Section 9.2, the Harbor Master shall take possession of such item and

shall make reasonable efforts to identify and notify the owner. If the Harbor Master deems an abandoned item to be a nuisance, a threat to navigation or a safety hazard, it may be impounded until compliance with all procedures pursuant to 25 M.R.S.A. §3501-3507 have been met. All expenses and fines pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. §12, and the net proceeds of any auction, shall accrue to the Town.

## **SECTION 10: HARBOR USE REGULATIONS**

- 10.1 Operators of all watercraft will adhere to established and posted 'No-Wake' zones and speed limits.
- 10.2 No water skiing or "tubing" will be allowed in the Inner harbor/District 1.
- 10.3 Boat size and tie-up time limits and location at Town Landings shall be observed. This information shall be posted at Town Landings.
- 10.4 Operators shall observe all regulations of the Marine Protection Act in District 4, The Great Salt Bay.
- 10.5 Illegal Operations
- a. No overnight anchoring is allowed in District 1. No unattended daytime anchoring is allowed in District 1.
  - b. Whoever operates any watercraft, however propelled, on or in waters of Damariscotta, (1) recklessly, (2) in a manner which endangers any person or property, or (3) while intoxicated or under the influence of any narcotic drug, barbiturate or marijuana shall be guilty of a Class E crime as provided in M.R.S.A. 38 §13.
- 10.6 Excessive noise from watercraft may be regulated by the Harbor Committee or the Harbor Master pursuant to 12 MRSA §13068-A, Subsection 10.

## **SECTION 11: POLLUTION CONTROL**

- 11.1 Except in case of emergency imperiling life or property or unavoidable accident, collision or stranding, no person shall discharge or suffer or permit the discharge of sewage, garbage, trash or other refuse of any kind, by any method, means or manner into or upon the Town of Damariscotta, docks, floats or the waters of the Damariscotta River or Great Salt Bay.
- 11.2 No person shall establish a live-aboard use unless (1) the vessel has established and identifiable access to property that has shoreline on the Damariscotta River or Great Salt Bay which is equipped with wastewater pump-out facilities; (2) sewage holding tanks attached to each marine toilet; and (3) the vessel's sewage system shall not be equipped with "Y" valves to enable overboard discharge.
- 11.3 No person shall establish a live-aboard use for more than fourteen (14) days on any type of watercraft, float, or dock within the Harbor Districts without prior approval of the Harbor

Master. Any live-aboard use longer than 14 days constitutes a continuing live-aboard use. Any live-aboard use 14 days or less shall constitute a temporary live aboard use.

- 11.4 Upon request from the Harbor Master, a person maintaining a live-aboard use shall provide proof of each of the elements listed in 11.3 to the Harbor Master's satisfaction.

## **SECTION 12: SHORELINE PUBLIC ACCESS**

- 12.1 To insure that the town landing facilities of the Town of Damariscotta are available for use by the general public, the Town's docks and floats shall be used only for loading and unloading as posted.
- 12.2 Boats 12 feet or less in length and used exclusively to access vessels moored or anchored in one of the Harbor Districts may tie-up on a continuing basis at specific sides of certain floats designated by the Harbor Master for that purpose.
- 12.3 Swimming and recreational fishing from town landings are permitted provided they do not cause litter, disturb the peace or interfere with the docking, loading or unloading of vessels. The public shall use town landings at their own risk.
- 12.4 EQUIPMENT: No person shall place or maintain on town landing facilities any boats, barrels, boxes, gear, traps, pots, nets, sails, equipment or any other materials longer than necessary for the prompt loading or unloading of the same, subject to the exception stated in 12.2.
- 12.5 TYING TO PUBLIC FLOATS: No person shall leave any vessel tied to the ends or fronts of any public float of the Town of Damariscotta for any purpose, including fueling, loading or unloading of supplies, for longer than the posted period except for emergencies or with the approval of the Harbor Master.
- 12.6 BLOCKAGE OF PUBLIC RAMPS/FACILITIES: No person shall place or cause to be placed any vessel, boat cradle, trailer, vehicle or other object on a town ramp, dock/wharf, parking lot or other town harbor facility in such a way that it blocks or impedes access by other users.
- 12.7 BAIT: No person shall place or maintain on public facilities any fish or other bait, except for immediate delivery to a vessel ready to receive same, without written permission from the Harbor Master and or the Town of Damariscotta.

## **SECTION 13: ENFORCEMENT**

- 13.1 It shall be the duty of the Damariscotta Harbor Master to enforce the provisions of this ordinance and the watercraft laws of the State of Maine on the jurisdictional waters of Damariscotta. If he finds that any party is violating the provisions of this ordinance, he shall notify in writing the person responsible for such violation, indicate the nature of the violation and order the action necessary to correct such violation.

13.2 The Damariscotta Harbor Master and his deputies shall conduct on-site inspections to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and conditions attached to permit approvals. The Damariscotta Harbor Master shall also investigate all complaints of alleged violations of this Ordinance.

13.3 When the above action does not result in the correction or abatement of the violation or nuisance condition, the Damariscotta Harbor Master with approval of the Selectmen or the Selectmen on their own motion may institute any and all actions and proceedings including holding hearings, imposing fines, or seeking court ordered imposition of injunctions or fines that may be necessary to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance in the name of the municipality.

#### **SECTION 14: VIOLATIONS**

14.1 A person is guilty of failure to obey an order of the Harbor Master or Deputy Harbor Master if the person fails to obey any lawful order of the Harbor Master authorized by this Ordinance pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. Chapter 1. Failure to obey an order of a Harbor Master is a Class E crime and subject to imprisonment and/or fines to be recovered on complaint by the Harbor Master before the District Court.

14.2 A person may also be subject to fines and injunctive action under this ordinance pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. § 4452.

#### **SECTION 15: APPEALS**

15.1 Authority

The Damariscotta Board of Selectmen shall hear an appeal by any aggrieved person affected directly or indirectly by a decision, order, rule, act or failure to act by the Harbor Committee, the Harbor Master or her/his deputies.

15.2 Procedure

In hearing and administering appeals, the appellant and the Board of Selectmen shall be subject to all the requirements of the Damariscotta Board of Appeals Ordinance.

#### **SECTION 16: CONFLICT OF REGULATIONS**

Whenever a specific provision of this Ordinance conflicts with or is inconsistent with another specific provision of this Ordinance, or of any specific provision of any other ordinance, regulation or statute administered by the municipality or State, the more restrictive specific provision shall control.

#### **SECTION 17: SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, clause, phrase or word of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of any other section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Ordinance.

## **SECTION 18: EFFECTIVE DATE AND POSTING**

18.1 The effective date of this Ordinance is (June 10, 2009).

18.2 A copy of this Ordinance certified by the Town Clerk shall be retained in Town files.

## **SECTION 19: AMENDMENT**

This Ordinance may be amended by majority vote of the registered voters of the Town.

## **SECTION 20: DEFINITIONS**

In general all words and terms used in this Ordinance shall have their customary dictionary meanings. More specifically, certain words and terms are defined below as they are used in this Ordinance.

**Anchoring.** To secure a vessel to the bottom within a body of water by dropping an anchor(s) or other ground tackle, which is carried aboard a vessel when underway as regular equipment.

**Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) Permit.** Permit issued by the Army Corps of Engineers that is required for floats, rental moorings and commercial moorings.

**Channel.** Areas of the Harbor kept open for navigation or other purposes by rule or regulation of the Town of Damariscotta, the Damariscotta harbor Master, the Harbor Committee, the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard, or other regulatory or legislative body.

**Commercial Vessel.** Watercraft that generate income by their use and operation.

**Dock.** A permanent platform contiguous with the shoreline used to berth, load and unload vessels including piers and wharves.

**Float.** A movable floating platform that in the normal course of its use is secured to a dock or mooring and not designed for self propelled navigation.

**Live-Aboard Use.** The residential use of watercraft, floats, or docks

**Marina.** A shorefront facility providing one or more of the following services: boat berthing, boat launching, boat storage, boat repair and servicing, sale of marine supplies and/or fuel, sale and/or servicing of marine equipment and accessories, and wastewater pump-out facilities.

**Mooring.** All equipment and methods used to secure a watercraft to a specific location on the water, other than those that are connected to the shore.

**Commercial mooring.** A mooring assigned to a commercial enterprise involved in sales, service, storage, construction, repair or operation of vessels for hire or used to moor watercraft which are serviced by the business or used as a maneuvering device for leaving or entering a berth, which may be used by a suitable sized vessel with the permission of such commercial enterprise to which the mooring is assigned.

**Non-commercial mooring.** Any mooring that is not a commercial mooring.

**Transient mooring.** Town designated mooring for temporary use by visitors.

**Mooring Assignment.** A specific location on, in, and under the waters governed by this ordinance, selected by the Harbor Master, for placement of mooring gear and tackle to allow a vessel to be secured to that location through the use of a mooring.

**Mooring Assignment Permit.** A permit required for use of a specific mooring assignment, granted by the Harbor Master pursuant to this ordinance.

**Non-resident.** For the purposes of this Ordinance, a non-resident is a person who resides in town less than 180 days in a calendar year.

**Rafting.** The act of securing one vessel to another, or the act of allowing two vessels to remain secured to each other.

**Rental mooring.** Mooring site assigned to an individual or business, the use of which is rented or leased.

**Resident.** For purposes of this Ordinance, a resident shall mean any person who resides in the Town of Damariscotta more than 180 days in a calendar year.

**Shall and May.** 'Shall' is mandatory; 'May' is permissive.

**Shorefront owner.** An owner of a parcel of land located in the Town of Damariscotta that borders upon the waters governed by this Ordinance.

**Watercraft.** Any mobile floating apparatus.

**Wharf.** See Dock.