

Stanley M. White, P.E., D.PE, D.CE
47 Front Street
Noank, CT 06340

21 February 2011

State of Connecticut
General Assembly Environmental Committee
Room 2A
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut

Reference: Mystic River Vessel Speed Limit, Committee Bill 5300: Environment Committee
Public Hearing February 24, 2011

Dear Committee Members:

Due to my work schedule I am unable to attend the hearing. I am requesting that this letter be entered into the record.

I am in full support of Committee Bill 5300. However, it needs to be expanded slightly.

I have a boat on a mooring in the Mystic River, at the northern end of the Noank Special Anchorage (see attached aerial photograph). Vessel speeds and excessive wakes are extremely dangerous, especially in the anchorage. I have voiced my concerns over the past few years to the CTDEP Marine Police, Mystic Harbor Management Committee and the Harbor Master.

A large percentage of boats traveling up and down stream in the Mystic River leave the channel and traverse the Special Anchorage. This creates a very dangerous condition with boats cutting into and out of the channel between Nun #20 and #22. To compound the blind entrance into the channel, many of these boats are traveling at excessive speeds and kicking up large wakes.

During the summer of 2010 the Mystic Harbor Management Committee did relocate the northern "No Wake" buoy closer to the Mystic River Channel (however, I had suggested moving the buoy close to Nun #22 which would have been more effective). But little benefits were seen.

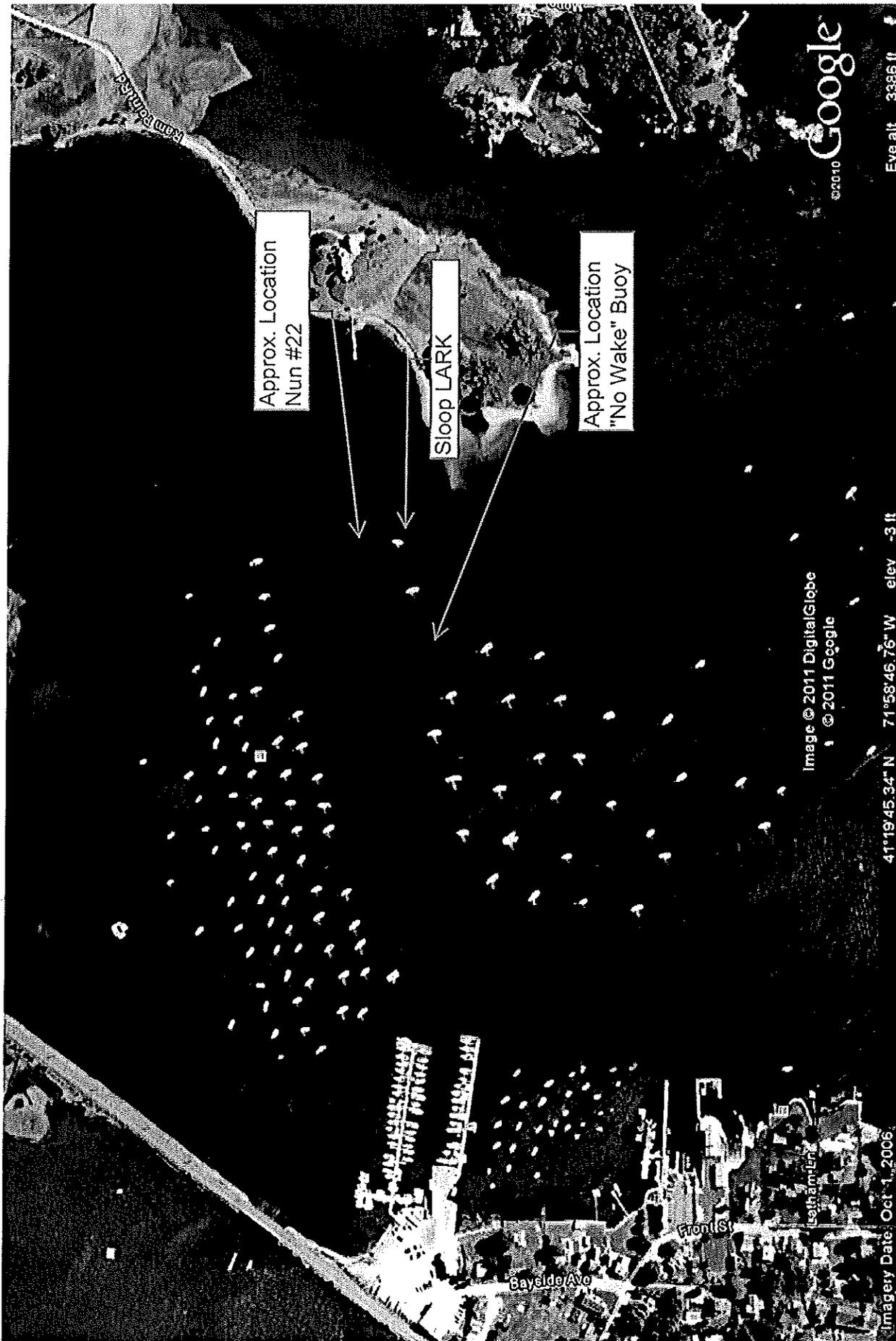
The Bill only identifies "... while within two hundred feet of, any wharf, pier or dock ..." as areas of concern. The Bill wording needs to be modified as follows: "... while within two hundred feet of, any wharf, pier, dock or special anchorage ..." in order to protect those of us who use and maintain vessels and moorings in the Mystic River. The passage of the Bill will require education AND enforcement (which has been lacking).

Thank you for your hard work and I look forward to seeing this important Bill enacted before the 2011 boating season.

Sincerely yours,



Stanley M. White



Mystic River, North End Noank Anchorage