

**State of Wisconsin**  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
3911 Fish Hatchery Rd.  
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Tony Evers, Governor  
Karen Hyun, Ph.D., Secretary  
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**IP-WC-2026-32-00837**

Michael Marcou  
2608 Thomas St  
La Crosse, WI 54603

RE: Boathouse Repair Certification Exception for a boathouse on Black River in the City of La Crosse, La Crosse County

Dear Michael Marcou,

The Department has examined the proposed maintenance and repair of your boathouse, Marcou Boathouse #36 on the Black River located in the NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Section 30, Township 16N, Range 07W, City of La Crosse, La Crosse County.

The proposed work consists of the following.

Coulee Region Docks will be contracted for the following repairs:

- Replace existing boat house undercarriage, removing all barrels and updating to steel frame with undermount floats.
- Replace existing two spud poles and add a third, either the same size as current or increasing to 12" diameter.
- Replace the decking with composite decking product.

The applicant will do the following repairs:

- Re-shingle the roof.
- Replace siding on boathouse with similar vinyl siding.
- Replace the door on the water side.
- Replace boards on the catwalk.

The initial work will be the undercarriage, decking and spud poles, planned for Summer 2026. The siding, shingles, and door work are planned for 2027. New boards for the catwalk would be completed in 2028.

The applicant does not anticipate any soil disturbance that will require erosion control measures.

Dredging will not be needed.

A dumpster will be placed on the gravel parking pad for demolition and construction waste. Care will be taken to keep demolition and construction waste out of the waterway.

The structure's footprint will not change.

Section 30.121, Wis. Stats., allows an exception to the 50% maintenance and repair limitation for all existing boathouses that were in existence on December 16, 1979. Your boathouse is verified as meeting this exception. Your proposed work must meet the certification exception conditions below and may proceed as planned.

### **CERTIFICATION CONDITIONS**

1. You must notify Sarah Bogen at phone (608) 516-6026 or email [sarah.bogen@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sarah.bogen@wisconsin.gov) at least 5 days before starting construction and again not more than 5 days after the project is complete.
2. This certification exception **expires on 4/16/2029**. If the repairs are not completed by then, you must apply for an extension prior to the expiration date, or a new application for repair certification must be submitted.
3. This approval allows only repairs to the boathouse which are specifically described in your application and does not authorize any other work in the waterway which may require a permit under ss. 30 or 31, Wis. Stats.
4. This certification exception does not authorize any work other than what you specifically describe in your application and plans, and as modified by the conditions of this certification exception. If you wish to alter the project or certification conditions, you must first obtain written approval of the Department.
5. You are responsible for obtaining any permit or approval that may be required for your project by local zoning ordinances or by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers before starting your project.
6. Upon reasonable notice, you shall allow access to your project site during reasonable hours to any Department employee who is investigating the project's construction, operation, maintenance, or certification compliance.
7. The Department may modify or revoke this certification if the project is not completed according to the terms of the certification, or if the Department determines the activity is detrimental to the public interest.
8. You must **post a copy of this certification exception at a conspicuous location** on the project site, visible from the waterway, for at least five days prior to construction, and remaining at least five days after construction. You must also have a copy of the approved plan available at the project site at all times until the project is complete.

9. Your acceptance of this certification exception and efforts to begin work on this project signify that you have **read, understood, and agreed** to follow all conditions of this certification exception.
10. You must submit a series of photographs to the Department, within one week of completion of work on the site. The photographs must be taken from different vantage points and depict all work authorized by this certification.
11. You, your agent, and any involved contractors or consultants may be considered a party to the violation pursuant to s. 30.292, Wis. Stats., for any violations of s. 30, Wis. Stats., or this certification.
12. All repairs and maintenance may not affect the size, location, or configuration of the boathouse.
13. Repair and maintenance may not include any change in roof pitch or addition of decks, walkways, railings, or other architectural features.
14. Decks, walkways, railings, or piers that are permanently attached to the boathouse are part of the boathouse and subject to repair certification.
15. This structure shall be used for the storage of watercraft and associated materials and cannot be converted to allow permanent or temporary human habitation.
16. An exception certification must be obtained each time you wish to make repairs.
17. You must prevent any construction materials from being deposited into any surface waters.

Dated at the Fitchburg Wisconsin DNR office on April 16, 2026.

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
For the Secretary

BY:



Sarah Bogen  
Water Management Specialist

Email CC:

Brock Tokach, City of La Crosse Zoning  
WDNR Conservation Warden  
Waterways/Wetlands file  
Alison Masek, WDNR