

**NATIONAL HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ACT OF 2000  
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**

**Butler Flats Light  
New Bedford Channel / Acushnet River  
City of New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts**

**May 15, 2012**

The light station property (“the Property”) described on the attached sheet has been determined to be excess to the needs of the United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security. Pursuant to the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000, 16 U.S.C. 470 (NHLPA), the Property is being made available at no cost to eligible entities defined as Federal agencies, state and local agencies, non-profit corporations, educational agencies, or community development organizations for educational, park, recreational, cultural or historic preservation purposes.

Any eligible entity with an interest in acquiring the Property for a use consistent with the purposes stated above should submit a letter of interest to the address listed below by sixty (60) days from the date of this Notice by close of business on Monday, July 16, 2012.

Letters of interest should include:

- Name of Property
- Name of eligible entity
- Point of contact, title, address, phone and email
- Non-profit agencies must provide a copy of their state-certified articles of incorporation

Eligible entities which submit a written letter of interest will be sent an application from the United States Department of the Interior and given an opportunity to inspect the Property. Building inspectors and/or contractors may accompany the applicant on the site inspection. The completed application must be submitted to the Department of the Interior within ninety (90) days from the date of the Federal Government’s scheduled site inspection. The Department of Interior will review applications and may select a steward to receive the Property. No submerged lands shall be conveyed in the quitclaim deed.

Pursuant to Section 309 of the NHLPA, the Property will be sold if it is not transferred to a public body or non-profit organization.

For more information on the NHLPA, see <http://www.nps.gov/maritime/nhlpa/nhlpa.htm>.


**Letters of interest should be sent to:**

**U.S. General Services Administration  
Real Property Utilization and Disposal Division (1PZ)  
10 Causeway Street, Room 1010  
Boston, MA 02222  
Attention: Sara Massarello ([sara.massarello@gsa.gov](mailto:sara.massarello@gsa.gov))**


**with a copy sent to:**

**Brona Simon, State Historic Preservation Officer & Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Blvd.  
Boston, MA 02125**

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<b>GSA Control No.</b>	1-X-MA-0871
<b>Property Identification</b>	Butler Flats Light (“the Property”)
<b>Address</b>	Located in New Bedford Channel at the mouth of the Acushnet River, offshore from the City of New Bedford, County of Bristol, Massachusetts.  Coordinates: Latitude: 41.603894 Longitude: -70.894505
<b>Description</b>	<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> <div style="flex: 2; padding-left: 10px;"> <p>The Property was constructed in 1898, and consists of a 53-foot high brick and cast iron sparkplug-style tower resting on a caisson foundation. There are four (4) levels including two (2) watch decks, a basement and three (3) floors of living space that are approximately 37-feet in diameter with 15-foot head clearance. There is approximately 1091 usable sq ft.</p> <p>There is no sound signal.</p> <p>The Property is accessible by boat only. It is an active Private Aid to navigation operated by the City of New Bedford, New Bedford Harbor Commission (“the City”). The ATON equipment is owned by the City and includes an LED- optic operated by solar panels and batteries.</p> </div> </div> <p><i>Photo courtesy of Jeremy D'Entremont</i></p>
<b>Condition of Property</b>	The Property is offered “AS IS’ and “WHERE IS” without representation, warranty, or guarantee as to quality, quantity, title, character, condition, size or kind.
<b>Range of Possible Uses</b>	Under the NHLPA, the Property may be obtained for educational, park, recreational, cultural, or historic preservation purposes.
<b>Commercial Activities</b>	Commercial activities are prohibited unless approved by the Secretary of the Interior.
<b>Historical Information</b>	Listed on the National Register of Historic Places (#87001528), the Property must be maintained according to the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation. Historic covenants will be incorporated into the deed.  The Light was designed by Francis Hopkinson Smith.
<b>Utilities</b>	None, except for an underwater cable, owned by the US Coast Guard (USCG), under License #2264, from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. USCG may assign said License to the Selected Steward.
<b>Current Tenant / Licensees</b>	The City has a license to use the Property as a historic site and operate a Private ATON (USCG License #: DTCG-Z71250-83-RP-009L). The City manages the Property and

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	<p>the ATON. License expires September 30, 2013.</p> <p>University of Massachusetts has a license to install, maintain and operate an autonomous telemetered instrument to collect water quality data (USCG License #: DTCG-Z51283-04-RP-002L). License expires September 30, 2014.</p> <p>USCG has a license to lay and maintain a submarine power cable and telephone (MA License #2264), from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“the Commonwealth”). Said License may be assigned to the Selected Steward in coordination with the Commonwealth.</p>
<b>Aid to Navigation (ATON)</b>	<p>USCG decommissioned the ATON in 1978, but retained ownership of the Property.</p> <p>ATON equipment located on the Property is owned by the City. ATON includes, but is not limited to the optic, solar panels and batteries. Since 1979 the City has owned, maintained and operated the ATON equipment under USCG License, per 33 CFR Sec. 66.</p> <p>Selected Steward may choose to (a) negotiate an agreement with the City in order that the City will continue to own, operate and maintain the private ATON; (2) apply with USCG to operate a private ATON itself through a process separate from NHLPA, or (3) decide to not have an active private ATON at the Property.</p> <p>The Property has an arc of visibility requirement of 360 degrees if the private ATON remains active.</p> <p>There is no sound signal located on the Property.</p>
<b>Environmental Information</b>	<p>Due to the age of the Property, asbestos containing materials and lead-based paint may be present.</p>
<b>Submerged Lands</b>	<p>Under NHLPA, no submerged lands shall be conveyed.</p>
<b>Response due date</b>	<p>Please respond to GSA within 60 days from the date of this Notice of Availability (NOA).</p>
<p><b>Access/Inspection</b></p> 	<p>Not open to the public. Best view is from East Rodney French Boulevard in New Bedford; or from the New Bedford-Martha’s Vineyard Ferry. An on-site inspection for eligible applicants only will be arranged by the General Services Administration (GSA) in cooperation with the City after the 60-day screening period is completed.</p> <p>A Waiver of Liability must be signed with GSA in advance</p>

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	<p>in of the onsite inspection. Contact 617-565-7736 or email: <a href="mailto:sara.massarello@gsa.gov">sara.massarello@gsa.gov</a> with any questions.</p>
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