



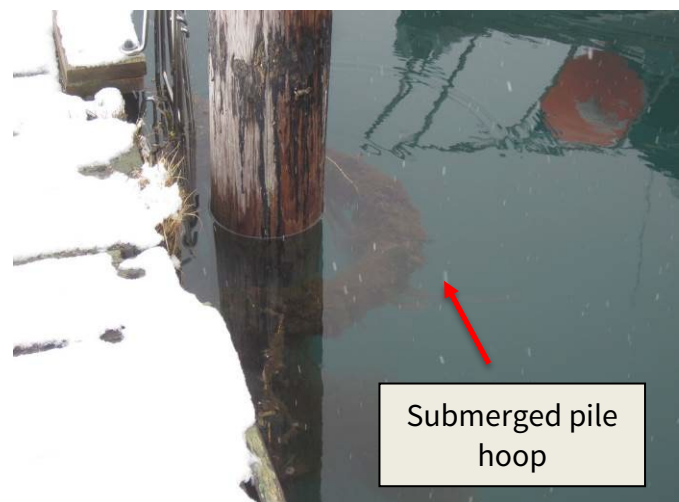
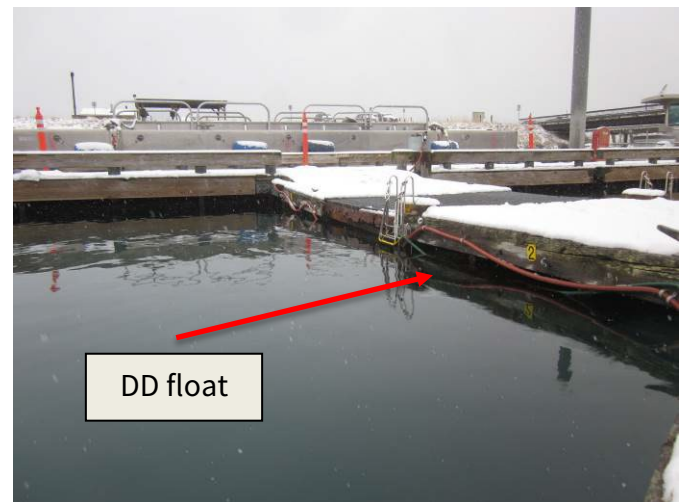
MEMORANDUM

Ordinance 25-33, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska, Amending the FY25 Capital Budget by Appropriating \$45,000 From the Port Reserves Fund for the Purpose of Installing Air Filled Floats to Refloat DD Float in System Four. City Manager/Port Director.

Item Type: Back Up Memorandum
Prepared For: Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
Date: March 26, 2025
From: Bryan Hawkins, Port Director
Through: Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager

The DD float system, one of the original harbor floats built in 1964, is at risk of failure due to a significant loss of flotation and concerns over the integrity of its pile hoops, due to being submerged in the water developing rust. My concern is that if the Homer area experiences a normal winter with heavy snowfall, the float may sink under the additional load. Furthermore, the pile hoops securing the float are submerged, making them vulnerable to failure in strong winds. Ice buildup could also cause them to freeze to the pilings and break off during tidal changes. Without action, DD float could become unsafe and may have to be condemned, 36 annual stall permit holders would be displaced into an already overburdened transient moorage space.

Staff proposes refloating DD float by using air-filled flotation (see attached manufacturer image below), a method recently and successfully used on AAA float. This process involves buying purpose built air flotation tanks from a float manufacture. Staff will fill the tanks with water until they become neutrally buoyant. We will



A photograph of a harbor scene with several boats docked at a pier. A red arrow points to a small, dark, rectangular object floating in the water, labeled 'DD float' in a white box.

Submerged pile hoop

Given the condition of the float and the potential impact of its failure, staff recommends proceeding with the air filled flotation repair as the most reliable solution. Approval of a \$45,000 budget is requested to complete the project.

Recommendation: Homer City Council approve Ordinance 25-33 amending the FY25 budget by allocating \$45,000 for the purchase of air filled floats in order to refloat DD float.

