# NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 12/22/2016

Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FOR CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Steve Cooper
FOR CLEARANCE OFFICER: Jennifer Jessup

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken action on your request received 08/17/2016

ACTION REQUESTED: Extension without change of a currently approved collection
TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular
ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201608-0648-003
AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:
TITLE: National Estuaries Restoration Inventory
LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved without change
OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0479
The agency is required to display the OMB Control Number and inform respondents of its legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

EXPIRATION DATE: 12/31/2019 DISCONTINUE DATE:

| BURDEN: | RESPONSES | HOURS | COSTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| Previous | 31 | 103 | 14 |
| New | 15 | 60 | 4 |
| Difference | | | |
| Change due to New Statute | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Change due to Agency Discretion | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Change due to Agency Adjustment | -18 | -43 | -10 |
| Change due to PRA Violation | 0 | 0 | 0 |

TERMS OF CLEARANCE:

OMB Authorizing Official: Howard Shelanski
Administrator,
Office Of Information And Regulatory Affairs

| List of ICs | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| IC Title | Form No. | Form Name | CFR Citation |
| National Estuaries Restoration Inventory - entry of new projects into database | NA | National Estuaries Restoration Inventory - Inventory Fields | |
| Update existing projects in database | NA | National Estuaries Restoration Inventory - Inventory Fields | |

# PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

**Please read the instructions before completing this form. For additional forms or assistance in completing this form, contact your agency's Paperwork Clearance Officer. Send two copies of this form, the collection instrument to be reviewed, the supporting statement, and any additional documentation to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.**

1. Agency/Subagency originating request
DOC/NOAA/NMFS/HC

2. OMB control number b. [ ] None
a. 0648 - 0479

3. Type of information collection (*check one*)
a. [ ] New Collection
b. [✔] Revision of a currently approved collection
c. [✔] Extension of a currently approved collection
d. [ ] Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired
e. [ ] Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired
f. [ ] Existing collection in use without an OMB control number
For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions

4. Type of review requested (*check one*)
a. [✔] Regular submission
b. [ ] Emergency - Approval requested by ____/____/____
c. [ ] Delegated

5. Small entities
Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? [ ] Yes [✔] No

6. Requested expiration date
a. [✔] Three years from approval date b. [ ] Other Specify:____/____

7. Title National Estuaries Restoration Inventory

8. Agency form number(s) (*if applicable*)

9. Keywords

10. Abstract

Collection of estuary habitat restoration project information (e.g., location, habitat type, goals, status, monitoring information) will be undertaken in order to populate a restoration project database mandated by the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000. The database is intended to provide information on restoration methods, provide the basis for required reports to Congress, and track estuary habitat acreage restored. Estuary habitat restoration project information will be submitted by habitat restoration project practitioners through submission of project information to the NOAA Estuary Habitat Program manager. Project summaries will be accessible to the public via internet for projects funded by the Estuary Habitat Restoration Program.

11. Affected public (*Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"*)
a. ___ Individuals or households d. ___ Farms
b. x Business or other for-profit e. X Federal Government
c. P Not-for-profit institutions f. X State, Local or Tribal Government

12. Obligation to respond (*check one*)
a. [ ] Voluntary
b. [ ] Required to obtain or retain benefits
c. [✔] Mandatory

13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden
a. Number of respondents 15
b. Total annual responses 15
1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically 100 %
c. Total annual hours requested 60
d. Current OMB inventory 103
e. Difference (43)
f. Explanation of difference
1. Program change
2. Adjustment (43)

14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden (*in thousands of dollars*)
a. Total annualized capital/startup costs 0
b. Total annual costs (O&M) 0
c. Total annualized cost requested 0
d. Current OMB inventory 0
e. Difference 0
f. Explanation of difference
1. Program change
2. Adjustment

15. Purpose of information collection (*Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"*)
a. X Application for benefits e. P Program planning or management
b. P Program evaluation f. X Research
c. ___ General purpose statistics g. ___ Regulatory or compliance
d. ___ Audit

16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting (*check all that apply*)
a. [✔] Recordkeeping b. [ ] Third party disclosure
c. [✔] Reporting
1. [✔] On occasion 2. [ ] Weekly 3. [ ] Monthly
4. [ ] Quarterly 5. [ ] Semi-annually 6. [✔] Annually
7. [ ] Biennially 8. [ ] Other (describe) ____

17. Statistical methods
Does this information collection employ statistical methods
[ ] Yes [✔] No

18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission)
Name: Julia Royster
Phone: (301) 427-8686

## 19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal Agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9

**NOTE:** The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

(a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;

(b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;

(c) It reduces burden on small entities;

(d) It used plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;

(e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;

(f) It indicates the retention period for recordkeeping requirements;

(g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):

- (i) Why the information is being collected;
- (ii) Use of information;
- (iii) Burden estimate;
- (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, mandatory);
- (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
- (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;

(h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of instructions);

(i) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and

(j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of the provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

| Signature of Senior Official or designee | Date |
|---|---|
| | |

| Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Line Office Chief Information Officer, head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or StaffOffice) | |
|---|---|
| Signature<br>signed by Carrie Selberg, Deputy Director for Pat Montanio, Director of Habitat Conservation | Date<br>8/17/2016 |
| Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer | |
| Signature<br>BRABSON.SARAH.1365710488<br>Digitally signed by BRABSON.SARAH.1365710488<br>DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=DoD, ou=PKI, ou=OTHER, cn=BRABSON.SARAH.1365710488<br>Date: 2016.12.27 15:08:13 -05'00' | Date |

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**
**NOAA RESTORATION CENTER PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**
**OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0479**

## A. JUSTIFICATION

### 1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.

This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection.

The Estuary Restoration Act (ERA) of 2000 (Act) was signed into law in November 2000 and makes restoring our nation's estuaries a national priority by leveraging limited federal resources with state, local, and private funding. As part of the Act, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is required to develop and maintain a database of estuary restoration projects. The purpose of the database is to provide information to improve restoration methods, provide information for reports transmitted to Congress (Section 108(b)), and track the acres of habitat restored. Project information collected and maintained is made available to the public through project summaries. The database contains project information for projects funded through the ERA that meet quality control requirements and data standards established under the Act. This information collection is a requirement only for those parties receiving ERA funds. The submission of estuary restoration project information for projects not funded through ERA is optional and any submissions must meet ERA project requirements for the database.

### 2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used. If the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support information that will be disseminated to the public, then explain how the collection complies with all applicable Information Quality Guidelines.

The information collected is used to track estuary habitat restoration project success and to improve restoration methods. The information collected by the database may be used by Restoration Center staff and the ERA Work Group for reports transmitted to Congress, briefings to the ERA Council, as well as responses to other inquiries for data. Reports to Congress take place every two years. Reports to Congress consist of an overview of the status of the database and information on the acres of habitat restored, monitoring, and database maintenance efforts. Database project data, e.g., sum of acres restored, may be used in presentations at ERA Council meetings. The information will also be used to respond to requests for information by upper level NOAA management, other federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and members of the public. The information contained in the database is accessible to the public via summary reports on the ERA website (http://www.era.noaa.gov. Parties receiving ERA funds are required to submit information for entry into the database. A summary of the questions asked for the database is below. Data entry is optional for all other parties with projects eligible to be submitted to the database.

The information collection by the database consists of:
(a) General Information – Basic project information such as project title, whether the project is funded by the ERA and if not, whether it meets the specific requirements to be counted as an

ERA project, a topic sentence describing the project, the current status of the project including the implementation start and completion dates and the size of the project. In addition, this area identifies specific questions for ERA-funded projects such as the primary partner, lead federal agency, date of the funding agreement, and whether the project qualifies as an innovative technology project, which is defined by the Estuary Restoration Act.
(b) Abstract – a detailed description of the project with background about the site, historic impacts to the site, project information, and additional information about partners, acres restored, timeline, etc.
(c) Contact Information – basic details necessary to identify and contact project managers such as name, title, address, organization, city, state, zip code, phone and fax numbers, e-mail, and URL for websites.
(d) Geographic Location – details on the physical location of the project site including city, county, state/territory/province (for Canadian projects), region, zip code, Unites States Geological Survey (USGS) Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC), longitude, latitude, USGS topographic quadrangle, congressional district, and whether a GIS layer is available for the project boundary.
(e) Project Benefits – details on expected benefits of the restoration project including descriptions of benefits (e.g., species, habitat, ecosystem, and/or economic), whether the benefit has been achieved, and additional comments.
(f) Habitat Types and Acreage Restored– a listing of habitat types restored as well as number of acres restored (by acres created, re-established, or rehabilitated) and benefited (acres enhanced or protected) for each habitat type, as well as stream miles (the linear extent of rivers and streams that is made accessible for diadromous and migratory fish passage), and methods used for obtaining acreage and stream mile values. The method for obtaining acreage and stream miles is an important field because it helps to determine the reliability of a reported value.
(g) Restoration Techniques – list of techniques used in the project. Descriptions of each technique and its success are also provided to highlight the benefits and pitfalls of using various restoration methods.
(h) Monitoring and Success Criteria – list of monitoring parameters used in the project. Detailed monitoring information will also be provided including monitoring frequency, methods, start and end dates, as well as success criteria used for determining project success.
(i) Regional Restoration Plans – title, date, lead organizations, URL, and type of restoration plan that the project contributes to.
(j) Partners Information– details on support (e.g., planning, funding, technical assistance) provided by other organizations including partner name, type of partner, and URL.
(k) Budget Information– project support provided by Federal and non-Federal entities as well as the original proposed cost estimate for the project, and the final actual cost of the restoration. This information will allow restoration practitioners to compare the costs of project implementation and how actual costs exceed projections.
(l) Photos and Videos – Images showing the progress of the project such as before, during, and after pictures of the restoration. Each image will contain a caption, credit, and date. These pictures will be used for dynamic project web pages that will be available on the database website. Once the submission has been reviewed for quality control by the NOAA Estuary Habitat Restoration Program manager, the information is made available to the public on-line through the database website. Therefore, the Section 515 Information Quality Guidelines apply to this information collection and comply with all applicable information quality guidelines, (i.e., OMB, Department of Commerce, and NOAA guidelines).

The information collected undergoes a quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) process prior to being disseminated to the public for queries and reports. Each individual project is reviewed by database administrators prior to being made available to the public. Data is currently limited to projects funded through a subset of existing Federal programs that have been incorporated into the application, as well as those to be submitted voluntarily by project proponents. Therefore, much of the data is not completely generated by NOAA, but originates from the project manager or another Federal database. A description of the data collection, information sources, QA/QC, and dissemination processes, as well as an overview of data sources and limitations will be made available upon request.

NOAA Fisheries will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information. See response to Question 10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. As described above, prior to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to Section 515 of Public Law 106-554.

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques or other forms of information technology.**

The collection of information for the database now involves paper or a fillable word form instead of web-based data entry forms, as maintaining the web-based data entry option previously available was no longer cost-effective. Methods of submittal include email of electronic forms, mail, and facsimile transmission of paper forms. Restoration practitioners submit information to be entered into the database from Federal, State, local and tribal governments, not-for-profit institutions, and other entities across the country. Restoration practitioners may have different levels of technical expertise. The data entry form is posted on the ERA website with a comprehensive on-line user's guide, a data dictionary, specific instructions, and examples. Restoration practitioners use personal computers to access the data entry form and then must print it for submission. The information collected is made available in summary reports on the ERA Web site.

The PRA statement, with the OMB Control Number, expiration date, and additional information about the collection, is available for respondents on both the Word form, as well as the database website. To obtain project coordinate information (longitude and latitude), restoration practitioners may choose to use hand-held Global Positioning Systems (GPS) or numerous on-line mapping applications. Users are requested to state how acreage and stream mile measurements were obtained (e.g. GPS, land surveys, aerial photography) in the data entry form.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.**

NOAA Fisheries' Restoration Center maintains an existing database of restoration projects that is used to track projects funded and implemented by the Restoration Center. Restoration Center staff using materials from progress reports and direct conversations with restoration practitioners populates this database. A separate Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) request for the Restoration Center's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) is approved under Office of

Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number 0648-0472 (current extension expires 10-31-2018). This request requires recipients of CRP funding to provide information regarding the status and success of funded projects in the form of periodic performance reports and final reports. The information is used to populate the Restoration Center's existing database, the Restoration and Conservation Database (RCDB).

Estuary Habitat Restoration Program projects within the RCDB meet the project requirements for the ERA database. Therefore, relevant data fields from the Restoration Center's database are copied into the ERA database on a regular basis to avoid duplication of effort and unnecessary burden to respondents. The ERA database information request is a similar request for information but since it is a different program, it does not encompass the same projects or the same data fields as the CRP request. Therefore, a separate request is needed for the ERA database.

**5. If the collection of information involves small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.**

Small entity respondents are not-for-profit entities. Only recipients of Estuary Habitat Restoration Program funding are **required** to submit project information. A pre-formatted word document of the data fields is provided to assist in the collection of information prior to being entered into the database. Specific instructions and definitions for data fields are also provided on the data entry form. Technical support is also available via e-mail. The information to be collected is very basic and should not be a burden for small entities receiving ERA funding to produce.

**6. Describe the consequences to the Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.**

If the information collection is discontinued, the Estuary Habitat Restoration Program's ability to consistently and precisely account for the expenditure of federal funds for estuary habitat restoration activities under the ERA or to validate Government Performance and Results Act 'acres restored' and other agency performance measures, and provide timely responses to Freedom of Information Act requests will be inhibited. There will also be no means to respond to Congressional inquiries in a rapid, accurate, efficient, and cost-effective manner if the information collection is not conducted or conducted less frequently..

**7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.**

Not Applicable.

**8. Provide information on the PRA Federal Register Notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

A Federal Register Notice published on April 25, 2016 (81 FR 24054) solicited public comment on this information collection. No comments were received. No comments were received in response to the Federal Register Notice, except those submitted directly to NOAA Federal Program Officers (see below).

Members of the Estuary Habitat Restoration Program Working Group, which consist of other federal agencies such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency, have provided input on how to improve the information collection and efforts have been made to incorporate the majority of these suggestions into the application. Most of these suggestions involved formatting changes to remove less critical data elements that reduce data entry burden on respondents.

Recently, NOAA contacted members of the Estuary Habitat Restoration Program Working Group requesting additional feedback on the ERA database and information collection, with all respondents stating support for the database overall. Respondents concurred that instructions were clear and information was easily accessible and searchable on the ERA website. Data entry is voluntary for organizations which do not receive ERA funding; therefore respondents reasoned the database offered a snapshot of information and is not a comprehensive collection of all agencies' estuarine restoration efforts. Respondents agreed with our estimation; stating the burden of time to maintain a project record in the ERA database to be reasonable.

**9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

No payments or gifts will be provided to respondents.

**10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

The information collection does not request any proprietary or confidential information. No confidentiality is provided.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.**

No information of a sensitive nature is collected.

**12. <u>Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information</u>.**

The three-year burden for this collection is estimated to be 40 hours (annualized to 13 hours). However, it should be noted that data collected for the database is intended to provide information to restoration practitioners throughout the country, including those entering the data. Therefore, the burden of data collection is expected to be offset (and in some cases exceeded) by the benefits accrued to restoration practitioners from having access to a national database for project tracking and data queries.

NOAA expects between 1-5 new awards to be made in fiscal years when funding is available. Funded respondents will be required to submit an initial project data form and project updates every year following until project monitoring has been completed. Using these assumptions for projects and assuming that one project is entered or updated by a single respondent, NOAA estimates that in year one of the next three years, up to 5 new projects will be entered into the database. In year two, an additional 5 projects will be entered into the database and an existing 10 projects will be updated. In year three, another 5 projects will be added to the database and an existing 10 projects will be updated. Annualizing over three years (5, 5 + 10, 5 + 10), there would be 15 respondents and responses per year. For new projects, the total response time per project is estimated at four hours: approximately three hours spent collecting project information and writing the project abstract and one hour for entering information into the project entry data form. For projects that are already in the database and are being updated, the total response time per project is estimated at two hours: 1 hour and 30 minutes for collecting new project information and 30 minutes to update the information in the project entry data form. Assuming approximately 5 new projects being entered into the database each year and 10 existing projects updated each year, the annual burden would be 40 plus 20, or 60.

Collection totals include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, and gathering and maintaining project information (photos, press releases, partner contributions, volunteer hours, tracking of multiple project sites, etc.) needed to answer project questions that awardees should have readily available, and the one-time need to use a GPS or internet URL to determine latitude and longitude coordinates of project sites. Totals also include time to complete (fill out) the information collection tool. Respondents are limited to those organizations that have received funding through the Estuary Habitat Restoration program.

**13. <u>Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in Question 12 above)</u>.**

No capital or start-up costs are expected to result from this collection by the respondents. Any need for the purchase of a computer, software, or supplies required for project implementation, or for monitoring and data entry, are included as part of the grant request. Operations and maintenance costs are expected to be limited to writing reports and maintaining financial records; these too are included as part of the grant request. There are no costs for submission of reports, as they can be submitted by email to NOAA's Estuary Habitat Program manager. It is expected that existing computer equipment and Internet connections will be used by respondents at little to no additional cost.

It is expected that no more than two of the 15 annual respondents will use facsimile transmission or mail to submit paper data forms. It is estimated half of those respondents will use mail, resulting in a $0.49 burden (1 respondents x $0.49 per stamp), and the remainder of those respondents will use facsimile transmission, resulting in a $3.00 burden (1 respondent x 3 pages x $1.00 per page). The overall annual burden to respondents is estimated to be $3.49 ($4).

**14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.**

One full-time employee (FTE) will devote approximately 10% of his/her time annually for oversight, reporting, QA/QC, and data imports. One contractor will devote 5% of his/her time to implement changes to maintain web links and support GIS and database applications. With an annual average salary of $100,000 for an FTE at 15% time ($10,000), and an annual salary for a contractor of $100,000 at 5% time ($5,000), the annualized cost to the Federal government to conduct this information collection is estimated to be $15,000. No significant equipment, overhead, printing or other costs should be involved with the processing of this information collection.

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.**

Since the 2013 submission, our estimate has been revised from 31 respondents to 15, with a corresponding decrease in hours. Based on the funding stream and status of the program, 15 is a more realistic estimate.

**16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.**

The results of this collection will not be published. A subset of the information is however made available to the public on the Restoration Center's Restoration Atlas at https://restoration.atlas.noaa.gov/src/html/index.html, where the public can view projects by location or habitat type, see the project location on a map, and review an abstract of the project including funding information, project partners, and a contact for more information.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.**

Not Applicable.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.**

Not Applicable.

## B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection does not employ statistical methods.

# National Estuaries Restoration Project Entry Form Fields

OMB Control No. 0648-0479

Expiration Date: 08/31/2016

Please answer the following questions for your restoration project. For assistance on any of the fields, please see the project entry form instructions.
***(*required field)***

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**1. What is the name of this project?** *
Note: Name should be a short, descriptive title that includes the specific location of the project and type of restoration being implemented.

_____

**2. What type of project is this?** *

__ Funded under the Estuary Restoration Act (ERA)
__ Compensatory (required by state or federal law)
__ All other restoration projects.

**3.** Provide a topic sentence(s) summarizing this project. *

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

**4.** Does this project include monitoring to gauge the success of restoration efforts? *
__ Yes
__ No

**5.** Does this project's monitoring plan meet ERA Council Monitoring Standards? *

__ Yes
__ No

**6.** If monitoring data or monitoring reports are available on the web, please provide a URL (web address).

_____

**7.** What is the status of this project? * (Select One):
__ Planning Stage
__ Implementation Stage
__ Implementation Complete
__ Project Terminated

**8.** Provide the dates for each stage of this project as it occurs. *
Note: For projects in the planning stage, provide estimated implementation stage start date.

Actual implementation start date: _____(MM/YYYY)
Implementation completion date: _____(MM/YYYY)

*****Questions for ERA-funded projects only: *****

**9.** What is the size of the area which was/will be directly manipulated in acres?

_____(Acres)

**10.** What is the overall size of the area being monitored?

_____(Acres)

**11.** How were the measurements in questions 9 & 10 obtained (e.g. aerial photography, GIS, land surveys, etc)?

_____

_____

**12.** Provide the name of project's non-federal sponsor.

_____

**13.** Provide the name of the lead federal agency. Select One:

__ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
__ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
__ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
__ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
__ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
__ Department of Transportation (DOT)

**14.** Provide the date of the ERA funding agreement.

_____(MM/YYYY)

**15.** Has this project qualified as an innovative technology project as defined by the Council's Strategy?

__ Yes
__ No

If yes, please briefly describe the innovative technology.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

**16.** Provide the ERA project number. _____

## ABSTRACT *

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Provide information for up to two primary project contacts.

**NOTE:** Contact information may be displayed on-line in project queries and reports. If you do not wish to share your information, please leave the field blank. *If you are adding another person to the contact list, make sure they are aware that their information may be available on-line*."

### 1. Information for Contact 1*

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Position Title: _____

Office: _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State/Territory/Province: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Agency/organization/project Web site address: _____

### 2. Information for Contact 2

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Position Title: _____

Office: _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State/Territory/Province: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Agency/organization/project Web site address: _____

## GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

1. Where is this project located?

State/Territory/Province: *_____

County/Parish: *_____

City: *_____

Tribe: _____

Region* (see map in Help page):_____

Zip Code (+4 if known): _____

USGS 8-digit HUC: _____

Latitude/Longitude (center of project site in decimal degrees to a minimum of four decimal points):

X coordinate* (longitude)_____

Y coordinate* (latitude)_____

USGS Topographic Quadrangle:_____

Congressional District: *_____

2. What method was used to obtain the latitude and longitude for the project site (e.g. GPS, Topographic map, website)? If known, please also provide the datum.

_____

_____

3a. Is there a GIS data layer (polygon) showing the boundaries of the area (to be) restored?

__ Yes __ No

3b. If yes and GIS contact is not listed as the primary project contact, please provide:

Contact first name_____Contact last name _____

Contact phone number_____Contact e-mail _____

## BENEFITS

Please provide information on this project's expected and realized species, habitat, ecosystem, and socio-economic benefits.

| **1. Project Benefits*** (see Instructions) | **2. Description of benefit** | **3. If implemented, has this benefit been achieved?** | **4. Comments** |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | __ Yes<br>__ No<br>__ Not yet known | |
| | | __ Yes<br>__ No<br>__ Not yet known | |
| | | __ Yes<br>__ No<br>__ Not yet known | |
| | | __ Yes<br>__ No<br>__ Not yet known | |

## HABITAT TYPES AND ACREAGE RESTORED

Please provide information on the habitat types which have been restored and/or will be restored by this project. Since a given project may restore multiple habitat types, please provide information for each habitat type restored.

**Habitat types and acreage restored:**

| 1. Habitat Type Restored* (see Instructions) [1] | 2. Tidal influence of habitat type: | 3. Specifically describe this habitat type (e.g. comments on tidal influence, photic/aphotic, location in estuary, etc.) | 4. Estimated acreage to be restored: * | For acres already restored, indicate how many acres were: | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 5. Restored* | | | 6. Benefited (not counted toward million acre goal) | |
| | | | | Created | Re-established | Rehabilitated | Enhanced [2] | Protected [2] |
| | __ inundated<br>__ intertidal<br>__ not applicable | | | | | | | |
| | __ inundated<br>__ intertidal<br>__ not applicable | | | | | | | |
| | __ inundated<br>__ intertidal<br>__ not applicable | | | | | | | |
| | __ inundated<br>__ intertidal<br>__ not applicable | | | | | | | |

NOTES:

[1] For projects providing fish passage, please provide acreage information for habitat actually restored (e.g. via stream channel, restructuring, placement of woody debris, best management practices, etc.), AND for entire stream area opened to fish migration (this information can be provided at the end of this section).

[2] Acres reported in the "Enhanced" and "Protected" categories should not duplicate acres reported in the "Restored" category. If the same project acreage has been enhanced or protected as well as restored, report those acres only in the "Restored" category.

7. What method (e.g. aerial photography, GIS, land surveys) was used to determine the number of acres reported above as created, re-established, rehabilitated, enhanced and/or protected?

_____

_____

### *** In-Stream (fish passage) projects only ***

8. If this project provided fish passage, how many stream miles were opened to anadromous fish?

_____ (Miles)

9. For the stream miles reported in #8 above, please provide an estimate of the acres (based on surface area) made accessible to anadromous fish.

_____ (Acres)

## RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

Please list the restoration techniques used in this project.

| **1. Restoration technique(s)*** (see Instructions) | **2. Description of Technique** (e.g. materials used, plant spacing) | **3. Success of this technique** | **4. Comments on success** |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | __ Very successful<br>__ Somewhat successful<br>__ Not successful<br>__ Not yet known | |
| | | __ Very successful<br>__ Somewhat successful<br>__ Not successful<br>__ Not yet known | |
| | | __ Very successful<br>__ Somewhat successful<br>__ Not successful<br>__ Not yet known | |
| | | __ Very successful<br>__ Somewhat successful<br>__ Not successful<br>__ Not yet known | |

## MONITORING AND SUCCESS CRITERIA

Please list the parameters and success criteria that were used in monitoring this restoration project.

| **1. Monitoring Parameter*** (see Instructions) | **2. Description** (e.g. methods, frequency, etc.) | **3. Monitoring start date** (MM/YYYY) | **4. Monitoring end date** (MM/YYYY) | **5. Quantitative Success Criteria** (e.g. water depth > x for x hours/day) | **6. Have the success criteria been met?** | **7. Comments on success criteria** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | __ Not yet known<br>__ All<br>__ Some<br>__ None | |
| | | | | | __ Not yet known<br>__ All<br>__ Some<br>__ None | |
| | | | | | __ Not yet known<br>__ All<br>__ Some<br>__ None | |
| | | | | | __ Not yet known<br>__ All<br>__ Some<br>__ None | |

NOTE: Submit monitoring results and reports to the NOAA Estuary Habitat Restoration Program manager. Results should include the project objectives, how the project area changed after restoration, and a prediction of the ability of the project to continue its success trend. If the project was not successful in meeting its objectives, please describe what will be done to improve the success of the project.

## REGIONAL RESTORATION PLANS

If this project is being carried out in support of an existing regional restoration plan, please provide the following plan information:

| 1. Plan Name | 2. Lead Organizations | 3. Type of Plan (select one) | 4. Date (MM/YYYY) | 5. Plan URL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | _ Business/industry<br>_ Federal<br>_ Local government<br>_ Multistate/regional<br>_ Nonprofit<br>_ State/territory/ province<br>_ Other | | |
| | | _ Business/industry<br>_ Federal<br>_ Local government<br>_ Multistate/regional<br>_ Nonprofit<br>_ State/territory/ province<br>_ Other | | |

## PARTNER INFORMATION

Add the following information for project partners:

| 1. Project Partner* | 2. Type of Partner * (select one) | 3. Partner web site | 4. Additional information for partner |
|---|---|---|---|
| | _ Federal<br>_State/Territory/Province<br>_ Local Government<br>_ Tribal<br>_ Non-profit<br>_ Academic<br>_Business/Industry<br>_ Private Citizen | | |
| | _ Federal<br>_State/Territory/Province<br>_ Local Government<br>_ Tribal<br>_ Non-profit<br>_ Academic<br>_Business/Industry<br>_ Private Citizen | | |
| | _ Federal<br>_State/Territory/Province<br>_ Local Government<br>_ Tribal<br>_ Non-profit<br>_ Academic<br>_Business/Industry<br>_ Private Citizen | | |
| | _ Federal<br>_State/Territory/Province<br>_ Local Government<br>_ Tribal<br>_ Non-profit<br>_ Academic<br>_Business/Industry<br>_ Private Citizen | | |

## BUDGET INFORMATION

1. Provide the original proposed project cost estimate.

_____

2. Of the total cost estimate, how much will go toward project monitoring?

_____

3. List amount(s) for all applicable funding sources according to Project Phase (Planning, Construction, or Monitoring):

| Project Phase | Federal | | | Non-Federal | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Planning | Cash | In-Kind | Lands, etc. | Cash | In-Kind | Lands, etc. |
| Construction | Cash | In-Kind | Lands, etc. | Cash | In-Kind | Lands, etc. |
| Monitoring | Cash | In-Kind | Lands, etc. | Cash | In-Kind | Lands, etc. |

4. If desired, provide additional information on the project budget below (e.g., operations and maintenance costs, specifics on in-kind contributions, etc.):

_____

_____

*** * *Question for ERA-funded projects only: * * ***

5. If project implementation is complete, provide the total actual cost (planning and implementation only) for this project.

_____

## PHOTOS and VIDEOS

You may submit up to 5 pictures of your National Estuary Restoration project and 5 videos. These photos will be used in on-line project profiles that will appear on the web once your project has been approved. For each photo, please provide the following information:

| 1. Photo File Name | 2. Date of Photo (MM/YYYY) | 3. Photo Credit | 4. Photo Caption | 5. Child in Photo (Y/N) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
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**NOTICE**

Responses to this collection are required of grant recipients to support the Estuary Restoration Act. Collection of estuary habitat restoration project information will be undertaken in order to populate a restoration project database mandated by the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000. The database is intended to provide information to improve restoration methods, provide the basis for required reports to Congress, and track estuary habitat acreage restored. Estuary habitat restoration project information will be submitted by habitat restoration project managers through submission of project information to the NOAA Estuary Habitat Restoration Program manager. Project summaries will be accessible to the public via internet for projects funded by the Estuary Habitat Restoration Program.

Responses to this information collection are required to retain funding provided by the Estuary Restoration Act (ERA) and optional for projects that are not funded through the ERA but meet project requirements set forth in the Minimum Monitoring Data Standards. *Confidentiality will not be maintained – the information will be available to the public*. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average four hours for new responses and two hours to update existing responses in the database, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation, Restoration Division, F/HC3, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

The information collected will be reviewed for compliance with the NOAA Section 515 Guidelines established in response to the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, and certified before dissemination.

# National Estuaries Restoration Project Entry Form Instructions

**Estuary**

Part of a river or stream or other body of water that has an unimpaired connection with the open sea (based on natural convergence patterns versus manmade structures and obstructions), and where the sea water is measurably diluted with fresh water from land drainage. As defined by the *Estuary Habitat Restoration Strategy 2012*, estuaries are considered to extend from the head of tide to downstream terminus features such as barrier islands, reefs, sand bars, mud flats, or headlands in close proximity to the connection with the open sea. Under the *Estuary Restoration Act*, riparian and nearshore areas adjacent to the drowned mouths of streams entering the Lakes area also considered estuaries.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

This section tracks general information about the project status, implementation dates, and project size. ***= required***

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | ***1. What is the name of this project?** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Short, descriptive project title that includes the specific location of the project and type of restoration being implemented. |
| ***Examples*** | James Harbor Salt Marsh Restoration |
| ***Question*** | ***2. What type of project is this?** (select one)<br>__ Funded under the Estuary Restoration Act (ERA)<br>__ Compensatory (Required by state or federal law)<br>__ All other projects |
| ***Description of Field*** | Select one from "Funded under the Estuary Restoration Act", "Compensatory" (required by state or federal law), or "None of the above". |
| ***Examples*** | Funded under the ERA |
| ***Question*** | ***3. Provide a topic sentence(s) summarizing this project**: |
| ***Description of Field*** | ➢ 1-2 sentence project description summarizing project goals and restoration activities to be completed. The summary is limited to 50 words. Include a unique fact or measureable outcome (e.g., special benefit to endangered species, recreation/fishery; special technique; and climate change related). |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Examples*** | Example 1: The Virginia Institute of Marine Science restored approximately 40 acres of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV). The project involved casting seeds rather than sprigs, which is a more cost effective way to re-establish SAV habitat.<br><br>Example 2: Tide-gate modification and *Phragmites* eradication restored 12 acres of salt marsh habitat within the James Harbor estuarine system. |
| ***Question*** | ***4. Does this project include monitoring to gauge the success of restoration efforts?** (select one)<br>__ Yes __ No |
| ***Description of Field*** | Select "yes" or "no". Projects must have a monitoring plan to be included in the database. |
| ***Examples*** | Yes |
| ***Question*** | ***5. Does this project's monitoring plan meet ERA Council Monitoring Standards?** (select one)<br>__ Yes __ No |
| ***Description of Field*** | Select “yes” or “no”. |
| ***Examples*** | Yes |
| ***Question*** | **6. If monitoring data or monitoring reports are available on the web, please provide a URL (web address):** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Provide a URL where monitoring data can be accessed if available. |
| ***Examples*** | http://www.monitoringdata.com |
| ***Question:*** | ***7. What is the status of this project?** (select one)<br>__ planning stage<br>__ implementation stage<br>__ implementation complete<br>__ project terminated |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Planning Stage** | Secured funding commitment with planning/design activities taking place. No on-the-ground restoration activities have begun. |
| | **Implementation Stage** | On-the-ground restoration activities have begun (e.g. construction, planting, etc.). |
| | **Implementation Complete** | On-the-ground implementation activities such as major construction and planting are completed. Project monitoring, adaptive management, and other project management activities may be ongoing. |
| | **Project Terminated** | Project has stopped before completion due to problems with project implementation (e.g., loss of funding, failure to secure permits). |
| ***Description of Field*** | NOTE: The project status should correspond to the dates given below and should be updated as the project progresses. "Terminated" projects may be included in the database only in name. | |
| ***Examples*** | Implementation complete/monitoring ongoing | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **8. Provide the dates for each stage of this project as it occurs. Note: for projects in the planning stage, provide estimated implementation stage start date.**<br>Planning stage start date: *(month and year)*<br>*Actual implementation start date: *(month and year)*<br>**Implementation complete date: *(month and year)* | |
| ***Description of Field*** | **Planning stage start date:** | Provide the date that project planning began. |
| | ***Actual implementation start date:** | Actual start date for on-the-ground restoration activities in format mm/yyyy.<br><br>Projects implemented after November, 2000 can be entered in the database for informational purposes. |
| | ****Implementation complete date:** | Start date for monitoring and maintenance activities (i.e., completion of implementation stage/primary on-the-ground restoration activity). |
| ***Examples*** | Planning stage start date: 05/2001<br>Actual implementation start date: 03/2002<br>Implementation complete date: 03/2002 | |

## *** QUESTIONS FOR ERA-FUNDED PROJECTS ***

This section is only required for projects receiving Estuary Restoration Act funds.

NOTE: All fields are required**

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **9. What is the size of the area which was/will be directly manipulated in acres?** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Specific area (in number of acres) where on-the-ground restoration occurs. This area may be smaller than the entire area restored e.g., the area of dam removal (versus entire upstream area opened to migratory fish). |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Examples*** | 5 acres |
| ***Question*** | **10. What is the overall size of the area being monitored in acres?** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Area in acres where monitoring occurs. This area should be greater than or equal to the area reported as restored in the Habitat Types and Acreage Restored section. |
| ***Examples*** | 12 acres |
| ***Question*** | **11. How were the measurements in questions 9 & 10 obtained?** (e.g. aerial photography, GIS, land surveys, etc.) |
| ***Description of Field*** | Techniques used for measuring quantity of acres manipulated and monitored. (text field 250 character limit) |
| ***Examples*** | Autonomous GPS, Differentially Corrected GPS, Geodetic Quality GPS, GPS with Wide-Area Augmentation Service Correction, LORAN-C Navigational Device, Cadastral Survey, Digital Map Interpolation, Digital Aerial Photography With Ground Control, Satellite Imagery With Ground Control, Manual Map Interpolation, Manual Aerial Photography With Ground Control, Zip Code Centroid |
| ***Question*** | **12. Provide the name of project's non-federal sponsor:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Name of the non-federal organization that applied for and accepted Estuary Restoration Program assistance for this project through the USACE or NOAA. |
| ***Examples*** | Chesapeake Bay Foundation |
| ***Question*** | **13. Provide the name of the lead federal agency:** (select one)<br>__ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)<br>__ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)<br>__ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)<br>__ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)<br>__ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) |
| ***Description of Field*** | Federal agency sponsoring project. Select one from the list above. |
| ***Examples*** | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) |
| ***Question*** | **14. Provide the date of ERA funding agreement:** *(enter month and date)* |
| ***Description of Field*** | Date ERA funding agreement was signed. Formatted MM/YYYY |
| ***Examples*** | 10/2003 |
| ***Question*** | **15. Has this project qualified as an <u>innovative technology</u> project as defined by the Council's 2012 Estuary Habitat Restoration Strategy?** (select one)<br>__ Yes__ No |
| ***Description of*** | For ERA-funded projects only: Select "yes" or "no". |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Field*** | An innovative technology project uses a new process, technique, or material; an existing processes, techniques, or materials in a new application or habitat type; and not just in a new region. Innovative projects are selected by the ERA Council and therefore are eligible for up to an 85% federal cost-share for the incremental cost of including such technology in the project. |
| ***Examples*** | Yes |
| ***Question*** | **If yes, please describe the innovative technology:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Description of the innovative technology used in the project, including methods and materials (250 word limit) |
| ***Examples*** | A porous, organic baffle will be used to reduce damage to newly restored salt marshes from physical exposure and reduce re-suspension of sediments in the estuary. The baffles are designed to enhance filtration and intercept erosional sediments. They also may stimulate plant and animal productivity at marsh edges. A key feature of the completely biodegradable baffles is that they become filled and covered with sediment so they become an erosion-resistant, self-maintaining feature in salt marshes. |
| ***Question*** | **16. Provide ERA project number** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Project number for ERA-funded project (10 character limit) |
| ***Examples*** | ERA 04 0001 |

## ABSTRACT

This section includes a detailed description of the restoration project. The project abstract will be used to generate a project profile available as part of a National Estuaries Restoration database available to the public.

***Question*** ***Provide a project abstract:**

***Description of Field***

CONTENT: Abstracts are limited to 2,500 words and should contain the following elements:

A. Background about the project site:

1. Why is the habitat important, include a description of the habitat and wildlife species that benefit from the project?
2. If the project is part of an ongoing or larger effort, name and describe the connection to the larger effort.

B. Describe the problem the project will address.

1. Impacts and causes
2. Degradation trend (e.g., increased development in area will increase threat or occurrence of invasive species is increasing annually)

C. What are the goals of the restoration project?

1. What will be done?
2. Describe restoration actions completed, techniques used, and acreage

restored by habitat.

D. What are the benefits? Summarize ecosystem, community, and socio-economic benefits realized as a result of the project.

E. Brief project description (and description of individual phases if applicable)

F. Additional information (where applicable)

1. Roles of major project partners
2. Unique fact or specific measurable outcomes, if applicable (e.g., special benefit to endangered species, recreation/fishery; special technique; and climate change related)
3. Project timeline
4. Activities occurring outside project scope which may improve long-term success of the project (e.g., a program to reduce non-point source pollution)

***Examples***

**[Title]**

This restoration project restored approximately 12 acres of salt marsh community in James Harbor, part of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Prior to restoration, this site was a degrading salt marsh habitat characterized by invasive Phragmites and limited tidal influence, resulting from a poorly functioning tide-gate structure. It consisted of soft substrate material and was inhabited by a small number of invertebrate species.

As part of an estuarine system with great ecological importance, it was vital to address the problems occurring in the marsh and restore its full habitat functions. As a combined effort between NOAA and the Town of James, planning began in May 2001 and implementation took place during March 2002. The goals of the project were to eradicate the Phragmites and modify the existing tide-gate structure in order to achieve better management of the tidal regime. These techniques would then encourage the natural propagation of Spartina and greatly improve the value of the habitat for many invertebrate, fish, bird, and other wildlife species.

The first step in the restoration process called for the eradication of the invasive species. This goal was achieved through a herbicide application and a prescribed burn. These techniques proved to be successful as nearly all Phragmites was eliminated. Next, the existing tide-gate was modified in the following ways to allow for proper management of water levels within the salt marsh – the revised structure has automated vertical lift gates to control tidal inflows; rapid adjustments of the direction, frequency, and duration of tide waters into and out of the system are now possible; and there are override features so the tide-gates can be manually operated if necessary. It was intended that as the overall water level of the habitat increased, Spartina would naturally propagate and Phragmites would be limited.

Monitoring has shown that these expectations have been met. In fact, not only has Spartina returned to the marsh but several other desirable species have as

well, giving the salt marsh a more diverse vegetative composition. The return of Phragmites has been minimal, with the last report showing less than 5% cover, which is below the pre-determined 10% limit.

The work implemented as part of this project has restored a 12-acre area of salt marsh habitat that is developing successfully and being used by a wide variety of wildlife. The tidal regime is under proper management, invasive species have been controlled, invertebrate populations have greatly increased, vegetation is growing strong, and the ecosystem as a whole has received a great benefit.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

This section collects information on the primary project contacts for this project. Up to two contacts can be provided.

**WARNING:** Contact information may be displayed on-line in project queries and reports. If you do not wish to share your information, please leave the field blank. ***If you are adding another person to the contact list***, *make sure they are aware that his/her information may be available on-line*.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***Question*** | ***1. Provide information for up to two primary project contacts:** | |
| | **First Name:** | First name of contact person |
| | **Last Name:** | Last name of contact person |
| | **Position Title:** | Title of contact person within organization |
| | **Office:** | Contact's organization (e.g., agency, company or nonprofit group) |
| | **Address 1:** | First line of contact's address |
| | **Address 2:** | Second line of contact's address (optional) |
| | **City:** | Contact's city |
| | **State/Territory/ Province:** | Contact's state, territory, or Canadian province: |
| | **Zip Code:** | Contact's Zip Code (+4 if known) |
| | **Phone:** | Contact's phone number |
| | **Fax:** | Contact's fax number |
| | **E-mail:** | Contact's E-mail address |
| ***Description of Field*** | **Project/organization Web site address:** | URL for project or organization |
| | **First Name:** | Joe |
| | **Last Name:** | Smith |
| | **Position Title:** | Project Manager |
| | **Office:** | Chesapeake Bay Foundation |
| | **Address 1:** | 123 Chesapeake Drive |
| | **Address 2:** | |
| | **City:** | Annapolis |
| | **State/Territory/ Province:** | MD |
| | **Zip Code:** | 20896 |
| | **Phone:** | 123-456-7890 |
| ***Examples*** | **Fax:** | 123-456-7890 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **E-mail:** | joe.smith@chesapeake.org |
| **Project/organization Web site address:** | www.chesapeakebay.net |

## GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

This section collects general location information on each restoration project.

**1. Where is this project located?**
*State/Territory/ Province:
*County/ Parish:
*City:
Tribe:
*Region:
Zip Code (+4 if known):
USGS 8-digit HUC:
Latitude/Longitude (center of project site in decimal degrees):
*X coordinate (longitude)
*Y coordinate (latitude)
USGS Topographic Quadrangle:
*Congressional District:

| ***Question*** | |
|---|---|
| **State/Territory/Province:** | State/Territory/Province where the project is located. |
| **County/ Parish:** | County/parish where project is located. |
| **City:** | City where project is located |
| **Tribe:** | Tribal jurisdiction where project is located (if applicable) |
| **Region: (select one)**<br>**__ North Atlantic**<br>**__ Mid-Atlantic**<br>**__ Great Lakes**<br>**__ South Atlantic**<br>**__ Gulf of Mexico**<br>**__ Pacific**<br>**__ Alaska**<br>**__ Hawaii**<br>**__ Caribbean** | Go to the Map Gallery - "Estuarine/ Coastal Watershed Regional Reference Maps" |
| **Zip Code (+4 if known):** | Description of Field: Zip code (+ 4, if known) where project is located. (text field) |
| **USGS 8-digit HUC:** | 8-digit USGS Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) (watershed) where project is located. If not known, click on link to EPA's Surf your watershed site to find HUC Code: http://cfpub.epa.gov/surf/locate/index.cfm |

***Description of Field***

| | |
|---|---|
| **Longitude:** | **X coordinate (longitude) (for center of project site in decimal degrees):** Longitudinal coordinate of the project in decimal degrees (to a minimum of 4 decimal places). If not known, click on link to Topozone site to determine coordinates: http://www.topozone.com |
| **Latitude:** | **Y coordinate (latitude) (for center of project site in decimal degrees):** Latitudinal coordinate of the project in decimal degrees (to a minimum of 4 decimal places). If not known, click on link to Topozone site to determine coordinates: http://www.topozone.com |
| **USGS Topographic Quadrangle:** | USGS topographic quadrangle that the project lies within at the 1:24,000 scale (7.5 min). Topographic quadrangle names can be found on the Topozone site: http://www.topozone.com |
| **Congressional District:** | Congressional district where the project is located. To find the congressional district for a project, use the House of Representatives site: http://www.house.gov. This number should be two digits, with a leading zero if necessary. If the project occurs in more than one district, then list all districts in numerical order separated by commas without additional spaces or punctuation. If the project occurs in AK, DE, or VT, use the term "At Large". |

| | |
|---|---|
| **State/Territory/ Province:** | MD |
| **County/ Parish:** | Baltimore County |
| **City:** | Cape May |
| **Tribe:** | Nanticoke |
| **Region:** | Mid-Atlantic |
| **Zip Code (+4 if known):** | 20910 |
| **USGS 8-digit HUC:** | 02060003 |
| **Longitude:** | -76.4189 |
| **Latitude:** | 39.2983 |
| **USGS Topographic Quadrangle:** | Middle River |
| ***Examples*** **Congressional District:** | 02 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Question** | **2. What method was used to obtain the latitude and longitude for the project site?** (e.g. GPS, topographic map, datums, etc.) |
| **Description of Field** | Techniques used to obtain the latitude and longitude for the project site. |
| **Examples** | **Datums:** World Geodetic Survey 1984 (WGS84), North American Datum 1927 |

| | |
|---|---|
| | (NAD27), North American Datum 1983 (NAD83), High Precision GIS Network (HPGN), High Accuracy Reference Network (HARN)<br>**Techniques:**<br>Address Matching, Autonomous GPS, Differentially Corrected GPS, Geodetic Quality GPS, GPS with Wide-Area Augmentation Service Correction, LORAN-C Navigational Device, Cadastral Survey, Digital Map Interpolation, Digital Aerial Photography With Ground Control, , Satellite Imagery With Ground Control, Manual Map Interpolation, Manual Aerial Photography With Ground Control, Zip Code Centroid, Topozone website. |
| **Question** | **3a. Is there a GIS data layer (polygon) showing the boundaries of the area (to be) restored?** (Select one)<br>__ Yes __ No |
| **Description of Field** | Select yes or no. |
| **Examples** | Yes |
| **Question** | **3b. If yes and GIS contact is not listed as primary project contact, please provide:**<br>Contact first name:<br>Contact last name:<br>Contact phone number:<br>Contact e-mail: |
| **Description of Field** | If response to Question #3a was "Yes" and GIS contact is not the project contact, provide GIS contact information. |
| **Examples** | Jane Smith, 301 555 5555, jane.smith@myemail.org |

## BENEFITS

This required section tracks the expected and realized species and ecosystem benefits of the project.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **1. Select the benefits (e.g., species, habitat, ecosystem, and/or socio-economic) the project provides from the list below or write-in a more accurate benefit.** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Make sure to identify all of the benefits the project will achieve. Use the list of benefits below as a guide to select benefits this project is expected to achieve. For each benefit entered, you will need to respond to the questions 2-4 for each benefit separately.<br>List of potential project benefits:<br>- improve/provide habitat for migratory birds<br>- improve/provide habitat for fish/shellfish<br>- improve/provide habitat for T&E species<br>- improve/provide habitat for other wildlife (general)<br>- wildlife corridors/benefit to nearby habitat areas<br>- improve/restore natural hydrology<br>- improved water quality |

| | |
|---|---|
| | - increased water quantity<br>- erosion control<br>- flood control<br>- increase/improve recreational opportunities<br>- community revitalization/citizen participation<br>- compensation for injuries to natural resources |
| ***Examples*** | improve/restored natural hydrology |
| ***Question*** | **2. Provide a brief description of this benefit.** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Describe each project goal and how it will be met. |
| ***Examples*** | One goal was to increase the water levels within the salt marsh, and the changes to the existing tide-gate structure were planned to meet this purpose. With greater control capabilities possible with the new tide-gate, water levels could be easily regulated to incorporate an overall increase in water quantity while still allowing for adjustments in case of a flood or other event. Greater tidal influence was desired to discourage *Phragmites* invasion and encourage the natural reoccurrence of favorable salt marsh vegetation. |
| | **3. Has this benefit been achieved?** (select one)<br>__ yes<br>__ no<br>__ not yet known |
| ***Question*** | |
| ***Description of Field*** | Indicate whether this benefit has been achieved or whether it is too early to determine. |
| ***Examples*** | yes |
| ***Question*** | **4. Comments** |
| ***Description of Field*** | If desired, provide comments on progress in meeting the selected project benefit. |
| ***Examples*** | With the modifications to the tide-gate, water levels soon rose as increased tidal waters were allowed to influence the salt marsh habitat. Better management of the wetland is now possible with the tide-gate's additional functions. |

## HABITAT TYPES and ACREAGE RESTORED

This section requests information on the habitats and acreage restored for restoration projects.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | ***1. Select a habitat type restored (or to be restored) by this project:** (select one from list below, repeat for all that apply) |
| ***Description of Field*** | Select a habitat type which will be or was already restored by this project.<br>List of Potential Habitat Types to be Restored: (see definitions in Appendix I).<br>Beach — Pond<br>Coral — Riparian Zone (non-wetland)<br>Dune — Rocky shoreline |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Freshwater Wetland | Tidal Wetland |
| | Hard Bottom | Soft bottom/mud/sand |
| | In-stream | Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) |
| | Kelp | Upland |
| | Mangrove | Water column |
| | Oyster Reef/Shell Bottom | |
| ***Examples*** | Salt marsh | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **2. What is the tidal influence of this habitat type?** | |
| ***Question*** | __ inundated<br>__ intertidal<br>__<br>__ not applicable<br>Tidal exposure of the habitat type: | |
| ***Description of Field*** | **Inundated** | Below the level of extreme low tide. |
| | **Intertidal** | The zone from extreme high water to extreme low water. |
| | **not applicable** | Select if habitat type is not influenced by the tide. |
| ***Examples*** | intertidal | |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **3. If appropriate, please provide a specific description of this habitat type** (e.g. tidal influence, photic/aphotic, location in estuary, regional habitat name/sub-type): |
| ***Description of Field*** | If appropriate, provide additional information on the specific physical and biological characteristics of this habitat, including its location in the estuary, light regime, local habitat name, etc. |
| ***Examples*** | Local name for this salt marsh habitat is saltern. Salterns in the project area are surrounded by mangrove forest. |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | ***4. Estimated acreage <u>to be</u> restored:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Acres planned to be restored by this project. |
| ***Examples*** | 12 |

| | |
|---|---|
| | ****5. <u>For acres already restored</u>, indicate how many acres were:** |
| ***Question*** | Created<br>Re-established<br>Rehabilitated |
| ***Description of Field*** | **Created**<br>Acres of habitat that were created. Creation is the manipulation of the physical, chemical, and/or biological characteristics present to develop a type of habitat that did not previously exist on the site. |

**Re-established**
Re-establishment is the manipulation of the physical, chemical, and/or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of restoring the natural/historic functions to a habitat type that previously existed on the site, but no longer exists at the time restoration activity is initiated. Re-establishment is the rebuilding of a habitat that has been destroyed.

**Rehabilitated**
Rehabilitation is the manipulation of the physical, chemical, and/or biological characteristics of a degraded habitat with the goal of repairing natural/historic functions. Rehabilitation is the restoring of a habitat that has been degraded, but not destroyed.

***Examples***

Created: 0
Reestablished: 12
Rehabilitated: 0.75

***Question***

**6. Indicate how many additional acres benefited (e.g. enhanced or protected) from this project:**

*Enhanced or Protected*

***Description of Field***

**Enhanced**
Acres of habitat that were enhanced. Enhancement is the manipulation of the physical, chemical, and/or biological characteristics of a site to heighten, intensify, or improve specific function(s) or to change the growth stage or composition of the vegetation present, often for purposes of human use versus ecosystem restoration. This term includes activities commonly associated with the terms enhancement, management, manipulation, directed alteration.

**Protected**
Acres of habitat that have been protected. Includes purchase of land easements, or other designation to prevent alteration of the site.

***Examples***

Enhanced: 0
Protected: 0

***Question***

**7. What method (e.g. aerial photography, GIS, land surveys) was used to determine the number of acres reported above as created, re-established, rehabilitated, enhanced, and/ or protected?**

***Description of Field***

Techniques used for measuring acres and stream miles. (250 character limit)

***Examples***

Autonomous GPS, Differentially Corrected GPS, Geodetic Quality GPS, GPS with Wide-Area Augmentation Service Correction, LORAN-C Navigational Device, Cadastral Survey, Digital Map Interpolation, Digital Aerial Photography With Ground Control, , Satellite Imagery With Ground Control, Manual Map Interpolation, Manual Aerial Photography With Ground Control, Zip Code Centroid.

***Question***

*** In-Stream (fish passage) projects only ***

| | |
|---|---|
| | **8. If this project provided fish passage, how many stream miles were opened to anadromous fish?** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Provide the stream miles opened to anadromous fish. |
| ***Examples*** | 7 |

| | |
|---|---|
| | **9. For the stream miles reported in #8 above, please provide an estimate of the acres (based on surface area) made accessible to anadromous fish.** |
| ***Question*** | |
| ***Description of Field*** | Provide the acres (based on surface area) made accessible to anadromous fish. |
| ***Examples*** | 2 |

## RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

This section requests information regarding restoration techniques. The information obtained in this section will be used to determine the success of various restoration techniques.

| | |
|---|---|
| | ****1. Select a restoration technique used in this project**. |
| ***Question*** | (see Appendix II) |
| ***Description of Field*** | Select one of the techniques from the appendix that was used in this project. More than one technique can be entered for each project, but you will need to respond to questions 2-4 for each technique separately. |
| ***Examples*** | hydrological manipulation: tide gate modification |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **2. Specifically describe this technique (e.g., materials used, plant spacing):** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Detailed description of the technique selected from the Appendix II, as it has been used in this project. |
| ***Examples*** | The existing tide-gate was modified in the following ways: the revised structure has automated vertical lift gates to control tidal inflows; rapid adjustments of the direction, frequency, and duration of tide waters into and out of the system are now possible; there are also override features so the tide-gates can be manually operated if necessary. These additional features allow for a much better management of tidal waters within the marsh. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | **3. How would you rate the success of this technique?** (select one)<br>__ Very successful<br>__ Somewhat successful<br>__ Not successful<br>__ Not Yet Known |
| ***Question*** | |
| ***Description of Field*** | Based on the judgment of project managers, select the efficacy of this technique in this project: "Very successful", "Somewhat successful", "Not successful", or "Not yet known". |
| ***Examples*** | very successful |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **4. Please provide comments on the basis for the success rating.** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Description of why technique was rated as "Very successful", "Somewhat successful", or "Not successful", and/or other comments. |
| ***Examples*** | The previously existing tide-gate structure was modified and reconfigured successfully, and the changes now allow for proper management of tide waters into and out of the marsh. |

## MONITORING & SUCCESS CRITERIA

The purpose of this section is to obtain information on monitoring parameters and success criteria, to measure the success of restoration efforts.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | ****1. Select a parameter being monitored to measure restoration success for this project (select from Appendix III).** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Choose a parameter being monitored in this project .More than one parameter can be entered for each project, but you will need to respond to questions 2-7 for each parameter separately. |
| ***Examples*** | invasive species % cover |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **2. Briefly describe the monitoring frequency and basic monitoring methods used for monitoring. If appropriate, also provide information on the specific parameters monitored.** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Additional monitoring information, including specific parameters monitored |
| ***Examples*** | Monitor any invasive *Phragmites* that may return. The site will be tracked quarterly for the first 2 years and semiannually up to a minimum of 10 years. Percent cover will be estimated through visual observations and will be recorded. If significant invasion occurs to a point over the designated acceptable level, additional response measures will be considered. |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **3. Enter the start date for monitoring this parameter.** (If monitoring has not yet begin, provide planned start date) |
| ***Description of Field*** | Date monitoring was initiated (or will be initiated) for each parameter in the format mm/yyyy |
| ***Examples*** | 07/2002 |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **4. Enter the end date for monitoring this parameter.** (If monitoring has not been completed, provide planned end date) |
| ***Description of Field*** | Date monitoring was completed (or will be completed) for each format in the format mm/yyyy |
| ***Examples*** | 07/2012 |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **5. Provide all quantitative success criteria for this parameter: (for** |

| | |
|---|---|
| | **example, water depth > x for at least x hours per day)** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Numeric standards for measuring success |
| ***Examples*** | > 70% native plant species, 25 acres of emergent wetland plants, >75% species index similarity to reference site, >5.0 dissolved oxygen, *Phragmites* cover not to exceed 10% at any time. |
| | **6. Have the success criteria for this parameter been met?** (select one)<br>__ All<br>__ Some<br>__ None<br>__ Not Yet Known |
| ***Question*** | |
| ***Description of Field*** | If all success criteria listed for this parameter have been met, select "all"; if one or more criteria have been met but some have not been met, select "some"; if none of the success criteria were met, select "none"; if the project has not reached a point where success criteria have been evaluated, select "not yet known". |
| ***Examples*** | All |
| ***Question*** | **7. Comments. Please use the space below to provide details on which success criteria were met for this parameter, and/or explanation as to why some criteria were not met.** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Provide any comments re: success criteria for this parameter, e.g., why it is believed some criteria were not met, whether the criteria were unrealistic, etc. |
| ***Examples*** | The success criteria have been met thus far. The monitoring reports have shown minimal *Phragmites* return, estimated at 5%, which is below the acceptable 10%. *Phragmites* has appeared only along the perimeter of the marsh and doesn't seem to be creeping inward, but this will continue to be monitored as planned. |

NOTE: Submit monitoring results and reports to the NOAA Estuary Habitat Restoration Program manager. Results should include the project objectives, how the project area changed after restoration, and a prediction of the ability of the project to continue its success trend. If the project was not successful in meeting its objectives, please describe what will be done to improve the success of the project.

## REGIONAL RESTORATION PLANS (including state and federal plans)

This section tracks whether a restoration project supports the goals of habitat restoration plans.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **1. What is the name of the restoration plan?** |
| ***Description of Field*** | If applicable, provide the official name of a regional restoration plan that this project supports. More than one plan can be entered, but information for each plan must be entered separately. |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Examples*** | San Francisco Estuary Project Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **2. Who is the lead organization that developed the plan.** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Names of federal, state or local government agencies, national partnership (e.g. Migratory Bird Joint Ventures) and nonprofit groups involved in writing the plan. |
| ***Examples*** | San Francisco Project |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **3. What type of plan is this?**<br>__ federal<br>__ state/territory/province<br>__ multi-state/regional<br>__ local government<br>__ nonprofit<br>__ business/industry<br>__ other |
| ***Description of Field*** | Check the type of plan on the form. For example, if a plan was made official by approval of a federal entity, the plan is considered federal. |
| ***Examples*** | federal |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **4. What is the date of this restoration plan?** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Date the restoration plan was adopted in mm/yyyy. |
| ***Examples*** | 11/1993 |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **5. What is the URL for this restoration plan (if available)?** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Web site for restoration plan (if available). |
| ***Examples*** | http://www.restorationplan.com |

## PARTNER INFORMATION

This section requests information for each project partner. Information on all partners (federal, state, and local agencies and programs, non-profit organizations, businesses, community groups, or educational institution) involved in the project should be provided as well as details on their involvement, web site URL, and other relevant pieces of information.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | ***1. Project partner name.** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Name of each partner involved with the project. |
| ***Examples*** | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **2. What type of partner is this?(check one)**<br>__ Federal<br>__ State/Territory/Province<br>__ Local Government<br>__ Tribal<br>__ Non-profit<br>__ Academic<br>__ Business/Industry<br>__ Private Citizen |
| ***Description of Field*** | Select the type of partner from the list. |
| ***Examples*** | Federal |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **3. Provide partner's web site address (if available):** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Project partner's web site, if available. The URL may be used to provide links to the partner's web site from the project profile. |
| ***Examples*** | http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/ |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **4. If desired, provide additional information for this partner (e.g. amount of funding, description of roles, etc.)** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Additional information may include details on the roles taken by each partner such as the amount of funding provided, role in the development of the restoration plan, number of volunteers and volunteer hours provided for project implementation or monitoring, or a description of "Other" contributions not specified in the picklist, etc. |
| ***Examples*** | NOAA provided funding in the amount of $50,000 and provided technical expertise. |

## BUDGET INFORMATION

This section requests general budget information on the restoration project.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **1. Provide the original proposed project <u>cost estimate</u>:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Original cost estimate for project (numeric field in format $##,###,###) |
| ***Examples*** | $40,000 |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **2. Of the total cost estimate, how much will go towards project monitoring:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Estimate of cost for monitoring (numeric field in format $##,###,###) |
| ***Examples*** | $30,000 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **3. List amount(s) for all applicable funding sources: (answer all that apply, numeric fields)** | |
| ***Question*** | **Federal:** | **Non-federal:** |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Cash | Cash |
| | In-kind | In-kind |
| | Lands, easements, etc. | Lands, easements, etc. |
| ***Description of Field*** | **Cash** - Cash provided by federal and non-federal sources for the project. **In-kind** - In-kind funding provided by federal and non-federal sources for the project. **Lands, easements, etc.** - Other project support provided by federal and non-federal sources | |
| ***Examples*** | $30,000 Federal Cash, $7,500 Non-federal Cash, $7,500 Non-federal In-kind | |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **4. If desired, provide additional information on the project budget below (e.g. operations and maintenance costs, specifics on in-kind contributions, etc.)** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Describe specific components of the project budget such as costs, funding sources, donations, reasons the final cost of the project exceeded the proposed cost, etc. |
| ***Examples*** | The project received funding from NOAA and EPA which was used for supplies to implement the restoration project. Volunteers from a local high school also provided $7,500 worth of in-kind donations. |

## *** QUESTIONS FOR ERA-FUNDED PROJECTS ***

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | ****5. If project implementation is complete, provide the <u>total actual cost</u> (planning and implementation only) for this project:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Actual cost of the project (once primary on-the-ground activity has been completed) (numeric field in format $##,###,###) |
| ***Examples*** | $37,500 |

## PHOTOS and VIDEOS

For each project entry, the implementing partner may submit up to 5 photos and 5 videos from their restoration sites. These photos and videos may be displayed on project profiles on the web. These photos and videos might depict the restoration site before, during, and after restoration, and would be best understood if they tell a visual story of the restoration, using the captions to explain each photo.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **1. Filename of photo:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Filename of image uploaded. Image file must be in JPG format and filenames cannot contain spaces or special characters. Files should also be at least 250 pixels in width for viewing on the web (but no larger than 800 pixels). |
| ***Examples*** | post_restoration.jpg |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **2. Date of photo: (mm/yyyy)** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Date photo was taken. |
| ***Examples*** | 07/2003 |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **3. Caption for photo:** |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Description of Field*** | A 1-2 sentence description of the photo that summarizes the events captured by the image. May include a description of the site, people involved, and/or actions taking place. |
| ***Examples*** | Photo of the degraded marsh prior to restoration. |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **4. Photo credit:** |
| ***Description of Field*** | Photographer or owner of photo. |
| ***Examples*** | Chesapeake Bay Foundation |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Question*** | **5. Child in Photo:**<br>__ yes<br>__ no |
| ***Description of Field*** | NOTE: Photos with children's faces require release forms from their parents. If you submit a photo with a child in it, please check this box and the NOAA Program manager will send you a photo release form prior to using the photo in any outreach documents or web stories. |
| ***Examples*** | yes |

## Appendix I: Habitat Types

**Estuary Habitat i**ncludes the estuary and its associated ecosystems, such as: salt, brackish, and fresh water coastal marshes, coastal forested wetlands and other coastal wetlands, maritime forests, coastal grasslands, tidal flats, natural shoreline areas, shellfish beds, sea grass meadows, kelp beds, river deltas, and river and stream corridors under tidal influence.

| Habitat | Inundation | Definition- Selection Guidance |
|---|---|---|
| **Beach** | Intertidal | **Unstable sediment (frequently sand) transported by waves along a shoreline.**<br><br>Above tidal influence (or the littoral zone in freshwater) it becomes either *dune* or *upland*. Below wave influence it becomes *soft bottom sand/mud*. Unstable shell-based sediment should be recorded as *oyster reef/shell bottom*. Beach can be used for open ocean shorelines or nearshore/estuarine shorelines. |
| **Coral reef** | Inundated | **Areas where habitat function is expected to be strongly affected by coral colonies.**<br><br>In most cases, this habitat will be in shallow, tropical and subtropical ocean environments. Reefs created to support sponges, or projects which change habitat conditions with the intent to enable coral to survive should also be recorded as coral reefs, regardless of the density of coral colonies. |
| **Dune** | Upland | **Unstable upland sediment transported by wind.**<br><br>This is an upland habitat commonly adjacent to *beach*, but above tidal influence (or the littoral zone in freshwater). |
| **Freshwater wetland** | Inundated | **Wetlands without salt or tidal influence.**<br><br>This includes forested, scrub-shrub and emergent wetlands. The exception is tidal freshwater wetlands should be classified as *tidal wetland*. Areas of un-vegetated fresh water will generally be recorded as *pond or in-stream*. |
| **Hard bottom** | Inundated | **Permanently inundated ocean or lake bottom composed of rock, but lacking vegetation.**<br><br>This habitat should be used for projects that create reef which is not intended to support shellfish or corals (which have their own habitats), including reefs created to enhance recreational fishing or fish spawning. Where floating *kelp* is present use that class. Where influenced by wave energy, use *rocky shoreline*. Where non-kelp vegetation is present, use *submerged aquatic vegetation*. |
| **In-stream** | Inundated | **Area associated with an active stream or river channel.**<br><br>This habitat is primarily used to record stream miles opened to fish passage, or projects which increase riverine habitat quality/quantity, such as additions of large wood, or creation of fish habitat adjacent to the main channel, or reconnection to a historic channel. ALL stream miles should be counted under this habitat, as well as freshwater |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | habitat enhancement actions In tidal or saltwater areas, habitat enhancement in stream channels is considered part of *tidal wetland*. Habitats above ordinary high water should be recorded as *riparian zone*, *freshwater wetland,* or *upland*. Where neither velocity nor vegetation are present, record habitat as *pond*. |
| **Kelp** | Inundated | **Areas where habitat functions are expected to be strongly affected by floating kelp.**<br><br>Where kelp restoration is not the intent these typically become either *rocky shoreline* or *hard bottom.* |
| **Mangrove** | Intertidal | **Areas where habitat functions are expected to be strongly affected by mangrove species.**<br><br>Typically, mangrove restoration occurs in saline, intertidal areas. |
| **Oyster reef/shell bottom** | Intertidal/ Inundated | **Areas where habitat functions are strongly affected by presence of shell.**<br><br>This biogenic habitat typically occurs in areas that would otherwise be classed as *beach*, *tidal wetland*, or *soft bottom mud/sand*. If non-reef forming shellfish are added to the habitat, record the area restored as *soft bottom mud/sand*. |
| **Pond** | Inundated | **Open, freshwater, non-tidal wetlands with or without emergent vegetation.**<br><br>Pond habitat is frequently recorded under projects which increase access to fish spawning and rearing habitat. With emergent vegetation present and dominated by shallow water, these become *freshwater wetlands*. In the presence of tidal or salinity effects (such as New England coastal salt ponds) record acres restored under *tidal wetlands*. Ponds with SAV will typically be recorded as *SAV* if that was the purpose of the project. |
| **Riparian zone (non-wetland)** | Upland | **Non-wetland habitats, adjacent to rivers or coastal shorelines, that either influence or are influenced by aquatic ecosystems.**<br><br>Riparian is frequently used when the restored area is a shoreline "buffer" and the upland area has some influence by aquatic ecosystems, or the restoration activity is designed to enhance the functions of adjacent aquatic ecosystems. |
| **Rocky shoreline** | Intertidal | **Stable intertidal (or littoral in freshwater) rocky shorelines.**<br><br>Below tidal influence (or below the littoral zone in freshwater), this habitat should be recorded as *hard bottom.* In riverine freshwater systems use *riparian.* Where*SAV* or *kelp* are present use those classes. |
| **Soft bottom mud/sand** | Inundated | **Submerged (marine, brackish, or freshwater), unvegetated soft bottom composed of silts, clays, or sands.**<br><br>This habitat should be recorded when non-reef forming shellfish are |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | added to the habitat. It is also used when re-flooding areas completely cut off from tidal influence, and where emergent vegetation could eventually form. Where influenced by wave energy, use *beach*. Use *SAV* when it is present. |
| **Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)** | Inundated/ Intertidal | **Vegetated, mostly sub-tidal wetlands, commonly called sea grasses.**<br><br>This captures a range of vegetated low intertidal to sub-tidal vegetation including sea grasses and macroalgae. The exception is *kelp* which has its own classification. This can also include freshwater vegetated habitats within and below the littoral zone. |
| **Tidal wetland** | Intertidal | **Vegetated or sediment flats subject to tidal inundation**.<br><br>Tidal wetlands may include channels. Where mangrove, shellfish, or SAV species are important use those classes. |
| **Upland** | Upland | **Any habitat that is not flooded during part of the year/ does not show the characteristics of wetland habitat.**<br><br>The only upland habitats that are characterized separately are *dune* and *riparian*. |
| **Water column** | Inundated | **Any habitat where the quality or quantity of habitat services gained through restoration does not depend on substrate, but rather the condition of the water column.**<br><br>While there is a gray area between *soft bottom mud/sand* and *water column*, use this habitat primarily when improvements to water quality will be measured as an indicator of project success, and *soft bottom* when increases in benthic productivity or vegetation are to be measured. Use *SAV* when it is present. |

## Appendix II: Restoration Techniques

| **Technique - Category** | **Definition - Guidance** |
|---|---|
| **Fish and Wildlife Management** | |
| coral reattachment | Reattachment of corals which they have been damaged, dislodged, or fractured, at the same site as the injury. Note that projects which harvest coral for use in a nursery should include the "coral nursery" technique, and that coral transplant to another location is considered "species enhancement." |
| disease control: fauna | Actions taken to eradicate or prevent the spread of disease in fauna. |

| | |
|---|---|
| invasives removal: fauna | Physical removal or eradication of organisms from the habitat, which are non-native or native but overabundant<br>This can also be used for preventive measures such as biological controls. Note that fencing to restrict access is a separate technique ("fencing/netting"). |
| oyster gardening | Growing oysters to mature size in floating structures.<br>Oyster gardening is frequently implemented as an educational activity at private residences. Projects that use shells from oyster gardening in a reef or bed structure should also include "oyster reef construction." Note that oyster planting (such as "spat on shell" placement) is considered "species enhancement." |
| species enhancement | Addition of native animals to a restoration site.<br>This can be used for oyster planting (such as "spat on shell" placement), coral transplant, other species reintroduction, or stock enhancement. Note that support for the actual facilities used to raise native animals are considered separate techniques (i.e. "oyster gardening," "coral nursery," "native plant nursery," or "fish hatchery"), as are techniques involving the introduction of substrates (e.g. "oyster reef construction" or "coral reef construction"). |
| **Hard Structural Techniques** | |
| fish exclusion devices | Installation of structures or other devices (e.g. audio or electrical) to exclude fish from a target area. |
| fishway | Building or maintenance of a structure to enhance fish passage.<br>This may be a concrete or metal fish ladder, or be a "nature-like" fishway made of rock and other natural bottom substrate. This project type may include modifying the dam during installation. |
| berm/dike modification (including replacement) | Modification of a man-made earthen water retention structure.<br>This can include partial removal, adding to an existing structure, or building a new structure to restrict water at a setback location. |
| berm/dike removal | Permanent removal of a man-made earthen water retention structure. |
| bulkhead removal | Permanent removal of a man-made structure, typically made of wood or metal, directly adjacent to a water body. |
| culvert modification (including replacement) | Modification of a culvert to increase the size, decrease the slope, or otherwise enhance the flow of water and fish through the culvert. |

| | |
|---|---|
| culvert removal | Permanent removal of a culvert.<br>Culvert removal may sometimes include the installation of a bridge structure. This also includes daylighting culverts. |
| dam modification (including replacement) | Modification of a dam without actual dam removal, or by recreating the dam in a different location.<br>Do not use this for fish ladders (which fall under "fishways"). Use this only for projects where the primary activity is to make changes to the dam itself. |
| dam removal | Permanent removal of a dam. |
| tide gate installation | Installation of new structures to regulate the tidal flow regime.<br>This includes manually-operated tide gates (using flash boards), or those that are self-regulating. |
| tide gate modification (including replacement) | Modification of tide gates to alter the current flow regime, or replacing the existing tide gate with a new gate. |
| tide gate removal | Permanent removal of an existing tide gate. |
| weir construction | Creation of a low structure for the purpose of creating greater ease of fish passage, enhancing grade control or habitat enhancement such as pool creation. |
| weir removal | Permanent removal of a low structure that is impairing fish passage or stream function.<br>Weir removal may be used to create greater ease of fish passage, enhance grade control, or enhance habitat (e.g. through pool creation). |
| **Other Habitat Modifications** | |
| bird habitat enhancement | Creation, restoration, and/or enhancement of nesting and roosting habitat for birds. |
| contaminant removal/remediation | Removal of contaminants from soil, sediment, waste, or water. |
| debris removal | Removal of on-shore or off-shore debris such as trash, fishing gear, vessels, or other man-made objects. |
| fencing/netting | Erection of permanent or temporary fences, nets, or strings to prevent or reduce herbivory, predation, or other forms of habitat degradation. |
| large woody debris/ structure placement | Addition of large wood or rock structures to increase habitat diversity, including pool creation, for fish and wildlife within streams and other waterways, including their banks. |

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| storm water/runoff controls | Decommissioning of roads or implementation of road upgrades, swales, storm drains, etc. for either roads or trails.<br>In general, any project meant to control stormwater/sediment runoff in order to protect marine, estuarine, aquatic, or diadromous habitat. |
| stream channel reconnection/creation | Any project that increases the length of a stream channel, but NOT one that increases the habitat quality within the channel.<br>Project types include re-connecting oxbows or side channels or otherwise adding off-channel habitat as well as main-stem channel. If improving the habitat quality, use "weir construction," "large woody debris/structure placement" or "stream flow modification." |
| stream flow modification | Modification of stream flow through physical (not legal) measures to reduce water usage permanently, or provide water storage for later availability.<br>This includes projects that install water catchment systems and/or tanks for water storage, etc. |
| **Protection** | |
| land acquisition | Acquisition of fee simple ownership or permanent conservation easements. |
| signage | Placement of signage on-site to inform the public regarding restoration and ecologically appropriate activities.<br>This technique may include projects that develop or install educational/interpretive signage or signage to delineate restricted access zones, no-motor zones, etc. |
| water rights acquisition | Acquisition of permanent water rights or establishment of temporary forbearance agreements to enhance stream flow. |
| **Restoration Infrastructure** | |
| coral nursery | Growing corals to a size suitable for transplant at restoration sites.<br>Note that coral transplant back to reef locations is considered "species enhancement" and should be added as an additional technique if necessary. |
| fish hatchery | Building or maintaining facilities to spawn and rear aquatic organisms such as finfish or shellfish, including the installation of piping and tanks for fish hatcheries or shellfish setting.<br>This technique also includes rearing organisms in |

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| | previously built facilities. |
| native plant nursery | Building or maintaining a structure to grow native plants. The structure may be wood, glass, metal, plastic or other construction materials.<br>This technique also includes raising plants at the facility. |
| **Sediment/Substrate Modification** | |
| artificial fish habitat reef construction | Creation of man-made durable structure(s) to enhance fish habitat.<br>Note that coral and oyster reef construction have their own techniques. |
| coral reef construction | Recreation of the structure of coral reef habitat following groundings or other destruction. |
| oyster reef construction | Placement of durable structure(s) to enhance the potential for oyster spat settlement.<br>This can include shell, rock, or man-made materials such as “Baycrete”. Projects that utilize shells collected from oyster gardening should also include the “oyster gardening” technique, and those that include supplementation through spat on shell should also include “species enhancement”. |
| terracing | Creation of linear marshes in open-water areas for the purpose of slowing water velocity to create additional marsh habitat over time. |
| erosion control | Use of soft erosion control methods, such as installing coconut fiber, rock, large wood, breakwaters etc.<br>This technique should be used for shorelines or banks, including living shoreline or bioengineering projects. |
| fill removal | Removal of sediment to reach the desired project elevation. |
| placement of fill/dredge material | Placement of sediment to reach the desired project elevation. |
| beach nourishment | Addition of sand to sandy shorelines, regardless of whether the shoreline is in-shore or open ocean (beach) shoreline |
| **Vegetation Management** | |
| disease control: vegetation | Actions taken to eradicate or prevent the spread of a disease. |

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| invasives removal: vegetation | Removal of non-native or nuisance plant species from the restoration site.<br>This can be used for any prevention methods, such as biological controls. |
| planting | Addition of native plants to a restoration site. |
| prescribed burn | Use of managed fire(s) to restore site ecology. |

## Appendix III: Monitoring Parameters

| Physical Characteristics | Birds | Mammals |
|---|---|---|
| • Channel characteristics<br>• Hydrology<br>• Light penetration/secchi<br>• Temperature<br>• Topography/ Geomorphology<br>• Turbidity<br>• Pool/riffle ratio | • Abundance<br>• Biomass<br>• Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size<br>• Survival | • Abundance<br>• Biomass<br>• Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size<br>• Survival |
| **Water Column Characteristics** | **Fish** | **Mixed Assemblage** |
| • Chlorophyll concentration in water<br>• Dissolved Oxygen<br>• Fecal coliforms<br>• Nitrogen<br>• Nutrient cycling<br>• Phosphorus<br>• Silicon<br>• pH<br>• Salinity<br>• Toxics | • Abundance<br>• Biomass<br>• Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size | • Abundance<br>• Biomass<br>• Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size |

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| | • Survival | • Survival |
| **Soil and Substrate Characteristics** | **Invasive Species (Fauna)** | **Reptiles** |
| • Bulk density<br>• Moisture levels and drainage<br>• Nitrogen (pore water)<br>• Nutrient cycling<br>• Phosphorus (pore water)<br>• Silicon<br>• Organic content pH (pore water)<br>• Salinity (pore water)<br>• Sediment texture<br>• Sedimentation rate and quality | • Abundance<br>• Biomass<br>• Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size<br>• Survival | • Abundance<br>• Biomass<br>• Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size<br>• Survival |
| **Vegetation** | **Invasive Species (Vegetation)** | **Other** |
| • Abundance<br>• Composition<br>• Basal area<br>• Biomass<br>• Canopy areal extent and structure<br>• Density<br>• Diversity<br>• Edge to area ratio<br>• Herbivory/disease<br>• Litter fall<br>• Growth rate<br>• Percent cover<br>• Productivity rate<br>• Ratio of vegetation to open water<br>• Recruitment<br>• Survival<br>• Woody debris | • Abundance<br>• Biomass<br>• Distribution<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size | • Debris<br>• Qualitative assessment |
| **Amphibians** | **Invertebrates** | |
| • Abundance<br>• Biomass | • Abundance<br>• Biomass | |

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| • Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size<br>• Survival | • Density<br>• Disease<br>• Distribution<br>• Diversity<br>• Growth<br>• Population age composition<br>• Predation<br>• Recruitment<br>• Size<br>• Survival |

information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

*Title:* Alaska Region Crab Economic Data Reports.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–0518.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Request:* Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

*Number of Respondents:* 99.

*Average Hours Per Response:* Annual catcher vessel economic data report (EDR), 40 hours; annual catcher/processor EDR, 20 hours; annual processor EDR, 16 hours; EDR certification only, 2 hours; verification of data, 8 hours.

*Burden Hours:* 2,624.

*Needs and Uses:* The Crab Rationalization (CR) Program is a limited-access system that allocates crab managed under the Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) among harvesters, processors, and coastal communities. The CR Program currently includes a comprehensive economic data collection program requiring participants to complete annual Economic Data Reports (EDRs). These EDRs are intended to aid the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and NMFS in assessing the success of the CR Program and developing amendments to the FMP to mitigate any unintended consequences of the CR Program.

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) is the Data Collection Agent for the CR Program. The CR Crab EDR program collects annually reported cost, revenue, ownership, and employment data from harvest and processing sector participants in the CR fisheries. This information is necessary to monitor and assess the economic effects of the CR program and support rigorous economic analysis to promote the goals and objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Participation in the CR Crab EDR program is mandatory under Federal fisheries regulations 50 CFR part 680.6 for all active vessel and processing sector participants in the CR Program fisheries.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov* or fax to (202) 395–5806.

Dated: April 20, 2016.

**Sarah Brabson,**

*NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016–09523 Filed 4–22–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; National Estuaries Restoration Inventory

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before June 24, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at *JJessup@doc.gov*).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Julia Royster, Office of Habitat Conservation, Restoration Center, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, 20910, (301) 427–8686, or *Julia.Royster@noaa.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### I. Abstract

This request is for a revision and extension of a currently approved information collection.

Collection of estuary habitat restoration project information (*e.g.,* location, habitat type, goals, status, monitoring information) will be undertaken in order to populate a restoration project database mandated by the Estuary Restoration Act of 2000. The database is intended to provide information to improve restoration methods, provide the basis for required reports to Congress, and track estuary habitat acreage restored. Estuary habitat restoration project information will be submitted by habitat restoration project managers and will be accessible to the public via Internet for data queries and project reports.

The collection method has been revised to only include paper or electronic forms instead of web-based data entry forms, as maintaining the web-based data entry option is not cost-effective.

### II. Method of Collection

Respondents have a choice of either electronic or paper forms. Methods of submittal include email of electronic forms, and mail and facsimile transmission of paper forms.

### III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–0479.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (revision and extension of a currently approved collection).

*Affected Public:* Non-profit institutions; State, local, or tribal government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 32.

*Estimated Time per Response:* Data entry of new projects, 4 hours; updates to existing projects, 2 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 103.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* $100 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

### IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 19, 2016.

**Sarah Brabson,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016–09473 Filed 4–22–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648–XE577**

### Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Applications for four new scientific research permits and four permit renewals.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received eight scientific research permit application requests relating to Pacific salmon, steelhead, and eulachon. The proposed research is intended to increase knowledge of species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and to help guide management and conservation efforts. The applications may be viewed online at: *https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/preview/preview_open_for_comment.cfm.*

**DATES:** Comments or requests for a public hearing on the applications must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific standard time on May 25, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on the applications should be sent to the Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232–1274. Comments may also be sent via fax to 503–230–5441 or by email to *nmfs.nwr.apps@noaa.gov* (include the permit number in the subject line of the fax or email).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rob Clapp, Portland, OR (ph.: 503–231–2314), Fax: 503–230–5441, email: *Robert.Clapp@noaa.gov*). Permit application instructions are available from the address above, or online at *https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov.*

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Species Covered in This Notice

The following listed species are covered in this notice:

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): Endangered upper Columbia River (UCR); threatened Lower Columbia River (LCR); threatened Snake River (SR); threatened upper Willamette River (UWR).

Steelhead (*O. mykiss*): Threatened LCR; threatened UCR; threatened SR; threatened UWR; threatened middle Columbia River (MCR).

Chum salmon (*O. keta*): Threatened Columbia River (CR).

Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*): Threatened LCR.

#### Authority

Scientific research permits are issued in accordance with section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et. seq*) and regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222–226). NMFS issues permits based on findings that such permits: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) if granted and exercised, would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species that are the subject of the permit; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policy of section 2 of the ESA. The authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits.

Anyone requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). Such hearings are held at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS.

#### Applications Received

*Permit 1560–3R*

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) has requested a permit to annually take juvenile and adult LCR Chinook and coho, CR chum, and MCR steelhead while conducting research designed to (1) determine the diversity and distribution of fish species in the White Salmon River and tributaries, (2) compare populations of salmonids in the White Salmon and tributaries to pre-dam removal levels, (3) contribute to complimentary efforts by WDFW to characterize life history, genetics, and fish health of Chinook stocks in the lower White Salmon River. The USGS would capture fish by using a screw trap and backpack electrofishing equipment. Captured fish would be anesthetized, measured, weighed, and inspected for external diseases. Researchers would take fin clips of some captured fish in order to collect genetic tissues. Some juvenile fish would be PIT tagged to determine smolt trap efficiency and provide life history information through recaptures and detections at Bonneville Dam as juveniles or adults. The researchers would avoid adult salmonids, but some may be encountered as an unintentional result of sampling. The researchers do not expect to kill any listed salmonids but a small number may die as an unintended result of the research activities.

*Permit 15549–2R*

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) is seeking a five-year permit to expand on and extend work previously conducted under other research permits (Permits 1532 and 15549). The research would take place in Satus, Ahtanum, Naches, and Toppenish Creeks in Washington State. The researchers wish to take juvenile MCR steelhead during the course of research designed to determine the fishes' freshwater movements and examine how those movements are affected by the area's substantially altered hydrograph. They would also collect baseline information on stock status and yearly abundance and seek to determine whether repeat spawners from a kelt reconditioning program are successfully reproducing.

The fish would be captured using screw traps and backpack electrofishing equipment. They would then be anesthetized and measured. Some would be tissue-sampled for DNA and some would receive passive integrated transponder (PIT) tags. The information gathered would be used to determine the fishes' movements and abundance and monitor the ongoing status of the various MCR steelhead populations in the Yakima River subbasin. The research would benefit the fish by helping managers determine the effectiveness of current recovery measures and design new ones where needed. The CRITFC does not plan to kill any of the fish being captured, but a few may die as an unintentional result of the research.

*Permit 16122–2R*

The Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) are seeking a five-year permit to take juvenile UCR steelhead in the Okanogan River, Washington. The purpose of the research is to monitor steelhead populations in the basin. The researchers are seeking to estimate natural production and productivity and calculate annual population estimates, egg-to-emigrant survival, and emigrant-to-adult survival rates. The population estimates would be used to evaluate the effects of supplementation programs in the Okanogan River Basin and provide managers with the data they need to determine spawning success. The research would benefit the fish by giving state and Federal managers information on UCR steelhead status and the degree to which they are being