

ATLANTIC SALMON FEDERATION

14 Maine Street, Suite 308

Brunswick, ME 04011

September 22, 2009

Matt Menashes, Executive Director
National Estuarine Research Reserve Association
444 North Capitol St. NW, Suite 322
Washington DC, 20001

Dear Mr. Menashes,

Thank you for sharing your proposal *A Partnership to Restore Fish Habitat associated with the National Estuarine Research Reserve System: Applying a Restoration Science Framework*. The NERR system, with its extensive coastal habitats and unique on-site science, stewardship and education staff and infrastructure, offer an excellent opportunity for a successful coastal fish habitat restoration partnership. The emphasis on scientific rigor in the review, implementation and assessment of proposed projects, and the site-specific consideration of the consequences of sea level change in project selection are especially notable. The attention paid to climate change is relevant and timely, given its potential impact on coastal habitats. I would be willing and able to serve as proposal reviewer for the Partnership.

The Atlantic Salmon Federation (ASF) has been working for decades to restore populations of Atlantic salmon, river herring and other sea-run fish species to New England and the Maritime Provinces. We have worked on a number of small dam removal and fish passage projects, as well as on much larger projects, such as the removal of the Edwards Dam and the Penobscot River Restoration Project. Our experience should be helpful in reviewing your project should it receive funding. I look forward to working with you on this proposal.

Sincerely,



John Burrows
Maine Coordinator
Atlantic Salmon Federation

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