



MARINE SCIENCE INSTITUTE

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September 18, 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 particularly appealing aspects of your proposal. This is particularly relevant given the climate change impacts that will potentially affect restoration projects. I would be willing and able to serve as proposal reviewer for the Partnership, particularly for proposals that include consideration of seagrasses and other submerged aquatic vegetation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken H. Dunton".

Dr. Kenneth H. Dunton  
Professor, department of Marine Science