



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS
RESEARCH LABORATORY
ATLANTIC ECOLOGY DIVISION
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OFFICE OF
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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 have experience as a Research Ecologist with the US EPA National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, and have conducted a number of coastal studies throughout my career in the mid-Atlantic, the southeast, and New England areas. I would be willing and able to serve as proposal reviewer (wigand.cathleen@epa.gov) for the Partnership.

Best Regards,

Dr. Cathleen Wigand