

# WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (2020)



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

## Marine District Habitat Restoration Feasibility Study Outline

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Applicants are required to submit sufficient information to demonstrate that the proposed aquatic habitat restoration project is feasible to construct at their project location. The Feasibility Study is a written document which must be submitted along with an online application. Based on an aquatic habitat restoration professional's site evaluation, the Feasibility Study provides the basis and justification for your proposed design.

### Required Elements

**NOTE:** The Feasibility Study must primarily address the aquatic habitat restoration practice(s), even if it is a portion of a larger project.

The recommended outline below contains the required elements which must be included when preparing your Feasibility Study.

- I. **Cover Page** (project title, owner, prepared by, and date)
- II. **Executive Summary** (Overview of the project's purpose)
- III. **Projective Objectives** (Describe goals for aquatic habitat restoration elements. Indicate whether the aquatic habitat restoration elements are a portion of a larger project)
- IV. **Existing Conditions:** Include an analysis of the proposed project site which addresses the following elements:
  - a. Current Land Use
  - b. Characterization of existing habitat, fish and wildlife at and adjacent to the site, types and condition of those habitats and wildlife to be affected by subject proposal (ex. wetlands, riparian areas, upland habitats, fish resources and species of concern)
  - c. Appropriate soil or sediment classification, if applicable to success of your project, (borings or subsurface investigations) See Soil Survey mapping tool)
  - d. Discussion of any other site considerations ( hydrology, use conflicts, public health implications, flood plain elevations, brownfield remediation , utilities or other potential design issues at the site). If site conditions are not conducive to implementing aquatic habitat restoration you should consider alternative funding sources that can support these other activities.
- V. **Anticipated Regulatory Approval and Permits** (list all that will apply, e.g., DEC, NYSDOS, USACE, etc.)
- VI. **Existing Conditions Graphic:** A plan or diagram of the existing project site is required. It should include:
  - a. Restoration Professional name; date and project title
  - b. North arrow / legend
  - c. Graphical scale
  - d. Site features (wetlands, streets, buildings, etc.)
  - e. Location map
  - f. Site topography
  - g. Project location / address (including nearest cross street)
  - h. Nearest receiving waterbody
  - i. Location relative to wetlands or other significant habitats and wildlife of concern.
  - j. Other site considerations ( hydrology, use conflicts, public health implications, flood plain elevations, brownfield remediation , utilities or other potential design issues at the site)
  - k. Appropriate soil or sediment classification, if applicable to success of your project, (borings or subsurface investigations), See Soil Survey mapping tool.

## VII. Project Description

- a. **Recommended aquatic habitat restoration practice(s):** Provide a narrative that explains the proposed project and aquatic habitat restoration practices, why they were selected and projected benefits to aquatic habitats.

## VIII. Anticipated Regulatory Approval and Permits *(list all that will apply, e.g. NYSDEC, NYSDOS, USACE, etc.)*

### IX. **Conceptual Site Plan:** A plan or diagram of the project's conceptual design is required. It must include:

- a. Restoration professional name; date and project title
- b. North arrow / legend
- c. Graphical scale (1" = 10', 20', 30', 40', 50', 60' or 100')
- d. Location map
- e. Site features (wetlands, nearest waterbody, streets, buildings, etc.)
- f. Proposed aquatic habitat restoration practice location in relation to existing site conditions.
- g. Site grading (proposed conditions) or alterations to existing elevations.
- h. Other site considerations ( hydrology, use conflicts, public health implications, flood plain elevations, brownfield remediation , utilities or other potential design issues at the site)

### X. **Site Photographs:** Photographs that are representative of existing site conditions.