



NERRS Science Collaborative Collaborative Research RFP Q&A Webinar

November 9, 2021

Thank you for joining us! We will begin shortly. Three reminders:

1. All audio is through GoToWebinar where you can select computer or phone
2. Please mute your line for the initial presentation
3. You may submit questions at any time through GoToWebinar



**National Estuarine
Research Reserve System
Science Collaborative**

Webinar outline

1. Overview of Request for Proposals (RFP)
 - Timeline
 - What do we mean by collaborative research?
 - Key requirements
 - Pre-proposal evaluation
 - Two example projects
2. Question and answer session

2 quick polls to gauge today's audience

Which best describes your primary affiliation? (check all that apply)

- National Estuarine Research Reserve System
- Academic institution
- Government agency
- Non-profit organization
- Other

Have you applied for NERRS Science Collaborative funding before?

- Yes
- No



Collaborative research grants

Date	Activity
December 7, 2021 by 11:59pm EST	Pre-proposals due
February 28, 2022	Invitations to full proposal
April 13, 2022 by 11:59pm EST	Proposals due
July 2022	Funding notifications
October 1, 2022	Anticipated project start date



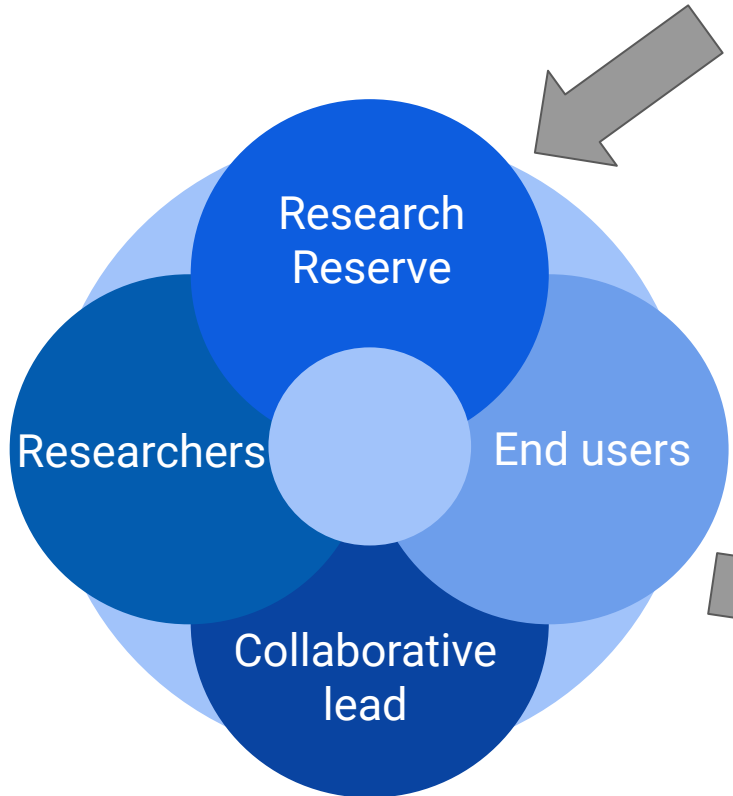
What is collaborative research?

Researchers and the intended users of the research working together to advance knowledge and understanding through applied research in a manner that none of them working alone could accomplish.



**Reserve
management
needs**

**Climate change
Ecosystem service valuation
Water quality
Habitat resilience
Monitoring data applications**




**Data, tools &
products that inform
decisions**



1) Reserve engagement

Demonstrating a proposal's relevance to a NERR

- Collaborate on the proposal
- Explain the relevance and NERR role in the narrative



Manager Proposal Assessment Form-- a chance to share any concerns about:

- ☐ Reserve staff engagement to date
- ☐ Proposed budget and role for reserve

Reserve Management Needs, By Region

Caribbean Region

Jobos Bay Reserve, Puerto Rico

Climate Change

- Develop workshops for a climate change action plan.
- There is a need to assess local issues related to CC on both, ecosystem and human settlement. Resilience for both communities is to be affected by CC.
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Shoreline Stabilization

- Workshops in community incentives for protecting watersheds and shorelines.
- Our reserve needs to attend and solve many cases of encroachments in the natural habitats terrains with the collaboration of the DNER Legal Division and Law Enforcement Rangers.

Water Quality

- The impacts of recreational development as a land use in coastal watersheds and measures to address those impacts.
- The illegal constructions, man-made structures and rubble and debris deposited need to be removed from the mangroves and salt flats of the reserve.
- There is a need to identify how LULC are specifically affecting the estuary condition such groundwater supply and runoff that may be impairing our water quality.

Habitat Restoration

- Workshops on elements of conservation biology for estuaries.
- All the impacted areas need to be restored to the original state.

Monitoring Application

- Develop workshops to share SWMP data with coastal decision maker audiences.
- Science-based strategies are the focus of management actions at the Reserve. Long term data acquired need to be depurated and use to develop products for decision makers and other stakeholders such community groups.

Great Lakes Region

Lake Superior Reserve, Wisconsin

Ecosystem Service Valuation

- Local partners point out a disconnect between citizens' stewardship actions and their desire to access the Rivers and Lake Superior. Understanding the critical services these systems provide and then successfully articulating their value to these citizens is a need for all Reserve Partners.

Climate Change

- Understanding climate change and changing land/water management in terms of climate change/resiliency; messaging for the public on these topics.

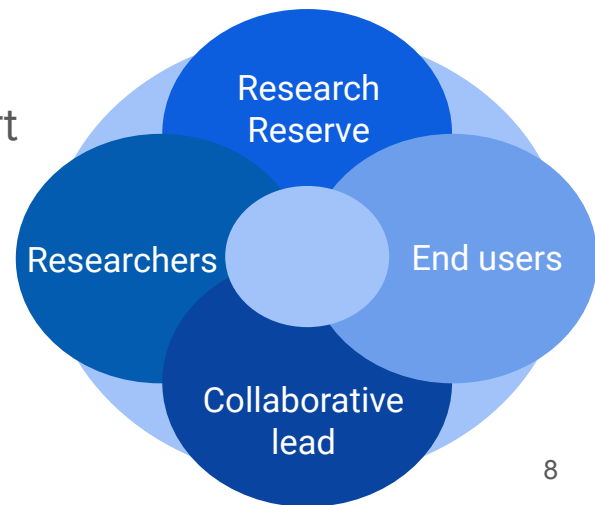
Ecosystem Service Valuation

- Understanding the use of ESV framework and principles in management decisions and relatedly, improving research strategies under this framework.

2) Collaboration & end user engagement

Demonstrating end user engagement

- Specify the primary end user(s) and their needs
- Provide a letter of support from an end user
- What research decisions have been and will be informed by users?
- Confirm collaborative lead has sufficient time, support and relevant skills
- Offer examples of *how* project results could be used



3) Data sharing expectations

Full proposals

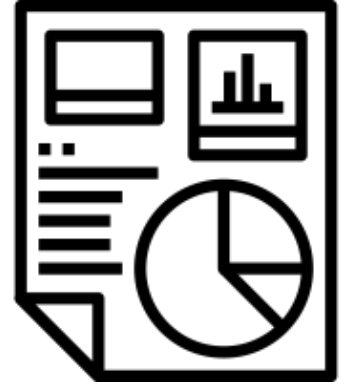
- Include a data sharing plan as an appendix, following our template

At the pre-proposal stage

- Amount requested should include data management and data sharing elements

Data access portals used by teams

- NCBI GenBank
- Barcode of Life Database (BOLD)
- PANGAEA
- University partner
- Centralized Data Management Office
- Axiom



Pre-proposal evaluation

Evaluation Criteria

1. Management need
2. Responsiveness to end users
3. Approach
4. Team
5. Potential impact



Evaluating Whether Oyster Aquaculture Can Help Restore Water Quality

Management need: Expanding options for meeting water quality regulations

End user: Towns, planning commission, state

Reserve role: Collaborative lead, education coordinator

Collaborative approach:

- Town staff are on team
- End user advisory team
- Direct consultations as needed



Evaluating Thin-Layer Sediment Placement as a Strategy to Enhance Coastal Marsh Resilience

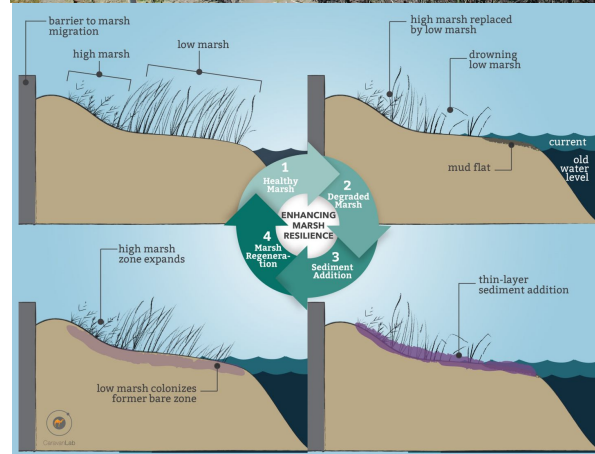
Management need: When and how can this strategy work?

End user: Restoration practitioners, funders, permitters

Reserve role: Leading a replicated field experiment

Collaborative approach:

- Implementation team
- Advisory Committee
- Extended mailing list



Program resources & support

- Online applicant resources-- see <http://nerrssciencecollaborative.org/research>
- Call or email us:
 - Maeghan Brass (734-763-0727)
 - Jen Read (734-769-8898)
 - nerrs-info@umich.edu



End User Characterization: A Tool for Collaborative Research

The ability to produce usable science is greatly enhanced when researchers understand and are responsive to the interests and needs of end users. Both in design and implementation, successful collaborative research projects demonstrate an understanding of the users of the science or "end users" and their respective needs. This tool will guide you through a process of considering the needs of end users and inform your approach to engaging them in your project. You will likely find it helpful to revisit this process periodically, as the project evolves and you gain an even better understanding of your end user(s) and their needs.

What is an end user?

An end user is defined as a person or group in a position to apply the information or tools being produced, evaluated, or transferred through a Science Collaborative project in a way that is of direct consequence to the ecological, social, or economic integrity of a reserve(s) and/or surrounding watershed(s). Examples of end users include, but are not limited to, reserve staff, and public, private or non-governmental decision/policy makers, including landowners, resource managers, land use planners, and educators at all levels.

Understanding your end users and their needs from the very beginning of project development and keeping end users engaged throughout helps ensure that the collaborative science is useful. Based on your understanding of the management need and potential end users, use the following table to characterize each end user. The following questions are intended to help you through this process:

Who are your end users?

- What users or user groups have a decision making role related to the issue of concern?

What are their needs or wants?

- What are the relevant needs or wants for each end user or end user group? What problems are you hoping to help them address?
- What information do you know they need or want, given their decision making context?
- How do you know they plan to use the information?
- What are the known opportunities for the end user to use the information you are planning to work with them to produce? What are the known barriers?
- What do you expect will be the impact of the information you produce?

How engaged should they be?

- What role do you anticipate the end user will play in the development and implementation of the project, e.g. help define the project goals, facilitate

End User Characterization Worksheet

Using the above questions as a guide, characterize each known and potential end user by completing a row for each. Add additional lines as needed.

User (name, title, organization)	Description of need/want	Level & frequency of engagement	Potential timeline for use of outputs
End user 1:			
End user 2:			
End user 3:			
End user 4:			

COLLABORATIVE SCIENCE FOR ESTUARIES
WEBINAR SERIES

Jenni Schmitt
South Shores AWH

Jill Rolfe
Grand Climate Planning
Department

**Community Collaboration: A Locally Driven
Approach to Estuarine Management**

Date: Monday, November 4, 2019
Time: 3:00 - 4:00 PM ET

National Estuarine
Research Reserve System
Science Collaborative

Who We Are What We Fund What We Do Project Catalog Resource Library

Project Catalog

Home » What We Fund » Project Catalog

Ordering: 1 - 15 of 85

Project Type: Resource: Region: Focus Area: Starting Year: Keyword(s):

Question and answer time

Type in questions to the GoToWebinar console

“Raise your hand” in GoToWebinar

Or speak up, but don't forget to **unmute** your phone line.



Thank you



Photo Credit: Rebecca Zeiber



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