

ABBREVIATED NOAA ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions: Answer EVERY question in the yellow square below it.

Questions are selected from the full 62-question NOAA Environmental Compliance Questionnaire (available at www.nepa.noaa.gov), as such questions are not in numerical order.

Grant number and/or Project ID (if available)
Project Title
Name and contact information for the person completing this form
State Sea Grant Program
<u>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</u>
Describe the proposed activity, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The purpose, objectives, and goals
Is the proposed activity a continuation or part of an ongoing activity? If yes, then: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe any changes to the proposed activity since it was initiated, including progress toward achieving its objectives/goals; and• Provide any additional information, previous environmental review documents, and/or reports from previous years.
Describe sampling, collecting, or observation protocols and operational procedures
Will the proposed activity require the cataloging and compiling of sources of socioeconomic data? If yes, then please explain.
Does the proposed activity consist solely of software research and manipulation? If yes, please explain.
Does the proposed activity utilize a new or untested scientific technology or method? If yes, then describe briefly the technological process or methodology and potential environmental effects of the proposed activity.

What amount (total numbers and/or weight) of fish or invertebrates are proposed to be caught? What is the size (weight, length, and age class) of each species targeted for capture?
List non-target species that may occur in the proposed sampling area and specify how many of each non-targeted species are expected to be caught.
Will the proposed activity introduce genetically modified organisms, species bred for specific traits (e.g. disease resistant stocks), or non-indigenous species into an area?
Describe the processing methods to be used to conduct the research.
<u>LOCATION</u>
Describe the proposed activity location, including, if available and appropriate, geographic coordinates (latitude, longitude in DD MM.MMM), river mile markers, etc. for all distinct phases of the proposed activity.
Is the location of the proposed activity in a previously undisturbed area? If yes, then explain if the proposed activity would degrade or disturb the previously undisturbed area.
Are there pre-existing or ongoing uses at the location of the proposed activity? If yes, then describe and explain the pre-existing or ongoing uses at the location of the proposed activity or, if not known, describe how pre-existing/ongoing uses will be determined.
Describe the characteristics of the location of the proposed activity by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• indicating whether it includes unique geographic areas of notable recreational, ecological, scientific, cultural, historical, scenic, economic, or aesthetic importance;• describing any anticipated changes over time to the natural landscape and/or viewshed that would result from the proposed activity;• listing any ecologically significant or critical areas in the location of the proposed activity, including areas that are normally inundated by water or areas within the 100- year flood plain;• essential fish habitat and habitat areas of particular concern designated under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; • listing any critical habitat areas for Endangered Species Act-listed species;• listing any marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries in the location of the proposed activity;• listing any part of refuge lands, wild or scenic rivers, wetlands, or prime/unique farmland in the location of the proposed activity;

- listing any properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks, or National Monuments; and
- listing any religious or cultural sites of any Federally recognized Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in the proposed activity area.

Are minority or low-income communities located in the area of the proposed activity? If yes, then describe how the minority or low-income communities may be impacted by the proposed activity.

PROJECT PARTNERS, PERMITS AND CONSULTATIONS

List all other interested or affected Federal, state, and local agencies, Native American tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations, non-governmental organizations, and private individuals which may potentially be interested and/or affected by the action.

Are Federal, state, or local permits, authorizations, waivers, determinations, or consultations required for the proposed activity to comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations? If yes, then:

- list and provide the status of all required Federal, state, or local permits, authorizations, waivers, determinations, conditions, and consultations, as applicable; and
- provide copies of all required Federal, state, or local permits, authorizations, waivers, or determinations that you have secured.

SAFETY

Describe potential unique or unknown risks to human health or the environment from the proposed activity.

Describe the potential to generate, use, store, transport, or dispose of hazardous or toxic substances. Please include the following:

- a list of any hazardous substances (as defined by 29 C.F.R. 1910.120(a)(3)) that will be involved in this project and any hazardous wastes (as defined by 40 C.F.R. 261.3) that may be generated during the proposed activity;
- any hazardous contaminants that may be uncovered and/or disturbed by the proposed activity; and
- a list of the procedures/protocols that will be followed to ensure safe handling of hazardous substances and proper disposal of all hazardous wastes.

<u>AQUACULTURE (IF APPLICABLE)</u>
Will the proposed activity be conducted in a closed system mesocosm/aquaculture facility or in open water (coastal or Federal waters)?
If using aquaculture gear, describe whether gear would be deployed short-term (1-2 years) or long-term (2+ years) and describe the number of cages/nets, lines, anchors, etc. that would be used during the course of the study. What type and size of cages/nets, lines, anchors, etc. would be used?
What amount (total numbers and/or whole weight in pounds) of fish or invertebrates are proposed to be captured for culture purposes (i.e., broodstock)? What is the target size (weight and length) and age class of each species to be captured for culture purposes?
What amount (total numbers and/or whole weight in pounds) of fish or invertebrates are proposed to be cultured? What is the estimated size (weight and length) and age class of each species targeted for harvest at the end of each culture period?
If the proposed activity involves the use of any specialized equipment that may introduce sound into the environment, then provide a description of the noise(s), including frequency (Hz), amplitude (dB), angle (or degrees) radius the noise may travel from the source, and other relevant technical specifications. Compare the noise(s) generated by the proposed activity with ambient noise conditions, if known. Also, discuss the length of time and frequency of occurrence that the noise is expected to be introduced into the environment.
If the proposed activity involves the use of any specialized equipment that may introduce sound into the environment, then provide a description of the noise(s), including frequency (Hz), amplitude (dB), angle (or degrees) radius the noise may travel from the source, and other relevant technical specifications. Compare the noise(s) generated by the proposed activity with ambient noise conditions, if known. Also, discuss the length of time and frequency of occurrence that the noise is expected to be introduced into the environment.