

How the Process Works: Your Input is Important



Both sanctuary and cultch sites are managed by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) through the following process:

SITE SELECTION

Public Input

Your opinions matter, and they matter most at this step. Public meetings are held statewide each summer and fall. The public is encouraged to attend and submit comments on where to locate sanctuaries and cultch plantings. Send written comments to:

Garry Wright at Division of Marine Fisheries
garry.wright@ncdenr.gov
P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557

Field Work

Once a list of potential sites is created, DMF will investigate the site to see if it is suitable for restoration by looking at various biological parameters and logistics.

Modeling from Universities

N.C. State University and UNC Wilmington have developed various tools that help predict where oyster restoration efforts will be most successful. These tools use environmental parameters, historic reef location, connectivity modeling and information on known public use conflicts to aid site selection.

PERMITTING

Public Comment

After a site has been selected, DMF will secure state and federal permits to perform the restoration work. At this stage, there is opportunity for public comment on the issuance of the permit through the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management's permitting process.

CONSTRUCTION

Once permits are secured, DMF works with local contractors to purchase material. When feasible, private contractors and fishermen are hired to build the reefs.

**To find out more or get involved please
contact Erin Fleckenstein at 252-473-1607 or
erinf@nccoast.org**

**EVERY
\$1.00 INVESTED
IN THE STATE'S
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT
ACTIVITIES PROVIDES
\$4.05 IN BENEFITS.***

**Callihan R., et al. 2016. Economic Analysis of the Costs and Benefits of Restoration and Enhancement of Shellfish Habitat and Oyster Propagation in North Carolina. RTI International. Prepared for the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership.*