



Protecting nature. Preserving life.

***TIDAL WETLAND MITIGATION PROJECTS OR
TIDAL WETLAND CREDIT PURCHASES IN THE
POTOMAC RIVER BASIN
OF VIRGINIA***

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
ADDENDUM #1**

JULY 12, 2019

**Proposals must be received by 5:00pm on September 30, 2019
(or as specified in any addenda to this RFP)**

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Disclose and Distribute Solely to Employees of The Nature Conservancy having a need to know
and to Recipient's Employees with a need to know.

**POTOMAC RIVER BASIN – TIDAL WETLAND MITIGATION PROJECT RFP
ADDENDUM #1**

A.2 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Nature Conservancy is posting this addendum to clarify the considerations that should be taken for tidal sites in response to sea level rise (SLR). TNC currently includes these items in other project selections and design considerations for tidal/coastal sites, though we are emphasizing our request to consultants to adapt this mitigation project to sea level rise and other climate-related impacts.

The proposal should address site selection, appropriate modifications to design criteria, and consider risk-based decision-making models. Specifically, the proposal should include a quantitative estimate to measure SLR inundation over time by using the NOAA Sea Level Rise Modeler <https://coast.noaa.gov/slr/>. The Intermediate-High Estimate or Intermediate Estimate should be utilized for the modeling. Using this modeler, the proposal should include a current description of habitat types in areas designated for landward marsh migration and how those areas will transform with SLR over the next several decades (e.g.; in 30 years, assuming a 1.5' increase in water levels, there will be X acres of low marsh, X acres of high marsh, and X acres of scrub-shrub). Designs should include appropriate planting palettes that allow for landward marsh migration (*Spartina* placement at MHW rather than lower elevation). The proposal should also consider vertical accretion in tidal marshes which may include estimates and monitoring techniques to measure organic matter and sediment deposition, with emphasis on success of plant abundance and biomass growth that allows for this vertical accretion. The project property should include "retreat zones" for the tidal ecosystem and the placement of an easement on those areas to insure the egress route is protected, to the extent practicable.

Regarding monitoring requirements and success criteria, please use the mitigation plan of the New Mill Creek tidal bank as guidance for this proposed site. This bank's criteria have been approved by VMRC and should be used as a standard format for success and reporting requirements. The mitigation plan for this bank can be found on RIBITS.

Additionally, preferred sites would align with TNC's priority of being within a "TNC Resilient and Connected" landscape. These areas have been identified by TNC scientists and planners as areas that allow for habitat and species migration in response to climate change. Use TNC's mapping tool at <http://maps.tnc.org/resilientland/> . If a site does not align with these areas, please provide a response as to how this particular site would allow for sea level rise.