



## PROJECT REPORTING FORM

### ● CONTACT

Elizabeth Moore  
JNCC

TEL: 00 (44) 1733 866861 [elizabeth.moore@jncc.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth.moore@jncc.gov.uk)  
[www.jncc.gov.uk](http://www.jncc.gov.uk)

If you have suggestions for improvement of this form, your feedback would be appreciated:

**COUNTRY:**Bermuda

**PROJECT TITLE:** Seagrass Restoration: A Tool for Mitigating Loss of Ecosystem Services

**REPORTER:** Name, Organization, Contact Details.

v (v tick if same as APPLICANT)

Sarmia Sarkis, Department of Conservation Services, Bermuda. [scsarkis@gov.bm](mailto:scsarkis@gov.bm)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** How did the project go? What were the HIGHLIGHTS and OVER-ACHIEVEMENTS of objectives? What CHALLENGES did you encounter? How were these RESOLVED?

#### **HIGHLIGHTS and OVER-DELIVERY**

The contribution by JNCC served to fund an M.Sc. student to travel to Bermuda for collection of samples from natural seagrass beds, damaged seagrass beds, and those in proximity to environmentally friendly moorings. Ms. Greiner from the University of Virginia came for one week in June 2012; cores were taken from seagrass meadows in various conditions, in order to assess carbon, nitrogen and phosphorous levels in sediments and in roots, rhizomes and leaves of *Thalassia testudinum*.

All sampling went according to plan. Samples were processed in Bermuda, and taken back by Jill Greiner for analysis. It is anticipated that analyses will be completed before March 31, 2013.

The encouraging aspect of this project is the support provided by the private sector. Samples collected in environmentally friendly mooring locations were done so with the assistance of a marine contractor. This demonstration of support to obtain scientific data which may be used in modifying and improving legislation for anchoring of boats, and minimize recognized impacts to seagrass bed by standard moorings was a positive outlook for future legislation on protection of seagrass.

#### **PROBLEMS and RESOLUTION**

There were no problems or challenges encountered, as the weather was conducive to collection. Moreover, methods used had been previously tested in the US and during a prior trip to Bermuda in October 2011.

**OUTPUTS:** With reference to the FUNDS APPLICATION form, did your MAIN OUTPUTS achieve their EXPECTED OUTCOMES?

ACTIVITY	ACTUAL OUTCOME	COMMENTS
1	Collection of sediment and seagrass tissue in healthy, damaged and environmentally friendly mooring seagrass beds	Weather and techniques worked out as expected
2	Determination of carbon levels in both sediment and seagrass tissue	Ongoing at the University of Virginia- due for completion December 2012
3	Comparison among sites of different seagrass "health" status in Bermuda and with sites on the Eastern coast of the US subject to restoration measures	To be discussed in final report- due for completion April 2013
4	Working towards contribution to global database of carbon deposition in seagrass meadows	In line with correspondence with IUCN Blue Carbon working group
5	Further engagement of marine contractors in light of improving legislation in Bermuda	Building on relationship established since the beginning of overarching seagrass restoration project began April 2010

**INFORMATION:** This final section is, in some ways, the most important part of this form. Provision of this information will enable us to pursue further funding and support for conservation projects in the Overseas Territories.

I ATTACH the following, by way of INFORMATION:

(Please v tick appropriate boxes, and attached necessary information as necessary)

- Brief QUOTATIONS from the Project Manager / individuals involved with this project, which may be used freely by JNCC to promote and publicized the conservation achievements of this project through suitable media:
- PHOTOGRAPHS or VIDEO CLIPS and full details of associated photo-credits, which may be used freely by JNCC and other OTs, to promote and publicized the conservation achievements of this project through suitable media.
- A scanned copy and / or web-address of any NEWS ITEMS, PUBLISHED ARTICLES arising from this project.
- A copy of any EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, books, brochures, pamphlets or posters, arising from this project.

- √ Details of any WEBSITE or WEBLINKS arising from this project.

<http://www.conservation.bm/publications/dcs-project-programme-fliers/>  
alternatively. Log into [www.conservation.bm](http://www.conservation.bm), link to “Resources”, link to “DCS Project & Programme Fliers”

- √ Details of any COLLABORATION or PARTNERSHIP, local or international, which contributed to the success of this project.

The collaboration of Dr. K. McGlathery (University of Virginia, U.S.A.), was essential in the experimental design and scientific analyses.

**The support of Bermuda Marine Services in the collection of samples, and in a better understanding of the use of environmentally friendly moorings in Bermuda, is a positive step towards the engagement of the private sector in future seagrass conservation measures.**

- Details of any other unexpected benefits arising from this project, such as CONSERVATION AWARDS, PUBLIC SUPPORT, VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION or SPONSORSHIP.