



NOAA Habitat Conservation

Conserving Habitat for Future Generations

Maintenance, Monitoring and Evaluation of Habitat Restoration Projects

NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE



NOAA RC GL Habitat Restoration Project Types

- **Wetland restoration**
- **Hydrologic reconnection**
- **Fish passage**
- **Marine debris removal**



Dunes Creek, Indiana Dunes State Park

How is project maintenance addressed?

❖ Long-term Maintenance:

- **Fish passage projects** : include a management plan that describes who will be in charge of the O&M and how they will be operated and maintained
- **Invasive Species**: include information on maintenance activities including duration of maintenance
- **Hydrologic reconnection**: include documentation of plans for long-term project maintenance



❖ Landowner Support: include a letter of commitment from the landowner or from relevant resource agency personnel.

❖ Criteria/Scoring:

- The degree to which the project features self-sustaining restoration techniques or, if necessary, includes long-term management of the restored resource.



NOAA RC Monitoring and Evaluation

❖ Long-term Monitoring:

- All proposals should include a discrete monitoring plan and work with NOAA to ensure that the proposed parameters are adequate and meaningful.
- All monitoring proposals should, at minimum, include implementation monitoring.

❖ **Criteria:** The extent to which the project can measure progress towards project goals and evaluate success using pre- and post-monitoring within the award period.

❖ **Scoring:** Applicants who propose sufficient, cost-effective monitoring appropriate to the scope and scale of the project are likely to score higher, as will those that have funding in place to support long-term monitoring beyond the award period.



Clinton River Spillway Engineering/Design, Macomb Co., MI

Why Monitor?



NOAA's Restoration Center has a systematic framework for monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

- **Determine success (or not)**
- **Provide consistency**
- **Improve planning and decision-making**
- **Document progress**
- **Inform future restoration**

