

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Research Registration Procedure: 2008

The Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (WBNERR) has a Research Registration Procedure, which entails your filling out the attached form (pages 2-4). The purpose of this process is threefold.

First, the information provides Reserve staff with a concise description of your research program at WBNERR in your own words. An important component of the Reserve's mandate is to provide outreach between the science sector and the public regarding coastal zone management and estuarine issues. The registration process will ensure that our descriptions of activities underway at the reserve are timely and accurate. Also, the scope of your endeavors will be more generally known by WBNERR staff, other researchers, and an interested public. This will also enhance our staff's ability to assist you in the protection of your study sites from disturbance by the legitimately curious public or other activity.

Second, it results in the assignment of a WBNERR Research Project number to your project. When you mark your buoys, etc. with this number, Reserve staff can assist you in your work by easily identifying your site and equipment should the need arise (e.g. gear adrift, tampering, etc.).

The third objective is to facilitate the compliance of field research activities at the Reserve with regulations stipulated by town authorities of Mashpee and Falmouth. Many of these regulations have been in place for a number of years and researchers were previously expected to address them on their own back in the early days. However, the WBNERR research program has obtained permits of general scope from the two towns. These permits apply to many common field research activities and are implemented through the registration process. Registered researchers conducting projects that entail the specified permitted activities no longer have to seek specific permission from the towns to be in legal compliance. WBNERR staff listed below will assist you with any questions.

Chris Weidman (ext. 105), Research Coordinator;

- questions about the registration process,
- assignment of a WBNERR Research Project number,
- availability of laboratory or storage space, and
- other questions about conducting research at the reserve.

MaryKay Fox (ext. 109), Asst. Research Coordinator;

- availability of laboratory, storage space, boat mooring
- other questions about conducting research at the reserve

Sheri Proft (ext. 100), for administrative assistance

- availability of (and scheduling for) dormitory housing, and
- using other WBNERR facilities, such as meeting rooms, classroom or library.

Brendan Annett (ext. 101), Reserve Manager;

- general information

WBNERR Research Registration Form

Date: /2008

1. Project Title (make as concise as possible, 10 words or less):

2. Duration (month/year to month/year):

3. Funding Source(s):

4. Principal Investigator(s), institutional affiliation(s), and contact info

(Indicate lead investigator as well as on-site contact responsible for field activities if different)

Lead Investigator:

Affiliation:

Phone:

Email:

Primary contact mailing address:

On-site Contact (if different):

Affiliation:

Phone:

Email:

Other Participants (and contact info):

Please provide any additional telephone numbers useful in case of emergency situation:

5. Project Description: Briefly (150 words or less) describe your research project and its motivation (in language for the non-technical audience):

6. Planned Activities: Briefly list field activities planned at the reserve this year along with an estimated schedule (if this is first year of multi-year project include a general outline of planned activities over course of project)

7. Study Site Location: Identify the exact location of your study site(s) and / or mark the position(s) on a map of Waquoit Bay (i.e., use one off our web site) and surrounding areas. This information is used to reduce interference with other researchers, high-use water-ways, and other conflicting uses. It will also help WBNERR answer queries from local authorities and the public regarding equipment observed in the field. If your field equipment is sensitive to "disturbance", we will assist you in designing a scheme to minimize intrusion.

8. Hazardous material and activities: Does your planned research include any potentially hazardous materials or activities, such as radioisotopes, toxic chemicals or reagents, or environmentally-impacting electromagnetic, sonic or optic emissions?

Are any unusual or special services / facilities required?

Specifics relating to any items indicated above should be noted below and discussed with the Research Coordinator:

9. WBNERR General Research Permit: Many research activities require permits from local town resource management authorities. The WBNERR Local Research Permit applies to a range of routine field activities and covers projects that are registered with the Reserve. Contact the WBNERR Research Coordinator, Dr. Chris Weidman at 508-457-0495 (ext. 105), for help or clarification.

10. Other Permit Requirements: Project activities that are outside the scope of the WBNERR Local Research Permit (based on the WBNERR Research Coordinator's assessment) will need separate approval by the appropriate local or state authority (e.g., Falmouth and/or Mashpee Conservation Commission, shellfish warden, Mass. Department of Marine Fisheries). **Obtaining such permits is the researcher's responsibility.** Examples include (but are not limited to) a Scientific Collectors Permit issued by the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries for the collection of fishes and/or invertebrates, and migratory bird and vertebrate handling permits issued by various state and federal authorities. Contact the Research Coordinator for assistance in determining whether such additional permits are required. If your research requires such permits, we will need copies of them on file with the Research Coordinator.

11. Lab Space Needs: If you would like to request the use of WBNERR laboratory facilities, precisely describe your need. The Research Coordinator will try to provide you with lab space in so far as other activities allow. WBNERR generally does not supply equipment, laboratory materials or expendable supplies. Requests for exceptions to this rule will be considered on an individual basis (e.g., a collaborative project with the Reserve). A classroom adjoining the laboratory is primarily a facility supporting the WBNERR education program. If you desire to make use of this space, we will need to coordinate that use with the Education Program Coordinator.

12. Boating Needs: Several boat moorings are available for research programs being conducted at the reserve on a “first come, first serve” basis. Generally, a project is allocated one mooring only. List below the dates needed, the name and contact info of the person responsible for the boat (bailing, etc.), and other pertinent information (e.g. need for storage of equipment or boat trailer). Note that there are no docking facilities at the reserve and Waquoit Bay is shallow (typical depths are <2 m). If you only have a limited need for boat on just a few occasions, the Reserve may be able to provide you with a boat and driver as our other commitments allow.

13. Last Questions

- A. Have you received and have read the attached WBNERR document "Information for Researchers and Guests: 2007"?
- B. Do you have a Field Safety Plan?

(confirmation of these last two questions is a requirement of project registration)