

U.S. DEPT OF COMMERCE, NOAA  
NMFS PERMITS OFFICE, F/SER14  
263 13th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 824-5326 (8 am - 4:30 pm ET)  
Toll Free (877) 376-4877 (8 am - 4:30 pm ET)  
<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

# AQUACULTURE SITE EVALUATION REPORT

OMB No. 0648-205 Form  
Approval expires 10/31/2014



## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

SITE NUMBER

Reviewer Initials and  
Date

INSTRUCTIONS: Provide the information required on the evaluation form- ALL BLANKS MUST BE FILLED IN. Additional sheets may be used, however all information must be provided on this form. Any additional papers cannot be larger than 11 x 14 inches. When providing a copy of a portion of a nautical chart showing the location of the site, ensure that the chart number, title and edition used are included. Use a chart large enough in scale to show sufficient detail and allow for site location and inspection. All sites are to be a circle with a radius not to exceed 117.75 feet (0.019 NM); or 1.0 acre area.

Site Evaluation prepared for (Aquaculture applicant name)

Aquacultured Live Rock permits off the state of Florida are issued under the U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers (COFE) General Permit SAJ-71 to deposit material. Under SAJ-71, the total acreage of all sites maintained by a single permit holder must not exceed 1.0 acres. Applicants desiring to maintain aquacultured live rock sites with a total area of more than 1.0 acre OR off the coast of a state other than Florida must first obtain permits to deposit material from the USACE.

Latitude and Longitude must be reported as Degrees Minutes to the third decimal place (i.e. 24-32.123 N 085-45.456 W)

Latitude Center Point

Longitude Center Point

Radius (in feet)  
(Not to exceed 117.5 ft.)

Method of determining Latitude and Longitude

GPS

DGPS

This site is located off the coast of the state of:

Minimum Depth of water over the site at mean low water.

Description of the location of the site (i.e. 5.5 NM SW of Rock Key and .75 NM east of Sand Shoal)

1. Describe all possible hazards to safe navigation or hindrance to vessel traffic, interference with traditional fishing operations or other public access that may result from aquacultured rock at the site.

2. Describe the naturally occurring bottom habitat at the site:

3. Describe the type, size, amount and origin of the material to be deposited on the site and how it will be distinguishable (method of marking/tagging and description) from the naturally occurring substrate. You must provide a sample of the material.

**SIGNATURE**

Preparer Signature		Date Signed
Printed Name	Position in Company if Corporation/Business/LLC	
Qualifications/Experience of Preparer		

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to be 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to PRA Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service, F/SER2, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

The National Marine Fisheries Service requires this information for the conservation and management of marine fishery resources. The data reported will be used to develop, implement, and monitor fishery management activities for a variety of other uses. Responses to this collection are required to obtain or retain a fisheries permit under the Magnuson - Stevens Act. Name and address information will be released via a NOAA Fisheries website. All other data submitted will be handled as confidential material in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Protection of Confidential Fishery Statistics. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR AQUACULTURE SITE EVALUATION REPORT

## General Instructions:

**Applicants with specific questions may contact the SER Permits Office at (727) 824-5326 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.**

1. A site evaluation report must be submitted by the applicant to the **NMFS, Permit Office F/SER14, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701**. The report must be prepared by an independent source pursuant to generally accepted industry standards and shall demonstrate that the proposed site:
  - a. Is not a hazard to safe navigation or a hindrance to vessel traffic; and
  - b. Avoids traditional fishing operations, or other public access; and
  - c. Avoids impacts to naturally occurring hard bottom habitat and submerged aquatic vegetation; and
  - d. Contains natural underlying substrata that is primarily hard packed sand, hard shell hash, or less than 6-12 inches of sand over rock.
2. A site evaluation report must be done for each application for a new permit - even on established sites. You may include additional information in separate sources, but all information must be provided on this form. Fields 1, 2, and 3 on this form shall not refer to another source for information. Additional information, including photos or videotapes of the proposed site, is encouraged to facilitate review of each application.
3. A sample of the rocks to be deposited must accompany each Site Evaluation report. (NOTE: Rocks may not be placed over naturally occurring reef outcrops, limestone ledges, coral reefs, or vegetated areas. A minimum setback of 50 feet must be maintained from naturally vegetated or hard bottom habitats.)
4. The applicant shall identify the site on a nautical chart in sufficient detail to allow for site inspection, and shall provide accurate coordinates so that the site can be located by Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) equipment. Site inspection may be required on a case by case basis.
5. Sites off the coast of Florida which individually or cumulatively total more than 1.0 acres will not be authorized unless the applicant has individually obtained and provides a copy of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers special permit for Depositing Material on such a site.