Printable Marsh Checklist

1. **Is there an existing Engineered Structure (seawall, groin, revetment, etc.) at the site?**

   ☐ No

   ☐ Yes.

   Is functional or easily repaired?

   ☐ No

   ☐ Yes. Go to Currently Defended Structures.

2. **What is the condition of the marsh? Is there presently a vegetated wetland at the edge of the property? Is the vegetation dense or sparse?**

   ☐ **Healthy** ☐ **Sparse** ☐ **Non-existent**

   How wide is the marsh? _____

3. **Is the marsh eroding?**

   ☐ No

   ☐ Yes.

   What is causing the erosion?

   - ☐ Waves
   - ☐ Boat Wakes
   - ☐ Currents
   - ☐ Wrack
   - ☐ Ice
   - ☐ Public Access
   - ☐ Climate Change

   What level of protection is needed?

   ☐ From on-going erosion (caused by normal wave conditions and boat wakes)

   ☐ From storm-induced erosion (caused by major storm events such as nor'easters and hurricanes)?

   What is the rate of erosion?

   - ☐ Highly Erosional (2 feet or more per year)
   - ☐ Moderately Erosional (1-2 feet per year)
   - ☐ Slightly Erosional (less than 1 foot per year)
   - ☐ Stable (no change)
   - ☐ Accretional (growing seaward)

   Need more information? See Shoreline Change.

4. **Is there infrastructure at risk?**

   ☐ **No** ☐ **Yes**

5. **What is the wave climate?**

   During normal conditions? _____ feet
   Occasionally? _____ feet
   Frequently? _____feet

   During a storm conditions? _____ feet
   Occasionally? _____ feet
   Frequently? _____feet

   From boat traffic? _____ feet
   Occasionally? _____ feet
   Frequently? _____feet

   For more information on wave conditions and wakes, see Wave Climate and Fetch.

6. **Is the site affected by tidal, riverine or alongshore currents?**

   ☐ No ☐ Yes

7. **What is the shoreline geometry?**
   - ☐ Pocket
   - ☐ Irregular
   - ☐ Straight
   - ☐ Headland

   Unsure? Check out Shoreline Geomorphology.

8. **Is the marsh backed by**

   High sediment bank (is there a steep slope above the water line, more than 3 feet over 5 yards?)

   ☐ No

   ☐ Yes.

   Go to the Section on Bluffs

   Low sediment bank (is there a gentle slope above the water line, less than 3 feet over 5 yards?)

   ☐ No

   ☐ Yes.

   Is your low bank face
   - ☐ Erosional?
   - ☐ Stable?
   - ☐ Transitional?
   - ☐ Undercut?

9. **Does the bank have**

   Mature upland vegetation?
   ☐ No ☐ Yes

   Fallen or uprooted trees?
   ☐ No ☐ Yes

   Will existing vegetation shade created or restored marsh?
   ☐ No ☐ Yes

10. **What is the intertidal slope/nearshore bathymetry? Is the slope**
    - ☐ Gradual
    - ☐ Moderate
    - ☐ Steep

    For more information see Nearshore Bathymetry.

11. **What is the tidal range?**

    _____feet

    Need more information. See Tidal Range.

12. **Does the project site flood regularly during normal tides?**
    ☐ No ☐ Yes

    Spring tides?
    ☐ No ☐ Yes

    Storm surge?
    ☐ No ☐ Yes

13. **Is the project site affected by ice?**
    ☐ No ☐ Yes

    For more information see the section on Ice.

14. **Does the site have submerged aquatic vegetation?**
    ☐ No ☐ Yes

    Nearshore oyster beds?
    ☐ No ☐ Yes

15. **What is the nearshore region?**
    - ☐ Fine
    - ☐ Medium-coarse sediment
    - ☐ Rocky or cobbles
    - ☐ Ledge

☐ Offshore Sand Bars
☐ Tidal Flats

16. **What is the condition of the adjacent properties? Are they experiencing similar rates of erosion?**

☐ No ☐ Yes

Do they have existing coastal structures?

☐ No ☐ Yes

How will this project affect the adjacent properties?

_____
_____
_____

17. **Is the project site accessible for construction from land?**

☐ No ☐ Yes

Water?

☐ No ☐ Yes

18. **What is the current rate of sea level rise?**

_____feet

What is the predicted rate of rise?

_____feet

What are the potential effects of sea level rise on the project site?

_____
_____
_____