

Compelling Image(s) Here

You may find this [NERRS slide deck](#) or [NERRA's Flickr](#) helpful.

The Honorable **Name of Your Representative or Senator,**

Now is the time to invest in a time-tested, mission ready program with a proven track record of delivering the information and solutions coastal communities need. On behalf of the **Your Friends Group or Foundation and how many members/volunteers, we respectfully request your support for funding NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) Commerce, CJS, NOAA, NOS ORF budget at \$47M and the NERRS PAC budget at \$10M.**

This funding is essential as our System of Reserves grows and the needs of our coastal states and communities intensify. It will allow the NERRS to add two Reserves—one in Louisiana and one in Wisconsin—and advance the designation of a new site in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Like other coastal states, we count on Reserves to deliver the science, data, technical assistance, and educational resources our communities need to address sea level rise, record-breaking hurricane seasons, historic wildfires, crippling droughts, declining fisheries, harmful algal blooms, and other critical issues.

We depend on the **Your Reserve** to **[cite specific programs or projects that meet community needs**

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We also value the **Your Reserve** for its capacity to support jobs, contribute to the economy, help sustain fisheries, and protect the natural infrastructure that safeguards our coasts. In addition, the **Your Reserve** helps preserve the **Your Estuary** so it continues to enhance our quality of life and allows for recreational activities that are important to **Your State's** economy and public health. We especially appreciate the **how many** acres of lands and waters **Your Reserve** helps to keep open for public use.

Once enacted, the requested budget will send more dollars to **Your State** and enhance the NOAA services each Reserve and our communities receive to address these problems. These federal dollars will be matched by our state and provide an opportunity to leverage even more funding.

As we all prioritize our nation's economic and climate resilience, we hope you will join us in expressing your strong support for the **Your Reserve** and the NERR System as they make the coastal places where half of America lives, works, and recreates safer and healthier.

Sincerely,

