

Application Questions – Other Habitats

Your project may not fit into one of the current Conservation Certification habitat themes. Examples of **Other Habitats** projects include those targeting marine neritic areas, marine pelagic areas, or the ocean floor. Additionally, some habitat types, such as shrublands and savannas, may be considered **Other Habitats** if the management techniques do not align with those used for related habitats like grasslands or forests. Before applying for Conservation Certification

under **Other Habitats**, be sure that your project does not fit into one of the other themes under Habitat, Species Management, or Education and Awareness.

As you complete the application online, you will be asked the following questions about your **Other Habitat** project. These questions will help us understand and evaluate your project.

	Question	Why this question is important
Overview	Describe why the project does not fit into any of the other habitat themes.	<i>This helps us ensure that your project does not belong in any of the other habitat themes.</i>
	What is the total size of the habitat managed for this project?	<i>This provides us with a description of your project to allow us to assess it.</i>
	Describe the habitat in general including plants and structures.	
	Give a brief description of the vegetation and/or animals found in the habitat and list several of the common species.	
	Briefly summarize activities taking place to manage the targeted habitat.	
	Upload a map showing the location and photos showing the habitat.	
	When did work on the ground begin?	



	Question	Why this question is important
Objective	What are the project's conservation objectives?	<i>Having a conservation objective is a requirement for certification.</i>
Habitat Creation or Expansion	Give a brief description of the vegetation and/or animals found in the habitat and list several of the common species.	<i>Size and location are important factors that determine success and ecological benefit.</i>
	Upload a dated list of current plant and/or animal species in the habitat including common and scientific names and whether the species is native to the region.	
	Is this a new project not presented in previous applications?	
	Does it replace a habitat with less ecological value?	
	Describe the habitat prior to your project.	
	Describe any design or plant selection considerations that were part of this new project.	
	Upload documentation of the specific considerations.	
	Since the last application, have you expanded the size of your habitat or the area being managed?	
	What is the size of the habitat that has been added since the last application?	
	Does the habitat expansion replace a habitat with less ecological value?	
Describe the habitat present prior to your project.		



	Question	Why this question is important
Habitat Creation or Expansion (cont.)	Describe any design or plant selection considerations that were part of this project expansion.	<i>Size and location are important factors that determine success and ecological benefit.</i>
	Upload documentation of the specific considerations.	
	What is the size of the area that is being newly managed since the last application?	
Management	Describe the steps taken to maintain the habitat.	<i>Appropriate management policies and practices are also important to the target species.</i>
	Provide a timeline of maintenance and other completed activities.	
	Upload documentation of these activities.	
Monitoring	Was baseline data collected for this project?	<i>Monitoring is essential to understand the impact of the project and to be able to adapt as the project develops.</i>
	Describe the types of baseline data collected.	
	Upload the baseline data.	
	Describe what is monitored, including the frequency and list any plans or protocols used.	
	Upload the monitoring protocols, if applicable.	
	Upload the monitoring data and any analysis, if applicable.	
	Provide a brief summary of results from monitoring.	
	Evaluate the success of the project. If there were any concerns, what are the plans to address them in the future?	



	Question	Why this question is important
Employee Participation	Do employees actively contribute to the habitat project?	<i>Employee participation can strengthen a project and secure its future.</i>
	How many employees participate in the project on a regular basis?	
	Describe how employees are involved in this project.	
	How many employee hours were spent on the following activities each year?	
Other Participants	Do any groups or individuals outside of your company actively contribute to the project on a regular basis?	<i>It is not always possible to recruit outside groups to a project. Conservation and education partners can strengthen a project and provide different audiences to use it for lessons or recreation, thus broadening its reach.</i>
	Select the types of groups.	
	List the names of the groups you work with.	
	Describe their involvement in this project.	
	How many hours were spent by the groups on the following activities each year?	
	If you work with a habitat specialist on this project and have a current letter of support from them, upload it here.	
	List additional sources of technical advice (e.g. website, guidebook, etc.) and describe how they were used.	
Regulatory Requirements	Are any aspects of the project done in relation to regulatory requirements?	<i>Going beyond compliance is a requirement for certification.</i>
	Explain how the project exceeds requirements.	



	Question	Why this question is important
Connectivity	Does the project connect with other habitats of the same type on neighboring land?	<i>Connectivity on-site and across fence lines helps to decrease fragmentation, one of the leading causes of habitat loss.</i>
	Describe how the project connects with the other habitats.	
	Describe any coordinated management efforts with other habitats.	
Alignment	Does the project align with any larger scale initiatives? (e.g. corporate strategy, regional conservation plan, migratory pathway, watershed plan, etc.)	<i>Aligning conservation efforts with large-scale conservation plans and other regional conservation initiatives allows a site-based activity to support a landscape-scale objective.</i>
	Is the project part of a corporate level commitment to habitat conservation?	
	Upload documentation of your corporate commitment.	
	Does the project align with an existing conservation plan or other large-scale initiative?	
	List the conservation plans or other large-scale initiatives the project aligns with and provide website links, if available.	
	How does your project align with these large-scale initiatives?	
Existing Certifications	Does this project have third party certification specific to the habitat type?	<i>Other certifications or recognitions illustrate strong efforts and commitments.</i>
	List the certifications and provide a website link if available.	

