

***Data Management Plan***

Raw and processed data generated during the project will consist of fish species abundances (# of individuals), fish species composition (% occurrence), temperature (°C), salinity (ppt), density of turtles (# of individuals), and grazing rates (cm<sup>2</sup>/hr). Raw data will be stored as ASCII encoded, comma delimited, text files (\*.txt, \*.csv). Data processing and analysis will occur primarily in spreadsheets (e.g., MS Excel) and widely available statistical software (e.g. SigmaPlot and R) and will be stored as comma separated variables (\*.csv). Each dataset will be accompanied by an ISO 19115-2 standard metadata record in xml format. Available data sets will be collected, summarized and analyzed by project personnel, in accordance with the protocols described above.

Final documents, data, and metadata generated by this project will be made publicly available through existing partner resources (e.g., website, direct request). Specifically, Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL) will make these data available through their Data Management Center Metadata Archive <http://dim.disl.org/datasets.cfm>, as well as providing it to NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI) for broader incorporation and access. Additionally, we will utilize the Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO) website for award ID 173744 (<https://www.bco-dmo.org/project/750843>) to archive all raw and interpreted metadata from this supplementary project. Access, sharing, and security procedures for data generated by this project, as well as data stewardship and preservation policies, will follow those already in use by DISL's Data Management Center for publicly available data. All raw and interpreted data and metadata generated by this project will be made fully accessible to the public less than 2 years after collection. Interpreted data products will be incorporated primarily into peer-reviewed journal articles, in Supplemental Information to journal articles, and will also appear in conference presentations. Re-use, re-distribution, and production of derivatives of the datasets and model output are encouraged to enhance the public's understanding of the ecosystems being studied, and to assist both public officials and residents in making decisions to protect the environment, human lives and properties.

DISL has extensive prior experience with publishing data of this nature. DISL maintains and archives high quality marine scientific data and quality assurance and quality control are practiced at every level to help ensure the integrity and consistency of the data. DISL's Data Management Center oversees and facilitates data management efforts at DISL, including creation and publication of federally compliant metadata to make local data sets broadly accessible and enduring through time. Since 2006, the Data Management Center has collaborated closely with NOAA's NCEI to train personnel, publish metadata on national clearinghouses, and archive datasets at federal data centers.