
If you are encountering GEMS protocols for the first time, please read:

- The GEMS protocols are meant to help you develop a monitoring plan for a restoration project. They were developed based on existing published monitoring methods, but should not be considered prescriptive or the only appropriate way to monitor.
 - Each protocol is written as if you are monitoring a single outcome, but it is very possible you will be measuring multiple outcomes and may be able to use the same or similar methods to do so. Think about ways to be strategic and efficient when combining methods from different protocols. For example, are there ways to ask questions about multiple outcomes using a single survey instrument? Or is there a way to host a workshop that asks community members about barriers to accessing multiple types of outcomes?
 - Please be aware that the “who” methods—aimed at documenting who will be affected by social and economic changes caused by a restoration project—are quite similar across protocols. Where possible and sensible, you should consolidate community engagement methods that assess stakeholder perceptions of project outcomes to avoid stakeholder fatigue.
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Background

This document provides an overview of methods available for reporting restoration expenditures.

We define restoration expenditures as the total amount of money spent on the restoration project as reported in the project budget. Expenditures are used on engineering, construction, maintenance, employment, monitoring, and more.

“How much” methods help the project understand how much money is being spent on the project every year, while the “who” methods help the project assess who is receiving those expenditures.

Relevant Coastal Restoration Approaches

All Project Types

“How much” methods:

Overview. This method helps the project answer: How much money is spent by the restoration project each year?

“How much” method:

Method (click on method title to see more detail)	Method Outcome	Method Description	Human Subject Research Expertise Needed*	Effort Level
Report Expenditures	Total amount of money spent by the restoration project each year	Use project budget to sum restoration expenditures and report on these every year.	No	Low

*Refer to the [NIH Definition of Human Subjects Research](#) for more information

“How Much” Metric Summary:

Linked outcome:	Economic Activity
Metric tier:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 (easier) or <input type="checkbox"/> 2 (harder)
Measurement interval:	Annual
Use this protocol if:	Your restoration project is spending money

“Who” methods:

Overview. These methods help the project answer: who is receiving expenditures made by the project? Are project funds being spent in the local community or externally? If the project has set goals to spend money on local and/or minority-owned businesses in the project service area¹ and is intentionally already contracting with these businesses, you may not need to conduct these methods.

Method (click on the method title to see more detail)	Method Outcomes	Method Description	Human Subject Research Expertise Needed*	Effort Level
Describe stakeholders	Project service area boundaries	Identify geographic boundary that encompasses all local businesses that could receive project expenditures	No	Low
	Identity of local and/or minority-owned businesses that could provide project services	Conduct a simplified stakeholder assessment to understand what local and/or minority-owned businesses are eligible for receiving restoration expenditures	No	Low
	Comparison of businesses receiving expenditures to local/minority-owned businesses list	Make a list of businesses that received expenditures from the project and compare it to the list of local and/or minority owned businesses eligible for receiving restoration expenditures	No	Low
Accessibility checklist (from project perspective)	Status of expenditure accessibility	Fill out a project checklist to identify accessibility of project contracts (and thus expenditures)	No	Low

For more information on the GEMS project metrics and protocols, visit [this page](#).



¹ The geographic boundary containing those stakeholders for whom a particular project outcome is relevant