

**Subject: Request to Attend the 2024 RAE Coastal & Estuarine Summit**

Dear [Decision-maker],

I would like to request approval to attend the Coastal & Estuarine Summit from October 6 - 10 hosted by Restore America's Estuaries. This conference provides an exclusive opportunity for me to [present research to/network with/learn from experts alongside] more than 1,000 participants. I will be personally interacting with leaders in the field of coastal restoration, conservation, management, policy making, and blue carbon while honing my skillsets and learning about the latest research and techniques. The full line-up of conference speakers can be found at: <https://web.cvent.com/event/110611bc-78c6-43ad-b053-a9afd2a4263a/summary>

My attendance allows me to:

**Expand My Knowledge Base** – Learn practical technical and success skills from peers and professionals in coastal and estuary restoration and management that can be applied to current or future projects.

**Collaborate** – Present my/our research in a symposium or virtual roundtable session and receive valuable feedback from other researchers working on similar issues. I can also arrange one-on-one meetings with current and potential partners, learning about new solutions that will help us save money and time while providing the most accurate and reliable results.

**Develop Professionally** – Many presentations, such as XXXX and XXXX, will provide an overview of cutting-edge research topics directly influencing our jurisdiction. Others, such as XXXX, deal with skills and techniques such as leadership, communications, and stakeholder relations that will assist me/us in the long-term as I/we move forward with \_\_\_\_\_.

Notable speakers for this year's Summit include:

- Jainey K. Bavishi- Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Deputy Administrator

In addition to the plenary presentations, I would like to attend the following presentations and roundtable discussions:

- XXXX
- XXXX
- XXXX

The full price to attend is \$895 but can be reduced by \$100 by registering before the early bird deadline of August 2, 2024 (\$795 total) (\$395 for students).

The opportunity for me to [present my research to this/attend this summit alongside such a] prestigious audience, develop new skills, and network with potential collaborators make my attendance at the National Coastal and Estuarine Virtual Summit a sound investment of time and funds. I also plan to submit a summary of takeaways and future opportunities upon my return.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your decision.