

Marine Debris Monitoring Data Sheet

Observer name _____	Location _____	Grid # _____	Sighting # _____
Date _____	Time _____	Tide (high, low, rising, falling) _____	
Weather Conditions _____			
Site:	Your GPS Coordinates: Latitude _____ Longitude _____		
	Bay/Creek/Channel name _____		
	Estimated observer distance and direction from object _____		
Did you take a digital image of this item? Yes ___ No ___			

1. Object description:

- Abandoned vessel: Vessel ID (if present) _____
Estimated vessel length _____
- Large debris: Description _____
Estimated dimensions _____
- Fishing net: Material (monofilament, nylon, polypro, etc) _____
- Derelict crab trap: Attached floats number _____
Description _____
- Other _____

2. Habitat and Navigational Impacts:

- In channel (estimated water depth) _____
 - The object is a navigation hazard
- On intertidal oyster reef
 - There is apparent damage to the reef
- On intertidal mud flat or sand bar
- On salt marsh surface: Distance from channel edge _____
 - There is apparent damage to the marsh surface

3. Age:

- Appears to be recent (within past year)
- Appears to be more than 1 yr old
 - New position for previously sighted object
 - Object location appears to be stable

4. Is there evidence of:

- Wildlife entanglement _____
- Ghost fishing _____
- Gas/Oil/Chemical leak _____
- Other: _____
- No evidence of impacts

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INSTRUCTIONS

Observer name: Please enter the full name of the team leader.

Location name: **GT** = Georgetown county, **CH** = Charleston county, **CO** = Colleton, **BE** = Beaufort

Grid #: Enter the grid number from the observer chart provided

Sighting #: Enter the sighting number for each grid location (e.g. 2nd sighting in grid # 3)

Weather conditions: Cold, rainy, etc.

Site: Your GPS coordinates: Enter the coordinates of your vessel location as decimal degrees NAVD88

Bay/creek/channel name: Enter name of water body if known

Estimated observer distance from object: Enter the compass direction and distance from you vessel to the object, e.g. 50 m NNW.

Did you take a digital image: Pictures of objects should be uploaded to the url _____

1. Object Description: Please check appropriate description and enter as much information as possible.

2. Habitat and Navigation Impacts: Check the appropriate box for the location of the object.

- The object is a **navigation hazard** if it is located in the main channel and projects above the surface of the water at low tide.
- The object is causing **damage to the reef** if it is directly covering or shading part of the reef, has cause pieces of the reef to break off, or is causing sedimentation of the reef.
- The object is causing **damage to the marsh surface** if it is directly covering or shading marsh vegetation, has caused erosion of marsh sediment, or is causing sedimentation on the marsh surface.

3. Age: Please estimate if the object has been present for less than or more than one year.

Indications that the object has been present **more than one year** include oyster/barnacle settlement, rust, it is partially buried, or plants growing on or through object.

4. Is there evidence of:

Wildlife entanglement: A deceased animal or the remains or evidence of (e.g. feathers) an animal having been trapped by the object

Ghost Fishing: Deceased crabs, fish, terrapins are inside of trap or net

Gas/oil/chemical leak: A sheen or discoloration of the water or mud surrounding the object

Other: Any other significant impact the object may be having on the surrounding habitat, e.g. causing erosion of surrounding surface, shading vegetation, etc.