

Statement and Policy on Scientific Integrity
Terra Mar Applied Sciences, LLC

Research, analysis, technical advising, and other professional services to be offered and conducted through **Terra Mar Applied Sciences, LLC** (“**Terra Mar**”) must be robust, of the highest quality, and the end result of as rigorous scientific and scholarly processes as can be achieved. Most importantly, these services must be trustworthy.

Terra Mar will seek to make decisions that are based on science and scholarship practices that are respected as credible and reliable. **Terra Mar** is committed to conduct science that is fostered within an enduring culture of scientific and scholarly integrity. **Terra Mar** scientists, researchers, and scholars will act in ways that are widely recognized to meet standard (or higher) practices as observed in the wider scientific community. Individuals associated with **Terra Mar** are proud to uphold high standards and to lead by example.

As its default practice, and to meet conditions set forth for federal contractors, **Terra Mar** will observe and follow the scientific integrity policies of the Department of Interior. These include the principles established in the Code of Scientific and Scholarly Conduct, as well as those that comply with the Scientific Integrity Procedures Handbook (305 DM 3) and any bureau-specific guidance. For example, see:

<https://elips.doi.gov/elips/0/doc/4054/Page1.aspx>

CODE OF CONDUCT

Individuals who are acting on behalf of **Terra Mar** through a business relationship with third-party clients will abide by the following code of scientific and scholarly conduct to the best of their ability:

- (1) Act in the interest of the advancement of science and scholarship for sound decision-making by using the most appropriate, best available, high quality scientific and scholarly data and information to support the mission or goals of the client.
- (2) Communicate the results of scientific and scholarly activities clearly, honestly, objectively, thoroughly, accurately, and in a timely manner.
- (3) Be responsible for the resources entrusted to them, including equipment, funds, their time, and the individuals who they supervise.
- (4) Adhere to the laws and policies related to protection of natural and cultural resources and to research animals and human subjects while conducting science and scholarship activities.
- (5) Not engage in activities that put others or themselves in an actual or apparent conflict of interest.

(6) Not intentionally hinder the scientific and scholarly activities of others or engage in scientific and scholarly misconduct.

(7) Clearly differentiate among facts, personal opinions, assumptions, hypotheses, and professional judgment in reporting the results of scientific and scholarly activities and characterizing associated uncertainties in using those results for decision-making, and in representing those results to other scientists, clients, and the public.

(8) Protect, to the fullest extent allowed by law, the confidential and proprietary information provided by individuals, communities, and entities whose interests and resources are studied or affected by scientific and scholarly activities.

(9) Be responsible for the quality of the data used or created, and the integrity of the conclusions, interpretations, and applications made. Adhere to appropriate quality assurance and quality control standards, and not withhold information that might not support particular conclusions, interpretations, and applications.

(10) Be diligent in creating, using, preserving, documenting, and maintaining scientific and scholarly collections, records, methodologies, information, and data in accordance with client policies and procedures.

(11) Adhere to accepted standards (e.g., those of the National Science Foundation) for the treatment of animals and plants used in science and scientific management of fish and wildlife and their habitats.

In addition, scientists and scholars will abide by the following to the best of their ability:

(1) Place quality and objectivity of scientific and scholarly activities and reporting of results ahead of personal gain or allegiance to individuals or organizations.

(2) Maintain scientific and scholarly integrity and not engage in fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, reviewing, or reporting scientific and scholarly activities and their products.

(3) Fully disclose methodologies used, all relevant data, and the procedures for identifying and excluding faulty data.

(4) Adhere to appropriate professional standards for authoring and responsibly publishing the results of scientific and scholarly activities and respect the intellectual property rights of others.

(5) Welcome constructive criticism of scientific and scholarly activities and be responsive to peer review.

(6) Provide constructive, objective, and professionally valid peer review about the work of others, free of any personal or professional jealousy, competition, non-scientific disagreement, or conflict of interest, and substantiate comments made with the same care with which they report their own work.

In addition, decision-makers must abide by the following to the best of their ability:

(1) Do their best to support the scientific and scholarly activities of others and not engage in dishonesty, fraud, misrepresentation, coercive manipulation, censorship, or other misconduct that alters the content, veracity, or meaning or that may affect the planning, conduct, reporting, or application of scientific and scholarly activities.

(2) Offer respectful, constructive, and objective review of others' scientific and scholarly activities, and encourage them to obtain appropriate peer reviews of their work. Respect the intellectual property rights of others and substantiate comments made about others' work with the same care with which they carry out and report the results of their own activities.

(3) Adhere to appropriate standards for reporting, documenting, and applying results of scientific and scholarly activities used in decision-making and ensure public access to those results in accordance with any client policies and established laws.