# Environmental Windows

**1. My knowledge of Environmental Windows is:**

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Extensive, I evaluate projects and set windows** | **42.4%** | **14** |
| Extensive, I manage projects and work around windows | 24.2% | 8 |
| Extensive, I conduct research on impacts | 9.1% | 3 |
| Moderate, I manage biological resources but don't evaluate projects | 0.0% | 0 |
| Moderate, I evaluate projects but not windows | 12.1% | 4 |
| Moderate, I am involved in projects but not windows | 6.1% | 2 |
| Moderate, I study the resources but not impacts | 0.0% | 0 |
| Minimal, I only hear about them at these meetings | 3.0% | 1 |
| Minimal, I have heard of them | 0.0% | 0 |
| I don't really know what they are | 0.0% | 0 |
| Other (please specify) | 3.0% | 1 |
| | ***answered question*** | **33** |
| | ***skipped question*** | **0** |

**2. I am affiliated with**

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Federal resource agency | 33.3% | 11 |
| **State resource agency** | **42.4%** | **14** |
| State non-resource agency | 3.0% | 1 |
| Corps of Engineers | 12.1% | 4 |
| Non Governmental Organization | 6.1% | 2 |
| Consultant | 3.0% | 1 |
| | ***answered question*** | **33** |
| | ***skipped question*** | **0** |

**3. I am a/an (choose all that apply)**

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Biologist** | **57.6%** | **19** |
| Engineer | 12.1% | 4 |
| Scientist other than Biologist | 6.1% | 2 |
| Planner | 18.2% | 6 |
| Manager | 33.3% | 11 |
| Other (please specify) | 9.1% | 3 |
| | ***answered question*** | **33** |
| | ***skipped question*** | **0** |

| 4. Environmental Windows are a management tool to limit impact to resources | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Strongly Agree** | **Agree** | **Neither Agree nor Disagree** | **Disagree** | **Strongly Disagree** | **Rating Average** | **Response Count** |
| Environmental Windows provide substantive protection for target species | 15.6% (5) | **59.4% (19)** | 12.5% (4) | 9.4% (3) | 3.1% (1) | 0.88 | 32 |
| Dredging may benefit target species through reduced predation or refuge | 0.0% (0) | 9.7% (3) | **64.5% (20)** | 12.9% (4) | 12.9% (4) | -0.42 | 31 |
| Environmental Windows are the best management tool to minimize impact to resources | 12.5% (4) | **46.9% (15)** | 25.0% (8) | 9.4% (3) | 6.3% (2) | 0.56 | 32 |
| Environmental Windows are too broad to be an effective management tool | 0.0% (0) | 21.9% (7) | 28.1% (9) | **34.4% (11)** | 15.6% (5) | -0.59 | 32 |
| | | | | | Comments | | 11 |
| | | | | | ***answered question*** | | **32** |
| | | | | | ***skipped question*** | | **1** |

**5. Environmental Windows impact dredging projects**

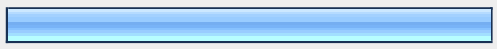
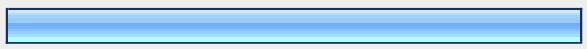
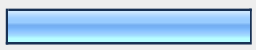
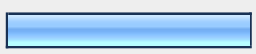
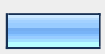
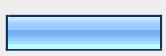
| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Environmental Windows result in substantial monetary project costs | 12.5% (4) | 34.4% (11) | **40.6% (13)** | 12.5% (4) | 0.0% (0) | 0.59 | 32 |
| Monetary costs of compliance with Environmental Windows have not been well established or documented. | 6.3% (2) | **53.1% (17)** | 28.1% (9) | 9.4% (3) | 3.1% (1) | 0.53 | 32 |
| Monetary costs of compliance with Environmental Windows are justified by resource benefits | 3.1% (1) | **43.8% (14)** | 40.6% (13) | 9.4% (3) | 3.1% (1) | 0.34 | 32 |
| Environmental Windows lengthen project duration | 12.5% (4) | **46.9% (15)** | 34.4% (11) | 6.3% (2) | 0.0% (0) | 0.78 | 32 |
| Environmental Windows markedly increase worker safety risks | 18.8% (6) | 12.5% (4) | **34.4% (11)** | 25.0% (8) | 9.4% (3) | 0.16 | 32 |
| Projects should be scheduled around environmental windows | 31.3% (10) | **37.5% (12)** | 25.0% (8) | 3.1% (1) | 3.1% (1) | 1.19 | 32 |
| | | | | | Comments | | 10 |
| | | | | | ***answered question*** | | **32** |
| | | | | | ***skipped question*** | | **1** |

| 6. Dredging impacts important resources | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Strongly Agree** | **Agree** | **Neither Agree nor Disagree** | **Disagree** | **Strongly Disagree** | **Rating Average** | **Response Count** |
| Existing research provides sufficient evidence that typical suspended solids levels from dredging operations are injurious to target species | 3.1% (1) | **46.9% (15)** | 21.9% (7) | 15.6% (5) | 12.5% (4) | 0.03 | 32 |
| Impacts of dredging plumes on the target species are lessened due to impacts on predator species | 0.0% (0) | 3.1% (1) | **65.6% (21)** | 28.1% (9) | 3.1% (1) | -0.34 | 32 |
| Dredging plumes typically occlude the entire cross section of a waterbody | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 34.4% (11) | **46.9% (15)** | 18.8% (6) | -1.03 | 32 |
| Dredging impacts to species with density independent mortality are more critical | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.00 | 0 |
| Noise and light disturbances to migrating resources are sufficiently well studied to be part of the process of defining Dredging Windows. | 0.0% (0) | 18.8% (6) | **40.6% (13)** | 31.3% (10) | 9.4% (3) | -0.41 | 32 |
| Dredging impacts on resources in sandy sediments are not as substantial as in silty sediments | 12.5% (4) | **43.8% (14)** | 34.4% (11) | 9.4% (3) | 0.0% (0) | 0.72 | 32 |
| Research studies of impacts have examined target species at concentrations and durations typical of dredging operations | 0.0% (0) | 18.8% (6) | **46.9% (15)** | 31.3% (10) | 3.1% (1) | -0.22 | 32 |
| | | | | | | Comments | 8 |
| | | | | | | ***answered question*** | **32** |
| | | | | | | ***skipped question*** | **1** |

| 7. Resource managers use Environmental Windows appropriately | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Strongly Agree** | **Agree** | **Neither Agree nor Disagree** | **Disagree** | **Strongly Disagree** | **Rating Average** | **Response Count** |
| Resource managers are willing to evaluate windows on a case-by-case basis | 9.4% (3) | **50.0% (16)** | 21.9% (7) | 15.6% (5) | 3.1% (1) | 0.53 | 32 |
| Resource manager's use of the precautionary principle in assigning windows is justified. | 18.8% (6) | **40.6% (13)** | 21.9% (7) | 15.6% (5) | 3.1% (1) | 0.72 | 32 |
| Resource managers use the precautionary principle in assigning windows too often. | 6.3% (2) | **37.5% (12)** | 25.0% (8) | 25.0% (8) | 6.3% (2) | 0.13 | 32 |
| Resource managers do not have the time to adequately evaluate modifications to windows | 0.0% (0) | 34.4% (11) | **43.8% (14)** | 18.8% (6) | 3.1% (1) | 0.06 | 32 |
| Resource managers are afraid to set precedent with modifications | 6.3% (2) | **53.1% (17)** | 25.0% (8) | 12.5% (4) | 3.1% (1) | 0.50 | 32 |
| | | | | | | Comments | 6 |
| | | | | | | ***answered question*** | **32** |
| | | | | | | ***skipped question*** | **1** |

| 8. The process used to evaluate windows and projects can be improved | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Strongly Agree** | **Agree** | **Neither Agree nor Disagree** | **Disagree** | **Strongly Disagree** | **Rating Average** | **Response Count** |
| The process used to evaluate windows needs to be improved | 25.8% (8) | **61.3% (19)** | 9.7% (3) | 3.2% (1) | 0.0% (0) | 1.35 | 31 |
| The process used to evaluate projects needs to be improved | 12.9% (4) | **64.5% (20)** | 16.1% (5) | 6.5% (2) | 0.0% (0) | 0.97 | 31 |
| Dredging proponents are entrenched in their positions | 12.9% (4) | 32.3% (10) | **38.7% (12)** | 9.7% (3) | 6.5% (2) | 0.42 | 31 |
| Windows proponents are entrenched in their positions | 9.7% (3) | **58.1% (18)** | 32.3% (10) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.87 | 31 |
| There is room for give and take in the process | 9.7% (3) | **80.6% (25)** | 6.5% (2) | 3.2% (1) | 0.0% (0) | 1.06 | 31 |
| I am willing to contribute to the effort to make the process better | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.00 | 0 |
| I believe the process should be based on scientific information | **61.3% (19)** | 38.7% (12) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 2.23 | 31 |
| If scientific information is inadequate I support the use of the precautionary principle (if in doubt, restrict dredging) | 25.8% (8) | **32.3% (10)** | 19.4% (6) | 19.4% (6) | 3.2% (1) | 0.81 | 31 |
| | | | | | | Comments | 3 |
| | | | | | | ***answered question*** | **31** |
| | | | | | | ***skipped question*** | **2** |

| 9. The two things I would most want to see changed about the Environmental Windows process are: | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | **Response Count** |
| | | 25 |
| | ***answered question*** | **25** |
| | ***skipped question*** | **8** |

| 10. I am willing to contribute to an effort to make the process better by: | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Response Percent** | **Response Count** |
| Joining a working committee |  | 53.3% | 16 |
| **Attending Sudbury discussions** |  | **63.3%** | **19** |
| Documenting impacts of dredging on resources |  | 26.7% | 8 |
| Documenting impacts of windows on projects |  | 26.7% | 8 |
| Staying out to the way |  | 10.0% | 3 |
| Other (please specify) |  | 16.7% | 5 |
| | | ***answered question*** | **30** |
| | | ***skipped question*** | **3** |