

This alphabetical list of metrics for salt marsh was developed to stimulate thinking on the topic and should not be considered exhaustive. This list may not include new or emerging metrics on the horizon and may contain metrics that do not merit further evaluation.

Aboveground Vegetative Productivity
Belowground Vegetative Productivity
Adjacent submerged aquatic vegetation
Algae
Avian or terrestrial animal abundance, species richness, density, or presence/absence
Benthos abundance, species richness, density, or presence/absence (could be benthic macroinvertebrates or benthic infauna)
Chemical profile of water or porewater (e.g., dissolved oxygen or salinity)
Concentration or presence/absence of toxics
Current velocity quantification
Distance to Open Water or Ratio of Emergent Vegetation and Open Water
Elevation and microtopography quantification
Epiphytic invertebrate abundance, species richness, density, or presence/absence
Fish and shellfish abundance, species richness, density, or presence/absence
Flood Mitigation Value/Storm Abatement
Frequency or width of trenasse or tidal creeks
Groundwater/Recharge Function
Habitat Value for Feeding or Refuge
Human use for recreation or subsidence; Aesthetics
Nutrient profile/availability
Organic matter content
Percent Cover (live and dead)
Percent Invasives
Percent survival of adults or seedling survival
Plant Height
Rate of Marsh Expansion or Contraction
Redox potential
Remote sensing (e.g., color of a pixel correlates to marsh health)
Sediment accretion rates
Sediment Toxicity
Sediment grain size
Sediment transport quantification
Species Composition
Stem Density
Threatened and Endangered Species abundance, species richness, density, presence/absence
Tidal dynamics
Water depth
Water Quality Improvement or Degradation
Water source identification/hydrologic exchange
Wave energy quantification