

Appendix A

Process for Multiyear Implementation Plan Development

(As of December 6, 2016)

Administrator confirms projects submitted meet RESTORE eligibility* and focus area(s) as determined by the Council.

Projects move forward via Council members' Requests for Evaluation (RFE).
A project requires an RFE from 4 Council members to move forward.

In-depth reviews conducted on RFE projects by applicable subject-matter experts.
Reviews will include project-specific factors, as applicable, such as how the proposal:

- Demonstrates benefit in relation to cost
- Addresses short-term vs. long-term economic benefit
- Demonstrates a need (impact of no action)
- Demonstrates does not create adverse impacts elsewhere
- Expands/promotes an existing industry or offers diversification
- Demonstrates short- or long-term job creation (direct and indirect)
- Demonstrates feasibility of success with measurable outcomes
- Demonstrates budget reasonableness
- Demonstrates post-implementation sustainability
- Addresses potential risks and uncertainties
- Addresses penalties, requirements and status of environmental compliance
- Addresses use of cutting-edge technology for construction/implementation
- Addresses readiness/length of time for completion
- Demonstrates it is based on best available science
- Addresses the evaluation and identification of outside funding sources

Project evaluations and analyses provided to Council for review and to provide context for project selection.

Additional Factors for Council Review:

- Availability and timing of RESTORE funding
- Potential for leveraging (funds and/or prior activities)
- Geographic location
- Disproportionately affected areas
- Included in a strategic/comprehensive plan
- Potential for funding from another source
- Annual recurring costs
- Scope of overall benefit to the community/region
- Appropriate implementing entity
- Ability to implement in phases
- Other factors

Based on Council review and guidance, Administrator prepares sample slate(s) of projects for the development of the draft Multiyear Implementation Plan.

Council approves slate of projects to be included in draft Multiyear Implementation Plan.

*Eligible activities as set forth in the RESTORE Act:

- Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region
- Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources
- Implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring
- Workforce development and job creation
- Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing
- Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region
- Improvements to or on State Parks located in coastal areas affected by the DWH oil spill
- Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure
- Infrastructure project benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure
- Planning assistance

Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council
Multiyear Implementation Plan
Project Evaluation and Selection Process
(As of December 6, 2016)

The Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (Alabama Council) was created with the passage of the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourism Opportunities, and Revived Economies Act of the Gulf Coast States of 2012 (RESTORE Act). The 10-member Alabama Council consists of the following individuals:

- Governor of the State of Alabama, who serves as Chair
- Director of the Alabama Port Authority, who serves as Vice-Chair
- Chairman of the Baldwin County Commission
- President of the Mobile County Commission
- Mayor of the City of Bayou La Batre
- Mayor of Town of Dauphin Island
- Mayor of City of Fairhope
- Mayor of City of Gulf Shores
- Mayor of City of Mobile
- Mayor of City of Orange Beach.

The Alabama Council is tasked with developing the State’s Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) for the RESTORE Act’s Direct Component and the State Expenditure Plan (SEP) for the RESTORE Act’s Spill Impact Component. Projects to be included in the MIP and the SEP will be selected by the Alabama Council by majority vote.

In May 2013, the Alabama Council selected the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to serve as their Administrative Agent (Administrator), and in March 2014, a project submission portal was opened on the State of Alabama’s comprehensive coastal restoration website (www.alabamacoastalrestoration.org). The public has been encouraged to submit project ideas for all funding sources related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to this portal. All project suggestions entered in this portal and deemed complete are assigned a project number and become available to the public for online review. To be deemed complete, a suggestion must include the information required in the fillable online project suggestion form as well as an uploaded budget outline.

In December 2014, the Alabama Council developed and released for public comment a Draft Project Selection Process Framework for First Round MIP Development and identified priority “focus areas” as Infrastructure and Economic projects and related Planning Assistance. In addition, the Alabama Council recognized the challenges and expense associated with performing detailed reviews on a multitude of project suggestions. Therefore, the Council developed a process to move a focus area project forward for more comprehensive evaluation. This process, called a “Request for Evaluation” (RFE), requires a minimum of 4 council members to request a detailed evaluation on a project. Submitters for each RFE project will be asked to provide information necessary to conduct a detailed evaluation. The Administrator will post a list by project number of all RFE projects on the website to inform the public as to projects moving forward for consideration.

Detailed evaluations on each RFE project will be conducted by applicable subject-matter experts. Reviews will include project-specific factors, as applicable, such as how the proposal:

- Demonstrates benefit in relation to cost
- Addresses short-term vs. long-term economic benefit
- Demonstrates a need (impact of no action)
- Demonstrates does not create adverse impacts elsewhere
- Expands/promotes an existing industry or offers diversification
- Demonstrates short- or long-term job creation (direct and indirect)
- Demonstrates feasibility of success with measurable outcomes
- Demonstrates budget reasonableness
- Demonstrates post-implementation sustainability
- Addresses potential risks and uncertainties
- Addresses penalties, requirements and status of environmental compliance
- Addresses use of cutting-edge technology for construction/implementation
- Addresses readiness/length of time for completion
- Demonstrates it is based on best available science
- Addresses the evaluation and identification of outside funding sources

Summary reports on the project evaluations will be provided by the Administrator to the Alabama Council for review and to provide context for the selection of projects. The Alabama Council will review the summary reports, or full evaluations if requested, taking into consideration the following additional factors:

- Availability and timing of RESTORE funding
- Potential for leveraging (funds and/or prior activities)
- Geographic location
- Disproportionately affected areas
- Included in a strategic/comprehensive plan
- Potential for funding from another source
- Annual recurring costs
- Scope of overall benefit to the community/region
- Appropriate implementing entity
- Ability to implement in phases
- Other factors

Based on the Alabama Council's review and guidance, the Administrator will prepare a sample slate(s) of projects for inclusion in the Draft MIP. The Alabama Council will review and approve the draft sample slate(s) and vote on individual projects to be included in the Draft MIP. The Administrator will then prepare the Draft MIP for Alabama Council review, revision, and adoption. After adoption, the Draft MIP will be released for public comment for 45 days. At the end of the comment period, the Administrator will compile and summarize the comments and prepare a report for the Alabama Council. The Alabama Council will consider the comments and have the Administrator revise the Draft MIP as appropriate. After review of revisions, the Alabama Council will vote to approve the MIP, and the Administrator will submit the final document to Treasury for review and approval to submit individual project grant applications.

Evaluations for projects selected for inclusion in the Draft MIP will be posted online in addition to the public comments received. The final MIP will be posted online upon submittal to Treasury for approval.