HERNANDO COUNTY
RESTORE ACT
MULTI-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

June 12, 2015

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I. RESTORE Act Background

On April 20, 2010, the largest offshore oil spill in the United States occurred, allowing oil to flow in the Gulf of Mexico for three months. The cause was an explosion of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. Before the well was capped, millions of barrels of crude oil were released, closing tens of thousands of square miles of federal waters to fishing, and causing extensive damage to marine and wildlife habitats, and tourism.

On July 6, 2012, the President signed into law the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act; Subtitle F of Public Law 112-141). The Act established the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund in the U.S. Treasury Department. Eighty percent of the civil penalties paid after July 6, 2012, under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, will be deposited into the Trust Fund and invested. Under the Act, amounts in the Trust Fund will be available for programs, projects, and activities that restore and protect the environment and economy of the Gulf Coast region. These funds were split into five different funding streams.

One of the streams, known as the Direct Component, includes funds available for access by Hernando County through the Treasury Department. As of October 1, 2014, the amount available for distribution to Hernando County was $569,348. Additional funding is anticipated to be made available upon the conclusion of the pending lawsuits. As additional funding is made available to the Trust Fund, the Multi-Year Implementation Plan will be modified to add additional projects.

II. Multi-Year Implementation Plan (MYIP) Purpose

The requirements of the RESTORE Act define the conditions entities must meet before receiving Direct Component Funds. In order to access funds from the Treasury Department the MYIP must be created, approved by the Board and presented to the public for comment. After a 45-day public comment period, the MYIP with associated forms can be sent to the Treasury Department for approval. Once approved, grant applications for the specific projects listed in the plan can be submitted for approval and processing.

Projects selected for this plan must meet the eligibility requirements of the Act. In addition, they must be selected based on "meaningful input from the public, including broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations." The plan will be created to describe each project for which funding is sought and include a description of the need, purpose and objectives. The plan will specify how each project meets the criteria used to evaluate the success of each project in restoring and protecting the Gulf Coast. Locally approved project goals may be found in Appendix A.

III. Project Application Process

In order for projects to be selected for consideration to receive RESTORE Act funds they must meet at least one of the eligible activities defined in the RESTORE Act. Those eligible activities are as follows:

1. Restoration/protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources
3. Implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring
4. Workforce development and job creation
5. Improvements to or on state parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill
6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure
7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure
8. Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing
9. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast region

The process of project selection was started in 2012 with a request from all County Departments and County citizen advisory committees to submit projects for consideration. These projects were initially investigated by staff to ensure that they met the eligibility requirements of the Act. The projects were originally submitted to the Board during a publically advertised meeting on December 4, 2012. The list was later refined and again submitted to the Board on October 14, 2014 for further discussion. At this time, the County again solicited input from the public to provide other potential project ideas that met the eligibility requirements of the Act. A project application submittal form was created and placed on the County website and e-mailed to interested members of the public. The deadline for submittal of project applications for inclusion in the initial project ranking list was December 5, 2014.

All submitted projects were posted on the County website and presented to the Board for public input at the January 13, 2015 meeting.

IV. Project Ranking Process

There were a total of 25 projects submitted for consideration and ranking during the initial process. The County utilized a Board-approved ranking criteria that was based on the nine project eligibility requirements set forth in the RESTORE Act. Additional ranking factors were added for project timing and matching funds. A copy of the criteria is included in Appendix B of this document.

An internal committee was created by the County to encompass staff members from varied backgrounds and with differing areas of expertise. This committee included staff members from the Department of Public Works, Utilities Department, Environmental Planning, Engineering

Department, Parks Department, Finance Personnel, and Grant Management Personnel. This committee reviewed each project and weighed them against the ranking criteria.

This internal ranking was presented to the Board on January 13, 2015 to foster public input and garner Board support. The projects recommended by the Board at this meeting were used to create the MYIP project list.

V. Project Selection

The Hernando County Board of County Commissioners was presented with a list of twenty five eligible projects, ranked with the Board approved criteria for consideration in creating the initial MYIP. The highest three ranked projects were recommended to the Board for inclusion in the

1. Bayou Drive Repair and Restoration	$350,000
RESTORE Funding Request:	$175,000
County Match:	$175,000
2. Hernando Beach Shallow Water Reef Project	$105,000
RESTORE Funding Request:	$ 94,500
County Match:	$ 10,500
3. Linda Pederson Park Improvements	$300,000
RESTORE Funding Request:	$300,000

Public Input

Public participation is an important part of the RESTORE ACT project development process. The MYIP was adopted after review and consideration of meaningful input from the public. This input helped staff improve the MYIP by adding high level milestones, more details on public input and an explanation of how project success will be evaluated.

The general public was informed and given the opportunity to provide comment three ways:

1. Public meetings
2. County website
3. Print and broadcast media coverage

Public Outreach Overview

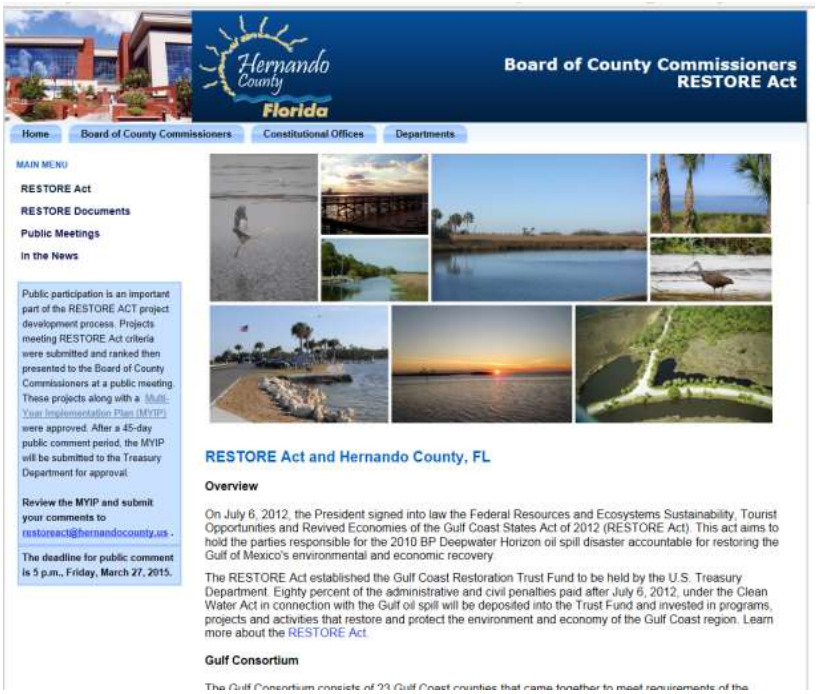
Method	Reach	Number of comments received
Website	Approximately 1,000	18
Eight public meetings	Approximately 200	5
Media coverage	3.4 million	4

Below is a complete list and details of public input opportunities

RESTORE Act webpage

www.hernandocounty.us/restoreact/

- This webpage provides an overview, documents, public meeting dates, news articles, helpful links and contact information. It also provides directions and an email address to where comments should be directed. A total of 18 comments were received via email.



Public Meetings

The following eight public meetings resulted in five comments from the public. All public meetings were broadcast live on the Hernando County Government Broadcast Channel.

September 25, 2012

- Approved Resolution 2012-124 and Interlocal Agreement relating to establishment of the Gulf Consortium.
- Public comment – Resident Dick Ross stated he firmly supports joining the Gulf Consortium adding that the shrimping industry was crippled after oil spill and suggested that funds from RESTORE Act be used to help shrimpers.

October 9, 2012

- Designated County Commissioner Wayne Dukes as Director and County Administrator Len Sossamon as alternate Direct to act as a representative for Consortium members.
- Public comment - none

December 4, 2012

- Workshop - recommended to the Board of County Commissioners that they consider the development of a portfolio of potential projects that would be eligible for funding.
- Public comment – Resident Hamilton Hanson spoke against using RESTORE Act monies because it's not in the constitution.

December 18, 2012

- Approved the RESTORE Act Estuary list for submittal to the Southwest Florida Water Management District for the development of a regional ecosystem restoration plan. Selected firm to provide services related to RESTORE Act funding.
- Public comment - none

October 14, 2014

- Reviewed a presentation outlining the RESTORE Act and the potential to receive funding for projects.
- Public comment - Resident Forrest Bennett from the Nature Coast Action Team provided comments and recommended to include on the project list invasive species management for Brazilan Peppertree, Lead Tree and Australian pine tree.

October 28, 2014

- Adopted staff's recommendation to approve the RESTORE Act Direct Component Project Guidelines and Ranking Criteria and authorized staff to continue efforts to solicit, rank, and present potential projects that meet criteria.
- Public comment - none

January 13, 2015

- Discussed RESTORE Act Direct Component Project Ranking. Approved staff's recommendation for the ranking and selected three projects (Bayou Drive Restoration; Shallow Water Reef project; and Linda Pedersen Park) for inclusion in the Multi-Year Implementation Plan.
- Public comment – Resident Chuck Gordon provided his support for the chosen projects and resident Judith Simpson commented that the list was diverse and comprehensive and that more money should be put toward these types of projects.

February 10, 2015

- Reviewed proposed RESTORE Act Multi-Year Implementation Plan (MYIP) for Submittal to Treasury Department and started the 45-day public input period.
- Public comment - none

Media releases and news coverage

- Bay News 9 – Restore Act funding applications in Hernando due by Dec. 5
- Media release – RESTORE Act funding for Hernando County is imminent
- Media release – RESTORE Act ecosystem restoration project proposals
- Dredging Today – Hernando County: RESTORE Act project proposals
- Hernando Times – County makes wish list for money from BP oil spill
- Media release – Pubic input sought for RESTORE Act projects

Appendix A
Direct Component Overview & Guidelines

PROJECT GOALS

The Hernando County Board of County Commissioners has endorsed the following goals for use of RESTORE Act Direct Component funds. Projects and programs to implement these goals, to the extent feasible, should (1) provide and/or contribute to countywide and/or regional environmental and/or economic benefits, and (2) utilize a collaborative approach emphasizing environmental stewardship and sustainable practices.

All projects must benefit the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem through one or more of the five goals:

1. Preserve, Restore and Conserve Habitat
2. Protect and Restore Water Quality
3. Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources, Springs, Ecosystems, and Habitat that is critical to the Gulf Coast
4. Enhance Community Resilience
5. Build and Revitalize the Gulf Economy including activities that promote Tourism, Ecotourism and Recreation

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

1. Restoration/protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources

3. Implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring
4. Workforce development and job creation
5. Improvements to or on state parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill
6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure
7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure
8. Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing
9. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast region

PRIORITIES (not in order of priority)

- Protect, conserve, and/or restore native habitats including springs protection
- Provide storm water or surface water quality improvements including the prevention of erosion and sedimentation that may impact waterways that connect to the gulf
- Reduce withdrawal of potable water from the aquifer
- Create policies, programs, and or mechanisms to remediate environmental and/or economic damages
- Protect against future environmental and/or economic vulnerability
- Provide climate change/sea-level rise planning, adaptation and/or related community engagement
- Provide flood and storm protection to infrastructure and other publically owned assets that consider resilience and changing sea levels
- Diversify and improve the economy including tourism and recreational opportunities
- Promote sustainable recreational fishing and consumption of seafood dependent on the gulf ecosystem and/or protect or promote working waterfronts
- Provide groundwater quality improvements

Appendix B
Direct Component
Scoring Criteria Guide

Projects are scored related to the anticipated benefit it will provide in each category with a maximum of 5 points possible per category. Guidelines for scoring each category are provided below.

1. Restoration and protection of the natural resources (NR), springs, spring runs, groundwater resources, ecosystems, waterways designated as Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW), upland habitats that that contribute to waterways that drain to the Gulf, fisheries, marine, and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region

   0 No increase in protection of NRs.

   1 Identified NRs to be protected but only projected to create a minor increase to NR protection. No new services provided to the public and no public lands set aside or placed in to conservation easements. Protective measures estimated at 5 years.

   2 NRs identified and will be protected; but lifespan of protective measures estimated at 5 to 10 years.

   3 NRs identified and will be protected. Specific lands to be set aside for protection. Lifespan of protective measures more than 10 years.

   4 New lands set aside and conservation effort engaged. Public education and benefit elements from the resources have been included in the project. Lifespan of protective measures is estimated to be greater than 20 years.

   5 New conservation lands created providing or enhancing wildlife corridors. Actively protects native species especially T&E species or Species of Special Concern; or long term protection of other natural resources such as minerals, archeological sites, etc.

2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources, including erosion and sedimentation of waters that feed the Gulf and improve water quality

   0 No change in current status to mitigate damages to fish, wildlife, or NR

1 Project indirectly halts any existing impacts to fish, wildlife or natural resources. No action is planned to restore or repair any previous damage that has occurred. Any mitigation will occur naturally and over a long duration. No change in current wildlife or fish status. No long term water quality improvement achieved.

2 Project intentionally halts existing impacts. Has some limited direct impact as well as long to mid-term indirect impact. Positive impact noted on recreational fishing and wildlife use. Natural resources benefit to a limited degree. Some short term water quality achieved.

3 Minor immediate impact seen in correcting damage. Fish, wildlife and natural resources damage is immediately mitigated although on a minor scale. Invasive species are eradicated or significantly reduced. Water quality is improved in the short term.

4 Immediate impact noted. Indirect effects permanently felt. Public health is positively increased to some degree. Growth or recovery from previous damage noted immediately. Economic growth due to actions noted. Long term water quality improvement is achieved.

5 Action results in immediate, long term correction of damage. Public health is positively increased. Invasive species removed. Long term potential to correct endangered or threatened status. Other benefits such as economic growth are realized as a result.

3. Implementation of a federally -approved marine, coastal, springs protection, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring

0 Does not implement a federally-approved plan

1 No growth of the current status. Fisheries monitoring created on a minor basis. Recreational fishing areas developed.

2 No growth on status however fisheries status is monitored for greater than the short term. Recreational fishing and other watersports develops as a result.

3 Some increases in the size and scope of the current conservation plan. Fisheries monitoring completed on a regular basis. Seasonal recreational use rises significantly as well as other watersport use.

4 Conservation plan increases in both size and scope. Fisheries monitoring is conducted on a routine basis with positive results noted. Annual increase in recreational use.

5 Broad increase in the fisheries development as a result of the project. Monitoring occurs on a frequent basis. Conservation areas are significantly increased in size resulting in a positive impact on the aquaculture industry.

4. Workforce development and job creation

0 Project does not provide any opportunity for additional jobs within the private or public sector. Work can be performed through existing roles or jobs are lost through the termination of a job provider.

1 Project provides an increased backlog of available work for existing workers within the County and maintains the current number of public and private sector jobs.

2 Project demands that part-time jobs be created to perform necessary work within the project schedule.

3 Project creates 5-10 full-time positions which are necessary to perform work related to the project within the schedule determined for project execution. Upon project completion, 1-5 jobs (part-time or full-time) are created to staff any long-term result of the project.

4 Project provides for the creation of 20-30 jobs related to the construction/ implementation of the project or as a result of the project's completion. Upon project completion, 6 or more jobs (part-time or full-time) are created to staff any long-term result of the project.

5 Project provides a significant increase of jobs provided by an entire industry.

5. Improvements to or on State parks or County recreation areas located in coastal areas or waterways and rivers that drain to the Gulf

0 Project does not provide any benefits or improvements to a State Park or county recreation

1 A portion of the project indirectly provides benefits to a State Park or county Recreation

2 Less than 50% of the project directly provides improvements to a State Park or county recreation

3 Less than 50% of the project directly provides improvements to a State Park or county recreation; and the project is not specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park or county recreation.

4 A significant portion of the project (more than 75%) directly provides improvements to a State Park or county recreation; and the project is specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park or county recreation.

5 A significant portion of the project (more than 75%) directly provides improvements to a State Park or county recreation; and the project is specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park or county recreation.

6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy (including port infrastructure and projects that increase access to recreational opportunities) or ecological resources, springs protection, or groundwater protection

0 Project has a negative impact to the economy or has no net positive benefit to the local economy. Project does not benefit ecological resources.

1 Project provides an indirect, revenue generating mechanism for either the public or private sector. Growth provided in the short term with no sustainable effects. Impact upon ecological preservation or protection is minimal.

2 Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy but not significantly. No specific local industry become more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage; however project results in an increase in local jobs. Project promotes habitat preservation or protection which can lead to increased benefits to the local economy.

3 Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy more significantly. One specific local industry becomes more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage and there is a projected increase in other local jobs. Promotes habitat preservation or protection which can lead to economic impact.

4 Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy significantly. One or more specific local industries become more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage and there is a projected increase in other local jobs. Some new long-term residents are projected. Habitat protection directly related to tourism or increased quality of life.

5 Project provides a sustainable revenue generator that significantly bolsters the local economy with two or more local industries becoming more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage. Project results in a definite an increase in local, long-term residents. Habitat protection has long-term benefits for tourism or increased quality of life.

7. Coastal flood protection and the preservation of habitat in flood zones, coastal surge areas and floodways

0 Project does not reduce flood protection or habitat preservation to a portion of the community nor has no net increase in flood protection to a known flood prone area.

1 Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods but provides no measure for increasing the flood protection for those areas; or project may indirectly provide minor benefit to flood prone area.

2 Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods and provides means for measuring the increase in flood protection for those areas (Level of Service [LOS]); or project may indirectly provide a fairly significant LOS benefit to flood prone area.

3 Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods; and there is more than 50% increase in the LOS to a large flood prone area (more than 100 residents) or a 75% increase to an area with less than 100 residents.

4 Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods; and there is more than 75% increase in the LOS protection to a large flood prone area (more than 100 residents) or a 90% increase to an area with less than 100 residents.

5 The project's primary goal is to improve storm water level of service for the local community. The project includes sustainable solutions that include long term, large scale drainage improvements that do improve known flood prone areas to acceptable LOS with 90% LOS improvement to large scale (more than 100 residents).

8. Projects (including infrastructure development) that promote tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including promotion of recreational fishing, swimming, bird watching, passive recreation and kayaking

0 Does nothing to promote Tourism or recreational opportunities

1 Project spending anticipated having little effect on tourism or increasing access to recreational opportunities. Impact may be short term

2 Some effect on tourism or recreation expected on a seasonal basis. Some economic income for the local area or city created as well as for small businesses.

3 Multi-seasonal impact. Generates some significant economic income and enhances recreational opportunities for tourists and residents

4 Multi seasonal to year round impact. New generation of economic income created. Recreational opportunities are regional and benefits seasonal or tourist population

5 Year round draw of new people to the area. Recreational opportunities contribute to quality of life long term. Large amounts of economic income created. Entire county benefits.

9. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region and projects that provide or benefit marine habitat

0 No additional seafood consumption created or project has the potential to negatively impact the seafood industry.

1 Small amount of seafood consumption created. Anticipated that the local seafood market increases sales of seafood consumption by less than 5% and catch rates do not increase noticeably. Minor increase in marine habitat.

2 Increased amount of seafood consumption created (more than 5%). Little positive effect on the seafood industry occurs, in general, but catch rates increase some.

3 Noticeable positive effect on the seafood industry. More than 10% increase in seafood consumption anticipated. Includes habitat restoration and anticipated increase in catch rates of identified species by 5% or more.

4 Industry growth experienced. Some positive effect on the local economy seen because of seafood consumption increase. Anticipated increase more than 15%. Catch rates of identified species more than 10%.

5 Industry experiences new growth and invigoration. Measurable positive impact on the economy as evident by more than 20% increase in seafood consumption. Significant increase in the catch rate and production of new seafood products (by more than 15% in identified species).

10. Project Funding Match

0 No matching funds will be provided

1 10% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act

2 20% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act

3 30% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act

4 40% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act

5 50% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act

11. Project Timing

1 Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized more than 10 years away.

2 Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 6-10 years away.

3 Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 4-6 years away.

4 Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 2-4 years away.

5 Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 0-2 years away.

Appendix C
Project Scoring Results

RANK	PROJECT	POINTS	PROJECTED COST	MATCH	RESTORE FUNDS REQ'D
1	Bayou Drive Repair and Restoration	29	$350,000	$175,000	$175,000
2	Hernando Beach Shallow Water Reef Project	24	$105,000	$10,500	$94,500
3	Linda Pedersen Park Improvements	23	$300,000	$0	$300,000
4	Norfleet Property Acquisition	22	$500,000	$250,000	$250,000
5	Hunter's Lake Tussock & Invasive Vegetation Removal	21	$2,800,000	$0	$2,800,000
6	Glen WRF Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	21	$5,400,000	$2,700,000	$2,700,000
7	Hernando Beach Boat Ramp Expansion	20	$1,380,000	$414,000	$966,000
8	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Seawall, Sidewalk and Handrails)	19	$470,000	$0	$470,000
9	Hunter's Lake Channel Restoration	19	$625,000	$0	$625,000
10	Nobleton Wayside Park Preserve Improvements	19	$300,000	$0	$300,000
11	Cypress Lakes Preserve	19	$700,000	$210,000	$490,000
12	Lake Townsen Preserve	18	$625,000	$0	$625,000
13	Pine Island - Water & Sewer Improvements	18	$3,434,150	$0	$3,434,150
14	Bayport Boat Ramp Expansion	18	$1,035,000	$310,500	$724,500
15	Airport WWTP Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	18	$12,254,900	$6,127,450	$6,127,450
16	Peck Sink Preserve	17	$350,000	$105,000	$245,000
17	Chinsegut Hill	15	$150,000	$0	$150,000
18	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Observation Deck Improvement)	14	$135,000	$0	$135,000
19	Oakley Island & Palm Grove Colony - Water & Sewer Improvements	14	$2,245,134	$0	$2,245,134
20	Tourism Marketing Program	14	$350,000	$0	$350,000
21	Museum at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park	13	$1,500,000	$0	$1,500,000
22	Hernando County Reuse Water Master Plan	13	$100,000	$50,000	$50,000
23	USDA STARS Properties (Federal Surplus Lands - Deer Run Road))	11	$4,400,000	$0	$4,400,000
24	USDA STARS Properties (Federal Surplus Lands - Headquarters Main Station Unit)	11	$5,150,000	$0	$5,150,000
25	USDA STARS Properties (Federal Surplus Lands - Turnley Unit)	10	$9,350,000	$0	$9,350,000

RANKING CRITERIA

		Airport WWTP Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Observation Deck Improvement)	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Seawall, Sidewalk and Handrails)	Bayou Drive Repair and Restoration	Bayport Boat Ramp Expansion	Chinsegut Hill	Cypress Lakes Preserve	Glen WRF Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Hernando Beach Boat Ramp Expansion	Hernando Beach Shallow Water Reef Project	Hernando County Reuse Water Master Plan	Hunter's Lake Channel Restoration	Hunter's Lake Tussock & Invasive Vegetation Removal	Lake Townsen Preserve	Linda Pedersen Park Improvements	Museum at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park	Nobleton Wayside Park Preserve Improvements	Northest Property Acquisition
1.	Restoration and protection of the natural resources (NR), springs, springrun, groundwater resources, ecosystems, waterways designated as Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW), upland habitats that that contribute to waterways that drain to the Gulf, fisheries, marine, and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region	3	1	2	3	0	0	1	4	0	4	0	2	3	1	2	0	3	5
0	No increase in protection of NRs.					0	0			0		0					0		
1	Identified NRs to be protected but only projected to create a minor increase to NR protection. No new services provided to the public and no public lands set aside or placed in to conservation easements. Protective measures estimated at 5 years.		1					1							1				
2	NRs identified and will be protected; but lifespan of protective measures estimated at 5 to 10 years.			2									2			2			
3	NRs identified and well protected. Specific lands to be set aside for protection. Lifespan of protective measures more than 10 years.	3			3									3				3	
4	New lands set aside and conservation effort engaged. Public education and benefit elements from the resources have been included in the project. Lifespan of protective measures is estimated to be greater than 20 years.								4		4								
5	New conservation lands created providing or enhancing wildlife corridor. Actively protects native species especially T&E species or Species of Special Concern; or long term protection of other natural resources such as minerals, archeological sites, etc.																		5
2.	Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources, including erosion and sedimentation of waters that feed the Gulf and improve water quality	2	0	3	3	0	0	1	3	0	3	1	3	3	2	2	0	2	2
0	No change in current status to mitigate damages to fish, wildlife, or NR.		0			0	0			0							0		
1	Project indirectly halts any existing impacts to fish, wildlife or natural resources. No action is planned to restore or repair any previous damage that has occurred. Any mitigation will occur naturally and over a long duration. No change in current wildlife or fish status. No long term water quality improvement achieved.							1				1							
2	Project intentionally halts existing impacts. Has some limited direct impact as well as long to mid-term indirect impact. Positive impact noted on recreational fishing and wildlife use. Natural resources benefit to a limited degree. Some short term water quality achieved.	2													2	2		2	2
3	Minor immediate impact seen in correcting damage. Fish, wildlife and natural resources damage is immediately mitigated although on a minor scale. Invasive species are eradicated or significantly reduced. Water quality is improved in the short term.			3	3				3		3		3	3					
4	Immediate impact noted. Indirect effects permanently fall. Public health is positively increased to some degree. Growth or recovery from previous damage noted immediately. Economic growth due to actions noted. Long term water quality improvement is achieved.																		
5	Action results in immediate, long term correction of damage. Public health is positively increased. Invasive species removed. Long term potential to correct endangered or threatened status. Other benefits such as economic growth are realized as a result.																		

RANKING CRITERIA

		Airport WWTP Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Observation Deck Improvement)	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Seawall, Sidewalk and Handrails)	Bayou Drive Repair and Restoration	Bayport Boat Ramp Expansion	Chinsegut Hill	Cypress Lakes Preserve	Glen WRF Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Hernando Beach Boat Ramp Expansion	Hernando Beach Shallow Water Reef Project	Hernando County Reuse Water Master Plan	Hunter's Lake Channel Restoration	Hunter's Lake Tussock & Invasive Vegetation Removal	Lake Townsen Preserve	Linda Pedersen Park Improvements	Museum at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park	Nobleton Wayside Park Preserve Improvements	Norfleet Property Acquisition
3.	**Implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, springs protection, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
0	Does not implement a federally-approved plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	No growth of the current status. Fisheries monitoring created on a minor basis. Recreational fishing areas developed.										1								
2	No growth on status however fisheries status is monitored for greater than the short term. Recreational fishing and other watersports develops as a result.																		
3	Some increases in the size and scope of the current conservation plan. Fisheries monitoring completed on a regular basis. Seasonal recreational use rises significantly as well as other watersport use.																		
4	Conservation plan increases in both size and scope. Fisheries monitoring is conducted on a routine basis with positive results noted. Annual increase in recreational use.																		
5	Broad increase in the fisheries development as a result of the project. Monitoring occurs on a frequent basis. Conservation areas are significantly increased in size resulting in a positive impact on the aquaculture industry.																		
4.	**Workforce development and job creation.**	**3**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**0**
0	Project does not provide any opportunity for additional jobs within the private or public sector. Work can be performed through existing roles or jobs are lost through the termination of a job provider.																		0
1	Project provides an increased backlog of available work for existing workers within the County and maintains the current number of public and private sector jobs.										1								
2	Project demands that part-time jobs be created to perform necessary work within the project schedule.		2	2	2	2	2	2		2		2	2	2	2	2		2	
3	Project creates 5-10 full-time positions which are necessary to perform work related to the project within the schedule determined for project execution. Upon project completion, 1-5 jobs (part-time or full-time) are created to staff any long-term result of the project.	3							3								3		
4	Project provides for the creation of 20-30 jobs related to the construction/implementation of the project or as a result of the project's completion. Upon project completion, 6 or more jobs (part-time or full-time) are created to staff any long-term result of the project.																		
5	Project provides a significant increase of jobs provided by an entire industry.																		
5.	**Improvements to or on State parks or County recreation areas located in coastal areas or waterways and rivers that drain to the Gulf**	**0**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**3**	**3**	**0**	**4**	**3**	**0**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**3**	**4**	**1**
0	Project does not provide any benefits or improvements to a State Park or county recreation	0							0			0							
1	A portion of the project indirectly provides benefits to a State Park or county recreation																		1
2	Less than 50% of the project directly provides improvements to a State Park or county recreation																		
3	Less than 50% of the project directly provides improvements to a State Park or county recreation; and the project is not specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park or county recreation.						3	3			3						3		
4	A significant portion of the project (more than 75%) directly provides improvements to a State Park or county recreation; and the project is specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park or county recreation.		4	4	4	4				4			4	4	4	4		4	
5	Project is specifically designed to improve a damaged State Park (100%) or county recreation. An education component is included in the project. The public experience within the State Park or county recreation is significantly improved. The project adds improvements that relate to the principal feature of the State Park or county recreation.																		
6.	**Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy (including port infrastructure and projects that increase access to recreational opportunities) or ecological resources, springs protection, or groundwater protection**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**3**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**0**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**2**	**1**

	RANKING CRITERIA	Airport WWTP Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Observation Deck Improvement)	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Seawall, Sidewalk and Handrails)	Bayou Drive Repair and Restoration	Bayport Boat Ramp Expansion	Chinsegut Hill	Cypress Lakes Preserve	Glen WRF Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Hernando Beach Boat Ramp Expansion	Hernando Beach Shallow Water Reef Project	Hernando County Reuse Water Master Plan	Hunter's Lake Channel Restoration	Hunter's Lake Tussock & Invasive Vegetation Removal	Lake Townsen Preserve	Linda Pedersen Park Improvements	Museum at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park	Nobleton Wayside Park Preserve Improvements	Norfleet Property Acquisition
0	Project has a negative impact to the economy or has no net positive benefit to the local economy. Project does not benefit ecological resources.											0							
1	Project provides an indirect, revenue generating mechanism for either the public or private sector. Growth provided in the short term with no sustainable effects. Impact upon ecological preservation or protection is minimal.		1	1							1						1		1
2	Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy but not significantly. No specific local industry become more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage; however project results in an increase in local jobs. Project promotes habitat preservation or protection which can lead to increased benefits to the local economy.	2			2	2			2				2		2			2	
3	Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy more significantly. One specific local industry becomes more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage and there is a projected increase in other local jobs. Promotes habitat preservation or protection which can lead to economic impact.						3	3		3				3		3			
4	Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy significantly. One or more specific local industries become more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage and there is a projected increase in other local jobs. Some new long-term residents are projected. Habitat protection directly related to tourism or increased quality of life.																		
5	Project provides a sustainable revenue generator that significantly bolsters the local economy with two or more local industries becoming more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage. Project results in a definite an increase in local, long-term residents. Habitat protection has long term benefits for tourism or increased quality of life.																		
7.	**Coastal flood protection and the preservation of habitat in flood zones, coastal surge areas and floodways**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**1**
0	Project does not reduce flood protection or habitat preservation to a portion of the community nor has no net increase in flood protection to a known flood prone area.	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	
1	Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods but provides no measure for increasing the flood protection for those areas; or project may indirectly provide minor benefit to flood prone area.			1	1											1			1
2	Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods and provides means for measuring the increase in flood protection for those areas (Level of Service [LOS]); or project may indirectly provide a fairly significant LOS benefit to flood prone area.																		
3	Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods; and there is more than 50% increase in the LOS to a large flood prone area (more than 100 residents) or a 75% increase to an area with less than 100 residents.																		
4	Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods; and there is more than 75% increase in the LOS protection to a large flood prone area (more than 100 residents) or a 90% increase to an area with less than 100 residents.																		
5	The project's primary goal is to improve stormwater level of service for the local community. The project includes sustainable solutions that include long term, large scale drainage improvements that do improve known flood prone areas to acceptable LOS with 90% LOS improvement to large scale (more than 100 residents).																		

RANKING CRITERIA

		Airport WWTP Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Observation Deck Improvement)	Alfred McKethan/Pine Island Park Improvements (Seawall, Sidewalk and Handrails)	Bayou Drive Repair and Restoration	Bayport Boat Ramp Expansion	Chinsegut Hill	Cypress Lakes Preserve	Glen WRF Reclaimed Water Main & Storage Area	Hernando Beach Boat Ramp Expansion	Hernando Beach Shallow Water Reef Project	Hernando County Reuse Water Master Plan	Hunter's Lake Channel Restoration	Hunter's Lake Tussock & Invasive Vegetation Removal	Lake Townsen Preserve	Linda Pedersen Park Improvements	Museum at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park	Nobleton Wayside Park Preserve Improvements	Norfleet Property Acquisition
8.	**Projects (including infrastructure development) that promote tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including promotion of recreational fishing, swimming, bird watching, passive recreation and kayaking**	**0**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**0**	**3**	**3**	**0**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**3**	**2**	**2**
0	Does nothing to promote Tourism or recreational opportunities	0							0			0							
1	Project spending anticipated having little effect on tourism or increasing access to recreational opportunities. Impact may be short term																		
2	Some effect on tourism or recreation expected on a seasonal basis. Some economic income for the local area or city created as well as for small businesses.		2	2		2	2	2					2	2	2			2	2
3	Multi-seasonal impact. Generates some significant economic income and enhances recreational opportunities for tourists and residents				3					3	3					3	3		
4	Multi seasonal to year round impact. New generation of economic income created. Recreational opportunities are regional and benefits seasonal or tourist population																		
5	created. Entire county benefits.																		
9.	**Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region and projects that provide or benefit marine habitat**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**
0	No additional seafood consumption created or project has the potential to negatively impact the seafood industry.	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	0		0	0	0
1	Small amount of seafood consumption created. Anticipated that the local seafood market increases sales of seafood consumption by less than 5% and catch rates do not increase noticeably. Minor increase in marine habitat.				1	1				1						1			
2	Increased amount of seafood consumption created (more than 5%) . Little positive effect on the seafood industry occurs, in general, but catch rates increase some.										2								
3	Noticeable positive effect on the seafood industry. More than 10% increase in seafood consumption anticipated. Includes habitat restoration and anticipated increase in catch rates of identified species by 5% or more.																		
4	Industry growth experienced. Some positive effect on the local economy seen because of seafood consumption increase. Anticipated increase more than 15%. Catch rates of identified species more than 10%.																		
5	Industry experiences new growth and invigoration. Measurable positive impact on the economy as evident by more than 20% increase in seafood consumption. Significant increase in the catch rate and production of new seafood products (by more than 15% in identified species).																		
10.	**Project Funding Match**	**5**	**0**	**0**	**5**	**3**	**0**	**3**	**5**	**3**	**1**	**5**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5**
0	No matching funds will be provided		0	0			0						0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	10% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act										1								
2	20% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act																		
3	30% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act					3		3		3									
4	40% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act																		
5	50% matching funds will be provided from a source other than RESTORE Act	5			5				5			5							5
11.	**Project Timing**	**3**	**4**	**4**	**5**	**4**	**5**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**5**	**5**	**4**	**4**	**5**	**5**	**3**	**4**	**5**
1	Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized more than 10 years away.																		
2	Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 6-10 years away.																		
3	Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 4-6 years away.	3															3		
4	Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 2-4 years away.		4	4		4		4	4	4			4	4				4	
5	Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 0-2 years away.				5		5				5	5			5	5			5
	TOTAL POINTS:	**18**	**14**	**19**	**29**	**18**	**15**	**19**	**21**	**20**	**24**	**13**	**19**	**21**	**18**	**23**	**13**	**19**	**22**

Appendix D
Selected Projects Overview

1. Bayou Drive Repair and Restoration

Project Summary:

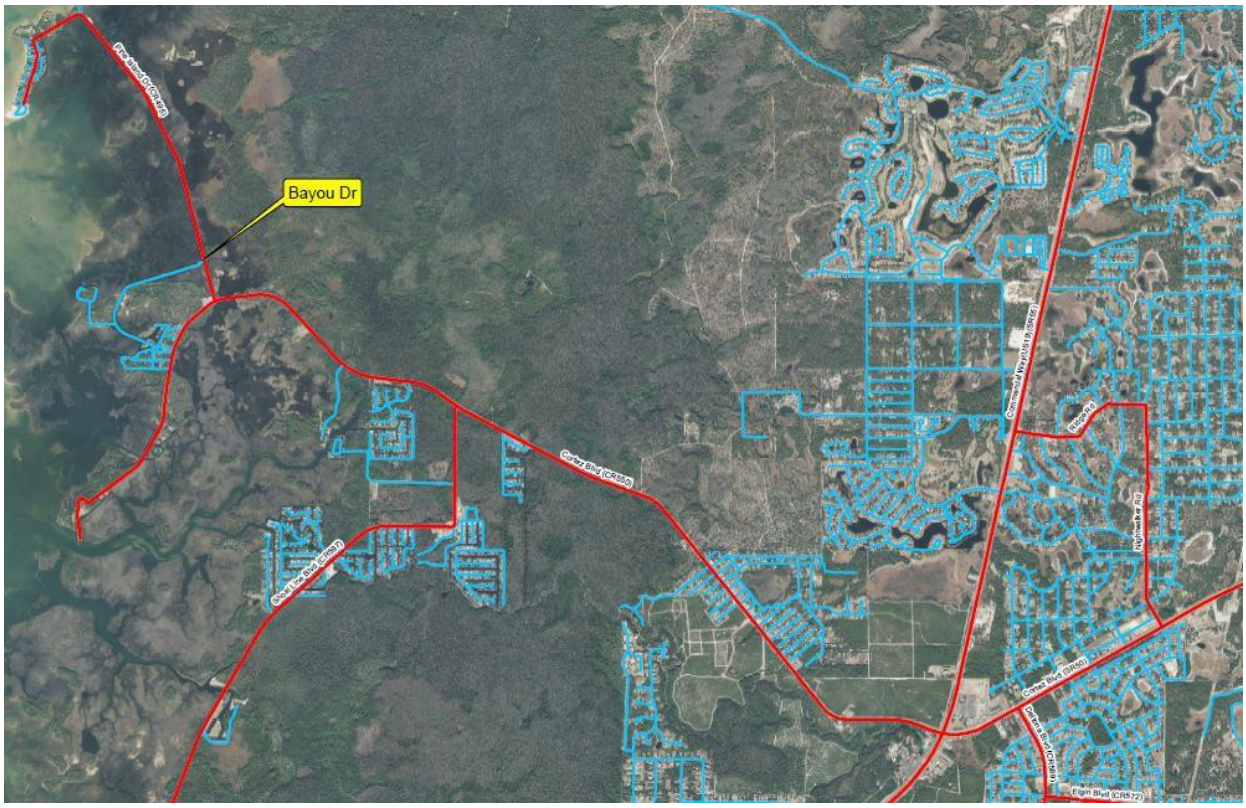
This project involves the repair of two miles of coastal roadway and the restoration of the adjacent coastal marshes. The site is listed in the Hernando Audubon Society's *Birding in Hernando* booklet. The area is noted for exceptional bird watching for serious birders as there is a large variety of birds found in the Gulf Coast lowlands and swamp areas.

The damaged roadway and parking areas will be repaired to current safety standards and existing parking areas will be repaired and upgraded to allow greater utilization of the recreational resource by all citizens.

Accumulated roadway sediments and non-native vegetation along the corridor will be removed from the marsh and native plantings will be installed to improve fish and wildlife habitat. The design will include Best Management Practices and other measures to ensure protection of the improvements and reduce future maintenance costs.

Location:

Bayou Drive, Spring Hill, Fl.



Project Goals:

- Restoration of salt marsh habitat for wildlife along the shores of Hernando County.
- Improve roadside parking areas to reduce future damage and potential erosion caused by vehicular use.
- Provide additional recreational activities for nature-related tourism in the Gulf Coast region.
- Provide better access to recreational fishing and birding opportunities.

Project Need, Purpose, Benefits and RESTORE Applicability:

Need:

Bayou Drive is a coastal roadway that provides a linear park-like setting for residents and visitors to enjoy bird watching, fishing, and non-motorized boating. The roadside use has resulted in areas of extreme erosion that not only threaten to damage the roadway but have degraded the nearby salt marsh. In addition, there are sections where non-native Brazilian pepper and lead trees have made a presence.

Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to restore the roadside infrastructure and habitat along Bayou Drive by repairing eroded areas and cleaning up natural areas affected by the sediment and non-native plant species.

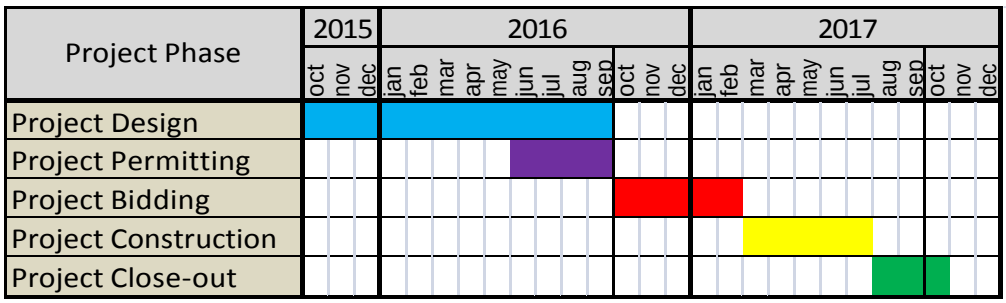
Benefits:

Restoration of this area will help to not only reduce the degradation of the adjacent salt marshes but will provide a recreational opportunity for Nature Coast visitors. Reduction in sedimentation and non-native species will provide restorative benefits to the salt marsh environment.

RESTORE Applicability:

- 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.
- Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure.
- Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including promotion of recreational fishing.

Proposed Schedule:



Project Funding:

Funding for this project will be provided as follows:

RESTORE Act Funding	$ 175,000
Hernando County Storm Water MSTU	$ 65,000
Hernando County Transportation Trust Fund	$ 110,000

Applicable Best Available Science (BAS)

Brazilian peppertree, Schinus terebinthifolius Raddi (Anacardiacaeae), is an aggressive, rapidly colonizing weed of disturbed habitats, natural communities and conservation areas in southern California, Hawaii, Texas and peninsular Florida. In Florida, Brazilian peppertree is a pioneer species of disturbed sites such as highways, canals, power line rights-of-way, fallow fields, and drained wetlands. Once established, it quickly displaces the native vegetation adjacent to the disturbance, often forming dense monocultures that reduce the biological diversity of plans and animals in the invaded area. (Cuda et al., 2006)

Appropriate water management through the development of a water management plan may be the key to preventing slope failures. Vegetation and mechanical structures can be used alone or in conjunction to stabilize slopes. When using vegetation to stabilize slopes, mulch and soil amendments can aid in on-site vegetation establishment. Saving and reusing topsoil and mulching with on-site materials are cost-effective and sustainable practices. Erosion control products could be considered for use at every site on any disturbed soil surface, as it

is much easier to prevent erosion than to fix an already eroded slope. Methods used to control surface erosion or stabilize slopes can be used alone or as components of a system. Mechanical slope stabilization methods can also be used alone or in conjunction with plants (biotechnical stabilization). Earthwork techniques can be used to make slope surface less likely to erode and more stable (Fay et al., 2012)

REFERENCES

1. Cuda, J.P., Ferriter, A.P., Manrique, V., Medal, J.C., (2006). Florida's Brazilian Peppertree Management Plan: Recommendations from the Brazilian Peppertree Task Force, Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. 2nd Edition.
2. Fay, L., Akin, M., Shi, X., (2012). Cost-Effective and Sustainable Road Slope Stabilization and Erosion Control: A Synthesis of Highway Practice. NCHRP, Synthesis 430. Transportation Research Board.

2. Hernando Beach Shallow Water Reef Project

Project Summary:

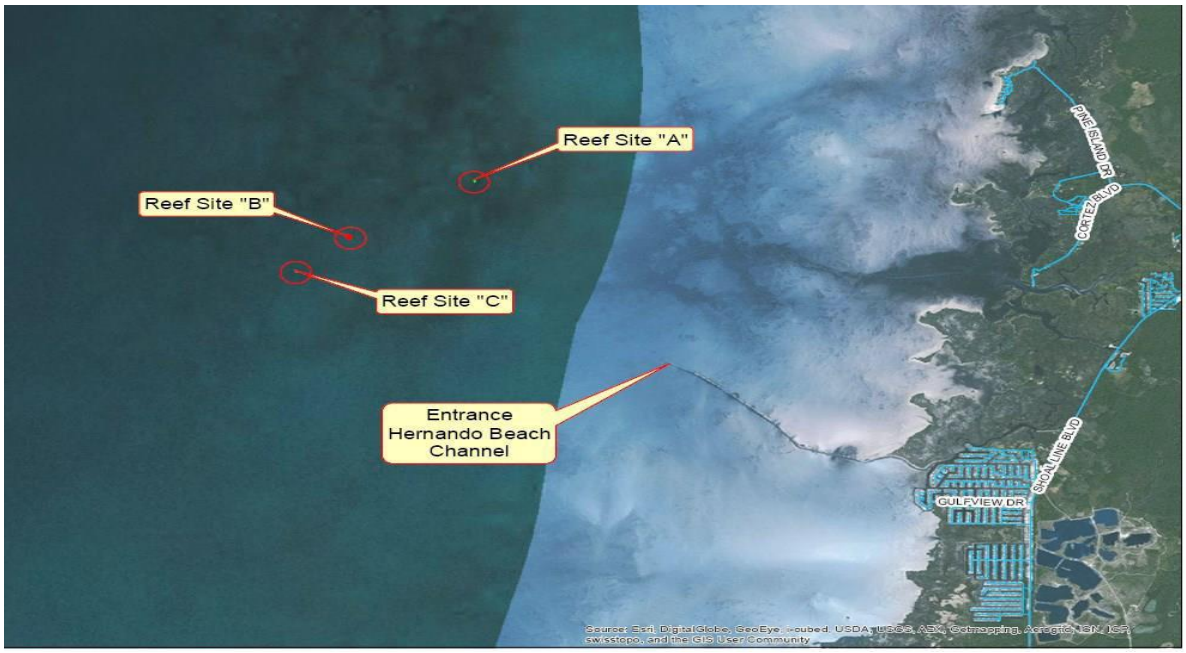
This project involves the creation of three (3) new artificial reefs west of the newly dredged Hernando Beach Channel. These proposed in-shore reefs will provide a shallow water habitat to enhance the recreational fishing, diving and snorkeling opportunities within the County.

The first reef (Reef Site A) will be populated with 38 pallet balls, the second reef (Reef Site B) will be populated with 47 pallet balls, and the third reef (Reef Site C) will be populated with 41 pallet balls.

The placement of the reefs will enhance the restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats along the Hernando Beach coastline.

Location:

Coastal waters less than 7 miles from the Hernando Beach Channel; and less than 10 miles from the coastline of Hernando County, Florida.



Project Goals:

- Provide additional habitat for marine wildlife off the shores of Hernando County.
- Improve barren areas of the seafloor so that they may sustain marine life.
- Provide additional recreational activities for nature-related tourism in the Gulf Coast region.
- Provide better access to recreational fishing opportunities.

Project Need, Purpose, Benefits and RESTORE Applicability:

Need:

Hernando County is located in an area known as the Nature Coast. Its unique shoreline provides for a shallow water shelf extending from the mainline out into the Gulf of Mexico. Although the area off the coast of Hernando County is known for its excellent sea grass beds, there are areas void of vegetation and structure. Hernando County, through its Port Authority, has made a concerted effort over the years to create marine wildlife habitat along the coastline within these void areas.

Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to provide a viable marine habitat in areas off of the Hernando County shoreline that are currently void of structures with a potential to sustain marine life.

Benefits:

Creation of additional habitat capable of sustaining marine life is the major benefit of the project. These reefs will also provide additional opportunities for recreational fishing, diving, and snorkeling activity.

RESTORE Applicability:

- 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.
- Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including promotion of recreational fishing.
- Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region.

Proposed Schedule:

Project Phase	2015			2016										2017											
	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec
Project Design	COMPLETE																										
Project Permitting																											
Project Bidding																											
Project Construction																											
Project Close-out																											

* The design for this project was completed in fiscal year 2014/15 and is currently in the permitting stage.

Project Funding:

Funding for this project will be provided as follows:

RESTORE Act Funding	$ 94,500
Hernando County Boating Improvement Fund	$ 10,500

Applicable Best Available Science (BAS)

The use of artificial reefs has been increasing worldwide in an effort to increase fish abundance and diversity, improve catch rates of targeted species, and restore damage to nature coral reefs. Productivity in real terms in relation to artificial reef deployment relies on the assumption that artificial Reefs provide additional critical habitat which increase the environmental carrying capacity and there the abundance and biomass of reef biota (Polovina, 1994, Bortone et al., 1994). Near shore artificial reefs can be created that will develop communities of encrusting organisms and bait fish over time. As various encrusting organisms such as corals and sponges cover the artificial reef material, small animals take up residence. As these small animals become abundant larger animals are attracted and feed upon these, and so on until a reef food web is created. Energy is able to then provide biological growth potential that provides additional protective habitat, as well as sustenance for fish species. Some experts believe that artificial reefs can function comparably to natural reef communities. Others argue that artificial reefs merely attract existing fish from the adjacent open water habitat, forming more dense fish aggregations (Fikes, 2013).

Artificial reefs also create an avenue to promote visitation and marine tourism within a community. Artificial and natural reefs are public resources that provide recreational benefits to reef user and income to local economies (Johns et al., 2001). As residents and visitors spend money in the county to participate in reef-related recreation, income and jobs are created within the county as a result (Johns et al., 2001).

REFERENCES

3. Johns, G.M., Leeworth, V.R., Bell, F.W., and Bonn, M.A. (2001, October). *Socioeconomic Study of Reefs in Southeast Florida, Final Report*, Hazen & Sawyer Environmental Engineers and Scientists.
4. Polivina, J.J., (1994). Functions of artificial reefs. Bull. Mar. Sci. 55 (2-3), 1349.
5. Bortone, S.A., Martin, T., Bundrick, C.M., (1994). Factors affecting fish assemblage development on a modular artificial reef in a northern Gulf of Mexico estuary. Bull. Mar. Sci. 55 (2-3), 319-332.
6. Fikes, R., (2013) Artificial Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico: A Review of Gulf State Programs & Key Considerations. National Wildlife Federation.

3. Linda Pederson Park Improvements

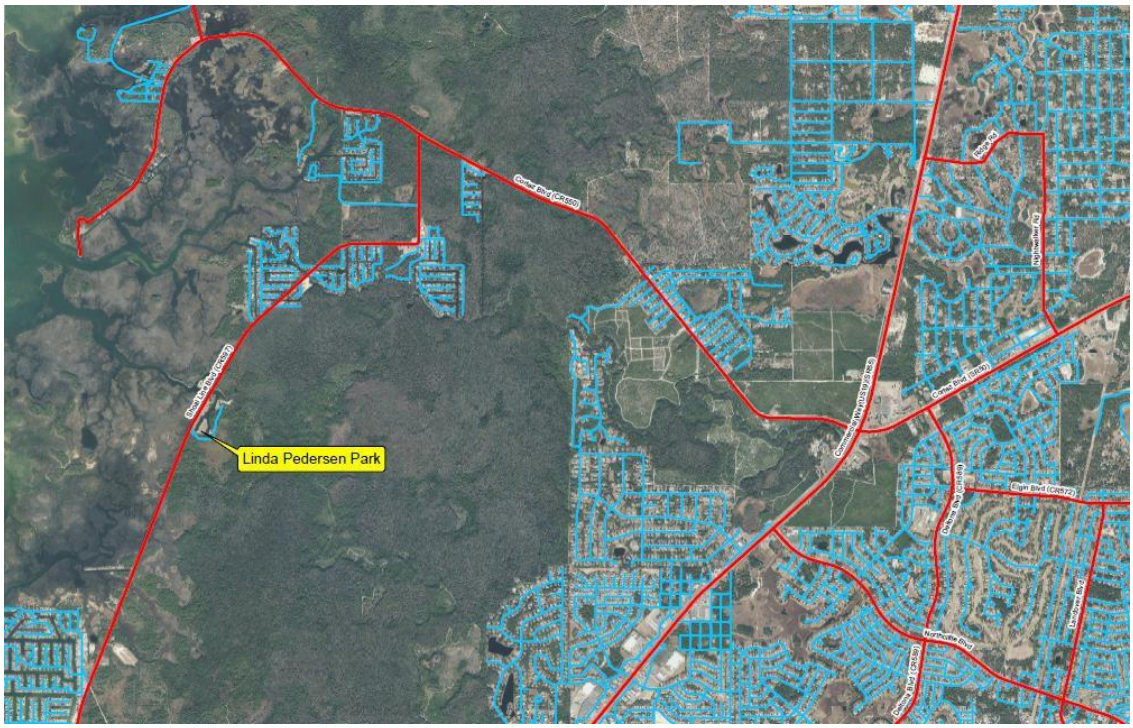
Project Summary:

The Linda Pederson/Jenkins Creek Park is a 140-acre passive park located along the Gulf of Mexico estuary that offers fishing, swimming, boat launching, picnic shelters, and an observation tower all located along a freshwater spring run. The park improvement project entails the replacement of an existing seawall and boardwalk within the swimming area to prevent erosion and protect against storm surge damage. Other improvements include the addition of a canoe and kayak launch area to bolster the use by recreational boaters visiting the area.

The replacement of the existing seawall and boardwalk along the Jenkins spring run will prevent sedimentation impacts to the spring run and provide needed repairs to aging park infrastructure. These improvements will directly benefit the public, tourism industry, and will aid in maintaining or increasing water quality in the spring. The addition of the kayak and canoe launch will provide direct public access to the spring run and its tributaries for non-motorized boats. It will also serve to provide a separation of recreation water craft user groups (motorized and non-motorized) to improve safety in the area.

Location:

Linda Pederson Park
6300 Shoal Line Boulevard
Spring Hill, Florida



Project Goals:

- Repair aging coastal infrastructure within the park.
- Reduce sedimentation into the Jenkins Creek spring run.
- Improve water quality of water entering the spring run from the existing park.
- Improve spring run aesthetics for park users.
- Provide recreational access to the spring run and tributaries for non-motorized water craft.
- Provide additional recreational activities for nature-related tourism in the Gulf Coast region.
- Provide better access to recreational fishing opportunities.

Project Need, Purpose, Benefits and RESTORE Applicability:

Need:

The Jenkins Creek spring run located within Linda Pederson Park has an existing seawall that is in need of repair. The disrepair has created a storm water erosion issue that has led to sedimentation within the spring run. Repair and replacement of the wall and modification to the existing storm water system is required.

Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to improve the erosion and storm water facilities at the park to reduce sedimentation. This project will also provide additional non-motorized boat launch facilities in the area for residents and visitors wishing to partake in nature-related recreational activities.

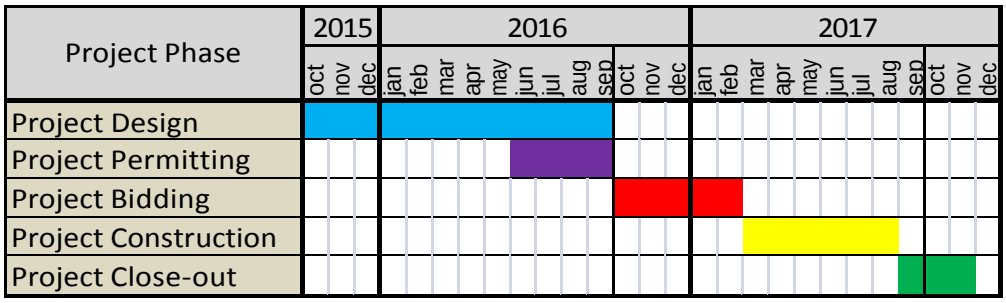
Benefits:

Reduction in sedimentation deposition within the spring run will be accomplished with this project. Additional non-motorized boat launch facilities will be provided in the area.

RESTORE Applicability:

- Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region.
- Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including promotion of recreational fishing.
- Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure.
- Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region.

Proposed Schedule:



Project Funding:

Funding for this project will be provided as follows:

RESTORE Act Funding	$300,000

Applicable Best Available Science (BAS)

Not applicable for this project.