

Gulf County RESTORE Project Submission Form

SAMPLE ONLY

Section A – Requirements and Eligibility

1. **Enter the proposed Project Name** (This must be an original name and will be used for reference to this project henceforth *(No Points)*) :

Scenic Bayou Restoration Phase I

2. **Enter the street (postal) address as shown from the final location when entered via the interactive GIS map.** *(No Points)*

1250– 1262 Gulf Highway Port St. Joe, FL 32456

3. **Qualifying Primary Eligible Activity** *(select only one (No Points))*:

- ☐ Restore and protect natural resources
- ☐ Mitigate damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources Implement Federally-approved conservation plans
- ☐ Workforce Development
- ☐ Improve State parks located in coastal areas affected by the spill
- ☐ Infrastructure projects for local economy
- ☐ Coastal flood protection
- ☒ **Planning assistance**
- ☐ Promotion of tourism
- ☐ Promote consumption of seafood for the Gulf

4. **Qualifying Secondary Activities** *(select up to three as secondary activities (No Points))*:

- ☒ **Restore and protect natural resources**
- ☒ **Mitigate damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources**
- ☐ Implement Federally-approved conservation plans
- ☐ Workforce Development
- ☐ Improve State parks located in coastal areas affected by the spill
- ☐ Infrastructure projects for local economy
- ☐ Coastal flood protection
- ☐ Planning assistance
- ☐ Promotion of tourism
- ☐ Promote consumption of seafood for the Gulf

5. **Was this activity included in a claim paid out of the Oil Spill Trust Fund?** *(No Points)*

If activity was included in a claim paid out of the Oil Spill Trust Fund it is not eligible for RESTORE funding under the Direct Component Pot 1.

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ **No**

6. Provide a short narrative describing how the work associated with the proposed project will be performed in the Gulf Region. (250 words maximum – No Points)

The proposed project will provide direct benefits to the area of the canals and near shore waters of Basic Cove and Scenic Bayou (approx. 33 acres) and indirect benefit to Greater Basic Cove, Scenic Bayou and Perdido Pass (approx. 546 acres) which discharges to the Gulf of Mexico.

Section B – Programmatic Criteria

1a. Project Justification - Provide an adequate overall description of the proposed project to determine feasibility. Include references to the best available science where appropriate. (500 words maximum - 2 points maximum, combined with questions 1b and 1c below)

The City of Anywhere Town, FL has identified a restoration project that will serve to remedy harm and reduce the risk of future harm to Gulf Coast natural resources that were impacted by the DWH oil spill. Scenic Bayou and its associated two canals are located in the heart of Anywhere Town and are connected to the Gulf of Mexico by Generic Bayou. The canals and other shallow waters of Scenic Bayou historically served as nursery habitat for aquatic and avian wildlife. Over the years of development and re-development the natural canal shoreline has been replaced with seawalls and the canals have accumulated sediments that limit tidal circulation, contribute to long-term degradation in ambient water quality, reduce dissolved oxygen concentrations and support algae blooms. The City's proposed project has the goals of preserving and increasing native habitat for aquatic and avian wildlife, enhancing circulation patterns in the canals, restoring water quality and serving as a model for similarly impacted communities along the Gulf Coast. The project approach is designed to leverage public funds to implement this restoration project and re-establish resources that will serve to restore impacted species from the Macondo oil spill such as shrimp, crab, oysters, sea grasses and blue herons. The project approach was developed with a long term vision composed of three phases utilizing the best available science to ensure maximum success:

- Phase I is a proof of concept. During this phase we will gather information, define the problems, identify potential solutions, and determine the feasibility of implementation. This first step will serve to bring the stakeholders together with the City and define the intended goals for the project(s).**
- Phase II will develop the design and environmental permitting for the selected project(s), establish costs and prepare construction Bid Documents.**
- Phase III will facilitate construction of the project(s) and set the stage for the community to start receiving the benefits.**
- Phase IV is the on-going operation and maintenance of the constructed facilities and monitoring of the improvements.**

Phase I, II and III will each develop documents as deliverables that support the next funding request. In this way each installment of funds can be measured against the veracity of the documentation to ensure a cost effective approach is being employed at each stage of investment and to ensure maximum environmental benefits are realized.

1b. Project Budget – Provide the project budget as a total dollar amount. (2 points maximum, combined with Question 1a above and Question 1c below)

The total project budget for Phase I is \$500,000; the total project budget for all Phases is \$4,250,000.

1c. Project Feasibility - Provide a total budget breakdown for the proposed project including all reasonable and justifiable costs. Additional budget breakdown information can be provided as a PDF attachment. Please enter “See attached” here if you are submitting a budget as an attachment. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum, combined with Questions 1a and 1b above)

The project approach was developed with a long term vision composed of 4 phases: Phase I is planning (a proof of concept), estimated cost \$500,000; Phase II will develop the design and environmental permitting for the selected project(s), establish costs and prepare construction Bid Documents, from past experience it is estimated the cost will be \$500,000; Phase III will facilitate construction of the project(s), from past experience it is estimated the cost will be \$3,000,000. Phase IV is the on-going maintenance of the constructed facilities and monitoring of the improvements, and 2 years monitoring will cost will be \$250,000. (See attached Detailed Phase 1 Budget)

2. Public Interest - Provide a short narrative describing how the proposed project clearly demonstrates public benefit. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

The proposed project will provide the direct benefit of preserving and increasing native habitat for aquatic and avian wildlife, enhancing circulation patterns in the canals, restoring water quality which will support the re-establishment of nursery habitat for aquatic and avian wildlife. It is also anticipated that the goal of restoration of nursery habitats in the canals will provide benefits to greater Basic Cove, Scenic Bayou and Perdido Pass. The proposed project will serve as a model for similarly impacted communities along the Gulf Coast.

3. Project Timing - Provide a brief project development schedule showing that the proposed project can be implemented and benefits realized within a reasonable and acceptable timeframe. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

The project is proposed in 4 phases. It is anticipated that the Planning phase (this application) will require 12 months to complete. From past experience it is estimated that the next phases will require:

Design/permitting/bidding - 12 months;

Construction - 12 months;

Monitoring – 24 months.

4. Partnerships and Leveraging – Provide a short narrative describing how the project is supported by multiple partners. Explain how the proposed project leverages funds by including cash or in-kind matching funds towards the project. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

The proposed project has committed partners including the Northwest Florida Water Management District and the City of Anywhere Town. Please see attached letters of support which outline commitment activities from each partner.

The City has invested approximately \$70,000 in pre-construction water quality monitoring in the project area to date. No other matching funds are proposed for Phase I.

5. Monitoring Plan - Provide a short narrative describing the comprehensive monitoring and success measurement plan for the proposed project. Include a maintenance plan, if applicable. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

Phase IV is the on-going operation and maintenance of the constructed facilities and monitoring of the improvements. While the Monitoring Plan is not yet fully developed it is anticipated that the project's success will be measured by acres of native habitat for aquatic and avian wildlife preserved and created, increases in DO concentration and reductions of TN and TP as measured pre and post project.

6. Sustainability and Efficiency – Provide a brief narrative describing how the project approach utilizes efficiency measures and provides long term benefits. Explain how the proposed project builds upon existing assets, links outcomes, partners, or lands, and does not produce negative environmental impacts. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

This project will utilize existing research and information regarding Scenic Bayou. It will build upon the existing monitoring program and will serve as a basis for further water quality improvements in Scenic Bayou.

One or more of the following questions in Section C-E should relate to the proposed project. When responding please consider how the proposed project addresses the needs of Gulf County (see *County Needs Assessment* posted on <http://gulfcountystore.com>). Please enter N/A if not responding to a question.

Section C1 – Environmental Criteria:

1. Habitat Conservation and Preservation - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project maintains or improves the structure and function of uplands, bays, bayous, wetlands, rivers, lakes, streams, or marine natural systems, benefiting native plants and wildlife. (500 words maximum - 5 points maximum).

Phase III of this project is anticipated to include preservation of existing native habitat in Scenic Bayou and Basic Cove.

2. *Habitat Restoration* - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project improves, enhances, or restores the structure and function of uplands, bays, bayous, wetlands, rivers, lakes, streams, or marine natural systems, benefiting native plants and wildlife. (500 words maximum– 5 points maximum)

The proposed project includes the goal of increasing native habitat for aquatic and avian wildlife, enhancing circulation patterns in the canals, restoring water quality which will support the reestablishment of nursery habitat for aquatic and avian wildlife in the canals and shallow water canal discharge areas into Scenic Bayou and Basic Cove.

3. *Water Quality* - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project reduces point and/or nonpoint sources of pollutants entering local waterways, provides treatment to improve water quality, or proposes other measures which will improve water quality such as watershed Best Management Practices (BMP's). (500 words maximum – 10 points maximum)

Phase III of this project is anticipated to include removal of accumulated sediments in the canals which will enhance circulation patterns in the canals, reducing algae blooms and restoring water quality in the canals and shallow water canal discharge areas into Scenic Bayou and Basic Cove.

4. *Natural Systems Resiliency* - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project increases ability of natural systems to withstand disasters and adapt to changing environmental conditions due to climate change, associated sea level rise, and other factors. (500 words maximum – 6 points maximum)

Phase III of this project is anticipated to include removal of accumulated sediments in the canals and the addition of interconnections which will modify and enhance circulation patterns. This will reestablish the flow capacity of the canals allowing better flushing and removal of future sediment inputs. The preservation and restoration of native habitats within the canals will serve to stabilize shorelines and reduce future erosion.

Section C2 – Economic Criteria:

1. *Tourism and Tourism Opportunities* - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project provides for increases in tourism activity through new or additional marketing efforts, improvements to existing attractions, or addition of new destinations or attractions. (500 words maximum – 5 points maximum)

N/A

2. *Recreational Fishing and Local Seafood* - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project provides for increases recreational fishing opportunities through increased or improved access to waterfront, marketing and promotion of local recreational fishing and seafood, the removal of barriers to recreational fishing, and increased fishing stock/habitat. (500 words maximum – 5 points maximum)

This project is anticipated to result in long term increases in recreational fish stock as a result of increased habitat for fish.

3. Job Creation - provide a short narrative on how the proposed project provides for full time higher wage jobs within the County. (500 words maximum – 6 points maximum)

N/A

4. Industry and Business Growth - provide a short narrative on how the proposed project directly contributes to expansion of existing industry/business or siting of a new industry/business in marine commerce, seafood processing, commercial fishing industries, aviation and aerospace, high tech manufacturing, information technology or cyber security, telecommunications, renewable energy, or other locally targeted industry as identified in the Apalachee Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. (500 words maximum – 5 points maximum)

N/A

5. Workforce Development - provide a short narrative on how the proposed project provides innovative higher education, job training, or other workforce training/career development which increases the total skilled workforce pool and advances opportunities for higher wage employment. (500 words maximum – 5 points maximum)

N/A

Section C3 – Infrastructure Criteria:

1. Port Development - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project enhances port usage and diversity, operability, expansion, dredging, and marketing/promotion. (500 words maximum – 9 points maximum)

N/A

2. Transportation Network Improvements - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project improves components of existing transportation network or adds new features to transportation network such as roads, bridges, sidewalks, bike lanes, multi-modal paths or trails, streetlights, right-of-way landscaping, and public access to the waterfront. This may also include services for the transportation disadvantaged. (500 words maximum - 6 points maximum)

N/A

3. Essential Services - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project provides new or improved wastewater treatment and management, solid waste management, stormwater management, technological upgrades such as broadband, and/or beach stabilization and nourishment. (500 words maximum - 7 points maximum)

N/A

4. Disaster Resiliency - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project increases community resiliency by strategically retrofitting, upgrading, or replacing critical infrastructure, utilizing renewable energy, improving emergency services and response, or by improving other disaster preparatory mechanisms. (500 words maximum - 4 points maximum)

N/A

Section C4 – Community Preferences:

1. Cultural and Historic Resources - Provide one or more specific examples of how the proposed project provides for preservation, protection or restoration of cultural, historical, or archaeological significant resources. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

A historical site is located along the shoreline of the proposed project. The project will incorporate preservation of existing historical assets.

2. Community Health - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project improves community health through increased healthcare services, health improvement programs, or health education. (250 words maximum- 2 points maximum)

N/A

3. Affordable Housing - Provide a short narrative on how the proposed project provides additional workforce and affordable housing units, beautifies neighborhoods, and/or provides programs which promote affordable and/or workforce housing. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

N/A

4. Education and Public Outreach - Provide one or more specific examples of environmental or general education and outreach opportunities included in the proposed project. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

This project will contain an environmental outreach component, whereby local students will be able to participate in hands-on water quality monitoring of their local bayou.

5. Youth Opportunities and Childcare - Provide one or more specific examples of how the proposed project provides new or improved local opportunities for youth, including opportunities in sports, arts, education, music, or affordable child care services to assist working families. (250 words maximum - 2 points maximum)

N/A

Section D – Bonus Points:

1. Leverages funds - Provide one or more specific examples of how the proposed project can provide for in-kind or other supplemental funding, increasing fund leveraging. Include the dollar amount of leveraged funds, the portion of the project budget supported by leveraged funds, and the level of commitment of leveraged funding sources. (250 words maximum – Up to 18 points maximum)

The total project budget for Phase I is \$500,000. The City is committing \$70,000 towards the water quality monitoring program and the NFWFMD may have additional funding opportunities available for future phases, including the EPA 319 Grant, which can provide up to 40% in matching funds. If selected, we will pursue the additional funding opportunities for subsequent phases of the project. Therefore, 14% of Phase I of the project is currently leveraged.

Section E – Permitting and Ownership:

- 1. Are permits required to construct or implement the proposed project?**

☒ **Yes**
☐ No

If Yes, list specific required permits and status of each. (100 words maximum – No Points)

No permits are required for Phase 1. However, environmental permitting is anticipated to construct improvements which include ACDNR Dredge Permit, Erosion and Sediment Control Permit, USACE Temporary Wetland Impacts

- 2. Is land acquisition required to construct or implement the proposed project?**

☒ **Yes**
☐ No

If Yes, what legal rights will be acquired (title, easement, other)? Select one or more

☐ Titles
☒ **Easements**
☐ Other

If easements, what are the terms of the easement? (100 words maximum– No Points)

No land acquisition is required for Phase 1. However, permanent easements are anticipated for restoration areas and conservation easements are anticipated for preservation areas.

- 3. Will the proposed project cause displacement of persons or businesses?**

☐ Yes
☒ **No**

If Yes, provide a description of the displacement the proposed project may cause including any known addresses that may be impacted. (100 words maximum – No Points)

N/A