

# RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Narrative

## Department of the Treasury

OMB Approval No. 1505-0250

**Directions: Use this form for the Initial Multiyear Plan and any subsequent amendments to an accepted Multiyear Plan. For amendments, include only new and/or materially modified activities.**

Multiyear Plan Version (Initial or Amendment Number):	Amendment #1
Date of Initial Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	5/16/2017
Date of Last Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	5/16/2017

Eligible Applicant Name:	Santa Rosa County
Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:	
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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

1. A description of each activity, including the need, purpose, objective(s), milestones and location. Include map showing the location of each activity.

As an update to Santa Rosa County's initial RESTORE Multi-year Implementation Plan (MYIP), accepted by Treasury on 5/16/2017, Amendment #1 consists of the following modifications:

**Four activities were removed from funding under the Direct Component reducing the MYIP to ten activities from the original fourteen:** Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society, Second Chance Outreach Re-Entry and Education Development and Job Skills Training Program, Quinn Street Marina: Phase 1, and the Post-Secondary Career and Technical Education Program Manufacturing Career Center.

**Project dates were revised on the MYIP Matrix for all remaining projects.**

**Direct Component funding contributions were increased for the following five activities due to the rise in costs or increase in scope:** Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements, Eufala Outfall Treatment, Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park Restoration, Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement Program, and the Blackwater Heritage State Trail Infrastructure Improvements.

**Third Party Contributions were modified for eight projects.** The Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements and the Eufala Outfall Treatment Center contributions were increased due to the increase of the total project costs reflecting a 1:1 cash match proposed agreement with the City of Gulf Breeze. This contribution was removed from the Dirt Road Paving Districts 1, 4, 5, Oyster Habitat Restoration Project, Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park Restoration, Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement Program, Floridatown Water Quality Enhancement Project, and the Blackwater Heritage State Trail Infrastructure Improvements activities.

**Scope, milestones and deliverables were modified for six projects.** The Dirt Road Paving Districts 1, 4, 5 scope of work was revised from 6.0 miles to 4.3 miles. This change was necessary due to increase project costs as well as a portion of the originally proposed 6.0 miles has already been paved and stabilized since the initial MYIP. The Eufala Outfall Treatment project milestones were revised to percentage of construction. This change is due to the City of Gulf Breeze providing the funding for the engineering, design and permitting for the project. The Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement activity scope is modified to include the installation of vaults controlling discharge and necessary maintenance of the water quality enhancement. The Gulf Coast Discovery Center Phase 1 (Design & Permitting) activity was revised from the initial MYIP to decrease scope of work, modify deliverables, and decrease the Direct Component funding contribution. This revision was due to the need of developing the programming and exhibit concepts

that would guide the design component of Phase 1. The Blackwater Heritage State Trail Infrastructure Improvements activity scope was increased to include repair and stabilization of portions of the trail in areas of critical need. The Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction Project scope was decreased, milestones and measures were modified. This modification was due to the underestimation of the total cost identified for the project and the inclusion of the said scope of work in the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Trustee Implementation Group (TIG) Plan.

#### **1) Dirt Road Paving- District 1, District 4, District 5 - Map A & Map B**

The project scope was reduced from 6.0 miles of dirt road paving as described in the initial MYIP to 4.3 miles in Santa Rosa County Districts 1, 4, 5. This change was necessary due to increase project costs as well as a portion of the originally proposed 6.0 miles has already been paved and stabilized since the initial MYIP.

**Need:** Sediment from these roads runs off into Escambia Bay, Santa Rosa Sound, and East Bay, and has a detrimental effect on water quality, marine life, and sea grasses. Soil particles are loosened and carried away from the road by water, wind, traffic, or other transport means. Eroded soil that ends up in streams and rivers can reduce channel capacity, causing more frequent and severe flooding, destroy aquatic and riparian habitat, and adversely affect water quality. Suspended sediment can irritate the gills of fish, smother fish spawning and feeding grounds, reduce desirable shoreline, cause algal blooms, reduce levels of dissolved oxygen, and diminish recreational and aesthetic values of the water body.

The majority of the roads included in this project are located on the Fairpoint Peninsula in Santa Rosa County. The County has identified these roads not only based on proximity to water bodies but also based on strategic planning related to mobilization of County maintenance vehicles and crews. This project will substantially complete the list of roads in need of paving on the Fairpoint Peninsula, thus allowing the dirt road crews and maintenance vehicles to be deployed in other areas of the County.

The dirt roads will be paved to normal county paving standards. These standards include: the installation of erosion control and other BMP's necessary for specific roadways or roadway segments; the repair, replacement, or extensions of culverts, headwalls, and other drainage and utility related features; the compaction of six inches (6") of base material (road building quality clay or graded aggregate, which are typically already in place); the installation and compaction of asphalt that meets or exceeds the specifications of Section 300 of the latest edition of the Florida Department of Transportation Standard Specifications For Road and Bridge Construction, asphalt will have a compacted thickness of not less than one and a quarter inches (1.25"), the total width of the asphalt is typically twenty two feet (22') but may vary depending on specific site conditions or limiting factors; the grading of roadway shoulders and roadside ditches and swales for proper drainage; installation of all necessary roadway signage and stripping; and the stabilization of all disturbed areas with sod, seeding and mulching, or other means as necessary.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to pave identified dirt roads that contribute to runoff into Escambia Bay, Santa Rosa Sound, and East Bay.

**Objective:** The objective of this project has been modified to reduce sedimentation into Escambia Bay, Santa Rosa Sound, and East Bay through strategic road paving, which stabilizes soil and prevents erosion.

Milestones have been modified and are now the execution of contract for construction and documentation of road stabilization.

#### **4) Eufala Outfall Treatment - Map A**

This project scope was reduced to exclude engineering, design and permitting from the project scope and consists of the installation of an outfall treatment system on the outfall of an existing City stormwater conveyance system. This will provide treatment and erosion control for Eufaula Street, which is located within the City of Gulf Breeze, including hardening and protecting the discharge point for the existing Gilmore stormwater lift station.

**Need:** This project provides treatment for water discharged to Pensacola Bay. The treatment of stormwater before it is discharged into area water ways will provide for improved water quality that will be enjoyed by residents and tourists in the area. The City of Gulf Breeze has identified all of its untreated outfalls and has planned for adding treatment facilities. The Eufaula project was selected as a high priority due to its discharge location into a smaller water body vulnerable to sediment collection.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to provide treatment and erosion control for Eufaula Street, which is located within the City of Gulf Breeze, including hardening and protecting the discharge point for the existing Gilmore stormwater lift station.

Objective: The objective is to reduce contaminants in area waters through infrastructure improvements.

The milestones are now: the initiation of construction and construction complete.

#### **6) Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement - Map B**

The project scope was revised to eliminate work on the East side of the park which will be addressed with other funding resources and focus on retrofitting the Center and West parking area through a combination of open detention system and bio-filtration units combined with vault storage and maintenance. This amendment also excludes design and permitting from the project scope. The Direct component contribution was adjusted based on updated estimates to complete the project and to include necessary equipment needed for vault maintenance (+270, 715).

Need: Santa Rosa Sound is a 42.4 square mile lagoon that connects Choctawhatchee and Pensacola Bays. It is one of the few water bodies supporting diverse sea grasses within the Pensacola Bay System. Unfortunately, stresses on the habitat resulting from development pressures in Navarre and increased stormwater runoff are affecting the ability of Santa Rosa Sound to maintain productivity. Santa Rosa Sound has experienced habitat loss due to rapid development on Santa Rosa Island and along Highway 98. (Hand et al. 1996). Additionally, since 2003 there have been more than 29 documented health advisory warnings, specifically at Navarre Park adjacent to US Highway 98. On the Central and West side of the site pipes from US98 discharges untreated runoff through the site directly into Santa Rosa Sound.

The Purpose has been modified from the Initial MYIP to provide stormwater treatment for the Navarre Park parking area and to intercept untreated stormwater to remove trash, debris, sediment, and hydrocarbon prior to entering the Sound.

Objective: The goal of this project is to reduce the nutrient and stormwater sediment input in the Central and the west side of Navarre Park at Santa Rosa Sound.

The milestones are now: initiation of construction and construction complete.

#### **7) Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction - Map B**

The project scope was reduced to exclude replacement of the bridge, design and permitting from the project scope. This activity will be part of a larger project to replace the culvert and stabilize the roadway using geotextile and crushed run materials at the Wolfe Creek site.

Need: The project was identified in the 2010 Inventory and Prioritization of Impaired Sites in the Yellow River Watershed in Alabama and Florida report (Y.R. Report) conducted by the Nature Conservancy and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with funding from the State of Florida, Department of Defense, USFWS and private funders. Wolf Creek is the highest priority road crossing site not yet restored in the SRC section of the Yellow River.

Purpose: The purpose of the project has been modified to stabilize the roadway and eliminate erosion at the Wolf Creek crossing site.

Objective: The objective is to restore hydrology and water quality of Wolf Creek, a tributary to the Yellow River, located along the unpaved Rattlesnake Bluff Road.

The milestones are now: initiation of construction and construction complete.

#### **8) The Gulf Coast Discovery Center, Phase I - Map B**

The project scope was reduced limiting the planning to Architectural Programming & Exhibit Concept Development. Since an award for planning at the full scope was issued by Treasury (RDCGR210037) on 11/16/2017 in the amount of \$272,950, the County will request the grant to be reduced in scope with a budget of \$103,193. The Direct Component contribution was adjusted accordingly (-\$164,425).

The Programming and Exhibit Concept Development is a comprehensive guide necessary for the design and permitting (Phase I) of the construction of a 9,000 sq. ft. LEED certified, Marine Interpretive Center (Gulf Coast Discovery Center). The Northwest Florida Marine Education and Discovery of Gulf Ecosystems, Inc. (NWFL Marine EDGE) has a mission to promote the appreciation, conservation, and understanding of the marine ecosystem of coastal Florida through education, service and hands-on, feet-wet experiences. This mission is accomplished through supporting activities of the Navarre Beach Marine Science Station.

**Need:** Navarre Beach, in Santa Rosa County, does not have a family attraction that can accommodate large groups, have regular operating hours, and have qualified staff for environmental and marine education. Currently, visitors come to the Navarre Beach Marine Science Station during school and camp hours and cannot always be accommodated. The Navarre Beach Marine Science Station is currently located in the ranger station on Navarre Beach Marine Park is not a large enough venue to accommodate large groups. The current venue is a classroom environment during the school year and is not conducive to destination tourism. Visitors may stay on Navarre Beach, but they spend their time and money in adjacent counties when vacationing. NWFL Marine EDGE tested the destination visitor market over a two-year period through marketing events focused on potential visitors in a primary market, within a four-hour driving radius of Navarre Beach. These special events were held at the Navarre Beach Marine Science Station and the registration was limited due to the size of the facility and could only be offered on weekends and after school hours. The visitor response was significant, even under these circumstances. The post event surveys showed that these visitors would plan a three or four-day getaway to Navarre Beach in the shoulder season, if there was an interpretive facility with offerings for the entire family.

**Purpose:** The Gulf Coast Discovery Center will be a major attraction during regular season and will serve as a destination attraction for shoulder season visitors. The facility will showcase the Pensacola Bay Watershed with a specific focus on the Gulf of Mexico and its marine life. It will serve as a gathering place for marine education, sustainable seafood cooking demonstrations and lectures, conservation education and exploration of Navarre Beach through guided and self-guided tours.

**Objective:** The objective of this project is modified to complete the Architectural Programming and Exhibit Concept Development as a component of Phase 1 which will support the design, permitting and construction of a Discovery Center. Project deliverables have been revised to RFQ, execution of contract, site selection and Architectural Programming and Exhibit Concept development. NWFL Marine EDGE estimates the Gulf Coast Discovery Center will have 20,000 annual visitors, for a direct economic impact of \$5.3 million and new lodging tax dollars of \$187,500.

Milestones have been revised to RFQ, Execution of contract, Site selection, Programming and Exhibit Development.

## **12) Blackwater Heritage Trail Infrastructure Improvements - Map C**

The project scope has been increased to include repair and stabilize portions of the trail in areas of critical need including: bridge transitions, root upheavals, and high erosion areas. The direct component contribution was adjusted due to scope increase and costs (+79, 670).

**Need:** In addition to heavy use by both tourists and residents, the trail is being increasingly used for bike and running events. It is estimated that the visitation of the trail is to exceed 100,000 annually. Through both regular use of the trail and the events, participants have communicated to staff and trail volunteers the need for additional trail infrastructure.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the project has been modified to construct a restroom, water fountains, and benches along Blackwater Heritage State Trail and address critical areas needing stabilization.

**Objective:** The objective of this project is to fill needed gaps in trail infrastructure and by placing those missing amenities along the trail corridor, further improving the linear state park.

Milestones: Project planning and review, permitting, materials purchased, construction.

2. How the applicant made the multiyear plan available for 45 days for public review and comment, in a manner calculated to obtain broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, Indian tribes, and non-profit organizations, such as through public meetings, presentations in languages other than English, and postings on the Internet. The applicant will need to submit documentation (e.g., a copy of public notices) to demonstrate that it made its multiyear plan available to the public for at least 45 days. In addition, describe how each activity in the multiyear plan was approved after consideration of all meaningful input from the

public and submit documentation (e.g., a letter from the applicant's leadership approving submission of the multiyear plan to Treasury or a resolution approving the applicant's multiyear plan).

The Santa Rosa Board of County Commissioners reviewed with staff the proposed MYIP Amendment #1 draft at their regularly scheduled meeting on May 9, 2019 approving the commencement of the 45-day public review and comment period. The County Public Information Officer issued a Press Release that day notifying local media outlets about the amendment and the opportunities to provide public comment during the review period which was extended for 54 days with a deadline of July 1, 2019. The Amendment was available on the County website RESTORE page, at five local public libraries, and the County Grants Department office for public comment and review. Input could be provided through verbal, email, or written form. Notices were advertised in the Santa Rosa Press Gazette and Navarre Press. On July 11, 2019 the Board considered public comments that were collected and one additional change for the Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Project. Two public comments shared sentiments consistent with Water Quality improvement projects proposed in Amendment #1. No changes were made to the proposed draft based on public comment and the Board approved Amendment #1 for formal submission to Treasury.

The following public comments were collected:

- 1.) I would love to see Santa Rosa County actually take recycling seriously & implement & install a company that would actually recycle. There has been ample time to make this a priority & it is extremely disappointing that the Commissioners & political powers active in Santa Rosa County haven't set this in motion at this point. Recycling has been a necessity for many years & this should be the highest priority. Please take this seriously & work to make this a reality for today & the future of Santa Rosa County. Get bids from companies that are capable of implementing this for the long term & for the future growth of this county. I am very disappointed that this issue hasn't been dealt with long ago. The future of our children is at stake. It's imperative that we deal with recycling as quickly as possible instead of dumping everything into a landfill. Some of the items being dumped won't disintegrate for hundreds of years. This is a serious issue.
- 2.) My wish for the RESTORE funds would be that the County purchase as many large undeveloped tracts of land to ensure that these areas will NEVER BE DEVELOPED. We desperately need some wetland areas to be protected. You do realize that the wetlands are the kidneys of the Earth. If we continue in this direction - we will need a kidney transplant - but no donor will be available and the patient will die.

Tracts of land still left:

30-2S-28-0000-00412-0000	70+ acres
27-2S-28-0000-02100-0000	12+ acres
26-2S-28-0000-03000-0000	20+ acres
26-2S-28-0000-00400-0000	18+ acres
30-2S-27-0000-00127-0000	51+ acres
30-2S-27-0000-00102-0000	26+ acres
29-2S-27-0000-01301-0000	25+ acres
29-2S-27-0000-01302-0000	17+ acres

This is less than 250 acres - which is a drop in the bucket compared to how many acres of wetlands we have already filled in and destroyed. Thank you for your consideration.

- 3.) I thought that had been determined at a prior RESTORE meeting I attended where the BOCC unanimously decided to prioritize Water Quality expenditures to eliminate treated wastewater from being discharged into the Blackwater River and the Navarre Sound. I advocate for more money being put toward this Water Quality initiative to COMPLETE both these initiatives.
- 4.) Stormwater is a county-wide problem that is also chronic because of the use of retention ponds, existing septic systems, and overbuilding in areas previously wetlands. My yard never flooded until 2017 then many times in 2018 even though I have lived there since 1992. I believe int can now be considered a health issue due to septic tanks.

3. How each activity included in the applicant's multiyear plan narrative meets all the requirements under the RESTORE Act, including a description of how each activity is eligible for funding based on the geographic location of each activity and how each activity qualifies for at least one of the eligible activities under the RESTORE Act.

There are no new projects added in Amendment #1. Each of the remaining projects listed in the MYIP Amendment #1 are in the Gulf Coast Region and will carry out one or more of the eligible activities as defined in the RESTORE ACT. The proposed changes do not impact status of eligible activities or eligible project locations from the approved initial MYIP.

**4. Criteria the applicant will use to evaluate the success of the activities included in the multiyear plan narrative in helping to restore and protect the Gulf Coast Region impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.**

The evaluation measures have been modified for four projects.

The Dirt Road Paving Districts 1, 4, 5 evaluation measure is now the paving of 4.3 miles of dirt roads.

The Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction evaluation measure is now the stabilization of a portion of Rattlesnake Bluff Rd.

The Gulf Coast Discovery Center, Phase I evaluation measure is now the completion of the Architectural Programming & Exhibit Concept Development document which will support future design and construction of a Marine Interpretive Center for the promotion of tourism.

The Blackwater Heritage Trail Infrastructure Improvements evaluation measures are now the stabilization of critical areas and the installation of a restroom, benches and water fountains.

**5. How the activities included in the multiyear plan narrative were prioritized and list the criteria used to establish the priorities.**

No new activities were added to Amendment #1. Thus, no changes have been made in prioritizing projects from the initial MYIP process. In Amendment #1, four activities have been removed. The Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society was not viable due to the project sponsor's desire to construct the kiln walk on private property in conflict with 2 CFR 200.316. The Post-Secondary Career & Tech Education Program was removed because of the applicant's decision to move forward, due to demand, with starting the Electrical and Instrumental Technology program using School District funding. The Second Chance Outreach Re-Entry and Education Development and Job Skills Training Program was removed because the sponsoring organization of the applicant is no longer in operation. Due to considerable project cost, the City of Milton has withdrawn the Quinn Street Marina: Phase 1 project for consideration of RESTORE Act funding.

**6. If applicable, describe the amount and current status of funding from other sources (e.g., other RESTORE Act contribution, other third party contribution) and provide a description of the specific portion of the project to be funded by the RESTORE Act Direct Component.**

Third Party Contributions were modified for eight projects. The Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements and the Eufaula Outfall Treatment Center contributions were increased due to the increase of the total project costs reflecting a 1:1 cash match proposed agreement with the City of Gulf Breeze. Third party contributions that are non-cash in nature were removed from the Dirt Road Paving Districts 1, 4, 5, Oyster Habitat Restoration Project, Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park Restoration, Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement Program, Floridatown Water Quality Enhancement Project, and the Blackwater Heritage State Trail Infrastructure Improvements activities.