

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):	Initial
Date of Initial Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	n/a
Date of Last Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	n/a

Eligible Applicant Name:	Santa Rosa County, Florida
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.
<p>The following projects are being submitted as an initial multiyear plan. Santa Rosa county intends to submit future amendments (or phases, etc.) to its multiyear plan which may include additional projects described in the detailed multiyear plan following Treasury's acceptance of the initial multiyear plan.</p> <p>1) Dirt Road Paving- District 1, District 4, District 5 - Map A & Map B</p> <p>This project includes the paving of approximately 6 miles of dirt roads in Santa Rosa County Districts 1, 4, and 5.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 proposed paving in District One, San Juan Road, has been identified by Northwest Florida Water Management District as a potential contributor of sediment in the runoff to Escambia Bay, and is currently Santa Rosa County's top priority for paving.</p> <p>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</p>

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 is to reduce the sediment erosion into Escambia Bay, Santa Rosa Sound, and East Bay through strategic road paving.

Milestones: Minor design, permit exemption verification, construction.

2) Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements - Map A

This project consists of the installation of necessary infrastructure to reduce localized flooding and provide treatment on the stormwater outfall. After the April 2014 flooding, the City of Gulf Breeze created a Stormwater Task Force as a citizen advisory board to develop and analyze solutions for the many flooded areas. The Driftwood/Navy Cove/Berry Stormwater Improvement Project was developed as a result of this process to address flooding in this region. Property has previously been purchased in this area for a future treatment and flood control site.

Need: The affected areas are located within the City of Gulf Breeze, and are prone to repetitive structure flooding. The stormwater treatment will provide for the restoration and protection of water quality in the Pensacola Bay Watershed.

Purpose: The purpose of the project is to install stormwater piping, inlets, an outfall treatment system and upgrade an existing pump station.

Objective: The intended goal of the project is to reduce the inflow of contaminants to the area bay system as well as a reduction of repetitive flooding issues in the project area.

Milestones: Design, permitting, bidding, construction.

3) Santa Rosa County Oyster Habitat Restoration Project - Map A

The Santa Rosa County MYIP portion of this effort will include conducting oyster habitat mapping and condition analysis in Blackwater and East Bays and designing and initiating a pilot oyster shell recycling program in SRC.

Need: Over the past century, there has been an estimated 85% global loss of native oyster reef habitats due to habitat degradation, over-harvesting, reduced water quality, disease, boat wakes, and other factors. Although water quality has improved, oyster populations have not rebounded significantly due, primarily, to lack of suitable substrate. There is minimal information regarding the current extent and condition of the oyster habitat in this system to guide restoration and management efforts. Mapping the oyster habitat will establish a comprehensive current baseline of the oyster resources in the bay system and provide the foundation of information needed to develop a comprehensive oyster habitat restoration and management plan. Further, oyster shell is a preferred material for restoration efforts, yet the shell material is increasingly scarcer and harder to supply as this valuable shell material makes its way to the landfill rather than being recycled for use in restoration efforts. Oyster shell recycling is a basic need for this project and for future restoration throughout the region. Community outreach and education is an essential component for any restoration project to ensure the community is informed about and has opportunities to be involved in oyster habitat restoration efforts.

Purpose: This project is part of a long-term goal to conserve, restore and manage oyster habitat in the greater Pensacola system that includes Blackwater and East Bay in Santa Rosa County. This project will directly support and complement related efforts being funded with NRDA and NFWF funds.

Objective:

Oyster Habitat Mapping and Condition Analysis: This element of the project will include analysis of the data gaps of oyster resources in the East and Blackwater Bays to establish a baseline of the existing extent and condition of the oyster

resources, which is critical to developing future oyster habitat restoration and management goals. Based on what we know of the study area in Blackwater and East Bays, we propose to conduct a combination of acoustic mapping (substructure), assessment of existing satellite and aerial imagery, and ground-truthing involving patent tong sampling and underwater videography with the goal of providing a reasonably comprehensive assessment of the oyster resources in the Bay.

Pilot Oyster Shell Recycling Program: This component of the project will initiate a pilot oyster shell recycling program in Santa Rosa County, where none exists. The Santa Rosa County (SRC) Extension Service will assist in the design and implementation of this program. Shell recycling returns essential natural material back to the estuary and provides excellent opportunities for community involvement from area businesses and volunteers. There are successful shell recycling programs throughout the state and southeast from which to use as a model, and finetune to meet the needs of SRC. The shell will be stored and cured at a local site and will be available for permitted restoration projects within East Bay, including the Pensacola East Bay Oyster Habitat Restoration project being led by The Nature Conservancy and funded by the NFWF Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (Phase 1 funded: design and permitting). The recycling program will be sustained through community outreach and marketing programs, marketing materials and restaurant staff training.

Milestones: Initiate mapping and characterization of oyster habitat; and design and initiate a pilot oyster shell recycling program.

4) Eufala (Outfall Treatment) - Map A

This project 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.

Milestones: Engineering, design, permitting, construction.

5) Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park Restoration - Map A

This project proposes to conduct prescribed fire, a needed restoration and management activity, in the Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park. In addition, a fire strike team, the Ecosystem Support Team, will be used to complete needed mechanical treatments through removal of off-site slash pine to restore a portion of the wet prairie system on Garcon Point.

Need: Garcon Point restoration activities, including the use of prescribed fire, are included in the Pensacola Bay Community Based Watershed Plan developed by the Florida Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. The natural communities on Garcon Point have been shaped and maintained by periodic fire, thus fire serves as an important management tool to restore and maintain these natural areas.

Purpose: The purpose of the project is to prepare and restore various portions of the State Park for prescribed fire. Prescribed fire is a critical component of restoring the natural communities and habitat on the Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park. Wet prairie natural communities depend on fire to remain in a healthy condition, thus providing adequate habitat for all the plant and animal species that depend upon it. Purchase of equipment will be necessary to accomplish this task, and the County will ensure that all equipment management requirements of 2 CFR 200 are met for the life of the equipment.

Objective: The goal is to restore the area to more natural environmental conditions through mechanical treatments and prescribed fire.

Milestones: acres of mechanical treatment restoration.

6) Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement - Map B

This project includes Phase I of a multi-step plan to reduce the nutrient and sediment input in the immediate area of Navarre Park at Santa Rosa Sound. Specifically, through retrofitting the west parking area with bio-filtration units or equivalent treatment systems, eliminating the man made pond on the east side of the park (thereby reducing the number of ducks, geese, and turtles and the associated fecal pollutants) and replacing it with a shallow grassed swale, and construction of a hydrodynamic separator.

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.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to provide stormwater treatment for the entire Navarre Park parking area, to reduce the fecal coliform bacteria entering the bay from the park 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 sediment input in the immediate area of Navarre Park at Santa Rosa Sound.

Milestones: Design, permitting, construction.

7) Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction - Map B

This project consists of replacing the bridge, stabilizing the roadway and eliminating erosion at the Wolf Creek crossing site. The project will include design, permitting, and construction.

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 is to replace the bridge, 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.

Milestone: Design, Permitting, Construction.

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

This project includes the design and permitting (Phase I) for 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 to complete the design and permitting phase to support construction of a Discovery Center. Development of construction plans and a construction estimate are project deliverables.

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: RFQ, Design, Permitting, Bid Package and Construction Estimate Development.

9) Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Working Center - Map B

This project involves the construction of the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Center, a 2,000 sq. ft. building that will be both a working center and museum, and will house a collection of wood-fired ceramic art from around the world. This building will be used in conjunction with the biennial firing of the historic kiln, a three week event that draws artists from around the world

Need: Currently there is no existing facility for visiting artists to prepare their work for inclusion in the firing of the historic kiln located on the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society property, and as such Santa Rosa County is missing the opportunity for visitors from around the world to stay for days or weeks to prepare their ceramic art. The proposed Historical Center will also allow the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society to turn the Gulf Coast Clay Conference and Wood Stoke Festival & Kiln Opening, a four day event which serves over 600 artists and visitors, into an annual event.

Purpose: The purpose of the project is to construct a 2,000 sq. ft. building that will be both a working center and museum, and will house a collection of wood-fired ceramic art from around the world. The Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Working Center will be owned and operated by the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that was established in 2001. The facility will be constructed on property that has been leased to the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society for 30 years.

Objective: The objective is to increase tourism activity in the shoulder season through construction of the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Center.

Milestones: Permitting, site preparation/demolition, bidding, construction

10) Second Chance Outreach re-entry and education development and job skills training program - Map C

This project involves the expansion of a successful, existing United Way of Santa Rosa County program that aims to serve up to 120 of the 1,100 recently released ex-offenders returning to Santa Rosa County each year. The project includes procurement/selection of a suitable building, training and curriculum, equipment purchases, staffing and administration costs.

Need: This population is most often homeless and at high risk of repeating an offense/crime which leads to re-incarceration. Currently, Florida Governor Rick Scott has said he will "build no new prisons" and supports the successful re-entry of returning citizens rather than continuing to build and maintain prisons throughout the State.

Purpose: The program provides job training, education development, and skills training. Developing a strong re-entry program reduces the tax burden to Florida tax payers for recidivism. In addition, re-entry programs promote public safety, prepare offenders for success, and help transition ex-offenders from prison to their community.

Objective: The objective of this program is to double the number of ex-offenders served annually through this program, from 60 to 120.

Milestones: purchase/rent building, curriculum development, hire qualified trainers, equipment purchase.

11) Floridatown Water Quality Enhancement - Map C

This project will construct a hydrodynamic separator, or equivalent BMP, at an existing drainage outfall near Floridatown Park.

Need: According to the Pensacola Bay Watershed Management plan dated 2004, the northern portion of Escambia Bay suffers from severe water quality problems, unstable dissolved oxygen variations, high carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus moans, and oxygen demanding substances (Hancock 1996). It has been stated that Escambia Bay is among the most man-made stressed components of the Pensacola Bay System (NFWFMD 1997).

Purpose: The separator will intercept untreated stormwater to remove trash, debris, sediment, and hydrocarbons prior to entering Escambia Bay; the lack of which has put tremendous pressure on natural resources in the Bay due to fast-paced population growth in this area.

Objective: The goal of this project is to decrease the trash, debris, sediment, and hydrocarbons that enter Escambia Bay, thereby contributing to overall water quality improvement.

Milestones: Design, permitting, bidding, construction.

12) Blackwater Heritage Trail Infrastructure Improvements - Map C

This project proposes to add a restroom, water fountains, and benches to the Blackwater Heritage State Trail, an 8.1 mile multiple use, linear trail.

Need: In addition to use by both tourists and residents, the trail is being increasingly used for bike and running events. 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 is to construct a restroom, water fountains, and benches along Blackwater Heritage State Trail.

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

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

13) Quinn Street Marina -Map C

This project includes the demolition of the existing, dilapidated 9,500 sq. ft. structure, construction of a new 5,000 sq. ft. marina and concession building, a new dock, boat launch, fuel dock, pump out, and car and trailer parking. The City of Milton owns the property, and will operate the new marina or contract with an operator. The marina will be open to the public.

Need: The existing dilapidated building is in need of removal as it poses a potential threat to the public. The construction of a new marina is consistent with the goals, objectives, and vision of the City's Comprehensive Plan, and Riverfront Master Plan as well as the goals and vision of Santa Rosa County's Master Plan.

Purpose: The purpose of the project is to attract visitors to Northern Santa Rosa County by providing increased access to the Blackwater River. As described in the 2015 Riverfront Master Plan, "The downtown has a strong relationship to the Blackwater River, which is the center of civic life. As the primary defining feature of the City, the river's pristine black waters and lush green edges conjure a strong Old Florida image." Santa Rosa County's tourism marketing strategy showcases the diversity found within the north and the south ends of the County. While Navarre Beach, located in the south end of the County is undeniably the biggest tourism draw, Historic Milton is marketed as a day trip activity for visitors. The marina's location, just adjacent to historic downtown Milton will provide exactly the type of day trip activity and river access needed to attract out of town visitors.

Objective: The overall objective is to redevelop a vacant and potentially hazardous property in keeping with the marketing and planning goals of the City and County, thereby increasing tourism and public use.

Milestones: Engineering, permitting, demolition, construction.

14) Post Secondary Career & Tech Education Program - Map C

This project includes the funding necessary to implement an Electrical and Instrumental Technology program within the Santa Rosa County School District at Locklin Technical Center. Funding includes teacher salary for one year, remodeling and renovation, equipment purchase, computer hardware, and materials and supplies. The Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) credentialing system leading to a Certified Production Technician (CPT) will be the industry curriculum used and certification offered to all students in the Electrical and Instrumentation Technology Program. This MSSC-CPT certificate

covers the four critical production functions as defined by MSSC's industry-led national validated skill standards, common to all sectors of manufacturing, including: 1) Safety 2) Quality and Continuous Improvement 3) Manufacturing Processes and production and 4) Maintenance Awareness.

Need: The Northwest Florida Skilled Technician Task Force engaged with industry in detailed workforce planning surveys and identified a total demand, across the region, for approximately 3,400 new and replacement workers needed in this industry alone over the next 5 years. However, the task force's forecasts indicate that the regional education and workforce training systems will produce only about 60 workers trained in the critical skills needed.

Purpose: To remedy this problem, the Northwest Florida Skilled Technician Task Force committee recommends the implementation of Electrical and Instrumental Technology program at the post-secondary level.

Objective: Successful implementation of Electrical and Instrumental Technology program within the Santa Rosa County School District at Locklin Technical Center.

Milestones: Remodel and renovate classroom, equipment purchase, computer hardware purchase, materials and supplies purchase, instructor selection.

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 draft MYIP was put together following a lengthy process in which the public was invited and encouraged to participate at every step. Requests for participation were made through various news releases, meeting notices and other invitations. A RESTORE Act page was established on the county's website that focused on the RESTORE Act and the county role in developing the MYIP. The page included an e-mail address to submit comments to County staff, and links to all RESTORE-related legislation, documents, guidance and regulatory agencies.

Prior to formally making the draft plan available for public review and comment, the draft MYIP was discussed and recommended for advancement to the public review and comment phase at the September 14, 2015 Local Restore Council Meeting. Following the recommendation by the Local Restore Council, the draft MYIP was also discussed at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) regular meeting on September 24, 2015. The BOCC approved the draft MYIP plan for public review and comment. Both meetings were open to the public, and public notice was provided.

Following approval of the draft MYIP on September 24, 2015, the County Public Information Officer notified local media outlets about the plan, including a request for input from all community members and groups. The county website RESTORE page was updated to include the draft MYIP as well as information on the public comment period including the various methods of providing input; email address, mailing address, and phone number. Notices were advertised in the Santa Rosa Press Gazette, Navarre Press and Gulf Breeze News that announced public meetings specifically held for the purpose of presenting the draft MYIP and soliciting comments. The notices were advertised on September 30, 2015 and October 1, 2015. Information on these public meetings was also included in the September 24, 2015 news release and advertised on the county's website.

Two public input meetings were held during the public input period. To encourage broad participation, one public meeting was held in the south end of the county at Woodlawn Beach Middle School, and one in the north end of the County in the BOCC meeting room. An ample supply of pre-addressed comment cards were provided to attendees at the public meetings to facilitate ease of response. The draft MYIP was also presented to the Bay Area Resource Council Technical Advisory Committee (BARC-TAC) on October 27, 2015.

Although the first news release was distributed on September 24, 2015, the official public input period officially began October 1, 2015 to correspond with the final newspaper advertisement. Comments were solicited through November 16, 2015.

Public comment during the north end public meeting was generally positive. Two individuals spoke in favor of the draft MYIP and offered praise for Santa Rosa County's draft MYIP development process. One individual spoke on the importance of water quality. Public comment during the south end public meeting was somewhat more critical. Six individuals expressed their disapproval of the projects chosen in the draft MYIP. The overall sentiment was that more focus should have been on Navarre Beach and areas that were most impacted by the oil spill.

During this public comment period, input was received via email as well as via comment card. A total of 173 cards, letters, and emails were received in support of the MYIP or a specific project within the MYIP. Three individuals submitted comments that were not in support of the draft MYIP. A summary of comments received can be found in Appendix C, which is available on Santa Rosa County's website at www.santarosa.fl.gov.

In addition to individual responses, comments were received from BARC-TAC; the National Wildlife Federation (NWF); and a joint coalition response representing Audubon Florida, Defenders of Wildlife, Florida Wildlife Federation, National Wildlife Federation, Ocean Conservancy, and The Nature Conservancy.

The National Wildlife Federation submitted a response focused on the areas of process and projects. In terms of process, the NWF indicated that Santa Rosa County has met and in many cases exceeded the requirements outlined in the Treasury Guidance. They did, however, offer the suggestion of including the project cost within each project summary section to allow for easier public review. The NWF also gives a favorable evaluation for the County RESTORE website, public engagement, and incorporation of best available science. In terms of projects selected, the NWF states, "We wholly support the projects that Santa Rosa County has selected for its initial MYIP." The NWF also offers some minor suggestions for consideration which can be viewed in the back up documentation.

The coalition response representing Audubon Florida, Defenders of Wildlife, Florida Wildlife Federation, National Wildlife Federation, Ocean Conservancy, and The Nature Conservancy evaluates Santa Rosa County's draft MYIP on key project outcomes such as environmental impact and wildlife resource enhancement as well as guiding principles for project selection such as leverage opportunities and project compatibility. The coalition applauds Santa Rosa County on successfully incorporating these elements in the creation of the draft MYIP and encourages Santa Rosa County to move forward with implementing the proposed projects. In the area of mutual project compatibility, the coalition also suggests the creation of a panel of resource and economic managers to provide oversight and ensure project designs avoid unintended impacts to key resources that are also restoration targets.

Due to the overwhelming support of the MYIP, the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners did not determine that changes to the MYIP or the projects contained within were warranted.

A copy of the public notice and all other media coverage is included as Appendix C, and can be found on Santa Rosa County's website.

On April 13, 2017, the Santa Rosa County Board of Commissioners authorized moving one project, Entrepreneurship Academy – Pace High School, to a subsequent phase of the multiyear implementation plan. It was determined that additional time and efforts were necessary to justify this project under the RESTORE Act Terms and Conditions. A copy of minutes from the meeting as well as a letter signed by the Board Chair are included in Appendix D, which can be found on Santa Rosa County's website at www.santarosa.fl.gov.

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.

Each of the 15 activities proposed in this multiyear implementation plan are located in the Gulf Coast Region and will carry out one or more of the eligible activities as defined in the RESTORE Act as:

- * restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region;
- * mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources;
- * implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring;
- * workforce development and job creation;
- * improvements to or on State parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill;
- * infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure;
- * coastal flood protection and related infrastructure;
- * planning assistance;
- * promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing;
- * and promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region.

This multiyear implementation plan proposes projects meeting five of the eligible activities described as follows:

Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region:

Santa Rosa County Oyster Habitat Restoration Project (3)

This project is part of a long-term goal to conserve, restore and manage oyster habitat in the greater Pensacola system that includes Blackwater and East Bays in Santa Rosa County. The three objectives are to initiate mapping and characterization of oyster habitat in Blackwater and East Bays; conduct community outreach and education programs about the ecological, economic and social benefits of the Gulf's oyster and estuarine habitats and species; and design and initiate a pilot oyster shell recycling program.

Workforce development and job creation:

Second Chance Outreach re-entry and education development and job skills training program (10)

This program will provide industry certifications, skills based and customized training to ex-offenders in Santa Rosa County. This program is designed to increase the prospect of the ex-offender in finding gainful employment in areas that are above the county's average wage. Many of these certifications will create platforms for access to apprenticeships that lead to journeymen status attainment. In turn, the recidivism rate will be reduced further decreasing the substantial financial burden placed on local and state governments associated with corrections activities.

Post-Secondary Career and Technical Education Program, Manufacturing Career Cluster (14)

This project will result in the successful implementation of an Electrical and Instrumental Technology program within the Santa Rosa County School District at Locklin Technical Center, a program that is in-demand, across the region and for which the need for skilled workers exists.

Improvements to or on State parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill:

Blackwater Heritage State Trail Infrastructure (12)

The Blackwater Heritage State Trail, is an 8.1 mile multiple-use, linear State Trail located on State property. This project will add a restroom, three water fountains, and 16 benches to fill the need for additional trail infrastructure along the trail corridor.

Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park Restoration (5)

This project proposes funding of equipment needed by a State Park, the Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park, to conduct prescribed fire, a needed restoration and management activity to restore the area to more natural environmental conditions. Restoration activities will also be conducted.

Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure:

Dirt Road Paving Districts 1, 4, & 5 (1)

This project includes the paving of approximately 6 miles of dirt roads in Santa Rosa County Districts 1, 4, and 5. This will prevent sediment run off into local water bodies that have a detrimental effect on water quality, marine life and sea grass.

Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements (2)

This project consists of the installation of necessary infrastructure to reduce localized flooding and provide treatment on the stormwater outfall. The stormwater treatment will provide for the restoration and protection of water quality in the Pensacola Bay Watershed.

Eufaula Outfall Treatment (4)

This project 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. This project also 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.

Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement Program (6)

This project includes Phase I of a multi-step plan to reduce the nutrient and sediment input in the immediate area of Navarre Park at Santa Rosa Sound. This project will provide stormwater treatment for the entire Navarre Park parking area, to reduce the fecal coliform bacteria entering the bay from the park area, and to intercept untreated stormwater to remove trash, debris, sediment, and hydrocarbon prior to entering the Sound.

Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction Project (7)

This project consists of replacing the bridge, stabilizing the roadway and eliminating erosion at the Wolf Creek crossing site. This will help to restore hydrology and water quality of Wolf Creek, a tributary to the Yellow River, located along the unpaved Rattlesnake Bluff Road.

Floridatown Water Quality Enhancement Project (11)

The construction of a hydrodynamic separator, or equivalent BMP, will intercept untreated stormwater to remove trash, debris, sediment, and hydrocarbons prior to entering Escambia Bay; thereby contributing to overall water quality improvement.

Quinn Street Marina: Phase I (13)

This project includes the demolition of the existing, dilapidated 9,500 sq. ft. structure, construction of a new 5,000 sq. ft. marina and concession building, a new dock, boat launch, fuel dock, pump out, and car and trailer parking. The facility will provide an additional access point to the Blackwater River for tourists and residents alike and will increase development and infill projects in the vicinity of the downtown area.

Planning Assistance:

The Gulf Coast Discovery Center - Phase I (8)

This project includes the design and permitting (Phase I) for the construction of a 9,000 sq. ft., LEED certified, Marine Interpretive Center (Gulf Coast Discovery Center). Once designed and constructed, the Gulf Coast Discovery Center 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. This facility is expected to draw additional tourists to the area through the Navarre Beach Marine Park's focus on ecotourism.

Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing:

Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Working Center (9)

This project involves the construction of the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Center, a 2,000 sq. ft. building that will be both a working center and museum, and will house a collection of wood-fired ceramic art from around the world. This building will be used in conjunction with the biennial firing of the historic kiln, a three week event that draws artists from around the world. It is also expected to increase tourism activity in the shoulder season through construction of the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Center.

4. Criteria the applicant will use to measure 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.

1) Dirt Road Paving Districts 1, 4, 5:

Reduce sediment entering the water bodies through strategic road paving.

2) Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements:

- i) Completion of construction
- ii) Reduction in the number of flooding events
- iii) Reduction in contaminants going into area waters

3) Santa Rosa County Oyster Habitat Restoration Project:

Oyster Habitat Mapping and Condition Analysis:

Completion of the following activities will indicate a successful project:

- Results of sonar (some combination of side-scan, single beam, and/or interferometric multibeam) surveys;
- ground-truthing results of all possible oyster reefs identified in Blackwater Bay using patent tong sampling;
- new map of possible intertidal reefs using available aerial and satellite imagery and previous mapping products;
- ground-truth all mapped intertidal reefs in East Bay by field visit, photo documentation, and limited quadrat sampling to characterize reef condition; ground-truthing of all possible subtidal reefs (~25 individual polygons) in East Bay, including the 13 NRDA areas (88 acres total) FDACS cultched with limestone rock in 2016 taking 5 – 10 replicate patent tong samples per polygon (reef) and counting and measuring (shell height) the live oysters collected;
- comprehensive map showing the location and spatial extent of all known oyster reefs in East Bay;
- quantitative assessment and report of all the resulting data.

Pilot Oyster Shell Recycling Program:

Completion of the following activities will indicate a successful project:

- Participation in shell recycling by 3 local restaurants

- Measure the pounds of shell collected from the participating local restaurants. This measurement will provide multiple benefits: the amount of savings to the restaurant in disposal fees, the amount of shell going into the system for restoration and the amount of shell that is recycled for local restoration projects.
- A minimum of 20 community volunteers each year (years 2 & 3) will be recruited to help bag shell and help deploy bags on restoration projects.
- Increased understanding of the importance of oyster reefs, restoration and recycling by a minimum attendance of 25 community members at each of the 6 community meetings (2/year), measured by pre- and post-interviews at each meeting.

4) Eufaula Outfall Treatment:

- i) Completion of construction
- ii) Reduction in contaminants going into area waters

5) Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park Restoration:

Acres of restored land.

6) Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement Program: Completion of stormwater treatment infrastructure and increase in total volume of treated runoff from zero (current) to max load of to-be selected equipment.

7) Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction Project:

Completion of bridge replacement and stabilization activities resulting in a reduction of sediment entering the water body.

8) The Gulf Coast Discovery Center:

Increase in number of tourists visiting Navarre Beach, both in the shoulder season as well as the regular season.

9) Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Working Center:

An increase in the number of visitors and in the duration of tourist visits.

10) Second Chance Outreach re-entry and education development and job skills training program:

Number of additional graduates served.

11) Floridatown Water Quality Enhancement Project:

Completion of stormwater treatment infrastructure and increase in total volume of treated runoff from zero (current) to max load of to-be selected equipment.

12) Blackwater Heritage State Trail:

Construction of a restroom facility and installation of benches and water fountains.

13) Quinn Street Marina: Phase I:

Completion of demolition and construction of new facility, resulting in an increase in number of tourists visiting Historic Milton.

14) Post-Secondary Career and Technical Education Program, Manufacturing Career Cluster:

Number of students completing training and receiving industry certification.

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

The process for solicitation of proposals is outlined in Appendix A.

Scoring criteria were developed and approved by the Local RESTORE Council during publicly-noticed open meetings, based on RESTORE Act requirements, U. S. Treasury guidelines, recommendations from a technical advisory group comprised of Santa Rosa County employees and staff from the County's RESTORE Program consultant, and input from members of the public during LRC meetings and public workshops. Environmental and infrastructure projects are consistent with best management practices and recommendations contained in the Pensacola Bay Area Resource Council Watershed Management Plan.

All applicants were encouraged to closely review the criteria and develop proposals that maximized scoring potential. Any proposals for the economic development category were directed to further leverage funding by applying for appropriate State of Florida economic development grant opportunities.

Proposals that met at least one of the allowable uses were reviewed, scored, and ranked by technical teams, again in publicly-noticed open meetings. Copies of all proposals received by the County were posted on the County's RESTORE web page. Scoring summary spreadsheets were prepared to show project ranking. The spreadsheet and all proposals were then referred to the Santa Rosa County Local RESTORE Council (LRC) for review and consideration. The spreadsheet was a tool to evaluate the technical aspects and eligibility of each proposal, and neither the LRC nor the Board of County Commissioners was obligated to select projects based on the project ranking.

The LRC met in several public meetings to discuss, evaluate, and rank project submissions for inclusion in the draft MYIP. They reached a consensus and selected projects from each category (Infrastructure, Environment, Tourism Development, Economic Development/ Job Creation and Economic Development/Workforce Development) they felt would have the biggest impact for the County, based on the available funds.

The selection criteria is summarized below. Additional details on the criteria and scoring as well as guidance forms are attached to the MYIP Narrative as Appendix B.

Category 1 – Environment

- Alignment with the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's Initial Comprehensive Plan
- Alignment with the "watershed approach" being envisioned within the State of Florida
- Feasibility and sustainability of outcomes
- Direct or indirect health benefits to humans
- Leveraging ability resulting in greater overall benefits
- Level of public support and acceptance
- Return on investment
- Legacy project having lasting impact on Santa Rosa county

Category 2a - Economic Development/Job Creation

- Return on investment
- Leverage other funds
- Annual payroll after full job creation
- Approved for state incentives
- If land purchase or building construction is proposed
- Jobs created in less than three years
- Santa Rosa County Economic Development Office Support
- Targeted or special emphasis industry
- Diversification of Santa Rosa County's work force

Category 2b – Economic Development/Workforce Development

- Support existing industry expansion and continued support for current needs and recruitment of new jobs
- Number of new full-time jobs requiring customized training
- Wages of the positions being trained
- Timeline for implementation
- Leveraging of other funding

- Industry recognized certification, degree or licensure
- Transference to a post-secondary school
- In demand occupation

Category 3 – General Infrastructure

- Economic and environmental resiliency and ability to weather disasters (natural or man-made)
- Ease of implementation for the proposed project (feasibility, permitting difficulty, right-of-way needs)
- Project’s potential leveraging ability
- Efficiency of maintenance
- Public Support
- Return on Investment
- Consistency with local comprehensive plan and local zoning ordinances
- Readiness to proceed
- Legacy project having lasting impact on Santa Rosa county

Category 4 - Tourism

- Support destination tourism to Santa Rosa County
- Fill a gap in the existing SRC tourism market or create demand in new county tourism markets
- Expected magnitude of positive tourism benefits and sustainability to Santa Rosa County
- Leveraging ability
- Promotion of eco-friendly tourism
- Support of the Tourist Development Council and public
- Appropriate return on investment
- Promotion of recreational fishing or Gulf seafood consumption

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.

1) Dirt Road Paving- District 1, District 4, District 5 - Local in-kind match in the amount of \$670,000 will be provided through Santa Rosa County in-house labor and construction costs. Direct Component funding to be used for asphalt paving and sodding, seeding, and mulching. There are no current county ordinances or permits that require the sodding, seeding, and mulching for roads paved by a county initiative. However, the stabilization of roadway shoulders and roadside ditches by these means is the standard operating procedure of the Public Works Department during all dirt road paving operations.

2) Driftwood, Navy Cove, Berry Stormwater Improvements – Local match from the City of Gulf Breeze in the amount of \$356,540 (50% of project cost) will be used to share the engineering design costs, post design services costs, and construction costs. Direct Component funding to be used for the remaining 50% of the cost of engineering design, post design services, and construction.

3) Santa Rosa County Oyster Habitat Restoration Project- A portion of contractual services in the amount of \$25,000 will be provided by the applicant. Direct Component funding to be used for personnel salary/wages, fringe benefits, travel, supplies, contractual, printing/photo, and indirect costs.

4) Eufala (Outfall Treatment) – Local match from the City of Gulf Breeze in the amount of \$130,000 (50% of project cost) will be used to share the engineering design costs, post design services costs, and construction costs. Direct Component funding to be used for the remaining 50% of the cost of engineering design, post design services, and construction.

5) Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park Restoration – Florida Department of Environmental Protection will provide match through project support provided by the Biological Scientist II and the Park Manager II, burning and culvert installation required to access one of the restoration areas, and biological monitoring and evaluation/restoration. Direct Component funds to be used for restoration work, purchase of MarshMaster and MarshMaster cutter attachment, overhead rack recessed, and trailer.

- 6) Navarre Park Water Quality Enhancement – Santa Rosa County will provide match in the form of in-house engineering, partial construction costs, and purchase of vacuum trailer excavator. Direct Component funding to be used for remaining construction costs and landscaping.
- 7) Rattlesnake Bluff Road Sedimentation Reduction – Local match will be provided for pre-and post construction monitoring, identification of project requirements, and in-kind value of construction costs. Direct Component funds to be used for design and permitting, stream construction, upland construction, and geotechnical analysis.
- 8) The Gulf Coast Discovery Center, Phase I – Direct Component funds to be used for design and permitting.
- 9) Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Historical Working Center – Local match in the amount of \$4,500 will be provided for design and permitting of the project. Direct Component funds to be used for demolition and removal, construction and materials, and grant administration.
- 10) Second Chance Outreach re-entry and education development and job skills training program – Matching funds in the amount of \$825,000 will be used for support services, insurance, supplies, and other program support needs. Direct component funds to be used for two years of program operation, including building rent or procurement, training and curriculum, equipment purchases, staffing and administration.
- 11) Floridatown Water Quality Enhancement – Santa Rosa County will provide match in the form of in house engineering, partial construction costs, and the purchase of a vacuum trailer excavator. Direct component funds to be used for construction costs and landscaping.
- 12) Blackwater Heritage Trail Infrastructure Improvements – Local match in the amount of \$30,078 will be provided in the form of DEP staff salary and lumber for trail improvements. Direct Component funds will be used for the purchase, shipping, permitting, and installation of a restroom, purchase and installation of three water fountains, and construction and installation of 16 benches.
- 13) Quinn Street Marina – Local match from the City of Milton in the amount of \$504,850 (50% of total project cost) will be used to share the design and permitting costs, the demolition costs, and the construction costs. Direct Component funds to be used for the remaining 50% of the design and permitting, demolition, building, lot, and dock construction costs.
- 14) Post Secondary Career & Tech Education Program- Local match of \$110,000 from Locklin Tech’s operating budget will be used to share the following costs: teacher salary and benefits for implementation year, remodeling and renovation, equipment, computer hardware, materials and supplies. Direct Component funds in the amount of \$368,500 will be used to fund the remaining share of the above listed items.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1505-0250. Comments concerning the time required to complete this Information collection, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information, should be directed to the Department of the Treasury, Office of Gulf Coast Restoration, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20220.