

# Appendix A

## Process for State Expenditure Plan Development

(As of September 30, 2017)

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

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

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

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

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

### Additional Factors for Council Review:

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

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

Council approves slate of projects to be included in draft State Expenditure Plan.

\*Eligible activities as set forth in the RESTORE Act:

- Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region.
- Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources.
- Implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring.
- Workforce development and job creation.
- Improvements to or on State parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
- Infrastructure projects benefiting 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.
- Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast region.

\*\*Comprehensive Plan Goals

The Council adopted five goals in its Comprehensive Plan:

- Restore and Conserve Habitat – Restore and conserve the health, diversity, and resilience of key coastal, estuarine, and marine habitats.
- Restore Water Quality – Restore and protect water quality of the Gulf Coast region’s fresh, estuarine, and marine waters.
- Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources – Restore and protect healthy, diverse, and sustainable living coastal and marine resources.
- Enhance Community Resilience – Build upon and sustain communities with capacity to adapt to short- and long-term changes
- Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy