Proposal for Selection of RESTORE ACT Projects in Escambia County, Florida

RESTORE ESCAMBIA
A Citizen's Coalition for Sustainability

January 6, 2014

"O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great."

~ *Psalm 104:24-25,*
New Revised Standard
Version of the Bible, 2005

Ernie Rivers

Volunteer with Bream Fisherman Association, Former Coastkeeper,
Recipient of Florida Association of Environmental Professionals
Lifetime Achievement Award

Ernie Rivers is a Pensacola native who, except for 20 years traveling the world as a naval aviator, has lived his entire life on the Scenic Highway bluffs overlooking Escambia Bay. He remembers a better time, a time when the Bay was healthy and he could tong oysters, net shrimp, and enjoy the huge flocks of ducks that came to local waterways every winter. When asked about his wishes for the use of RESTORE monies, Ernie said he hopes that one day his children and grandchildren will get to enjoy the bounty of the Bay that fed his family during the Great Depression and inspired his 50 years of passionate work to clean-up and restore local waterways.

"I'd like to see those massive schools of menhaden. I'd like to see the loons coming back. I'd like to see all of the things that used to be here…back here… I wish I could see things like they used to be. And I'm still hoping that one of these days it'll come back."

~ Ernie Rivers

Letter to the RESTORE ACT Advisory Committee Members

Dear Committee Members,

This document has been prepared by *RESTORE Escambia*, a coalition of citizens and organizations who have been meeting since March 20, 2013, to consider how we can be of service to the Advisory Committee. Incorporated in our vision are some of the best ideas submitted by the public to the RESTORE ACT Advisory Committee over the last seven months:

- Projects should benefit all citizens with an effort to increase access to traditionally underrepresented residents and neighborhoods;

- The final projects submitted to the State should work collectively to leverage the overall impact of each and be presented as a "package" from the County;

- Every project recommended should address all three funding categories to a greater or lesser extent (i.e. economy, environment, and tourism);

- Workforce projects should be a collaborative effort among county, city, education, and business sector partners coordinated with other recommended projects for maximum community impact.

Members of RESTORE Escambia have been present at every Advisory Committee meeting since its inception. Over 1,000 hours have been collectively volunteered by our coalition. Participation in our meetings brings diverse community perspectives from which we developed general criteria. The selection criteria are imbedded in the application and the scoring rubric. These tools are found in the accompanying Appendices.

Our aim is to participate meaningfully in this singular opportunity to improve the quality of life for current and future residents of our community while securing the sustainability of marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems.
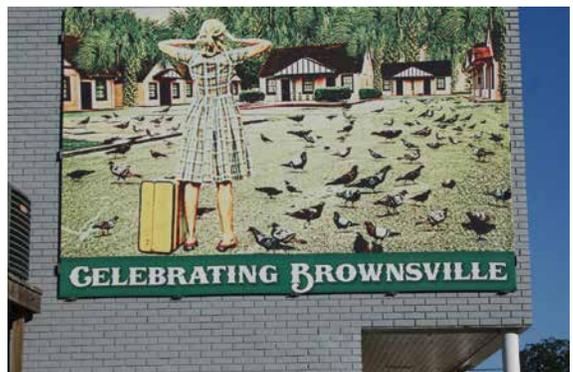
Contributors:

• Barbara Albrecht • Susan Bleiler • Susan Feathers • Mary Gutierrez
• David McGehee • Elaine Sargent • Bruce Vigon • Bill Young

Supporters & Organizations:

• Mike Aymond • Peggy U. Baker • Elizabeth Benchley • Daisy Boyd • JJ Bachant Brown • JD Brown • Kimberly Bremner
• Jerry & Brenda Callaway • Patrick Callaway • Kim Casson • Vernon Compton • Mike and Lou Courtney • Bob and Lucy Duncan
• Ann and Dan Forster • Rebecca Grass • Amy Hines • Francine Ishmael • Laura Jolley • Valerie Kendrick • Tara Kirby • Iris Knoebl
• Ed and Pattie Krakowski • Jackie Lane • John LeRoy • Janet R. Lloyd • Jay Massey • Tony McCray • Carl Mohrherr
• Sherri Myers • John Naybor • Leah Oliver • Judy Olson • Kathryn Palmore • Beverly Perry • Emily Peterson
• Raymond Piel • Elaine Sargent • Trish Taylor • Carole Tebay • Nicole Tscheligi • Christian Wagley • Mike Wernicke
• 350 Pensacola • Archaeology Institute (UWF) • Archaeology Society • Audubon Florida
• Bayou Chico Association • Bream Fishermen Association • Citizens Against Toxic Exposure • Earth Ethics, Inc.
• Francis M. Weston Audubon Chapter • Friends of Perdido Bay • League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area
• The Longleaf Pine Chapter of the Native Plant Society • Native Plant Society • Panhandle Watershed Alliance
• Pensacola Archeological Society • Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry • Sustainable Boating Council
• Sustainable Gulf Coast • Sustainable Town Concepts • The Stella Maris Consortium • WriteforChange

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"But man is a part of nature, and
   his war against nature is inevitably
   a war against himself."

~ *Rachel Carson*

Introduction

Historic One-Time Funding: The Opportunity and the Risk

Sometimes from a great tragedy comes the opportunity for rebirth, allowing us the ability to start over. The tragedy we're referring to is, of course, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill that took the lives of 11 individuals and caused such environmental damage and degradation that we will probably never be able to accurately quantify it all.

Because of this tragedy, we have been handed the opportunity to transform ourselves as a community. Like the individual who develops his or her own vision of what is possible in their life, communities grow through experience. Over time, a community develops a "group" perception of who they are and what is possible.

We have the opportunity to get it right this time. The same opportunity could solidify old inequities and limited outcomes if we are not thoughtful, collaborative, and willing to consider each other's ideas.

And if we all work together, we CAN get it right this time. Together we can build the community we envision. So let's begin.

This concept paper suggests a process for scoring and selecting projects. We include recommendations for a Technical Review Committee made up of experts in specific funding categories (environmental restoration, economic development, and tourism promotion) to advise the Advisory Committee on the feasibility and likely impact of the proposed project.

RESTORE Escambia coalition prepared templates for a Letter of Intent (Pre-proposal), a Full Proposal Application, Review Criteria Questionnaire, and a Scoring Rubric. This concept paper also outlines a process for receiving and vetting citizen's "great ideas" to make sure everyone can contribute toward the projects ultimately funded.

"Conservation will ultimately boil down to rewarding
the private landowner who conserves the public interest."

~ Aldo Leopold
Conservation Economics (1934)

Vision Statement

Our vision is to build an ark of resilience, sustainability and quality of life that carries into the future every person and every living creature, reflecting the rich diversity of our community and our natural environment.

Mission Statement

Support a process to solicit and evaluate project proposals under the provisions of the RESTORE Act that benefit all Escambia County residents.

Overarching Criteria

■ We are reminded of the interconnection, intricate balance and the value of all living things. As we move forward, we strive to restore, protect and enhance our natural and economic resources for the benefit of future generations and for the health and vitality of northwest Florida's citizens and its natural ecosystems.

■ We envision that all the funds that come to Escambia County from the RESTORE ACT will be used wisely and in the spirit that they were intended. We believe that the criteria that are set forth should be applied to all projects without bringing harm to our natural environment.

Community Perspectives

A community of people feels they belong together.

Laura Jolley, Pensacola Nurse: *To me, a community is a group of people interconnected in some way. They share something that makes them feel that they belong together. It may be actual physical location (a suburban community), or something like race (the Asian community), a hobby (the photography community), career (the scientific community), or a belief/value system (the religious community). One person may be part of several communities at any given time.*

This observation, made by a Nurse Professional in Pensacola, reveals the real nature of community—it's about relationships. Extend this one step further to the communities that make up ecosystems, it is still about relationships.

This is the nature of community that gives it flavor. Diversity is the most attractive aspect of a city, region or ecosystem. This quality is hard to measure but where it is present it makes a community resilient to stresses and able to respond collaboratively to opportunities.

The RESTORE ACT funding could preserve and enhance diversity of human and ecosystem communities. Criteria for choosing projects should reflect this value. Example: Ecosystem restoration could be integrated with tourism and education where visitors learn about the Gulf of Mexico and how the community works to preserve and care for it. Students and senior volunteers could be trained to "interpret" the local story to visitors.

A sustainable community addresses the needs of the whole.

Mary Gutierrez, Executive Director of Earth Ethics, Inc.: *My vision for our community is a community that allows and enables ALL of its citizens the ability to meet their needs, personal and professional, without damaging our natural environment or causing harm to other people or species. A sustainable community is effective and inclusive and addresses the needs of the whole, such as housing, transportation, education, social and culture, environmental, and equity.*

This vision of the community embeds many key criteria that the RESTORE ACT funding could address. Air, water, and land are inseparable from our lives, livelihoods and future. A healthy resilient community depends on a healthy environment. Restoring our environment restores our economy.

The RESTORE ACT funding could create training and education opportunities for youth from low-income neighborhoods along a career track. Financial literacy could be included. Investing in people restores the community directly while strengthening the economy.

Jessica Griffin, Manager, The Soft Skills Training Institute of Florida: *Our vision is to improve and enrich the workforce development aspirations of all Escambia County citizens by advancing our community's emotional intelligence and technical skill sets through innovative workforce readiness, preparedness, and training and education programs; and to increase entrepreneurship, cultural, social, environmental and economic prosperity through our sincere devotion to both soft and technical workforce development programs and services.*

A workforce development project recommended for RESTORE ACT funding could include soft skills training to ensure new employees will be more effective team players with interpersonal skills to work effectively. Effective listeners and communicators advance good relations with the community and visitors. International tourism requires greater cultural competency. Soft skills training will put our community on the map as not only an international port but an international community.

The natural environment improves mental health.

Tara Riley: I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor. Research shows that there is an increase of stress from the faster pace created by continuous stimuli from electronic communications and multimedia advertisements encountered throughout the day and night. Many mental health problems are exacerbated by our increased alienation from natural environments. Recent research also shows that time spent in natural / undeveloped environments can reduce symptoms of stress, anxiety, and depression and improve quality of life.

This vision of the community embeds many key criteria that the RESTORE ACT funding could address. Air, water, and land are inseparable from our lives, livelihoods and future. A healthy resilient community depends on a healthy environment. Restoring our environment restores our economy.

A healthy community never leaves any citizens out of the picture.

Susan Feathers: A community should embrace and accommodate all its residents paying particular attention to those who may have been traditionally underserved or who have disabilities. Individuals with disabilities are entitled to the same right to use and enjoy public transportation, parks and recreation, as well as housing, health care, and education. A healthy community never leaves any of its citizens out of the picture.

Provide maximum inclusion for groups that have historically been disadvantaged.

Sherri Myers, City of Pensacola Councilwoman: I request that RAC give top priority to funding programs that provide maximum inclusion for groups that have historically been disadvantaged and underserved, including minorities and persons with disabilities. Furthermore, I ask that projects receiving funds from the RESTORE ACT, comply with all federal accessibility laws as mandated by the US Treasury Department, including the Rehabilitation Act of 1963 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. I ask that enhanced inclusion and accessibility be a priority in the criteria for any rating system established for allocation of projects funded with RESTORE ACT funds

This vision of the community embeds many key criteria that the RESTORE ACT funding could address. Air, water, and land are inseparable from our lives, livelihoods and future. A healthy resilient community depends on a healthy environment. Restoring our environment restores our economy.

Design our urban spaces and neighborhoods for a better quality of life.

Beverly Perry, Pensacola Citizen: Once people develop a place, what they put there becomes a part of the environment. People are a part of nature, and it's our job to do the best we can to shelter, warm and cool, and feed ourselves while doing the least harm to everything and everyone around us. After meeting our family's basic needs, we also want to design our urban places and neighborhoods for a better quality of life. Making neighborhoods for walking, socializing, biking, getting safely to a park or waterfront with a stroller or wheelchair, knowing your neighbor, helps us physically, mentally, and spiritually. Building inward, infilling what we already have, rather than outward, saves our neighborhoods, saves energy, and keeps more wild lands undisturbed. When a neighborhood becomes greener, energy saving and energy producing, the people who live there value it and have greater peace of mind.

"If we've learned any lessons during the past few decades, perhaps the most important is that preservation of our environment is not a partisan challenge; it's common sense. Our physical health, our social happiness, and our economic well-being will be sustained only by all of us working in partnership as thoughtful, effective stewards of our natural resources."

~ Ronald Reagan,
40th President of the United States

Selection Process Overview

The RESTORE Escambia project selection process is intended to provide an open and fair method for developing an implementation plan that best serves the community as a whole. It is anticipated that there will be a significant number of projects proposed by stakeholders, including the public at large. The suggested process will work as a series of filters that increases the refinement of criteria for project selection during each review phase. It is designed to best utilize the time and talents of the reviewers.

- STEP 1: A Letter of Intent (LOI) must be submitted as a first step. These can be submitted online or hand delivered to Escambia County Administrative Offices located at 221 N Palafox Street. All LOI's will be reviewed in entirety to ensure eligibility. The checklist ensures the applicant has submitted all requested documents. Following the Letter of Intent review and meeting eligibility, applicants will be notified to submit a full proposal application. (Appendix A)

- STEP 2: Project Applications must be completed in entirety to be considered as eligible. Projects will be ranked according to the greatest impact and benefit to the community. The proposal selection utilizes a Review Criteria Questionnaire which further selects proposals by determining how well the project meets essential criteria. (Appendix B and C)

- STEP 3: Technical Review for Final Selection Projects that have met criteria in Steps 1 and 2 will be assessed with a Scoring Rubric to quantify and objectify the selection process. A final review by Technical Experts will assure the committee that the proposed project is technically feasible and likely to make a lasting impact. (Appendix D)

Citizen's "Great Idea"

We suggest Escambia County create a process whereby innovative ideas can be submitted by individuals who do not have the organizational potential to bring them to fruition but who nonetheless have a great idea. The application in Appendix F is provided as one way to collect minimal information that would allow the County to incorporate the idea into other proposals or to find an organization with the experience, administration capacity, and willingness to implement it. Think of this as a "business incubator" model. We envision a public interface for collecting "Great Ideas" on the County website. The period for accepting Great Idea applications would precede that for organization applications and allow time for Great Ideas to be adopted by organizations that are interested in doing so.

"Nothing so important as an ethic is ever written....
It evolves in the minds of a thinking community."

~ Aldo Leopold

Appendix A:

Proposed Letter of Intent (Step 1)

Escambia County RESTORE Act Project Letter of Intent (LOI)

All questions must be answered in order to submit the LOI. We recommend you copy the form and work on it offline, then paste your responses into the spaces below when ready. This website will not allow you to save your work and come back to it. Once you have completed the form, you will have the opportunity to review your answers and print a copy for your files before submitting the finalized LOI.

Please check here if your organization has previously received RESTORE funding. _____

Please check here if your project can be funded from another funding source: _____

Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN): _____

Organization's Legal Name: _____

Organization's DBA Name: _____

Organization's Mailing Address: _____

Organization's Phone Number: _____

Organization's Fax Number: _____

Website: _____

Executive Director's/POC Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Board Chairperson/President: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Organization's Mission Statement: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Year established: _____

Briefly state the organization's history (Maximum characters: 500):

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Briefly describe the organization's current programs and activities (Maximum characters: 1,500):

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Project title: _____

Is this project part of an existing plan (i.e. watershed management plan, SWIM, CEDS)? Or is this project an extension or enhancement of a previous plan? (Maximum characters: 100):

_____

_____

_____

When was project established? (Maximum characters: 50):

_____

_____

Total project budget: _____

How will funds be allocated in the project budget? (Maximum characters: 250):

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Amount of funding committed to date: _____

Date project begins: _____   **Date project ends:** _____

Describe the target population. Include demographics on populations and geographic area to be served:

_____

_____

_____

Please select the program area that best fits your project:

____   Economic development and job creation

____   Environmental

____   Infrastructure

Electronic Signature and Title: _____

Date Submitted:_____

Appendix B:

Project Application & Review Questionnaire (Step 2)

Escambia County RESTORE Act Project Application

Instructions: Please submit only requested information. Please follow all directions.

Mail to: Escambia County, 221 N Palafox Place, Pensacola, FL 32502

To verify completion of your application, please review, complete and include: The application and project checklist.

_____
Organization's Legal Name

_____
Organization's Name (DBA –if different from above)

_____
Project Title

Project focus area category (check all that apply):

_____ Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coast 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 benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure*

_____ Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure. *

_____ Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing. +

_____ Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region. +

* These constitute ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES IN THE GULF COAST REGION as per the RESTORE Act. In addition, funding for planning assistance and administrative costs of complying with the project focus criteria is also eligible. However, these items can be detailed in the narrative and included in the itemized budget. Please refer to H.R. 4348 – 186, SEC.1603 (1) (B) (i) (I)-(IX) of for more details.

+ These constitute ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE TOURISM AND SEAFOOD IN THE GULF COAST REGION as per the RESTORE Act. Please refer to H.R. 4348 – 186, SEC. 1603 (1) (B) (ii) (I)-(II) for more details.

Executive Director (please print): _____

Chairman of Board of Directors (please print): _____

Contact Person (name): _____

Email Address: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Cell/work phone: _____

Is your organization/business/membership located in Escambia County? Yes _____   **No** ____

Does your organization have an interest in administering this project?   Yes _____   **No** ____

Organization's Mailing Address:

_____
Street

_____
City   State   Zip

Local Street Address for Site Visit:

_____
Street

_____
City   State   Zip

Certification:

Our organization and its Board of Directors authorize submission of this funding proposal. Non-Profit Organizations: Our tax exempt status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3) has not been revoked or modified. For-Profit Organizations: Our business license has not been revoked or modified. We understand that if selected to receive funding, we must furnish a report showing how funds were spent and that the funds were spent solely for the purpose for which the proposal is sought. We certify that to the best of our knowledge, the statements contained in this application are true, correct and complete.

Executive Director: **Chair of the Board of Directors:**

_____   _____
Signature   **Signature**

_____   _____
Print Name   **Print Name**

_____   _____
Date   **Date**

NOTE: Executive Director and Chair of the Board must be two (2) different individuals. If the Executive Director and Chair of the Board is the same person, please have another member of the board certify.

(If this application represents collaboration between two or more non-profit organizations, then all Executive Directors and Board Chairs must sign the application.)

II. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Name of Organization: _____   **Year Founded:** _____

(Please attach additional page, if needed, to answer any of the following questions)

Brief Summary of Organization's History:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Organization's Mission Statement:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Geographic Area Served:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Number of Directors on Board ** _____

Number of Directors who contributed financially to the organization in the last year: _____

Number of Employees: _____   **Full-time:** _____   **Part-Time:** _____

**Include a complete list of Board members, including name, profession, county and state of residence, and position on the board.

Current Programs and Projects:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

III. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Start Date: _____   **Project End Date:** _____

Brief Summary of Project (no more than 150 words):

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Project Narrative

Please use separate pages, not to exceed five pages, in font size not smaller than 12 points.
Use the following to organize your narrative:

1. **TARGET POPULATION**
   - Describe the target population. Include demographics on populations and geographic area to be served.
   - Describe the need for your project in the community.

2. **GOALS**
   - What do you hope to accomplish through the proposed project?
   - How or why did you select this issue?
   - State measurable goals.
   - What is the expected impact on the community?

3. **ACTIVITIES**
   - How will you accomplish your goals?
   - What specific activities and services will be provided through this project?
   - How will you manage funds to implement the project?
   - Does this project have a place in your organization's long range plans? Please describe.

4. **USEFUL INFORMATION**
   - What proposals or cost estimates have you received? Please provide estimates you have received.
   - Do you have permits, governmental contracts, drawings, leases, site plans, etc.?
     Please attach all documentation.

5. **EVALUATION**
   - How will you know you have accomplished your goals?
   - How do you plan to measure impact and results?

6. **COLLABORATION**
   - If your proposal is a collaborative effort, please describe the collaboration (be specific) and list all partners. (Please read specifics about all collaborations.)

7. **OTHER FUNDING SOURCES**
   - Do you have other funding sources for this project?
   - List current funds and pending funds for which you have applied or intend to apply.
   - You must provide verification of additional funds required to complete your project.

8. **TIMELINE**
   - Describe the anticipated timeline for distribution of proposal funds.

9. **SUSTAINABILITY**
   - Describe your plans for sustainability of this project.
   - What are your future funding plans?

10. **LITIGATION**
    - Is there litigation pending, or threatened, against your organization?
    - Has there been a judgment within the last two years? If so, please give detail.

IV. PROJECT BUDGET FOR THIS RESTORE ACT APPLICATION

PROJECT REVENUES:

RESTORE Act	
Government grants (specify)	
Government contracts (specify)	
Foundations	
Corporations/Businesses	
Civic or Community Groups	
Individual Contributions	
Fundraising Activity (events)	
Membership Income	
In-kind support	
Investment Income	
Endowment Earnings	
Earned Income	
Other	
(Please include all funding from other sources)	
Total Revenue	

TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES:

Project Payroll Costs (Salary & Fringe)	
Consultants and Professional Fees	
Land/Building/Construction	
Equipment, Machinery, Vehicle Purchase	
Office Furniture/Fixture Purchase	
Fundraising	
Travel	
Printing, Copying, Supply	
Postage and Delivery	
Rent and utilities	
Marketing and promotion	
*Other (attach all project estimates and other expenses)	
Total Expenses	

**TOTAL REVENUES AND TOTAL EXPENSES SHOULD AGREE

Review Questionnaire

1. Does the project promote or enhance economic development and job creation?

- Environmental restoration and monitoring
- Tourism
- Business innovation/development
- Education
- Workforce development (training, certification, etc.)

2. If this is a development project, does it promote?

- Green infrastructure
- Green building design and standards

3. Does the project target typically underrepresented groups?

- Elderly
- Disabled
- Low-socio economic
- Rural
- Urban core/Community Redevelopment Area (CRA)

4. Will this project restore, enhance, or protect natural resources or cultural resources in our community (watershed restoration, land acquisition, biodiversity, etc.) ?

- 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

5. Does this project promote, protect, or educate the community toward health/resilience?

- Mitigate threats to human health?
- Mitigate threats to ecosystems that support human health?
- Education the community toward better health outcomes?
- Provide infrastructure, services, business that improves citizen health?

6. How well does the project document and plan for successful completion of goals?

- Cites community assessments, economic or workforce reports or other published data?

- Does the project include reasonable objectives and clear measurements to evaluate progress and outcomes?

- Is there a timeline for project activities? Is it reasonable given the project goals?

- Does the project link partners, land and ecosystems, across areas, cities, counties or states affected by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill?

- Does the project leverage other existing city, county, or state plans?

- Does the applicant demonstrate capacity to carry out the project? (Experience & public track record, financial audits, most recent 990?)

- Does this project meet expectations for sustainability after funding?

Overall Score

Total score ranks projects into fair, good, very good, excellent.

Fair (1-9) _____

Good (10-15) _____

Very Good (16-22) _____

Excellent (23-28) _____

From these groups, the Advisory Committee could take the Very Good and Excellent proposals for scoring with the in-depth rubric in Appendix D.

Appendix C:

Scoring Rubric & Instructions (Step 3)

ESCAMBIA COUNTY RESTORE ACT CANDIDATE PROJECT SCORING SHEET

Instructions

Fill in the name and number of the project.

In Part 1 (page 1) , enter a score of 1, 2, or 3 for the degree, as defined on the score sheet, for each Goal the project would achieve if it were implemented as described. This is a judgment decision that may or may not agree with the claims in the description, but without a reasonable basis for disagreeing, the proposer should be given the benefit of the doubt. Place the numeric value under the column for the Habitat or Community that will be impacted by the project. For convenience, the appropriate boxes (habitats for the first 4 goals, communities for the next 3) are highlighted in pale yellow. A project may receive a score in more than one target area for a particular Goal. If no target area is appropriate use the last column for the scores. Sum the scores in each column and enter it in the darker yellow box at the bottom of each column. Sum up all the habitat and community scores in that row and put the Total Raw Score in the dark yellow box at the left side of that column.

In Part 2 (page 2), place a numeric weight of 1/2, 1, or 2 in the last column (pale green) for the degree, as defined on the score sheet under each Value, that the project embodies. Add the values to get the Sum and divide by 6 to get the Average Weighting Factor in the last row of the last column. Put the Sum and Average in the last two (dark green) boxes of the page.

Copy the number of the Average Weight in the dark green box on page 1. Multiply this number times the Raw Scores for both the Total Score and each of the Target Area scores in each column. Put the results in the DARK red (Total) and pink (by Target Area) boxes at the bottom of page 1.

Sign the score sheet

Note: If using the Excel version the spreadsheet will calculate your sums, average, and products.

PROJECT NAME   -   **NUMBER** -

RESTORE ACT GOALS AND TARGETS

GOALS	SCORE	HABITATS				COMMUNITIES				
		Marine	Coastal	Estuarine/ Mixed	Surface/ Ground Water	Maritime/ Fishing/ Port/Offshore	Beach	Urban Core	Suburban /Rural	Nonspecific / All
RESTORE/CONSERVE HABITATS	1 = Improve/Enhance									
	2 = Protect									
	3 = Restore/Re-create									
RESTORE WATER QUALITY	1 = Improve/Enhance									
	2 = Protect									
	3 = Restore/Detoxify									
REPLENISH/PROTECT LIVING RESOURCES	1 = Improve/Enhance									
	2 = Protect/Link									
	3 = Restore/Re-introduce									
LIVING RESOURCE RESILIENCE	1 = Improve/Enhance									
	2 = Protect									
	3 = Restore/Re-create									
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE	1 = Improve/Enhance									
	2 = Protect									
	3 = Restore/Create									
RESTORE SOCIAL & ECONOMIC JUSTICE	1 = Targets Under-represented Community									
	2 = Compensates Past Injustice									
	3 = Eliminates Present Injustice									
REVITALIZE GULF ECONOMY	1 = Enhances Desir./Quality of Place									
	2 =Creates New Business/Employment Opportunity									
	3 = Reduces Disaster Risk									
Raw Score SUMS										
AV. WEIGHT FACTOR										
FINAL SCORE										

PROJECT NAME		NUMBER	WEIGHTS
COMMUNITY VALUES WEIGHTING FACTORS			
Need Addressed by Project			
0.5	Unrelated to DWH Spill		
1	Peripherally Related to DWH Spill		
2	Directly Related to DWH Spill		
Scale of Project Impacts			
0.5	Property/Park (< 100 acres)		
1	Neighborhood/Community (100 acres- 100 sq. mi.		
2	County (> 100 sq. mi.)		
Term of Project Impacts			
0.5	Short (< 2 yr)		
1	Medium (2 yr – 10 yr)		
2	Long (> 10 yr)		
Extent/Accessibility of Project Impacts			
0.5	Private/Corporate (<1000		
1	Neighborhood/Community (1000 30,000)		
2	County (> 30,000)		
Degree Community Stewardship & Education Promoted			
0.5	Public Information/Arts/Displays		
1	Public Outreach/Workshops/Performance		
2	Formal Teaching/Training Program		
Degree of Integration and Connectivity			
0.5	Integrates w/ Existing Development/Land Use		
1	Integrates w/ Existing Comprehensive Plan		
2	Cost Shared		
Weighting Factors SUM			
Weighting Factors AVERAGE			

Appendix D:

Suggested Technical Review Committee

Suggested Technical Review Committee

We suggest that the Technical Review Committee Members be comprised of professionals familiar with local natural resource conditions. The members should also be informed about issues related to the management of critical habitat, watersheds, and air quality at the state and federal levels. Importing experts unfamiliar with the historic issues surrounding protection of Pensacola and Escambia County's natural resources will not lead to the best investments of RESTORE ACT funding to secure their well-functioning for the foreseeable future.

Below we suggest the potential make-up of the Technical Review Committee:

- Physical Health — Health Department Representative

- Mental Health — Mental Health Representative

- Justice — Department of Juvenile Justice and/or Local Judge

- Ecologist — Landscape Ecologist (Broad Perspective)

- Education — K-12 & Higher Education Representatives

- Engineers — Experienced Local Representatives

- Planner — Landscape Level: Big Picture Vision

- Business/Finance Representatives

- Land Use Representative

- Transportation Representative

- Brownfield Redevelopment Representative

Suggestions for the Technical Risk Assessment

- How realistic is the project budget? If applicable, does the budget include the cost of assessments required by federal regulations such as cultural or environmental risk assessments?

- If we fund this project, will it do what it claims it will do, i.e. do the project activities and evaluation strategies match the objectives?

- Is this project technically feasible?

- Is this project financially possible?

Appendix E:

Great Idea Application

Escambia County RESTORE Act Project "Great Idea" Application

This application is for individual citizens, not for non-profit organizations.

Instructions: Please submit only requested information. Use a font size no smaller than 12 points.
Mail to: Escambia County, 221 N Palafox Place, Pensacola, FL 32502

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant's legal name: _____
        (First)   (Middle)   (Last, Sur Name)

Escambia County Citizen: _____ Yes _____ No

Residential Address:

_____
          Street

_____
City   State   Zip

Mailing Address *(if different than residential)***:**

_____
        Street or P.O.

_____
City   State   Zip

Email address: _____

Cell/work phone: _____

Credentials *(as they relate to the project)***:**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

II. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: _____

Project Start Date: _____ **Project End Date:** _____

Brief Summary of Project *(no more than 150 words)***:**

_____

_____

_____

_____

Project focus area category (check all that apply):

_____ Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coast 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 benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure*

_____ Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure. *

_____ Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing. +

_____ Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region. +

* These constitute ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES IN THE GULF COAST REGION as per the RESTORE Act. In addition, funding for planning assistance and administrative costs of complying with the project focus criteria is also eligible. However, these items can be detailed in the narrative and included in the itemized budget. Please refer to H.R. 4348 – 186, SEC.1603 (1) (B) (i) (I)-(IX) of for more details.

+ These constitute ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE TOURISM AND SEAFOOD IN THE GULF COAST REGION as per the RESTORE Act. Please refer to H.R. 4348 – 186, SEC. 1603 (1) (B) (ii) (I)-(II) for more details.

Applicant's Signature

By signing this application form, I am attesting that all of the information that I have herein provided is true and accurate.

_____
Typed/Printed Name of Applicant

_____
Signature of Applicant   Date