

RESTORE Act Eligible Activities

The RESTORE Treasury Act Outlines
Eleven Eligible Activities for Projects.
These Activities are Listed Followed by
a Non-Exhaustive List of Explanations



1. Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region.

Explanation:

- Restores/improves/enhances ecological function (e.g. natural hydrological function, tidal connections, soil composition, vegetation diversity and renewal)
- Restores/ improves/enhances community structure (e.g. increases native vegetation, biodiversity, or beneficial substrate)
- Removal of non-native species
- Removal of fish passage barriers
- Point Source reduction (reduces pollutant loading from point sources, installation of Best Management Practices (BMP's))
- Nonpoint Source reduction – reduces pollutant loading from nonpoint sources – reduces impervious surface coverage, implementation of BMP's (such as bioretention, vegetated buffer preservation, etc.), reduces sedimentation
- Treatment – provides treatment for nutrients or legacy contaminants
- Improves impaired (303d or evidence of impairment) waterway

Example: EPA: \$5,000 – The Five Star Restoration Challenge Grant Program assisted in funding Project Greenshores. Managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Project Greenshores was formed and implemented by many partners. This project restored Pensacola Bay's estuary to its historic state by stabilizing the shoreline and providing essential habitat for wildlife which included creating oyster reefs and planting native shoreline grasses.

2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources.

Explanation:

- Establishes conservation easement or wildlife corridor
- Reduces unnatural disturbances
- Implements or establishes habitat

Example: EPA: \$708,871- Glynn Key Stormwater Park is a 28 acres piece of land acquired to improve the impaired waters of the Jones Swamp Creek watershed. This project converted a dry

stormwater pond into a constructed wetland and wet stormwater pond that has improved water quality and flood control as well as providing a boardwalk trail for education and social benefits.

3. Implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring.

Explanation:

- Implementing a federally approved plan.

Example: FWC: \$81,000 – To implement part of the Sport Fish Restoration Act, the Florida Boating Improvement Program facilitates projects that increase boating access and encourage socio-economic growth. The Mahogany Mill Boat Ramp was a project partially funded by this program that provided access to Bayou Chico using green infrastructure design and landscaping.

4. Workforce development and job creation.

Explanation:

- Construct/expand/renovate commercial centers to grow small business and develop industry clusters;
- Construct workforce development and training center(s) to train workers in targeted industries (e.g. those disproportionately affected by Oil Spill);
- Create small business empowerment initiative(s) which can include introductory small business workshops, entrepreneurial classes, and individualized technical assistance to targeted sectors/regions/businesses affected by the Oil Spill;
- Create a GIS map/database of businesses affected by the Oil Spill to be used in integrating workforce development and job creation activities in the most affected sectors/regions/businesses;
- Construct an Enterprise Center Facility to serve as a business incubator to attract more start-up businesses and entrepreneurs to spur economic development and growth within prioritized industries;
- Create job training program(s) to train individuals in affected sectors (e.g. green or environmental industry, sustainable harvesting/fishing industry, seafood industry, hospitality industry, etc.);

- Develop a Community Stewardship Network centered on job training program to engage local businesses to maximize workforce development in sectors most impacted by the Oil Spill;
- In tandem with local college/university, develop a Training and Certificate Program to create trained individuals in desired industries in Escambia County (e.g. industries most impacted by Oil Spill); and
- Create or update planning documents, which can include Comprehensive Plans, Evaluation and Appraisal Reports, Economic Diversification Strategies, Land Development Regulation Updates, Neighborhood Plans, Recreational Master Plans, Urban Design Master Plans, to identify innovative planning solutions which consider impacts from the Oil Spill and best available methods for revitalizing the industries/sectors most impacted.

Example: EDA: \$1.2M - Public works funds to construct and renovate infrastructure to create a mixed-use commercial center to grow small businesses and develop innovation-based industry clusters. Project will lay foundation for job opportunities for a distressed area through promotion of entrepreneurship for largely Hispanic and African-American community; estimated to create 250 jobs. (2015)

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

Explanation:

- Doing projects outlined in other eligible activities in State parks

Example: NRDA \$1.5M – Big Lagoon State Park received monies after the BP Oil Spill to improve access to the water and natural resources in the park. This project has been awarded but not completed.

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

Explanation:

- Construction or renovation of water supply system infrastructure, which can include water line extensions to support business expansion and attraction or water reclamation upgrades;

- Construct new ethanol or similar plant to support economic development in new, alternative fuel markets to promote green business expansion within the county;
- Construction or renovation of wastewater system infrastructure which could reduce sanitary overflows and minimize discharges to surrounding ecosystems and water bodies;
- Complete a feasibility study to explore the development of alternative water supply projects to help reduce burden on the existing Escambia County water supply system;
- Road infrastructure improvements that have both transportation and environmental benefits (e.g. water quality improvement, natural flow restoration);
- Development of a "Green Print" or other similar plan to assist planners and transportation agencies plan for future growth, prioritizing business recovery or environmental restoration post-spill;
- Create a Regional Ecosystem Framework that incorporates wild life connectivity in select corridors in Escambia County;
- Develop a Green Infrastructure Plan to integrate transportation, development and natural resource planning in Escambia County, prioritizing projects with direct positive impacts on industries and businesses most affect by the Oil Spill; and
- Construction of stormwater treatment areas or other retention ponds to assist in reduction of pollutant loads into Escambia County water bodies.

Example: EDA: \$1.1M - Economic adjustment funds for construction of critical water and sewer infrastructure along Interstate Drive in Mayflower. This project supports business expansion and attraction and increases disaster resiliency. (2014)

7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure.

Explanation:

- Proposed project will decrease frequency and/or intensity of flooding events (i.e. through reduction of impervious surface coverage or increased storage/retention)
- Retrofits, repairs or replaces existing stormwater management infrastructure
- Strategically adds new stormwater management components such as attenuation

- Stabilizes shoreline/provides natural wave attenuation
- Increases species and/or ecosystem adaptability to changing conditions
- Provides for natural successional progression
- Improves air quality

Example: NA

8. Planning assistance.

Explanation:

- Any data gathering, studies, modeling, analysis and other tasks required to prepare plans for any of the eleven (11) eligible activities under the Direct Component (though could be tailored to economic development for existing businesses within the county).

Example: EDA: \$300,000 Economic Adjustment funds awarded to The Good Work Network to provide technical assistance for disadvantaged small businesses to take advantage of emerging business opportunities within the growing bio-innovation and health care industry cluster in New Orleans. The project will create a database of contract opportunities and the services and products of the targeted small business to help build their capacity, grow their businesses, and create jobs. (2014)

9. Administrative costs of complying with this subsection.

Explanation:

- Any admin costs such as office supplies, electronics, and equipment less than \$5,000 (*must be associated with a project)

Example: NA

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

Explanation:

- Construct access roads and infrastructure upgrades to expand existing tourism cluster;
- Create a Technical Assistance Program(s) for entrepreneurs in the tourism industry in the county;
- Construct a Discovery Center or other destination tourist site to expand the tourism industry;
- Build a dedicated Culinary Arts building to train employees to meet the needs of the region's

seafood service sector and coastal tourism industry;

- Construct a Technical Training Facility for use in tourism industry training which could include workshops and trainings for business owners involved in county tourism industry;
- Develop a Tourism Marketing Plan to boost tourism in the county using both digital and print options (could specifically gear toward businesses currently in county or leave more general);
- Produce a "Guide to Tourism in Escambia County" to promote tourism and recreation county-wide;
- Create an advertising campaign to highlight tourism in Escambia County which can include advertisements, direct mail, brochure production, website development or other related products;
- Develop a Tourism Education Program that includes educational workshops, lecture series, or educational opportunities to increase awareness of the tourism industry in the county;
- Create a Small Business Tourism Program to promote tourism of existing small businesses within the county, prioritizing business types most adversely affected by the Oil Spill; and
- Construct a mobile bike visitor center, bicycle trail/path improvements, maps to attract cyclists and other recreational users to Escambia County.

Example: EDA: \$1.25M - Economic adjustment funds to construct an access road and upgrade infrastructure on the Delta State University campus. This project will enhance and expand the region's arts and tourism cluster. Investment estimated to create 10 jobs and leverage \$18.5 million in private investment.

11. Promotion of consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region.

Explanation:

- Develop a marketing strategy for locally-caught seafood in Escambia County;
- Establish a county-wide or state-wide local seafood promotion campaign which includes seafood branding and marketing (e.g. public service announcements, web-based distribution channel);
- Create a program to encourage sale of local seafood at farmers markets and other retail markets; and

- Create a county-wide survey to solicit consumers about local seafood preferences and tailor a marketing campaign based on survey results.

Example: NOAA: \$361,670 - Federal Saltonstail-Kennedy Grant awarded to Cape Ann Seafood Exchange for the purposes of developing marketing opportunities for locally caught redfish. Focus of the project is to build a sustainable fishery for Gulf of Maine-harvested redfish and to develop the capability to process and market the species to the domestic and international seafood-consuming public. (2010)

*Examples are instances that have previously been funded by state or federal entities.