

# RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Narrative

## Department of the Treasury

OMB Approval No. 1505-0250

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

Multiyear Plan Version (Initial or Amendment Number):	Amendment 002
Date of Initial Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	May 5, 2017
Date of Last Multiyear Plan Revision Acceptance:	April 22, 2018

Eligible Applicant Name:	Bay County, FL/Bay County Board of County Commissioners
Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:	
POC Name:	Jim Muller
POC Title:	Bay County RESTORE Act Coordinator
POC Email:	jmulder@baycountycl.gov
POC Phone:	850.248.8253

### 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.

Proposal number/name: 2020-01 St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program

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

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program (SASJBEP) is a place-based program funded by multiple sources to protect and restore the water quality and ecological integrity of the watershed. The RESTORE Act Direct Component funds will be used to develop the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) which is a necessary planning document to support the St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program (SASJBEP) and subsequent restoration projects. The SASJBEP is modeled after the National Estuary Program. The development and implementation of a CCMP is a proven method to ensure the success of all 28 of the existing National Estuary Programs and will be used to ensure the same success for the SASJBEP. Once the CCMP has been completed, a Workplan will be developed for each project. When a Workplan has been developed, funds will be secured for implementation of the project. Funds will be passed through to the Florida State University. The Florida State University - Panama City will serve as host for the estuary program. As the plan is being developed, interim demonstration projects to improve the natural resources of the bay will be implemented. Water quality monitoring and data analysis will be done to inform the CCMP.

NEED: The St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays watershed supports estuary systems critical to the economy, community, and way of life of Bay, Gulf and neighboring counties. St. Andrew and St. Joe bays provide fish and wildlife resources, including seagrass habitat, which support numerous fish and invertebrate species. In addition, the bays are popular places for recreational activities and tourism. Forty-four waterbody segments in the St. Andrew Bay watershed are on Florida's Statewide Comprehensive Verified List of Impaired Waters— mostly for bacteria and nutrients. These impaired waters negatively impact the bays' health and habitats and limit their recreational value.

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.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the SASJBEP is to improve the waters, habitats, living resources and economy of the St. Andrew/St. Joe bays watershed. The purpose of the CCMP is to develop specific actions to restore and maintain the water quality and ecological integrity of the St. Andrew/St. Joe Estuary.

**OBJECTIVES:** The objectives of the SASJBEP in approximately the first three years are as follows:

- Establish the St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program (SASJBEP) governing and advisory groups
- Hire estuary program staff to facilitate preparation and implementation of the CCMP
- Implement water quality and habitat restoration demonstration and outreach projects
- Facilitate board, committee, stakeholder meetings to draft the CCMP
- Adoption of CCMP by members of the SASJBEP

**MILESTONES:**

- Establishment of SASJBEP governing and advisory groups
- Hiring of estuary program staff
- Drafting and adoption of CCMP
- Implementation of one or more water quality and habitat restoration demonstration and outreach projects

**Location:** St. Andrew Bay watershed, which includes St. Andrew and St. Joe bays. Primarily Bay and Gulf counties, FL – see map.

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).

At its May 19, 2020 meeting, the Bay County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard the proposed Multi-Year Implementation Plan amendment related to the St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program project, conducted a public meeting, and opened a 45-day comment period, through July 3, 2020. A legal ad was published about the amendment and comment period, a notice was posted on the BoCC's lobby bulletin board, and an email was sent to the more than 200 entities on the Bay County RESTORE Act interested parties list. The proposed amendment was available as an exhibit in the May 19 and July 7 agendas. A copy was available at the public library, and the materials were also available for download from the County's RESTORE Act web pages. One public comment was made at the May 19 public hearing, and six comments were received during the comment period. All comments were supportive of the project, and no suggestions were made about revisions to the proposed plan amendment. A legal ad was also published about the amendment and the July 7 BoCC public hearing. An email was sent to the more than 200 entities on the Bay County RESTORE Act interested parties list. Comments were directed to be submitted to an email account monitored by the RESTORE Act Coordinator.

On July 7, the proposed amendment was again brought before the Bay County Board of County Commissioners in a public hearing setting. Three public comments were made at the meeting. No negative comments were made about the proposed plan amendment and no suggestions were made about revisions. The Board made no revisions to the proposed plan amendment. In a 4-0 vote, the Board approved the amendment to Bay County's RESTORE Act Direct Component

Multi-Year Implementation Plan (MYIP) for the St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program project and directed staff to transmit the amendment to the U.S. Dept. of the Treasury.

3. How each activity included in the applicant's multiyear plan matrix 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.

The primary RESTORE Act Eligible Activity for the project is addressed in 1., above - Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region. The project is not included in any claim for compensation paid out by the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund after the date of enactment of the RESTORE Act. The proposed project is designed to restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, or economy of the Gulf Coast. As described in 2, the project was revised based on meaningful input from the public, including broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

The project will be carried out in the St. Andrew/St. Joe bays watershed, primarily within Bay and Gulf counties, FL, and will be within the Gulf Coast Region as defined in 31 CFR Part 34 - "Gulf Coast Region means: (1) In the Gulf Coast States, the coastal zones defined under section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 that border the Gulf of Mexico; (2) Land within the coastal zones described in paragraph (1) of this definition that is held in trust by, or the use of which is by law subject solely to the discretion of, the Federal Government or officers or agents of the Federal Government; (3) Any adjacent land, water, and watersheds, that are within 25 miles of the coastal zone described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this definition; and (4) All Federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico."

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

Proposal number/name: 2019-01 St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program  
Completion of the stakeholder and community-approved Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan as a road map for the St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program's future projects designed to restore and maintain the water quality and ecological integrity of the St. Andrew/St. Joe bays estuaries and watershed.

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

No change in priorities compared to the approved initial Multi-Year Improvement Plan. This is an additional project.

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.

A major product of the Estuary Program amendment to the Multi-Year Implementation Plan is completion of the stakeholder and community-approved Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) as a road map for the St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program's future projects designed to restore and maintain the water quality and ecological integrity of the St. Andrew/St. Joe bays estuaries and watershed. Both RESTORE Act and Nature Conservancy funds will be used to complete the CCMP.

Private funds totaling \$999,844 have been pledged by The Nature Conservancy and are detailed in a contract between the County and the Conservancy. The funds will be used to help establish the Estuary Program. The funds will partially support Estuary Program staff, and will partially fund preparation of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), including some facilitation activities. Funds will be passed through to the Florida State University. The Florida State University - Panama City will serve as host for the Estuary Program.

Bay County is actively pursuing additional federal, state and private funding for this program. These other funding sources may be combined with Direct Component funding.

The RESTORE Act funding will be passed through to the Florida State University and used to pay for portions of Estuary Program staff for preparation of the CCMP for the Estuary Program; facilitation and reporting on Policy Board, Management Council, and Advisory Committees meetings related to preparation of the CCMP; water quality monitoring and reporting, and office supplies.

RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Matrix — Department of the Treasury						OMB Approval No. 1505-0250					
Applicant Name:		Bay County, FL, Board of County Commissioners									
1. MULTIYEAR PLAN VERSION (INITIAL OR AMENDMENT NUMBER):		Amendment 002		2a. DATE OF INITIAL MULTIYEAR PLAN ACCEPTANCE (mm/dd/yyyy):		5/5/2017		2b. DATE OF LAST MULTIYEAR PLAN ACCEPTANCE:		4/22/2018	
3. CUMULATIVE DIRECT COMPONENT ALLOCATION AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION TO APPLICANT:				\$15,761,445.74		4. TOTAL ALLOCATIONS PLUS KNOWN FUNDS NOT YET DEPOSITED IN TRUST FUND FOR DIRECT COMPONENT:		\$42,225,440			
5. Primary Direct Component Eligible Activity Further Described in Application (Static Field)	6. Activity Title (Static Field)	7. Location (Static Field)	8. Estimated Total Funding Contributions For Proposed Activity(ies)(refer to Instructions)				9. Proposed Start Date mm/dd/yyyy	10. Proposed End Date mm/dd/yyyy	11. Status (refer to Instructions)		
			8a. Direct Component Contribution	8b. Other RESTORE Act Contribution	8c. Other Third Party Contribution	8d. Total Contribution					
Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	2014-026 Bay Technology Initiative	Bay County, FL	\$1,133,000		\$500,000	\$1,633,000	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 2 years 09/15/2019	Initial MYP Activity		
Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	2014-004 North Bay Wastewater Collection System Improvements	Bay County, FL	\$1,760,000		\$4,250,000	\$6,010,000	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 3 years 09/15/2020	Initial MYP Activity - Application submitted		
Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing	2014-001 Restoring Bay County's Recreational Fishing Industry through Artificial Reef Construction and Promotion	Bay County, FL and nearshore Bay County	\$441,976		\$150,740	\$592,716	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 1 year 09/15/2018	Initial MYP Activity - activity funded at \$441,976		
Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	2014-028 Porter Park Improvements 2014	Lynn Haven, FL in Bay County, FL	\$509,850		\$424,500	\$934,350	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 2 years 09/15/2019	Initial MYP Activity - Activity modified in Amendment 1		
Planning assistance	2014-022 Bay County East Pass Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Inlet and Beach Mgmt Plan (IBMP)	Bay County, FL	\$1,210,000		\$0	\$1,210,000	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 5 years 09/15/2022	Initial MYP Activity - Application submitted		
Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	2014-041 Carl Gray Park Boat Ramp	Panama City, FL in Bay County, FL	\$566,500		\$302,010	\$868,510	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 24 years 09/30/2021	Initial MYP Activity - Activity funded at \$556,955.50		
Planning assistance	2014-016 Bay County Master Plan and Capital Improvement Strategic Plan Update (Stormwater)	Bay County, FL	\$362,997		\$0	\$362,997	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 3 years 09/15/2020	Initial MYP Activity - Activity funded at \$362,997		
Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	2014-017 AMIkids Panama City Marine Institute Dock Repair	Panama City, FL in Bay County, FL	\$279,697		\$0	\$279,697	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 1 year 09/15/2018	Initial MYP Activity - Activity funded at \$279,697		
Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	2014-011 City of Panama City Beach and Bay County Continuous Outfall Sediment Reduction Projects	Panama City Beach, FL in Bay County, FL and Bay County, FL	\$1,133,000		\$100,000	\$1,233,000	grant approval + 1 mo 09/15/2017	grant approval + 2 years 09/15/2019	Initial MYP Activity		

Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	Lynn Haven, FL in Bay County, FL					-\$934,350			Amendment #1 Deleted - Initial MYP Activity deleted in Amendment 1 - Project was completed with third party funding shown here (\$424,500) and an additional \$165,650 in third party funding
	2014-028 Porter Park Improvements 2014 - Amended		-\$509,850		-\$424,500		NA	NA	
Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure	Lynn Haven, FL in Bay County, FL					\$501,480			Amendment #1 - new project; activity funded at \$501,480
	2014-028a Porter Park Improvements 2014 - Amended		\$501,480				grant approval + 1 mo	grant approval + 2 years	
Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region	2020-01 St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program	St. Andrew/St. Joe bays watershed, primarily Bay and Gulf counties, also Washington, Calhoun, Walton and Jackson counties				\$1,719,844			Amendment #2 - new project
			\$720,000		\$999,844		grant approval + 15 days	grant approval + 3 years	
	12. ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ACTIVITY(IES) (refer to Instructions)		\$8,108,650	\$0	\$6,302,594	\$14,411,244	Please note: Grant awards may reflect non-material changes in proposed dates and estimated funding.		

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Figure 2-2 St. Andrew Bay Watershed

**Map of extent of St. Andrew/St. Joe Bays Estuary Program**  
Matches boundary of St. Andrew Bay watershed