

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 #01
Date of Initial Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	1/22/2020
Date of Last Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	1/22/2020

Eligible Applicant Name:	Franklin County Florida, Board of County Commissioners
Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:	
POC Name:	Erin Griffith
POC Title:	Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator (Authorizing Official)
POC Email:	erin@franklincountyflorida.com
POC Phone:	(850) 653-9783 Ext. 158

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.

Project #1: County-wide Dune Restoration

Need: In Franklin County's coastal communities including, St. George Island, Alligator Point, Bald Point, and Carrabelle Beach, the beach and dune system are the first line of defense from storms and in many places need re-building. This area, approximately 16 miles in length, has been damaged by several recent hurricanes in which most of the dune system was leveled in certain areas. The beach dune community on Alligator Point is generally in poor condition and/or completely absent in certain areas of dune stabilizing sea oats. The typical shoreline habitat on Alligator Point has been completely compromised to a relatively low elevation primary dune and narrow berm.

Purpose: In April 2022, MRD Associates, Inc. completed a County-wide Dune Restoration Study funded with Planning Assistance dollars provided by the RESTORE Act Direct Component Program. This study identified four (4) shoreline segments along approximately 11 miles of coastline in need of restoration and provided cost-effective solutions to rebuild and increase the stability of the dunes. Based upon the findings and recommendations of this study, the County intends to pursue the construction template dune and coastal hammock restoration at the two county beach park locations: St. George Island's Lighthouse Park (Current Cost Estimate: \$215,782) and Carrabelle Beach Park (Current Cost Estimate: \$228,944) and implement a county-wide dune vegetation project (Current Cost Estimate: \$257,250). A varied vegetation footprint of between 6 and 7.5 feet could be installed along the toe of the dune areas along 11 miles of public beaches (the four project segments shown in figure 27, page 34, of the attached report consisting of four miles of St. George Island, .8 miles of Carrabelle Beach, 5 miles of Alligator Point and 1.2 miles of Bald Point). Native coastal vegetation would be placed on 18" centers in staggered rows for a natural look. Approximately 171,500 plants would be needed for the county-wide effort at an estimated installed cost per plant of \$1.25. Franklin County would obtain written consent from interested private property owners for the plants to be installed along the dune line. As cited in the study 'Native dune vegetation provides significant benefits to beaches, dunes, uplands and wildlife (FDEP, 2022). Salt tolerant dune plants: build protective dunes by trapping and stabilizing wind-blown beach sand, reduce erosion losses by wind and storms, provide a buffer against storm surges and salt spray, provide shelter for wildlife, and block light pollution for nesting and hatching sea turtles.'

Objectives: 1) Improve existing dune structures at public park facilities by increasing crest elevations, crest widths, and side slopes utilizing template dune restoration methods; 2) Improve existing dune structures by assisting beach-front property owners by planting vegetation to assist in the development and growth of the dunes on private property.

Milestones: 1) Prepare a final Scope of Work and Budget for Construction activities; 2) Prepare bid package meeting U.S. Treasury specifications and solicit bids for Construction Contractor; 3) Obtain permits for Construction from FDEP; 4) Select Construction Contractor and award Contract Agreement; 5) Notice to Proceed and Mobilization; 6) Complete Construction Scope of Work; 7) De-Mobilization; 8) Periodic Reports to Grantor; and 9) File Final Reports and complete Closeout of Grant Award Agreement

Location: Approximately 11 miles of shoreline in Franklin County, including the municipalities and shoreline segments of St. George Island (R-73 to R-94), Alligator Point (R-195 to R-222), Bald Point (R-229 to R-235), and 4) Carrabelle Beach.

Project #2: St. George Island Storm Water Improvements

Need: The commercial district on St. George Island, which runs from 3rd Street East to 3rd Street West, from Gorrie Drive to Bayshore Drive, has an existing storm water pond that provides treatment to approximately 25% of the commercial area. The appeal of the quaint coastal community has led to the increased desirability of the commercial area of St. George Island and there are several proposed developments underway that will increase the population, increase demand for commercial development, and therefore potentially increase storm water runoff as spaces that had previously been undeveloped become developed. Expanding storm water drainage capacity is necessary as the current storm water drainage facility is near capacity. Similarly, the commercial area is near sea-level which adds additional layers of difficulty with construction of storm water infrastructure. The County anticipates further development in the commercial district of St. George in the near future thus necessitating additional storm water drainage capacity and improvements.

Purpose: Franklin County contracted with Dewberry Engineers for the planning and design phase of the St. George Island Storm Water Improvements project. This phase is nearly complete and was funded with Planning Assistance dollars provided by the RESTORE Act Direct Component Program which determined the need for the installation of approximately 1,489 linear feet of 18" piping and 3,186 linear feet of 24" piping, and 3,270 square yards of asphalt patching and resurfacing, sod improvements, other required piping and restoration activities to complete the overall objectives of the St. George Island Stormwater Improvements project. The purpose of this project is to fund the construction phase of the St. George Island Stormwater Improvements project, which includes mentioned above to extend, enhance and construct storm water drainage facilities in order to increase the capacity for the commercial district of St. George Island.

Objective(s): 1) Increase storm water drainage capacity

Milestones: 1) Prepare a final Scope of Work and Budget for Construction activities; 2) Prepare bid package meeting U.S. Treasury specifications and solicit bids for Construction Contractor; 3) Obtain permits for Construction from FDEP; 4) Select Construction Contractor and award Contract Agreement; 5) Notice to Proceed and Mobilization; 6) Complete Construction Scope of Work; 7) De-Mobilization; 8) Periodic Reports to Grantor; and 9) File Final Reports and complete Closeout of Grant Award Agreement

Location: Zone 1: W Gorrie Drive, 1st Street W, W Gulf Beach Drive; Zone 2: W Pine Street to Franklin Blvd; Zone 3: W Bay Shore Drive to Franklin Blvd; Zone 4: 1st Street E; Zone 5: 2nd Street E to E Pine Street; Zone 6: E Pine Street to 3rd Street E [See attached map]

Project #3: Franklin County Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station

Need: The existing 16.98 acre Franklin County Municipal Solid Waste Facility, permitted in 1995, serves all Franklin County municipalities and unincorporated areas, and approximately 8,452 housing units. On October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael made landfall approximately 45 miles NW of Franklin County resulting in unprecedented damage to the Florida Panhandle, including Franklin County cities Apalachicola and Carrabelle, and coastal unincorporated areas of the County including Eastpoint, St. George Island, Lanark Village and Alligator Point. Debris left behind in the wake of Hurricane Michael took years of capacity off of the estimated useful life of the landfill. Franklin County estimates that within the next 7-9 years, the landfill will reach its full capacity which elevates this project to a community urgent need. Furthermore, due to Franklin County's proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, additional storms will further reduce capacity and lead to the closure of the landfill and eliminate the County's ability to process solid waste locally.

Purpose: Franklin County is coming to a crossroads whereas there are only two options to extend the capacity of the landfill: 1) the County will have to acquire or purchase a large tract of suitable land, permit and build a new landfill at an estimated construction cost of \$10 to \$15 million; OR 2) the County will construct a 'County Transfer Station' operation in lieu of a new landfill to dispose of waste at a private facility inland at an estimated cost of \$2.5 million. A possible alternative site for a new landfill has not been identified and coastal property is expensive and in short supply. Franklin County proposes pursuing option #2 to construct a transfer station operation with RESTORE Act Direct Component Program dollars. In July 2022, Franklin County contracted with Dewberry

Engineers to conduct a Franklin County Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station Feasibility Study in order to produce pre-construction design services. The Feasibility Study will estimate costs to permit and construct a Municipal Solid Waste transfer station and administrative building utilizing capacity, intended size and level of service of the proposed facility based on current and future tonnages; estimate the manpower and equipment operations costs to properly operate and maintain the proposed transfer station; and determine the estimated cost to transfer municipal solid waste to a selected disposal facility. Franklin County will use the results of the Feasibility Study to formulate a scope of work and budget for construction costs.

Objective: 1) Construct Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station operation and administrative building; and 2) Extend current capacity (remaining useful life) of existing landfill

Milestones: 1) Prepare a final Scope of Work and Budget for Construction activities; 2) Prepare bid package meeting U.S. Treasury specifications and solicit bids for Construction Contractor; 3) Obtain permits for Construction; 4) Select Construction Contractor and award Contract Agreement; 5) Notice to Proceed and Mobilization; 6) Complete Construction Scope of Work; 7) De-Mobilization; 8) Periodic Reports to Grantor; and 9) File Final Reports and complete Closeout of Grant Award Agreement

Location: All construction activities will take place at the existing Central Landfill location at 255 Fl-65, Eastpoint, FL 32328. Please see attached the draft Site Plan included in the draft Feasibility Study conducted by Dewberry Engineers. Should the location change after the approval of this MYP Amendment, the final location maps and approved Site Plan will be included in the construction grant application for RESTORE Act Direct Component funding.

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 Franklin County Multi-Year Implementation Plan, Amendment #01 was posted to the County's website on November 10, 2022 and remained available until December 29, 2022. It was also available in hard copy format at the Franklin County Courthouse and Courthouse Annex buildings during the public comment period. In addition, the Multi-Year Implementation Plan, Amendment #01 was advertised in the Apalachicola The Times newspaper on November 10, 2023 and November 17, 2023 and the Panama City News Herald newspaper on November 10, 2023 and November 17, 2023.

One comment on the proposed Dune Restoration construction project was received from a member of the public and involved some suggested alternatives for consideration. County reviewed the comment and responded to the commenter directly with appreciation for the meaningful input. After consultation with the County's Engineer for the County Dune Restoration Study, it was decided that no changes to the proposed Scope of Work would be necessary.

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.

Project #1: County-Wide Dune Restoration

Geographic Requirement: This proposed project location includes approximately 11 miles of Franklin County coastline along the Gulf of Mexico, including St. George Island, Alligator Point, Bald Point and Carrabelle Beach.

Primary Eligible Activity: This proposed project was previously approved in the initial Multi-Year Implementation Plan as planning assistance for the RESTORE eligible activity of coastal flood protection and related infrastructure. However, after the completion of the County-Wide Dune Restoration Study, and the proposed construction elements and perceived benefits to the wildlife habitats within the proposed project area, we are re-classifying this project under the Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region eligible activity. Please see figure 27, page 34 of the completed County-Wide Dune Restoration study, provided by MRD Associates, attached as 'Exhibit 1' for more detail on the proposed project scope and location.

Project #2: St. George Island Storm Water Drainage Improvements

Geographic Requirement: This proposed project location is St. George Island, which is an island and Census-designated place in Franklin County, FL. It is within walking distance to the coastline of the Gulf of Mexico.

Primary Eligible Activity: This proposed project was previously approved in the initial Multi-Year Implementation Plan as planning assistance for the RESTORE eligible activity of infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure. However, as the planning and design work nears completion on the St. George Island Storm Water Drainage Improvements we are re-classifying this project under the coastal flood protection and related infrastructure eligible activity. Please see the St. George Island Storm Water Drainage Improvements planning and design documents, provide by Dewberry Engineers, attached as 'Exhibit 2' for more detail on the proposed project scope and location.

Project #3: Franklin County Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station

Geographic Requirement: This proposed project location is Eastpoint, FL, located in Franklin County, and services households located along or near the coastline of the Gulf of Mexico.

Primary Eligible Activity: This proposed project is new, and has not been previously approved in prior Multi-Year Implementation Plans, but a description of the proposed project was provided to Franklin County's Treasury Program Analyst for eligibility review and classification with RESTORE Act requirements. It was determined by Franklin County, and confirmed by U.S. Department of Treasury, that this proposed project should be classified under the infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure eligible activity.

4. Criteria the applicant will use to evaluate 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.

Project #1 County-Wide Dune Restoration:

Project success will be measured by:

1. The template dune restoration project construction at the county-owned beach parks will help protect the coastline from erosion and added flood protection of critical public tourism infrastructure in areas prone to Gulf Coast storms; and
2. The sand fencing and planting of new vegetation's ability to create new wildlife habitats and protect existing habitats along the coastline.

Project #2: St. George Storm Water Drainage Improvements

Project success will be measured by:

1. The ability to re-route storm water to existing storm water facilities; and
2. The ability to extend the capacity of the existing storm water facilities.

Project #3: Franklin County Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station

Project success will be measured by:

1. The transfer station operation's ability to extend the capacity and estimated useful life of the existing landfill site.

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

Project #1: County-Wide Dune Restoration and Project #2: St. George Storm Water Drainage Improvements were prioritized based on their readiness to proceed forward to construction. The planning and design phases for the County-Wide Dune Restoration project is complete and planning and design of the St. George Island Storm Water Drainage Improvements is nearing completion. Final engineering plans are almost ready to be reviewed and set for approval by both the County and State regulatory agencies, such as Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

Criteria used: 1) Readiness to proceed to construction; and 2) Prevention of further damage or capacity reduction from Gulf Coast storm events.

Project #3: Franklin County Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station is currently undergoing the planning and design phase under a task authorization outside of the RESTORE Program with Dewberry Engineers to determine a proposed Scope of Work and estimated construction costs to achieve the project objectives. This project was prioritized because of its community urgent need status.

Criteria used: 1) Engineering and design is underway; and 2) Prevention of further capacity reduction from Gulf Coast storm events.

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.

Project #1 County-Wide Dune Restoration – The construction of this project is estimated to cost \$1,500,000.00 and will be funded 100% with RESTORE Act Direct Component funding.

Project #2 St. George Storm Water Drainage Improvements – The construction of this project is estimated to cost \$4,500,000.00 and will be funded 100% with RESTORE Act Direct Component funding.

Project #3: Franklin County Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Administrative Building– The construction of this project is estimated to cost \$2,500,000.00 and will be funded 100% with RESTORE Act Direct Component funding.

						\$0.00			
						\$0.00			
						\$0.00			
						\$0.00			
						\$0.00			
12. ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ACTIVITY(IES) (refer to Instructions)			\$8,500,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,500,000.00	Please note: Grant awards may reflect non-material changes in proposed dates and estimated funding.		

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.