

OMB Approval No. 1505-0250

1. CUMULATIVE DIRECT COMPONENT ALLOCATION AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION TO APPLICANT:			\$933,988.34		2. TOTAL ALLOCATIONS PLUS KNOWN FUNDS NOT YET DEPOSITED IN TRUST FUND FOR DIRECT COMPONENT:				\$933,988.34		
3. Primary Direct Component Eligible Activity Further Described in Application (Static Field)	4. Activity Number and Activity Title (Static Field)	5. Location - Municipality(ies) (Static Field, locations also shown on attached map)	6. Total Funding Resources For Activity Budget (refer to Instructions)				7. Proposed Start Date mm/yyyy	8. Actual Start Date mm/yyyy (Static Field)	9. Proposed End Date mm/yyyy	10. Actual End Date mm/yyyy (Static Field)	11. Proposed High Level Milestones Further Described in Application
			6a. Direct Component Contribution	6b. Other RESTORE Act Contribution	6c. Other Third Party Contribution	6d. Total Project Budget					
Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region	Marsh Preserve/Wetland Mitigation	Fritchie Marsh, Slidell, Louisiana	\$933,988.34		\$4,107,011.66	\$5,041,000.00	March 1 2016		July 1 2017		1. Procurement/Kickoff 2. Modeling Effort to Calculate Benefits 3. Engineering and Design 4. Construction 5. Construction Completion and Close Out
	12. TOTAL FUNDING FOR BUDGET (refer to Instructions)		\$933,988.34	\$0.00	\$4,107,011.66	\$5,041,000.00					

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to 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, RESTORE Act Program, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20220.

RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Narrative

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Eligible Applicant Name: St. Tammany Parish Government

Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:

POC Name: Bridget Saladino

POC Title: Grants Project Manager

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B. PROVIDE A BRIEF NARRATIVE THAT DEMONSTRATES:

1. The need, purpose, and objectives for each activity, including a detailed description of each activity.

The Fritchie Marsh is an area of intermediate to brackish marsh near Slidell, La. The Fritchie Marsh is approximately 6,291 acres in size and bound to the east by Highway 90, to the south and west by highway 433 and to the north by portions of the W-14 canal, as well developed and undeveloped land below the City of Slidell. The Fritchie marsh is comprised of US Fish and Wildlife Service property as well as privately owned land. Both the W-14 and W-15 canals, as well as part of the Pearl River via Salt Bayou, outfall into the marsh. The marsh provides many environmental and storm protection benefits for lower St. Tammany Parish and as such, the Parish believes protecting this area is of vital importance.

According to an analysis prepared by GCR Inc., the Fritchie Marsh lost approximately 273 acres of land from 2010 to 2012.

St. Tammany is proposing a project aimed at reducing the marsh loss rates by improving the hydrologic conditions in the area through management of the available freshwater and building new marsh with material from conveyance channels.

The first component of the project would be widening approximately 5,650 feet of the W-14 Canal from the south side of Gause Boulevard to Daney Street. This would possibly require upgrading of existing bridges at Daney Street and Cousin Street. The canal would be de-snagged and cleared of vegetation and debris. It would then be reshaped to a trapezoidal section with a bottom width and side slope to be determined during the modeling phase. Utilizing an existing Hydrologic Engineering Centers River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) model that has already been developed under a previous drainage study of the French Branch (W-15) and Doubloon Bayou Drainage Study, the magnitude of change in flow and water surface elevations caused by rain flooding could be calculated.

The water in the W-14 canal would then flow south in a more efficient manner until reaching the outfall near the Fritchie Marsh which is slightly downstream of the confluence between the W-14 Doubloon Bayou. A weir exists on the lower end of the W-14 that is intended to elevate water levels within the W-14; thereby forcing water through the marsh. The Fritchie Marsh is a vital component to storm protection and the removal of the weir is not an option.

The second component is to improve the ability of this drainage system to convey water out of the basin. This would be accomplished by improving the way water discharges from the W-14 which enters the Fritchie Marsh. In order to support the goals of the Coastal Wetland Planning Protection and Restoration Authority (CWPPRA) PO-06 project which installed the weir in the W-14 Canal, the flow of water through the marsh would be modeled. After the current condition model design and calibration is complete then multiple flow options would be run to determine how best to move water away from the W-14 and improve conveyance through the marsh. After solutions have been found using the numerical models, those projects showing the most improvement would enter the engineering and design phase.

This will make a degraded habitat much healthier as well as add additional vegetation to filter the water flowing through the marsh.

The direct component funding will be used for the marsh preservation and restoration by restoring marsh habitats, improving the water quality, protecting the estuary, enhancing the natural process of marsh building. The additional fresh water flow through the Fritchie Marsh will provide ancillary benefits. The fresh water will help to lower the salinity within the marsh which will improve the growth of vegetative species within the area. Additionally, the fresh water will bring much needed sediments and nutrients to the marsh. The Fritchie Marsh currently has two Coastal Referencing Stations (CRMS) sites that help to monitor the site. In addition, the Parish plans to work with Coastal Restoration and Protection Agency (CPRA) and the Corp of Engineers (USACE) to develop a comprehensive monitoring plan for the marsh which will include bi-annual land rate change analysis, vegetation analysis, analysis of average depth of open water areas and salinity monitoring.

The Parish is planning on using the direct component funding towards construction activities. If any construction is needed on privately owned land, the Parish will acquire said land before and construction activities occur. The acquisition would only take place through

voluntary participation and voluntary participation agreements would be signed by all parties that wish to participate.

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 plan was adopted after consideration of all meaningful input from the public.

The Multi-Year Plan was put on public notice for 45 days via the newspaper, stpgov.org, and available at the St. Tammany Parish Department of Grants office. Citizens were encouraged to submit comments via the online Public Comment Submittal Form and comments were also accepted via mail, fax, and e-mail. Citizens who were unable to submit comments in writing were encouraged to call the Department of Grants for accommodations. The comment period began on June 22, 2015 and ended on August 8, 2015. The Parish did not receive any comments from the public and therefore moved forward with the chosen project.

3. How each activity included in the applicant's multiyear plan matrix is eligible for funding and meets all requirements under the RESTORE Act.

The primary direct component eligible activity falls into the category of restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region which is considered an eligible activity by the RESTORE Act. The project will meet several goals of the RESTORE Act by restoring marsh habitats, improving water quality, protecting the estuary, enhancing the natural process of marsh building, promoting community resilience by decreasing storm surge, and promoting environmental education by creating opportunities to study coastal restoration.

4. How the applicant will evaluate success of the activities included in the matrix.

The Fritchie Marsh currently has two Coastal Referencing Monitoring Stations (CRMS). In addition, the Parish plans to work with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) and the Corp of Engineers (USACE) to develop a comprehensive monitoring plan for the marsh which will include bi-annual land rate change analysis, vegetation analysis, analysis of average depth of open water areas and salinity monitoring. The Parish will measure the project's progress by the proposed high level milestones listed on the matrix.

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

Although St. Tammany Parish has only one project listed on our multi-year plan matrix, this project has been deemed a high priority as the marsh was significantly affected through 2010-2012, and the marsh provides many environmental and storm protection benefits for lower St. Tammany Parish. This project has just been awarded funding for engineering and design, so it is ready to begin. That being said the ability to begin the project now was a major factor in making this the chosen project for the Restore Act funding.

6. The relationship, if any, between the activities the applicant included in the multiyear plan matrix and other activities funded under the RESTORE Act.

This is the first project for St. Tammany Parish that will be funded under the RESTORE Act.

Fritchie Marsh Hydrologic Restoration Project

