

RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Narrative

OMB Approval No. 1505-0250

Eligible Applicant Name: TANGIPAHOA PARISH GOVERNMENT

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

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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.

Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana's overall multi-year plan includes 2 projects which total \$574,705 in Restore Act funding, using Direct Component contributions from the Restore Act. This first, and highest priority, local project is the reconstruction of the Lee's Landing boat launch, which is in very poor physical condition, and has been severely damaged by a number of man-made and storm incidents. This boat launch is important because it is the primary public access point to the lower portions of the Tangipahoa River and into Lake Pontchartrain, the largest fresh water (though at times is brackish water during periods of low precipitation) lake in Louisiana, which borders the south end of the Parish boat launch). The site of this facility is located on public property owned by Tangipahoa Parish (purchased in 1975 and containing 2.8 acres and a public roadway, maintained by the Parish. This boat launch is used by emergency responders, as well as the general public, and by the State Wildlife agents as an entry point into the vast Joyce Wildlife Management area, owned by the State and bordering this area. This use of the boat launch is essential, especially because of it as a main access point used by the public to access fishing grounds, and for those responders to incidents such as the BP oil spill. The proposed project is an eligible Restore Act Activity 6, "infrastructure benefiting the local economy and ecological resources"; and also Activity 9, "Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing". The second local project is budgeted at \$25,000 in Restore Act funds, and involves the preliminary stages of construction project, the planning and environmental/permitting analysis of a bar channel dredging project at the southernmost end of the Tangipahoa River, at the location where it empties into Lake Pontchartrain. This is the area used by small boaters for navigation into the Lake, and which has silted in over the past few years, so the boaters have great difficult passing through this shallow water area. Because of this being such a problem area, the Parish has opened talks with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss the issues concerning this area. Restore Act funds will be designated only for the preliminary planning, cost estimating, environmental concerns, and permitting needs for this project. If the project continues, construction funds would be provided at a future time from a different source. (Note: At the present time, there is no cost estimate for the proposed construction phase of the project.) Eligible Activities #8 and #9, which include planning assistance and promotion of tourism and recreational fishing, provide eligibility purposes that should allow this project to move forward as part of the local Multi-year Plan.

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.

Tangipahoa Parish provided information and input to the public in numerous ways, following the guidelines for the required 45-day period. The Restore Act Program and proposed projects were discussed at 4 public meetings, including 2 Parish Council meetings, and 2 public hearings. (See attached meeting minutes from publicly called meetings). The projects were presented as proposed or draft until after receiving public input. Public notice was made in the local official news journal for the Parish, a daily newspaper which is distributed and read Parish-wide, through an official public notice published on the following dates: November 28th, 2014, January 23rd, and May 21st, 2015. In addition, the notice was also posted on the entry doors for the Parish Council offices and Parish Courthouse during this same time period, and information was provided on the Parish government website, provided to each Parish Councilman before their public meeting, and mailed to a small group of interested non-profit and public entities. (see list that included several south-end small governments, the Chamber of Commerce, the SLU university business development center, and the Parish's Tourist Commission. The notice and a copy of the Plan was sent to these various organizations that may have had an interest in the Plan and potential projects. Although there has been no written response from the public, various persons at meetings have verbally expressed to the Parish President and Council members their support for the Plan and for the particular projects summarized herein. The Parish Council Resolution of Support was discussed and adopted at a public hearing and is attached to the Parish's proposal. (See attached.)

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 Restore Act Direct Component Funding Opportunity Announcement outlines which type of activities will be considered eligible by

the applicant reviewers. The Parish's proposed projects and activities meet at least 1 of the eligible activities outlined in Section 1.2 of the Restore Act Direct Component Application Guidance, particularly Eligible Activities 6.8 and 9. The activities relate to infrastructure projects and/or planning benefiting the economy or ecological resources, and both proposed projects also impact tourism and recreational fishing, and respond to the need for water dependent recreational needs in the Tangipahoa Parish Coastal Zone. The Parish government will be the responsible party for these projects and will maintain the project and activities once completed. The project also enhances access for emergency responders, during weather-related disasters and other emergency incidents that occur on this waterway. This planning project meets Eligible Activity 8 (or item h) for Planning Assistance outlined in Section 1.2 of the Restore Act Direct Component Application Guidance. This project and each Parish project are planning and construction related that are projects that will benefit the economy or ecological resources, and both projects also impact recreational fishing and respond to the need for water-dependent recreational needs in the Tangipahoa Parish Coastal Zone.

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

Tangipahoa Parish will evaluate the success of its activities through monitoring of the project by the assigned Parish staff, as well as participation of the local Southeastern Louisiana University Biology Department, which will assist in the evaluation of the use and impact of the project/activities. All evaluation and monitoring will be in the form of written records that can easily be sent to federal authorities or to other interested organizations. The monitoring will include program compliance, financial monitoring, procurement, contracting, use of labor standards, Section 3, Equal Opportunity, project maintenance, and other requirements of the federal government. The evaluation will include written records, photographs, outcomes, and use of the facility, by date and by activity, in order to indicate how the facility is being used in relation to the objectives of the Restore Act. In addition, the project will be included in the annual independent financial and compliance audit required of the Parish government accounts and projects. The evaluation process will be led by the Parish's Program Manager-Project Director. The Planning project for the Tangipahoa River accessibility will be evaluated also upon it successfully addressing environmental concerns, public input when such additional meetings are called, and through the ability to secure Joint Use Permit applications from the US Army Corps of Engineers and the La. Dept. of Natural Resources.

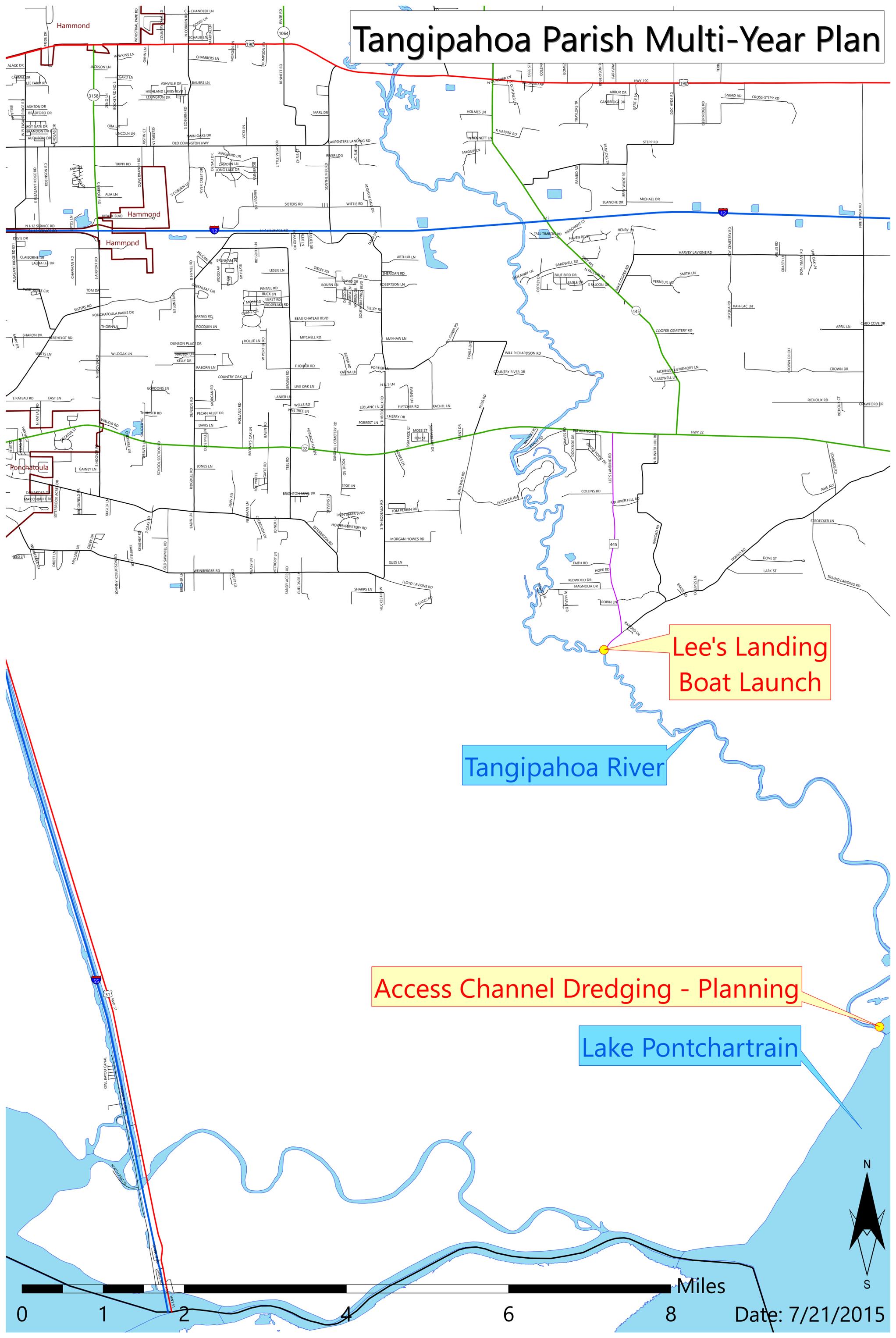
5. How the activities included in the multiyear plan matrix were prioritized and the criteria used to establish the priorities.

The activities in the multi-year plan have been prioritized by the Parish based upon a) expected impact in filling a particular need or goal; b) feedback from the public in light of the public outreach and meetings; and c) the feasibility of being able to complete the project and having appropriate funding, even if longer term. Based upon those criteria, the Parish prioritized its projects as 1. Lee's Landing Boat Launch; and 2. Tangipahoa River planning work for the proposed dredging of a boat access channel at the river's mouth with Lake Pontchartrain. Various types of permitting may be required before any construction, which will be covered in the planning document that results from this project. Those summarized herein are the primary 2 projects that the public and Parish wanted to submit and have approved.

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

There are no known direct relationships between the activities proposed by Tangipahoa Parish and by other activities in adjacent parishes or state-wide, funded under the Restore Act. Tangipahoa Parish reviewed the State's proposed multi-year plan and their proposed funding projects, as the State's proposed projects are located, not in Tangipahoa Parish, but in other parts of Louisiana.

Tangipahoa Parish Multi-Year Plan



Lee's Landing Boat Launch

Tangipahoa River

Access Channel Dredging - Planning

Lake Pontchartrain

Miles

Date: 7/21/2015

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