

Bay County RESTORE Act Direct Component Project Evaluation Criteria and Ranking Considerations

- a. **Criteria for eligible projects** - a proposed project must meet the all the following criteria in order to be eligible for Bay County's Direct Component funds:
 - i. Within Bay County or adjacent surface and Gulf waters, or with an identified and strong benefit to the County
 - ii. Addresses one or more RESTORE Act eligible activity
 - iii. Addresses one or more Bay County Multi-Year Implementation Plan objectives
 - iv. Is not fully funded by another source of money
 - v. Has a recognizable public benefit

- b. **Additional ranking considerations**
 - i. General
 - 1. Number of RESTORE Act eligible activities clearly addressed
 - 2. Number of County MYIP objectives clearly addressed
 - 3. Provides countywide and/or regional benefits
 - 4. Long term benefits – economic, environmental, social, other – and how direct, how much benefit [quantify as much as possible]; how project addresses the root cause of the issue being addressed
 - 5. Project cost
 - a. Overall cost and demonstrated value
 - b. ongoing costs (maintenance, monitoring, other)
 - i. borne by the County
 - ii. borne by other source, reliability of source
 - 6. Matching funds provided, % of project cost
 - 7. Funding is not readily available from other sources
 - 8. Partnerships
 - 9. Complements other funded projects
 - 10. Best Available Science (for projects designed to protect or restore natural resources)
 - ii. Project readiness and feasibility
 - 1. Project implementation readiness – is project ready to start when funded, amount of time anticipated after funding is received that the major work of the project can start, and likelihood of major delays due to factors such as permitting requirements
 - 2. Project feasibility
 - a. Likelihood of obtaining necessary permits
 - b. Likely to complete project
 - 3. Likelihood of project success – will it do what it is proposed to do
 - 4. Time to completion of the project – 0-2 yrs, 3-6 yrs, 7-10 years, 11+ years
 - 5. Measuring success of each project/monitoring – ability to measure success using meaningful measures
 - iii. Capacity of applicant who proposes to manage a project

1. Experience in completing similar projects – size, type, cost, length of time
 2. Demonstrated applicant experience managing grants and contracts, financial history and track record, etc.
 3. Capability to maintain the project after completion – technical, fiscal aspects, organization stability
- c. RESTORE Act eligible activities - The RESTORE Act requires that Direct Component/Equal-Share State Allocation funds may only be used to carry out specified eligible activities in the Gulf Coast region. See 1.d., above, for list of eligible activities.
 - d. Bay County Multi-Year Implementation Plan Guiding Principles
 - e. Bay County Multi-Year Implementation Plan Goals and Objectives

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