

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 001
Date of Initial Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	08/28/2015
Date of Last Multiyear Plan Revision Acceptance:	08/28/2015

Eligible Applicant Name:	Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana
Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:	
POC Name:	Missy Cowart
POC Title:	Parish Grants Coordinator/CPA
POC Email:	missycowart@tangipahoa.org
POC Phone:	(985) 748-3211 or (985) 507-5705

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.
Amendment 001 adds two additional projects (as summarized below) to Tangipahoa Parish's initial multiyear plan. 1. Greenway Route Planning and Study-Coastal Ecotourism, including Biodiversity Survey: Need: The need for this project relates to the Parish effort for increasing ecotourism in its coastal area, helping local residents, visitors, and students enjoy (and be educated about) the mixed tupelo-gum and cypress swamp-marsh area of southern Tangipahoa Parish bordering on Lake Pontchartrain, and without the need of watercraft or motorized vehicles. The Greenway area is to be developed as a pedestrian-bicycling linear route with minimum maintenance required. There is no construction involved in this phase of the proposed project. Purpose: The purpose of this project is for the initial planning and further study, through surveying the area's biodiversity, which will inform the Parish of the best and more feasible use of the project location south of the City of Ponchatoula to the Manchac area on Lake Pontchartrain public enjoyment, for outdoor classroom applications, and for the marketing of the proposed greenway for eco-tourism. Objective(s): The objective is to develop an initial plan, including priorities, construction and O&M cost estimates, for use of the project area for outdoor classroom applications, and marketing of the proposed greenway for eco-tourism. Milestones: a) Procurement of any consulting professionals for technical assistance and planning (first 2 months of project); b) Preliminary biodiversity field investigation from environmental/biology experts and Southeastern La. University

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.

(SLU) (6 month period);

c) Monthly meetings with volunteer Friends of the Greenway Committee, consultants, and SLU staff for preparation of the initial planning study and biodiversity survey. (monthly for 8 month period).

d) Public notices and public meeting to solicit public input into the plan and to make study information available to the public. (last 3 months of project period).

Total milestone timetable will equal 10 to 11 months after project has been given approval by the Restore Act program managers at U.S. Treasury Dept.

Location: All planning activities will be conducted administratively through the Tangipahoa Parish Planning Office and the Parish Administrative office located in Hammond LA and in Amite, LA. The project subject location is completely within the Louisiana Coastal Zone and will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region. The project is located south of the City of Ponchatoula and north of Pass Manchac, adjacent to Highway 51, and includes a linear area of approximately 10 miles.

Map: See attached map of this project location.

2. Rock Jetty Plan and Study

Need: In year 2012, Tangipahoa Parish, using local funds and CIAP federal funds, completed a rock jetty project along the shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain in order to alleviate or slow down the shoreline erosion caused by high winds and water movement from repeated hurricanes and similar factors. The cost of this project was approximately \$5.7 million and covered an area of approximately 18,000 linear feet. The Parish needs to investigate the performance and results of this project so that it can continue the jetty project, or a similar project, along the remaining shoreline of the Parish at Lake Pontchartrain, using information provided by the proposed study.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to review the performance of the existing rock jetty before continuing it with a phase 2 project along Lake Pontchartrain. The University researchers are going to inform the Parish officials if they agree that the previous project is accomplishing what the original project intended to do, while also making any recommendations for changing the project design for a future rock jetty project.

Objective(s): The two main objectives are to 1) study the impact of the existing rock jetty on reducing shoreline erosion and any negative or positive impacts of local fauna or flora at the project site. Provide this information to the Parish during a one year study-planning period; and 2) provide to the Parish any recommendations for changes to the future design or the project to reduce any negative impacts or any loss of function, as originally planned.

Milestones: a) Development of a technical assistance/ study agreement between the Parish of Tangipahoa and Southeastern La. University (primarily the Dept. of Biological Studies/Environmental Programs), along with a complete and more detailed level of expectations, outcomes, and scope of work with the University (within 3 months from project approval by Restore Program); b) monthly meetings during a 10 month period between Parish officials and University biology researchers (beginning within one month of project approval by Restore Program); c) public meeting with appropriate notices to solicit input from the public as to any study information gathered or comments proposed by the public, along with presentation of draft findings.

Total milestone timetable will equal 11 to 12 months after the project activity has been approved by the Restore Act program managers at U.S. Treasury Dept.

Location: The project location follows along the Tangipahoa Parish shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain, east of the Interstate 55 bridge at Pass Manchac, and including the area containing the existing rock jetty (a 3 mile length).

Map: See attached map of this project location

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).

Tangipahoa parish initial Multiyear Implementation Plan (Multiyear Plan) that was accepted by Treasury on August 28, 2015, had previously undergone the mandatory 45-day public review and comment period. The original public comment period was from May 22, 2015-July 7, 2015, with public hearings being held on May 28th and June 9, 2015. The initial revised public comment period for Amendment 001 was from October 6, 2016 through November 22, 2016 with a public hearing being held on June 9, 2016 at the Parish Council Chamber. The Parish re-advertised Amendment 001 to the Multiyear plan from April 13, 2017 through May 30, 2017 in order to allow public review and comment, including the Treasury Multiyear Plan Matrix and Narrative forms that must be made available for public review for the 45-day public review and comment period. There were no public comments received by the Parish during that 45 day review period. The public notice was also mailed to a number of potentially interested parties during this time period. The Parish Council passed a resolution of support at their June 26th, 2017 meeting.

The public forums that were used to engage broad based participation from the public on the initial multiyear plan included the following: four public meetings including two Parish Council meetings, two public hearings, public notices were placed in the Parish's local newspaper and on the entry doors of the Parish Council offices and Parish Courthouse, the Plan was posted on Tangipahoa Parish's website, and was sent to each Parish Councilman and other interested public entities including several small local governments, the Chamber of Commerce, the SLU University Business Development Center, and the Parish's Tourist Commission.

The following public engagement forums were/will be used to engage public review and comment and obtain broad-based participation on Amendment 001 of the Parish's multiyear plan:

1. A public meeting were held by the Parish Council on June 9, 2016 (6 persons attended) at the Parish Council Chambers in Amite, La, for which there was public support for the Parish projects that are now adopted.
2. A public notice was placed in the Parish's local newspaper June 3, 2016 in the Daily Star local newspaper and June 2, 2016 in the Baton Rouge Advocate to announce the public hearing for the amended Plan. Public notices were also placed

on the entry doors of the Parish Council offices and Planning Commission and Building permit office in Hammond. An additional public notice will be advertised during the new 45-day public comment period of April 12 (date of advertisement) for the period April 13th to May 30th, 2017.

3. The multiyear plan was posted on Tangipahoa Parish's website from October 6, 2016 through November 22, 2016, and reposted during the April 13 to May 30, 2017 public comment period and is still posted for those that want to view it.

4. The notices and a copy of Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan and the updated multi-year plan, were mailed, to various organizations during the comment period that may have had an interest in the plan and potential projects, including the Cities of Hammond and Ponchatoula, Southeastern La. University, the Delta Sierra Club, the local Chambers of Commerce (2), the Parish Tourism and Visitors Commission, the La. Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and any other organizations requesting it.

The Parish President and Council members endorsed their support for Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan and for the particular projects summarized herein. The Parish Council signed a resolution of support of Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan on July 11, 2016, which was voted upon after inviting any public comment. After clarifying the public notice (attached herein) which was reposted on the Parish website (under the Grants tab) and re-advertised in the local newspaper, the Parish Council passed a resolution of support on June 26th, 2017. There was no additional public comment received from what had been received earlier in the June 6, 2016 public meeting (sign in sheet is attached here).

During the 45-day initial public comment period (i.e., October 6, 2016 through November 22, 2016) on Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan, the primary public oral comments or responses came from the local SLU University Biology Department professors, which proposed several potential projects, two of which (i.e., Greenway Route Planning and Study-Coastal Ecotourism, including Biodiversity Survey Project and the Rock Jetty Plan and Study Project) were selected for funding by the Parish Council.

Public comments on Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan may be submitted in writing or via email to the Parish President, Robby Miller, at P.O. Box 215, Amite, La. 70422, or by email RMiller@tangipahoa.org, or by calling the Parish President's office at (985) 748-3211.

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.

Planning Assistance Activities (2) - Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan:

Both new planning assistance activities identified in this multiyear plan and proposed to be funded under the Direct Component can be reasonably identified with the following eligible activities under 31 CFR § 34.201: Planning assistance [31 CFR § 34.201(j)] for a restoration project [31 CFR § 34.201(a)]. (Eligible Activity #8)

1. Greenway Route Planning and Study-Coastal Ecotourism, including Biodiversity Survey: State how this is a planning assistance project for an underlying RESTORE Act project. The planning activities include preliminary field investigation which include feasibility study and biodiversity surveys within the targeted area, and investigations into the obstacles/legal constraints to the development of a public use Greenway. The underlying project includes the following longer term activities after the study and survey is completed: a) Use of the preliminary information gathered to help develop a construction budget for improving the existing linear roadway (Highway 51), to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic, along with safe and educational signage and rest areas. b) Use of preliminary information to develop project

support, partnerships, and collaboration among various interested agencies that may include the State of LA Highway Department, the State of LA Wildlife and Fisheries (which has the nearby State-managed Joyce Wildlife Management Area on the eastside of the proposed greenway), the adjacent City of Ponchatoula, and the Tangipahoa Parish Government, in addition to any interested non-profit organizations. c) Development of additional funding proposals to help pay for signage and construction along the Greenway. d) Marketing of eco-tourism and recreational activities and public awareness in the Tangipahoa Parish coastal region highlighted by this project (eligible activity #10 for use of Trust funds).

2. Rock Jetty Plan and Study: The planning activities for this project relate to restoration and protection of natural resources, wildlife and fisheries habitats, and coastal wetland protection in the Gulf coast region that includes Lake Pontchartrain at the southern end of Tangipahoa Parish. This includes a plan for further work on the coastal project and study as to any negative and positive impacts of the existing jetty. The Plan and Study will be conducted by Southeastern Louisiana University. The underlying infrastructure project includes the existing rock jetty of approximately 3 miles in length built in 2012 and the additional 8 linear miles of jetty which the Parish proposes to build at the southern end of Tangipahoa Parish.

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.

1. Greenway Route Planning and Study-Coastal Ecotourism, including Biodiversity Survey: The success of this planning assistance activity included in Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan will be evaluated by the successful completion of the Greenway Route Planning Study, and the related Biodiversity Survey that will provide sufficient information to allow the Parish government to complete the underlying RESTORE Act activity of developing the Greenway project as an educational and tourist related eco-tourism project. It is expected that the planning information will provide a guide as to how the Parish should move forward with the longer-term project while identifying the obstacles that must be addressed. The Planning Study and Survey is also expected to raise public awareness of the proposal to use this linear area as a greenway and give the Greenway Commission (a volunteer planning group) additional information that they can use when moving the project further toward development.

2. Rock Jetty Plan and Study: The success of this planning assistance activity included in Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan will be evaluated by the completion of the Rock Jetty Plan and Study that will allow the Parish government and its partners to successfully further develop its underlying Restore Act shoreline erosion project. The Parish has completed about 3 miles of shoreline protection and proposes to complete an additional 8 miles of shoreline protection along Lake Pontchartrain. Does the rock jetty design previously used need to be adjusted in relation to environmental considerations or for improved protection? The study should show that the previous protection along the shoreline has been successful in halting or slowing shoreline erosion caused primarily by wave action. The Parish will use this information in designing and funding of its next phase of the rock jetty project.

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

The activities outlined here in Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan have been prioritized by the Parish based on the following:

1. The expected impact in filling a particular need or goal of the Parish for protecting, restoring, and promoting the coastal area of Tangipahoa Parish, which includes the 27,000 acre State Joyce Wildlife Management Area, hunting and fishing opportunities, and opportunities for passive ecotourism education, awareness, and recreation. Both new study projects summarized herein contribute to this overall priority of Tangipahoa Parish, while also fitting the objectives of the federal Restore Act program.
2. The feedback received from the public meeting held in June 2016 and any oral comments (there were no written comments) made during the 45-day public comment period of October 6, 2016 through November 22, 2016 and from an updated 45 day public notice period from April 13, 2017 to May 30th, 2017, along with Parish Council support expressed in their Council resolution of June 26, 2017.
3. The feasibility of completing both projects in a timely manner with available funding through RESTORE Act Direct Component funds to Tangipahoa Parish.

Based upon the above-mentioned criteria, the Parish selected the new activities in Amendment 001 to its multiyear plan as project priorities. The new activities in Amendment 001 to the multiyear plan are feasible and meet the objectives of the Direct Component funding.

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.

Not applicable. The new projects (i.e., Greenway Route Planning and Study-Coastal Ecotourism, including Biodiversity Survey Project and the Rock Jetty Plan and Study Project) will be funded at 100% by Restore Act Direct Component. There are no other funding contributions for these proposed activities in Amendment 001 of Tangipahoa Parish's multiyear plan at this time.