

Tampa Bay Watershed

Tampa Bay National Estuary Program (EPA_RESTORE_002_005_Cat1/Cat2)



Project Name: Tampa Bay National Estuary Program

Costs: Category 1: \$100,000 | Category 2: \$2,000,000

Responsible Council Member: Environmental Protection Agency

Partnering Council Member: State of Florida

Project Details: This project includes environmental compliance attainment, quality assurance, and pre-monitoring activities for seven priority water quality and habitat improvement elements located throughout the Tampa Bay watershed, all of which have been vetted by the local government and agency partners participating in the Tampa Bay National Estuary Program.

Activities: The project has activities in two FPL categories. Category 1 activities will ensure that the implementation phase can proceed in a timely and fully compliant manner, and will include adequate baseline monitoring data to measure results following implementation. Tampa Bay National Estuary Program (TBNEP) will be responsible for ensuring timely initiation and completion of the project elements, including compliance, monitoring and reporting requirements.

Category 2 activities are proposed for potential future funding. If the Category 2 activities were funded, the TBNEP project would be implemented throughout the Tampa Bay watershed. More than \$3.4 million from local, state and federal agencies would be provided as cash match.

The Category 2 activities would include the following seven elements. Each element has been identified by TBEP partners as priority, and has been vetted and approved by the TBEP Boards.

- Coopers Point Water Quality Improvement (City of Clearwater);
- Biosolids to Energy (City of St. Petersburg);
- Copeland Park Stormwater Enhancements (City of Tampa);
- Coastal Invasive Plant Removal (Hillsborough County);
- Robinson Preserve Water Quality and Habitat Restoration (Manatee County);
- Ft Desoto Recirculation and Seagrass Recovery (Pinellas County); and
- Palm River Habitat and Water Quality Restoration Phase II (Southwest Florida Water Management District).

Environmental Benefits: If fully implemented, the project elements would result in 16.5 tons of nitrogen reduced per year; 268 acres of coastal habitat restored and 200 acres of seagrass created.

Duration: Category 1 planning activities will take six to nine months from receipt of funds to complete. If implemented, Category 2 activities are expected to be completed within four years.

More information on this activity can be found in Appendix J. Tampa Bay; Unique Identifiers: EPA RESTORE 002 005 Cat1 and EPA RESTORE 002 005 Cat2.

