

## Funded Priorities List 3b External Science Reviewer Demographics

To meet the intent of the RESTORE Act, the Council continues to conduct external Best Available Science (BAS) reviews of all project and program proposals submitted for funding under the Council's Comprehensive Restoration Component. These external BAS reviews are part of an enhanced science review approach that now includes an internal Best Available Science (BAS) Review Panel. This revised approach offers the benefit of Panel member support in the reconciliation of conflicting external reviews and assessment of project interactions, synergies, benefits, and risks.

A diverse group of expert reviewers was solicited from within the five Gulf States and across the country to review FPL 3b proposals. The Council received 24 proposals totaling approximately \$464 Million. Each proposal was reviewed by 3 reviewers: In general, one from the Gulf State most directly linked to the proposal; one from the Gulf of Mexico region, and one from outside of the Gulf of Mexico. All reviewers signed a form to acknowledge that they did not have any conflicts of interest with the proposal and completed a pre-review training. Reviewers were assigned 1-3 proposals each, with assignments based on their areas of expertise. Reviews were anonymous, however the overall qualifications of the reviewer pool are shown below.

Geographic Distribution	
Texas	6
Louisiana	4
Mississippi	7
Alabama	8
Florida	7
Not Gulf	9

Employment Type	
Federal	2
NGO	8
Academia	24
Private Industry	7

Education Levels	
PhD	31
Masters	8
Bachelors	2

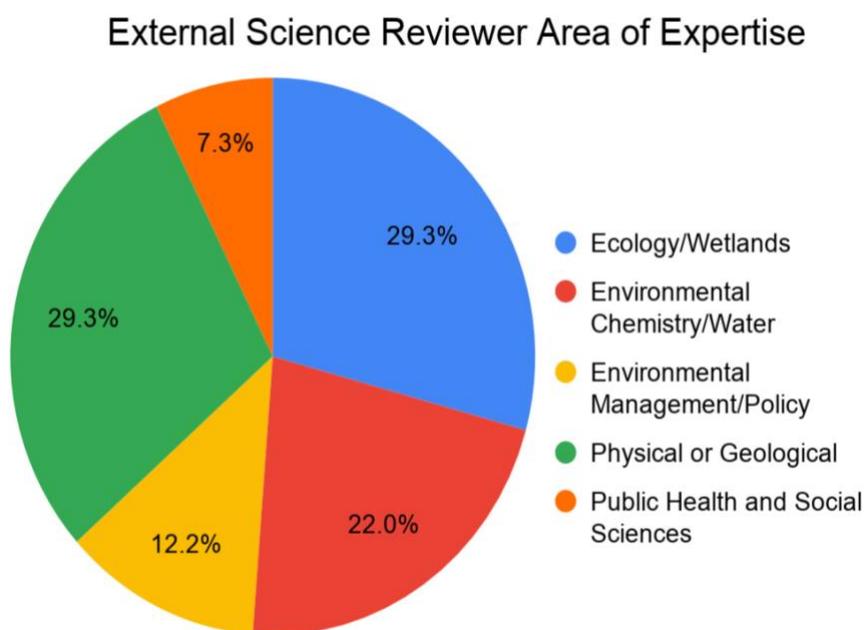


Figure 1. Chart showing the percentage of external reviewers with varying areas of scientific expertise. (Ecology/Wetlands = 12%, Environmental Chemistry/Water = 22%, Environmental Management/Policy = 12.2%, Physical or Geological = 29.3%, Public Health and Social Sciences = 7.3%)

Ahead of the Internal BAS Review Panel, the external reviews for each proposal were compiled and provided to the proposal sponsors for response. All external science reviews and responses to those reviews were compiled for discussion by the panel.

### About the Proposal Submission Process and Review for FPL 3b:

- [Best Available Science Review Process Fact Sheet](#)
- [Detailed FPL 3 Submission and Review Process \(includes BAS questions used for science review\)](#)