

Initial Funded Priorities List External Science Review Process of Member Proposals for funding

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) approved its [Initial Funded Priorities List \(FPL\)](#) in December 2015. A diverse group of expert volunteer reviewers was solicited from within the five Gulf States and from across the country to review Initial FPL proposals. The Council received 50 proposals totaling approximately \$785 Million. Each proposal was reviewed by three reviewers: 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 Conflict of Interest form. Reviewers were assigned 1-4 proposals each, with assignment based on their areas of expertise. Reviews were anonymous, however the overall qualifications of the reviewer pool are shown in the tables below.

Texas	14
Louisiana	18
Mississippi	19
Alabama	11
Florida	21
Out of area	20

Ph.D.	66
Masters	33
J.D.	1
Bachelors	3

Federal	15
State	8
NGO	26
Academia	38
Private Industry	16

Ecology / Wetlands	29
Biology / Fisheries	20
Environmental Chemistry / Water	13
Environmental Management	27
Ecosystem Services / Economics	4
Physical or Geological	9
Archaeology	1

The science reviews were provided to the Council to inform FPL development (the approved final Initial FPL totaled \$156.6 Million). The original 50 proposals and "context reports" (including science reviews on every proposal) are available [here](#). The proposals and reviews are organized by Council Member. The zip file of context reports associated with a proposal contains the science reviews.

About the Proposal Submission Process and Review for the Initial Funding Priorities List:

[Proposal Submission Guidelines](#)

[High Level Proposal Review Process](#)

[Detailed Submission and Review Process \(includes Best Available Science questions used for science review\)](#)

The [Initial FPL](#) approved in December 2015 was informed by all context reports (i.e. reviews). In some cases, full proposals were selected; in other cases, a component of a proposal was selected for funding.