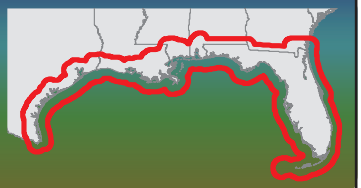
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Gulf-wide Foundational Investment

GOMA Coordination
(AL_RESTORE_002_001_Cat1)



Project Name: GOMA Coordination – Planning

Cost: Category 1: $375,000

Responsible Council Member: State of Alabama

Partnering Council Members: This project represents a direct partnering between the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA), the Department of Commerce (DOC) and Department of the Interior (DOI). In addition, GOMA's committee structure has representation and support from all five Gulf States, as well as the DOC/NOAA, DOI/USGS, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Agriculture and other agency and non-governmental organization partners.

Project Details: The project would allow GOMA to further develop a Monitoring Community of Practice (CoP) using expertise from existing GOMA Priority Issue Teams (PITs). A Community of Practice is the next logical step to a process established through a series of workshops conducted by GOMA from 2011 through 2014. A Monitoring Community of Practice would focus on providing feedback and input to the establishment of minimum monitoring standards and protocols developed by the RESTORE Council's Monitoring and Assessment Work Group (CMAWG) and in support of the proposed Council Monitoring & Assessment Program Development activity by DOI/USGS and DOC/NOAA (DOC_RESTORE_002_001_Cat1).

Activities: GOMA would conduct five Community of Practice workshops in support of the proposed Council Monitoring & Assessment Program Development activity. During these workshops, GOMA would coordinate and facilitate members of the Community of Practice to:

- Provide feedback on minimum monitoring standards developed by CMAWG;
- Provide feedback on gap analysis/inventory prepared by USGS and NOAA;
- Help to identify monitoring needs and indicators;
- Review baseline data and assessments; and
- Distribute CMAWG products through various channels for review.

Environmental Benefits: The proposed project's benefits would include: the identification of baseline conditions and trends, allowing resource managers to understand ecosystem functions and responses to disturbances; more accurate forecast models and predictive tools for restoration planning; and restoration plans developed and implemented using the best available science to successfully manage ecological resources.

Duration: The project would take 36 months to complete.

More information on this activity can be found in Appendix K. Gulf-wide; Unique Identifier: AL_RESTORE_002_001_Cat1.