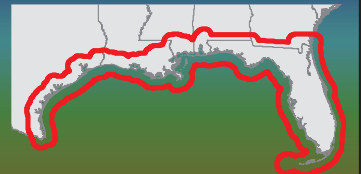




Gulf Coast
Ecosystem
Restoration
Council

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 the 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 will allow GOMA to further develop a Monitoring Community of Practice using expertise from existing GOMA Priority Issue Teams (PITs). A Community of Practice (CoP) is the next logical step to a process established through a series of workshops conducted by GOMA from 2011 through 2014. This Monitoring CoP will 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) in support of the Council Monitoring & Assessment Program Development activity by DOI/USGS and DOC/NOAA (DOC_RESTORE_002_001_Cat1).

Activities: GOMA will conduct five CoP workshops in support of the Council Monitoring & Assessment Program Development activity. During these workshops, GOMA will coordinate and facilitate with members of the CoP 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 project's benefits will include: identification of baseline conditions and trends, allowing resource managers to understand ecosystem functions and responses to disturbances; creation of more accurate forecast models and predictive tools for restoration planning; and use of best available science in developing and implementing restoration plans to successfully manage ecological resources.

Duration: The project will 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.