



Performance Report

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PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Details

RAAMS ID	64
Project Title	Commitment and Planning Support – Alabama
Project Start Date	05/16/2018
Project End Date	05/15/2023
Requested Funds	\$2,100,000.00

Project Abstract

The purpose of this project is to enhance collaboration, coordination, public engagement, and the use of best available science to more effectively meet the requirements of the RESTORE Act Council-Selected Restoration Component, meet the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan Update, and address associated planning needs for developing future Funded Priorities Lists (FPLs). The State of Alabama will draw and build upon existing partnerships and collaborative endeavors, including the Management Conference of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program to develop portfolios of projects for inclusion on future FPLs that will provide significant benefits for the natural resources of Coastal Alabama. Initial grant activities will be focused on identifying priority projects that present opportunities for cross-State and/or Federal collaboration and/or projects that fill an existing gap or address a critical ecosystem need/opportunity, to support the development of FPL proposals. The State will take a stepwise approach to planning and collaboration activities over the 5-year period of this award to meet the near-term need to develop strong proposals for future FPLs while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success. Because planning is inherently iterative, these CPS funds will be administered in a way that allows the flexibility needed as the planning process proceeds. To that end, more work plans for subsequent years will be developed as part of each year's activities.

PERSONNEL

Primary Organization Personnel			
Primary	Role	Name	Organization Name
Yes	Project Lead / Point of Contact	Kelly Swindle,	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
No	Agency Responsible Official	Christopher Blankenship	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
No	Financial Point of Contact	Amber Cardwell,	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Other Personnel (Partners, Subrecipients, and Contractors)		
Role	Name	Organization Name

PERFORMANCE NARRATIVES

Performance Report: Summary of Work

During year 1 ADCNR developed application packages for FPL 1 Category 1 (Implementation) projects for which Alabama (through ADCNR) is the lead agency. Awards have been received for all of the projects with the exception of Comprehensive Living Shorelines Monitoring (Planning and Implementation), which is undergoing environmental compliance review and will require a Council vote to amend FPL 1 to move the implementation portion from Category 2 to Category 1.

On May 29, 2019, the GCERC steering committee approved an FPL Amendment to change the sponsor of the Upper Mobile Bay Beneficial Use Marsh Creation Project from the U.S. Army to Alabama. On June 19, ADCNR Commissioner Blankenship authorized the Alabama State Port Authority (ASPA) to serve as the lead agency on the project. The ASPA Operational Self-Assessment (OSA) is in process.

ADCNR has also continued to meet Alabama's Council Member commitments by participating in Steering Committee calls and in-person meetings, and Council Monitoring and Assessment and Public Engagement Workgroup meetings.

To meet CPS commitments and FPL 3 project development, ADCNR has hosted and/or participated in collaboration meetings with federal and state Council members in addition to local collaboration partners. A full list can be found on the Council's collaboration calendar.

Results of these collaborative meetings have led to substantive conversations regarding restoration project ideas for FPL 3 and Alabama's Restoration Strategy document. Additionally, the results of this collaboration and work to identify priorities were captured in the framework language ADCNR provided to the Council to include in the FPL 3 Framework Document, articulating a restoration strategy for FPL 3.

ADCNR staff have supported Council staff during the development of the FPL 3 Framework and FPL 3 submission guidelines and have reviewed and provided comment on each of the documents as well as the associated Public Engagement fact sheets for the FPL 3 framework public comment period.

ADCNR staff assisted with and attended the GCERC's Alabama public meeting, located at Five Rivers Delta Resource Center on April 30th, 2019. ADCNR staff members who participate on the CMAWG have also participated in the BAS reviewer questionnaire and training materials in preparation for the BAS review of FPL 3 proposals.

As detailed in Alabama's Year 1 Workplan, ADCNR has updated the State's Alabama Coastal Restoration website. Volkert, Inc., ADCNR's DWH Program Manager, worked with ADCNR staff to complete an extensive update to the Alabama Coastal Restoration website (www.alabamacoastalrestoration.org). This update was designed to increase clarity around Alabama's past and upcoming restoration activities, provide additional information about projects, and to make the site generally easier to navigate and find information to support identification of priorities for FPL 3.

As detailed in the workplan, the State of Alabama held its inaugural Alabama Governor's Restoration Summit on October 11, 2018 in Spanish Fort, AL. The ADCNR and its DWH Program Manager, Volkert, Inc., planned and held the event. RESTORE Council staff and other Federal restoration partners were in attendance to present, listen, and/or assist members of the public with various DWH restoration-related inquiries. The Summit began with two break-out sessions: a RESTORE 101 session and a Monitoring and Adaptive Management breakout session which allowed participants the opportunity to provide thoughts on how adaptive management should be approached during the restoration

process. The Summit ended with a presentation by ADCNR Commissioner Blankenship and GCERC Director Ben Skaggs, followed by a successful listening session in which members of the public provided comment. Overall, the Summit was a success with over 130 participants, who provided helpful comments on what the public would like to see in future restoration projects.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING QUESTIONS

01. What year are you in your project?	1.00
02a. What type of project?	Planning
02b. If you selected "other," how would you describe your project type?	
03a. Have you updated your current metric values in RAAMS?	Yes
03b. Are you on target to meet your final metric values?	Yes
04a. Have you started collecting or compiling observational data to support your metric values?	NA
04b. If "no" was selected for question 4a, but your answer to question 3a was "yes," when do you expect to start collecting or compiling the data to support your metric values?	
05. Have you started analyzing your data?	NA
06. Are you on track towards meeting your project goal(s) within the award time?	Yes
07a. Is there any indication that this project may not fully accomplish the stated project completion goal(s), either with or without implementing adaptive management strategy(ies)?	No
07b. If "yes," have you communicated this in any way to Council staff? Do you need to have a discussion with staff?	
08a. Have you identified any adaptive management strategies that need to be implemented?	No
08b. If "yes," briefly describe the strategy(ies), including your plan to identify and implement the necessary strategy(ies).	
09a. Do you have TBD items in the ODP?	No
09b. If applicable, have you updated the ODP?	NA
09c. If "no," when it will be updated?	
10a. Do you have TBD items in the DMP?	No
10b. If applicable, have you updated the DMP?	NA
10c. If "no," when it will be updated?	
11a. Are your data publicly available?	Yes
11b. If "no," when and how will it be shared?	
11c. If "yes," how is it accessible?	Web Service

12a. Have you updated your leveraged funding in RAAMS?	NA (project includes no leveraged funding)
12b. Are your leveraged funds on target?	NA (project includes no leveraged funding)
13a. Have you updated your GIS files?	No
13b. If "yes," please describe what changed and why.	

LEVERAGED FUNDING

Type:	
Status:	
Source:	
Source Type:	
Planned Amount:	\$
Actual Amount:	\$
Description:	

METRICS

Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS010 - Collaborative preparation of applications for IAAs, grants and other related items required prior to implementing project-specific interagency activities

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	ADCNR and/or its DWH Program Manager worked collaboratively to prepare grant applications for the following FPL1 projects: Alabama Living Shorelines Program (Construction Planning Component), Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use of Dredge Sediments, Alabama Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Restoration and Monitoring Program, Comprehensive Living Shoreline Monitoring, and Coastal Alabama Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning. ADCNR's grant staff collaborated with several partner agencies, including the Mobile Bay NEP, City of Orange Beach, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, and with staff from ADCNR's Marine Resources Division.
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS002 - Participate in meetings, workshops, etc. with Council members and other potential FPL funding partners

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	ADCNR staff assisted with and attended the GCERC's Alabama public meeting, located at Five Rivers Delta Resource Center on April 30th, 2019. ADCNR's Commissioner, State Lands Director, and DWH Restoration Coordinator have participated in various collaboration meetings with federal and state Council members in addition to potential local collaboration partners. ADCNR DWH restoration staff meet internally to discuss each other's funding stream (RESTORE Buckets 1-3 and NFWF GEBF) projects and the potential for future leveraging activities.
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS006 - Development of concepts, project scoping, pre-submission environmental compliance review/coordination, and technical assistance for potential FPL projects

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	Alabama has worked both internally and with stakeholders to develop FPL 3 project concepts and priorities. ADCNR has collaborated with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss a Mobile Bay water quality project as a potential FPL 3 submission. Additionally, the Department has identified parcels available for purchase along the Perdido River as a priority for acquisition in an effort to expand Alabama's desire for a Perdido River conservation corridor. Collaborative meetings with the State of Florida and The Nature Conservancy have also occurred to discuss the Perdido River corridor concept.
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS004 - Participate in technical meetings/focus groups related to future FPL submissions

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	ADCNR's Commissioner, State Lands Director, and DWH Restoration Coordinator have participated in various collaboration meetings with federal and state Council members in addition to potential local collaboration partners including, but not limited to, the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program's Executive meeting, Science Advisory Committee meeting, and Project Implementation Committee meeting. Discussions at each event included the potential for partnerships and project ideas for future FPL project development. ADCNR DWH restoration staff meet internally to discuss future FPL project priorities and timelines.
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS001 - Sponsor workshops, meetings, etc. related to future FPL submissions

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	<p>The State of Alabama held its inaugural Alabama Governor’s Restoration Summit on October 11, 2018 in Spanish Fort, AL. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) and its DWH Program Manager, Volkert, Inc., planned and held the event. RESTORE Council staff and other Federal restoration partners were in attendance to present, listen, and/or assist members of the public with various DWH restoration-related inquiries. The Summit began with two break-out sessions: a RESTORE 101 session which provided an overarching review of the various DWH restoration funding streams and an update on Bucket 2 activities in Alabama, and a Monitoring and Adaptive Management breakout session which allowed participants the opportunity to provide thoughts on how adaptive management should be approached during the restoration process. The Summit ended with an evening presentation by ADCNR Commissioner Blankenship and RESTORE Director Ben Skaggs, followed by a successful listening session in which members of the public provided comment. Overall, the Summit was a success with over 130 participants.</p>
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS009 - Preparation of collaboratively developed proposals, (e.g., entry of proposals into the Council’s FPL Collaboration Tool or RAAMS)

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	<p>During year 1, ADCNR developed and submitted to RAAMS application packages for nearly all of Alabama’s FPL 1 Category 1 projects for which Alabama is the lead responsible agency: Alabama Living Shorelines Program (Construction Planning Component), Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use of Dredge Sediments, Alabama Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Restoration and Monitoring</p>
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	Program, and Coastal Alabama Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning. Awards have been received for all submitted projects. ADCNR staff have worked to develop the Comprehensive Living Shorelines Monitoring (Planning and Implementation) application, which is undergoing environmental compliance review and will require a Council vote to amend the FPL to move the implementation portion from Cat 2 to Cat 1. In preparation for FPL 3, ADCNR staff have collaborated with Council staff to assist in the development of Alabama projects within the Councils' Collaboration Tool.
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS007 - Process-related activities to support FPL project/program options development (e.g., decision support structure development, preparation of collaboration materials, Council workgroup participation, public comment review)

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS005 - Public engagement activities related to FPL submission development

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS011 - Other (Please provide a brief description of this collaboration action)

Baseline	
Current	No
Completion	

Notes:	
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS003 - Participate in Council meetings regarding the Council-Selected Restoration Component

Baseline	
Current	Yes
Completion	

Notes:	test
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Template Name:	Collaboration Actions
Metric Name:	CPS008 - Evaluation activities to determine the impact of the Council's projects/programs and inform adaptive management

Baseline	
Current	
Completion	

Notes:	ADCNR staff monitor each FPL 1 project and related subrecipients to ensure projects and programs utilize best available science. As most of our awards are recent, there has not been enough project activity to warrant the use of adaptive management techniques. Alabama will utilize year 2 to develop Bucket 2 – specific monitoring and adaptive management techniques.
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PUBLICATIONS

Title	Year	Name	Status

UPLOADS

The following files were uploaded by the applicant/recipient:

Upload Type	File Name	Uploaded By	Uploaded Date