



# FUNDED PRIORITIES LIST 3B

## Tribal Youth Coastal Restoration Program

Funded Priorities List (FPL) 3b is part of a two-phase approach used by the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) to respond to ecosystem needs and take advantage of important partnership opportunities to advance large-scale ecosystem restoration.

The Council is considering approval of \$927K in planning and implementation funds as FPL Category 1 for the Tribal Youth Coastal Restoration Program. This program would utilize the Planning Framework techniques and approaches outlined in the figure below to address environmental stressors Gulfwide. The U.S. Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is the sponsor of this proposed program.

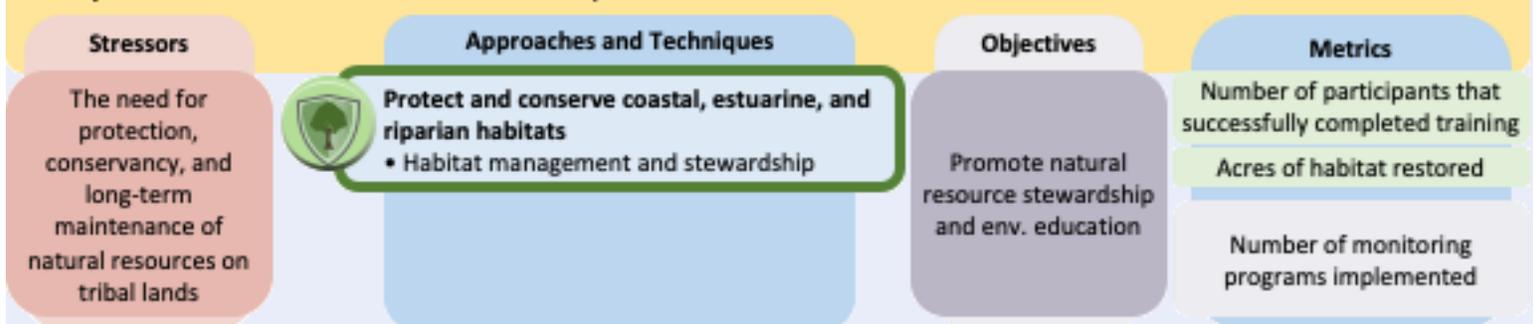
The program would continue the restoration work begun under the Council's 2015 Initial FPL with the following federally-recognized tribes: Chitimacha Tribe, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Seminole Tribe of Florida, and Miccosukee Indian Tribe, and would add the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana. Tribal youth will conduct projects to protect natural resources and the environment, and maintain a healthy ecosystem, while learning cultural values.

This program will train youth in long-term stewardship of the Gulf Coast environment. Anticipated environmental benefits include disrupting the process of shoreline erosion, mitigating the impacts of climate change and associated sea level rise, restoring a critical environmental balance in a threatened area, and building in tribal youth a knowledge of and commitment to protecting the environment. The program will also provide an introduction to skills useful for future work in the field of environmental restoration. The impact of this education and training should continue for many generations to come.

## Program at a Glance

The *Tribal Youth Coastal Restoration Program* applies Planning Framework approaches and techniques to support Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives. In support of the primary objective to *Promote natural resource stewardship and environmental education*, the need for protection, conservancy, and long-term maintenance of natural resources on tribal lands will be addressed using the *Habitat management and stewardship* technique. Success using this technique to *Promote natural resource stewardship and environmental education* may be tracked using the number of participants that successfully completed training and the acres of habitat restored as metrics. The number of monitoring programs implemented may also be used as a metric of project success.

### Comprehensive Plan Goal: Enhance community resilience



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