



FUNDED PRIORITIES LIST 3B

Florida Gulf Coast Resiliency 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.

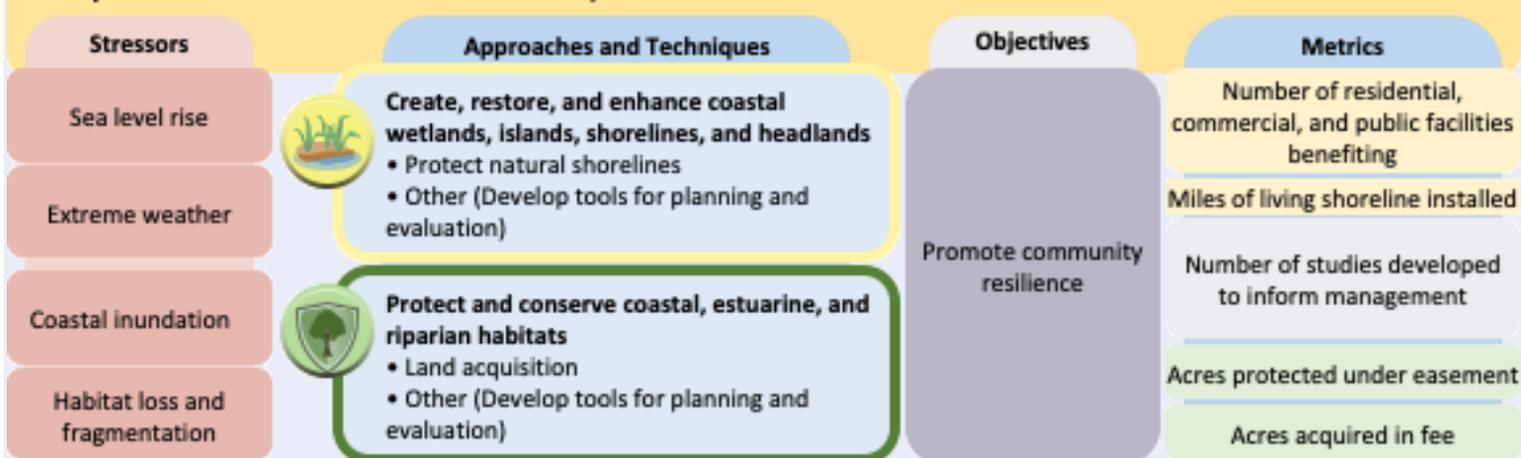
The Council is considering approval of \$5.6M in planning funds, as FPL Category 1 for the *Florida Gulf Coast Resiliency Program*. In addition, the Council is considering an implementation component for potential future funding as an FPL Category 2 activity, and proposes to reserve \$8.4M for this component, pending further review and a Council vote. The *Florida Gulf Coast Resiliency Program* would utilize the Planning Framework techniques and approaches outlined in the figure below to address environmental stressors in Florida. Florida, through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, is the sponsor of this proposed program.

Developing strategies to address resiliency is critical to Florida’s ability to adapt to a changing coastline. Program activities include (1) vulnerability assessments aimed at identifying strategies to improve resiliency, (2) living shorelines to protect against erosion and reduce wave energy, and (3) coastal and submerged lands management and acquisition activities to protect habitats that enhance resiliency. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection would partner with the Florida Forever Program to identify land acquisitions, and with the Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection on vulnerability assessments and submerged lands management activities. Program activities would be selected from proposals submitted by the public during proposal solicitation periods. This program will result in significant benefits such as resiliency improvements, protections against wave energy and storm surge, habitat protection (e.g., marshes, mangroves, seagrass, coral, and oyster reefs), sustaining healthy wildlife populations, water quality benefits, recreation and tourism opportunities, and fisheries benefits.

Program at a Glance

The *Florida Gulf Coast Resiliency Program* applies Planning Framework approaches and techniques to support Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives. In support of the primary objective to *Promote community resilience*, stressors such as sea level rise and extreme weather will be addressed using the *Protect natural shorelines* technique, while coastal inundation, habitat loss, and fragmentation will be addressed using the *Land acquisition* technique. Stressors will also be addressed using a technique other than those presented in the Planning Framework: *Develop tools for planning and evaluation*. Success using natural shoreline protection to *Promote community resilience* may be tracked using number of residential, commercial, and public facilities benefitting and miles of living shoreline installed as metrics, while success using land acquisition may be tracked using acres protected under easement and acres acquired in fee. Success developing tools for planning and evaluation may be tracked by the number of studies developed to inform management.

Comprehensive Plan Goal: Enhance community resilience



Florida Gulf Coast Resiliency Program

