



FUNDED PRIORITIES LIST 3B

Gulf Coast Conservation Reserve 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 \$3.1M in planning and implementation funds as FPL Category 1 for the *Gulf Coast Conservation Reserve Program (GCCRP)*. The *GCCRP* would utilize the Planning Framework techniques and approaches outlined in the figure below to address environmental stressors Gulfwide. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), through the Natural Resources Conservation Service, is the sponsor of this proposed program.

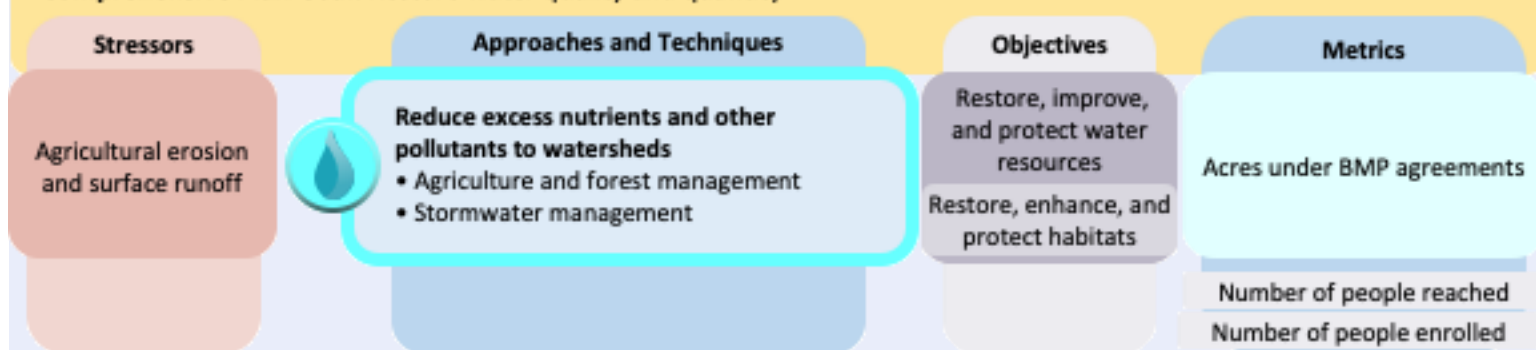
The *GCCRP* was established through the RESTORE Council's Initial FPL in December 2015. If approved, FPL 3b activities would provide additional funds for work in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida for the purpose of protecting and restoring critical wildlife habitat and improving water quality through the development of wildlife habitat, conservation, and forest management plans.

Conservation practices and restoration activities would be implemented to address the priority resource concerns identified in the planning phase. Wildlife habitat restoration and natural resource conservation measures will be prioritized on individual land units and implemented based on best available science. *GCCRP* activities will allow for conservation planning on private lands including, but not limited to, ecosystem restoration by conducting soil and water conservation for the benefit of water quality to priority bays and estuaries.

Program at a Glance

The *Gulf Coast Conservation Reserve Program* applies Planning Framework approaches and techniques to support Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives. In support of the primary objective to *Restore, improve, and protect water resources*, and secondary objective, to *Restore, enhance, and protect habitats*, stressors such as agricultural erosion and surface runoff will be addressed using the *Agriculture and forest management* technique and the *Stormwater management* technique. Success using these techniques to accomplish the primary and secondary objectives may be tracked using the acres under BMP agreements as a metric. The number of people reached and number of people enrolled may also be used as metrics of project success.

Comprehensive Plan Goal: Restore water quality and quantity



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