

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Russ Beard, Interim Science
Coordinator, Gulf Restoration
Council Staff



Restore America's Estuaries
3 November, 2014



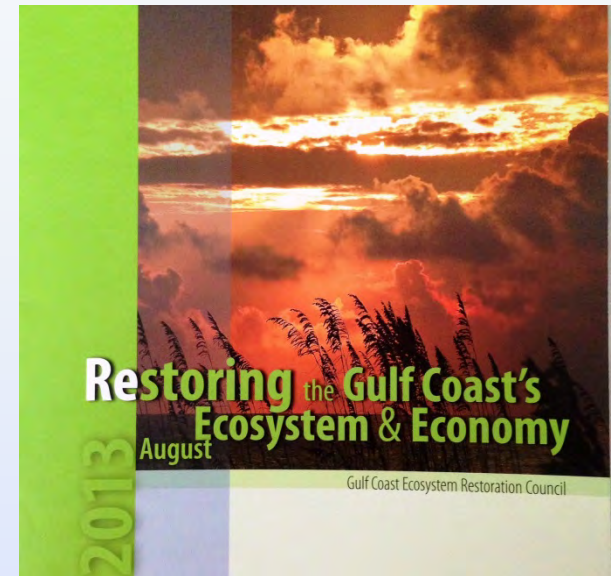
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

- **The 11-member RESTORE Council is comprised of:**
 - Governors from the five (5) affected Gulf States
 - Secretary of the Department of Commerce (Chair)
 - Secretary of the Department of Agriculture
 - Secretary of the Department of Army
 - Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency
 - Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security
 - Secretary of the Department of Interior
- **RESTORE Council Website:** www.restorethegulf.gov



Goals and Objectives of the Comprehensive Plan

1. Restore and Conserve Habitat
2. Restore Water Quality
3. Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources
4. Enhance Community Resilience
5. Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy



Process for Council-Selected Restoration Component

(Bucket 2)

1 Projects Submitted. Projects may focus on Habitat and Water Quality goals, with an emphasis on projects that are foundational, sustainable, have a high probability of success and that have community benefits.

2 Project Vetting Activities

3 Eligibility Verification and Budget Reasonableness, Coordination Reviews

4 Science Evaluation

Priority and
Commitment to
Plan Evaluation

Environmental
Compliance
Readiness

5 Results from proposal submission and evaluation will be compiled into a context report and attached to each proposal to aid in the development of a draft Funded Priorities List.



What You Need to Know

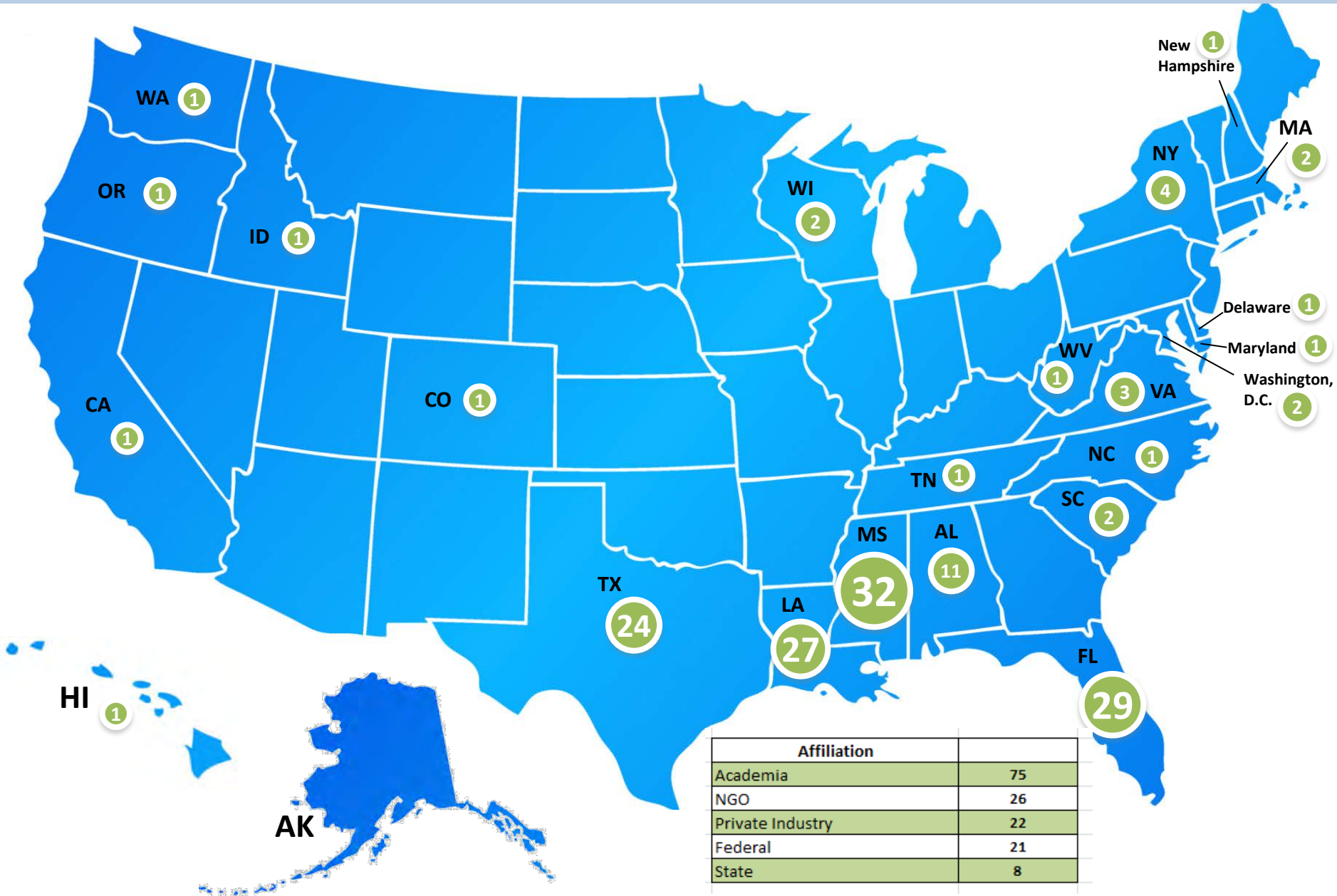
- The submission window for members opened August 21, 2014 and closes no earlier than November 17, 2014.
- Each state and federal member of the Council is responsible for proposing restoration projects and programs for consideration by the Council as a whole.
- Council members may submit up to 5 projects to the Council for consideration.
- Each Council member will not be able to submit every project they receive to the Council, just as everything submitted to the Council will not be included on the draft FPL.



What You Need to Know

- The amount of funding available for the first FPL is approximately \$150-\$180 million.
- Future amendments to the FPL will include significantly larger projects and project lists that reflect the full amount available to be spent for restoration activities. Additional input from the public will be solicited accordingly.
- Council members have different methods to gather project submissions and ideas. You can review the Council's Member Submission guidelines online. www.restorethegulf.gov.

Demographics of the Pot 2 Science Reviewers





Restoration Council Staff Participation with Observations, Monitoring and Adaptive Management Workshops

- **Review - Gulf of Mexico White Paper on Monitoring Water Quality December, 2013 – Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)**
- **Review - NOAA White Paper Proposed Gulf of Mexico Data Management, Information, Products, and Services Infrastructure, May 2013**
- **Final Report Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative Session on Current and Future Monitoring Strategies for the Gulf of Mexico, January, 2014**
- **GOMA/NOAA OBS Workshop in March 2014**
- **Gulf of Mexico Coastal and Ocean Observation System (GCOOS) Monitoring Build out Plan for the Gulf Ver. 2 June, 2014**
- **GCOOS Workshop for NGO's June 2014, Houston, Texas**
- **Ocean Conservancy Inventory of Monitoring Programs in the GOM On-going**
- **NOAA's Section 1604 - Network and integrate existing and planned data/information from Gulf monitoring programs.**
- **National Academy of Science (NAS) OBS/Mon Workshop August 2014, New Orleans, La**
- **NAS OBS Health Workshop September 2014, New Orleans, La**

For More Information
www.RestoreTheGulf.gov

