

RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Narrative

Department of the Treasury

OMB Approval No. 1505-0250

Directions: Use this form for the Initial Multiyear Plan and any subsequent amendments to an accepted Multiyear Plan. For amendments, include only new and/or materially modified activities.

Multiyear Plan Version (Initial or Amendment Number):	Initial
Date of Initial Multiyear Plan Acceptance:	
Date of Last Multiyear Plan Revision Acceptance:	

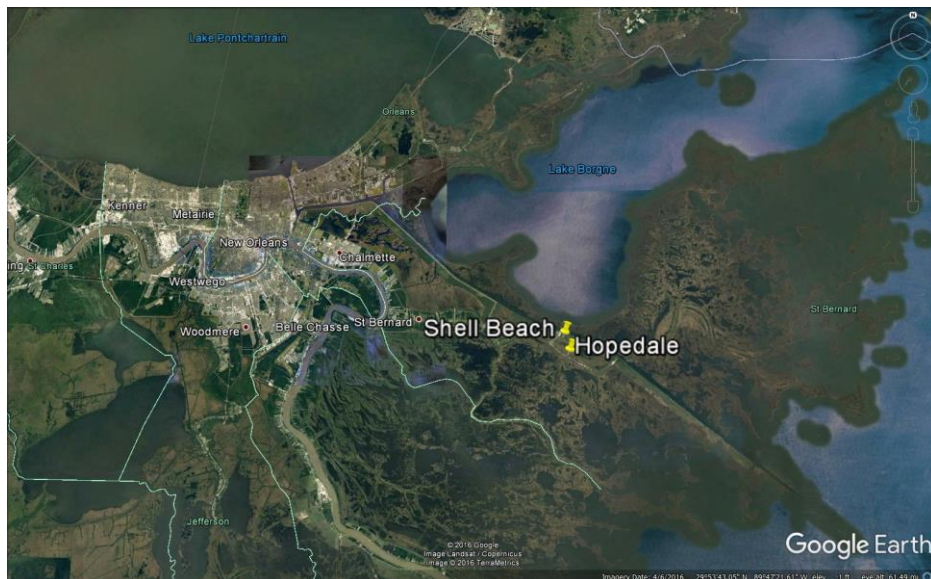
Eligible Applicant Name:	St. Bernard Parish Government
Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:	
POC Name:	Mr. John Lane
POC Title:	Executive Director of Coastal Affairs
POC Email:	jlane@sbsp.net
POC Phone:	(504) 278-4200

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:
1. A description of each activity, including the need, purpose, objective(s), milestones and location. Include map showing the location of each activity.
<p>Recreational Fishing Pier and Public Seafood Market (St. Bernard, LA)</p> <p>Description: The proposed project includes the design and construction of a recreational fishing pier and public seafood market in eastern St. Bernard Parish. Project elements include a dock; bulkhead; parking lot; and pavilion. The site will function as both a recreational fishing area and public seafood market. The facility will be constructed on publicly-owned property in eastern St. Bernard Parish and will be operated by SBPG.</p> <p>Need: Recreational fishing piers are needed in St. Bernard Parish in order to provide a space for locals and tourists to fish and enjoy the natural environment while remaining a safe distance from area highways. Additionally, the parish is currently lacking available space for commercial fishermen to engage in the direct-to-market sale of fresh seafood. Deficiencies in recreational fishing infrastructure and the lack of a public seafood market have had the effect of limiting economic opportunities in St. Bernard Parish.</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of the proposed project is to promote ecotourism, recreational fishing, and the consumption of Gulf seafood in St. Bernard Parish.</p> <p>Objectives: The objective of the proposed project is to design and construct a recreational fishing pier and public seafood market in the Shell Beach and Hopedale area of eastern St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. Once constructed, the facility will be owned and operated by SBPG in perpetuity for the purpose of enhancing economic opportunities in the parish. The proposed project: (1) constitutes an infrastructure project benefiting the economy or ecological resources; and (2) promotes tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.</p>

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1505-0250. Comments concerning the time required to complete this Information collection, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information, should be directed to the Department of the Treasury, Office of Gulf Coast Restoration, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20220.

Project Milestones: 100% engineering/design (October 2017); begin construction (January 2018); complete construction (July 2019); and project monitoring (through July 2022).

Map:



Lake Lery Marsh Creation (Phase 2) (St. Bernard, LA)

Description: Lake Lery Marsh Creation (Phase 2) would create 29 acres of marsh and nourish an additional 10 acres of marsh near Delacroix in eastern St. Bernard Parish. The proposed project is a continuation of Phase 1, which created 68 acres of new marsh in the same general area. The project consists of dredging material from Lake Lery and placing the material behind containment berms in the target area. Both the containment berms and the containment cells will also be planted with native vegetation. This project has already been designed and permitted (Coastal Impact Assistance Program) and is currently ready for construction.

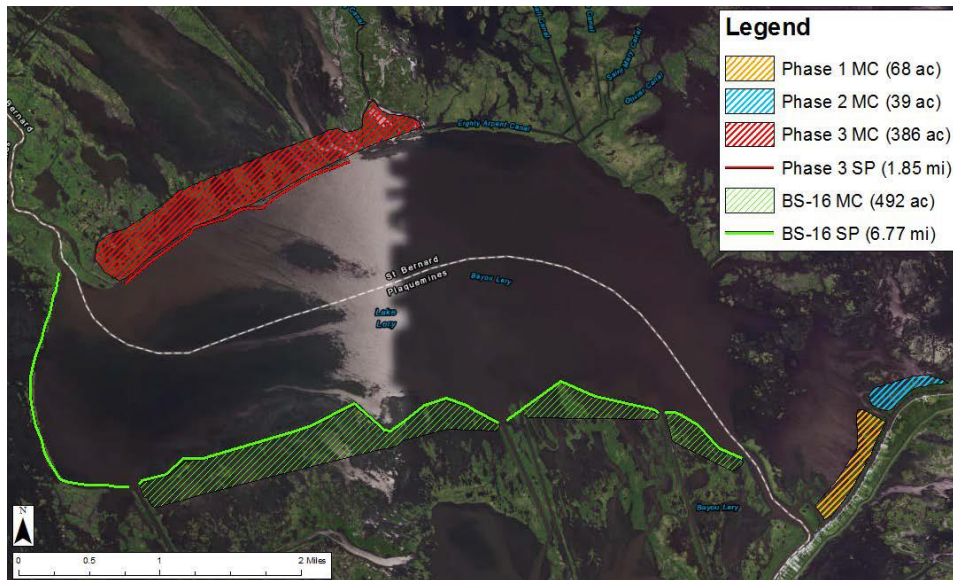
Need: Much of the shoreline of Lake Lery and the surrounding wetlands have degraded over the past decade. Wind-induced waves in the lake have begun to further damage its already eroding shorelines, and the northwestern edge has seen the greatest rate of retreat and loss of emergent marsh habitat. The proposed project would restore a portion of the damaged area and provide additional fish and wildlife habitat.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed project is to restore marsh in an area where natural ecosystems and wildlife and fisheries habitat have been severely damaged.

Objective: The objective of the proposed project is to create or nourish 39 acres of marsh in St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. The proposed project: (1) will restore natural ecosystems, fisheries, and marine and wildlife habitat in the Gulf Coast region; and (2) mitigate damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.

Project Milestones: Construction started (January 2018); construction completed (May 2019); and project monitoring (through May 2022).

Map:



Paris Road Corridor Streetscape Enhancement (Chalmette, LA)

Description: The proposed project includes the design and installation of a suite of streetscape enhancements along Paris Road, including new lighting; landscaping; interpretive signage; and public displays of art, in order to accentuate the natural environment along the thoroughfare and promote ecotourism. All improvements will be made on publicly-owned property and will be maintained by SBPG.

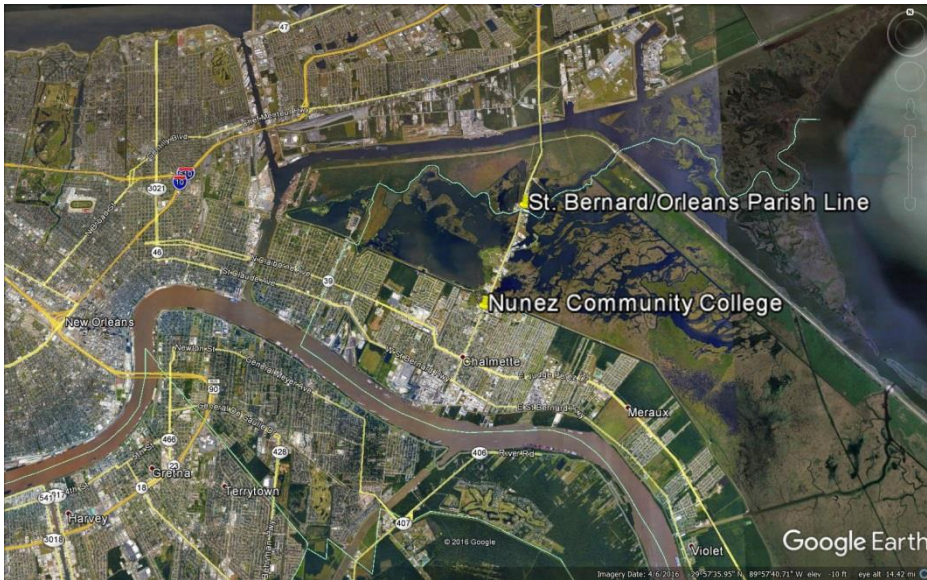
Need: Paris Road runs north—south through the Central Wetlands Unit and is one of only three thoroughfares connecting St. Bernard Parish to New Orleans. While the other major thoroughfares have been enhanced since Hurricane Katrina, the Paris Road corridor remains unimproved. Funds to enhance the streetscape and capitalize on the natural features along the highway have heretofore not been available.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed project is to promote ecotourism, recreational fishing, and the consumption of Gulf seafood in eastern St. Bernard Parish.

Objectives: The objectives of the proposed project are to design and install a suite of streetscape enhancements that will improve aesthetics along the Paris Road corridor and increase public awareness of the natural environment and ecotourism opportunities in St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. The proposed project: (1) constitutes an infrastructure project benefiting the economy or ecological resources; and (2) promotes tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.

Project Milestones: 100% design (October 2017); begin installation (December 2017); complete installation (April 2019); and project monitoring (through April 2022).

Map:



Nunez Community College Fisheries Workforce Development Program

Description: SBPG proposes to collaborate with Nunez Community College (Nunez) to design and implement a workforce development program that is focused on emerging fisheries-oriented sectors. The target audience for the program will be current commercial fishermen and their families, mid-career workers, and high school students.

Need: Nunez recently commissioned An Assessment for a Fisheries Hub of Excellence at Nunez Community College (TMG Consulting 2016) to explore establishing the school as a center for fisheries-oriented workforce development. The study identified a number of needs for fisheries-oriented businesses in the region. An opportunity now exists to develop new curriculum at Nunez for the purpose of establishing a program that will address unmet workforce development needs relative to the aforementioned sectors.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed program is to design and implement a workforce development program that is focused on creating or enhancing jobs and entrepreneurship in emerging fisheries-oriented sectors.

Objective: The objective of the proposed program is to design and administer a workforce development program that addresses unmet needs relative to the emerging fisheries-oriented sectors in St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. The proposed program: (1) will be designed to foster workforce development and job creation; and (2) will promote the consumption of seafood from the Gulf Coast region. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.

Project Milestones: Program design completed (December 2017); Year 1 implementation (January 2018 through December 2018); Year 2 implementation (January 2019 through December 2019); and program monitoring (through December 2022).

Map (Photo):



2. How the applicant made the multiyear plan available for 45 days for public review and comment, in a manner calculated to obtain broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, Indian tribes, and non-profit organizations, such as through public meetings, presentations in languages other than English, and postings on the Internet. The applicant will need to submit documentation (e.g., a copy of public notices) to demonstrate that it made its multiyear plan available to the public for at least 45 days. In addition, describe how each activity in the multiyear plan was approved after consideration of all meaningful input from the public and submit documentation (e.g., a letter from the applicant's leadership approving submission of the multiyear plan to Treasury or a resolution approving the applicant's multiyear plan).

An initial draft of the SBPG RESTORE MIP was presented to the St. Bernard Parish Coastal Zone Advisory Committee (CZAC) on August 31, 2016 (see Appendix A). Pursuant to the 31 CFR, Part 34, the document was made available for public comment via www.sbpge.net (electronic version) and in hard copy from September 1, 2016 through October 17, 2016. SBPG issued a press release on September 1, 2016 announcing the availability of the plan and providing instructions for submitting public comments (see Appendix A). This information was also shared via social media.

SBPG published a public notice in the parish's official journal on October 14, 2016 and October 28, 2016, announcing that the public comment period had been extended through November 15, 2016 and providing instructions for submitting comments in writing and in-person (see Appendix A). This information was also shared via social media. Upon expiration of the public comment period, comments from the CZAC and the public were compiled into a memo and presented to the St. Bernard Parish Council at its regular meeting on November 15, 2016 (see Appendix B).

After the initial draft of the RESTORE MIP was officially adopted by the St. Bernard Parish Council on November 15, 2016, the document was submitted to the US Department of the Treasury for preliminary review. SBPG received comments from the department on December 9, 2016. A revised draft of the RESTORE MIP was then presented to the St. Bernard Parish CZAC on January 4, 2017.

Pursuant to the 31 CFR, Part 34, the revised document was made available for public comment via www.sbpbg.net (electronic version) and in hard copy from January 5, 2017 through February 20, 2017. SBPG issued a press release on January 5, 2017 announcing the availability of the revised document and providing instructions for submitting public comments (see Appendix A). This information was also shared via social media.

There were no subsequent public comments. The St. Bernard Parish Council adopted the revised document on February 21, 2017 (see Appendix B for the Council resolution approving the revised draft). SBPG published a final public notice in the parish's official journal on March 10, 2017, announcing that there would be one final opportunity for public comment through March 15, 2017 and providing instructions for submitting comments in writing and in-person (see Appendix A). A final draft of the document was submitted to the US Department of the Treasury on March 16, 2017.

3. How each activity included in the applicant's multiyear plan matrix meets all the requirements under the RESTORE Act, including a description of how each activity is eligible for funding based on the geographic location of each activity and how each activity qualifies for at least one of the eligible activities under the RESTORE Act.

Recreational Fishing Pier and Public Seafood Market (St. Bernard, LA)

The objective of the proposed project is to design and construct a recreational fishing pier and public seafood market in the eastern St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. Once constructed, the facility will be owned and operated by SBPG in perpetuity for the purpose of enhancing economic opportunities in the parish. The proposed project: (1) constitutes an infrastructure project benefiting the economy or ecological resources; and (2) promotes tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.

Lake Lery Marsh Creation (Phase 2) (St. Bernard, LA)

The objective of the proposed project is to create or nourish 39 acres of marsh in St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. The proposed project: (1) will restore natural ecosystems, fisheries, and marine and wildlife habitat in the Gulf Coast region; and (2) mitigate damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.

Paris Road Corridor Streetscape Enhancement (Chalmette, LA)

The objectives of the proposed project are to design and install a suite of streetscape enhancements that will improve aesthetics along the Paris Road corridor and increase public awareness of the natural environment and ecotourism opportunities in St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. The proposed project: (1) constitutes an infrastructure project benefiting the economy or ecological resources; and (2) promotes tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.

Nunez Community College Fisheries Workforce Development Program (Chalmette, LA)

The objective of the proposed program is to design and administer a workforce development program that addresses unmet needs relative to the emerging fisheries-oriented sectors in St. Bernard Parish, which is located in the Gulf Coast region. The proposed program: (1) will be designed to foster workforce development and job creation; and (2) will promote the consumption of seafood from the Gulf Coast region. The proposed activity is therefore eligible for RESTORE Act funding.

4. Criteria the applicant will use to evaluate the success of the activities included in the multiyear plan matrix in helping to restore and protect the Gulf Coast Region impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Recreational Fishing Pier and Public Seafood Market

Performance Measures: SBPG will gauge performance based on facility utilization by recreational fishermen; number of annual public seafood market events; and the economic impact of direct-to-market sales on the site.

Lake Lery Marsh Creation (Phase 2)

Performance Measures: SBPG will gauge the success of the project by the number of healthy acres of marsh created or nourished as a result of the project.

Paris Road Corridor Streetscape Enhancement

Performance Measures: Once completed, SBPG will gauge project performance by surveying local residents and businesses, visitors, and design professionals around the metropolitan area regarding the appearance and functionality of the design interventions.

Nunez Community College Fisheries Workforce Development Program

Performance Measures: SBPG will gauge the success of the program by student enrollment and matriculation, as well as post-training job placement and entrepreneurship.

5. How the activities included in the multiyear plan matrix were prioritized and list the criteria used to establish the priorities.

Restoring Louisiana's coast was a top priority for the State of Louisiana and SBPG prior to the BP Oil Spill. However, the incident exacerbated many existing problems and created new challenges for coastal communities throughout Louisiana, thereby providing the impetus for a greater level of commitment and a heightened sense of urgency. Consequently, there are several recent state and local coastal restoration planning documents that SBPG was able to take into consideration as the organization crafted its RESTORE MIP.

Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast (2012)

The Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) is a State agency that was established as the single authority for coastal restoration in Louisiana. The CPRA has initiated a comprehensive planning and implementation strategy for protecting the environment and economy in the state's coastal region, as documented in Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast (2012 State Master Plan). Three of the stated objectives outlined in the 2012 State Master Plan are to sustain cultural heritage, promote a working coast, and provide coastal habitats. The CPRA defines these objectives as follows:

Cultural Heritage: Sustain, to the extent practicable, the unique cultural heritage of coastal Louisiana by protecting historic properties and traditional living cultures and their ties and relationships to the natural environment.

Working Coast: Promote a viable working coast to support regionally and nationally important businesses and industries.

Coastal Habitats: Provide habitats suitable to support an array of commercial and recreational activities coast wide. (CPRA 2012)

St. Bernard Parish Coastal Zone Management Program Document (2012)

The St. Bernard Parish Coastal Zone Management Program Document (Program Document) was presented to the St. Bernard Parish Council in 2012 for the purpose of providing guidance on local coastal program implementation and restoration project selection. The Program Document also highlighted the economic significance of the natural environment in St. Bernard Parish. Goals set forth in this document include:

Promoting recreational facilities in the wetlands through the development of facilities such as parks and boat launches;

Supporting environmentally sound economic uses with special emphasis on sustainable multiple-use of waterfront areas; and

Protecting stable wetlands, reducing land loss in deteriorating wetlands, and creating and restoring wetlands, where practicable. (Coastal Environments, Inc. 2012)

The framework provided in the Program Document was utilized in identifying projects during subsequent local planning efforts. Similarly, the SBPG RESTORE MIP was devised with the framework and goals of the document in mind.

St. Bernard Parish Project Priority List (2015)

The St. Bernard Parish Coastal Zone Advisory Committee (CZAC) presented the St. Bernard Parish Council with a suite of proposed coastal restoration projects in 2015. The projects were listed in order of priority and were adopted by the St. Bernard Council. Several of the projects included on the list were subsequently submitted to the CPRA and are now being considered for inclusion in the 2017 State Master Plan. However, many of the projects required further scoping and feasibility analysis in order to be given serious consideration for funding. This list of projects would become the foundation of the St. Bernard Parish Priority Coastal Projects Document (Coastal Strategy Document), which included a preliminary scope of work; projected budget; feasibility analysis; and funding matrix for each project.

St. Bernard Parish Coastal Strategy Document (2016)

The Coastal Strategy Document includes an updated list of proposed projects that were ranked using a three-tier priority system. The document also includes a funding matrix which outlines potential funding sources for proposed projects. Several projects included in the Coastal Strategy Document are now being considered as candidates for RESTORE Act Direct Component funding, including:

Recreational Fishing Pier and Public Seafood Market: This project was included in the Coastal Strategy Document due to

the projected economic benefits of investing in additional recreational and commercial fishing infrastructure in St. Bernard Parish;

Paris Road Corridor Streetscape Enhancement: This project was included in the Coastal Strategy Document In order to promote ecotourism in St. Bernard Parish by accentuating the natural environment along Paris Road; and

Lake Lery Marsh Creation (Phase 2): This approximately 40-acre marsh creation and nourishment project has already been designed and permitted, but is currently lacking construction funding. The project was included in the Coastal Strategy Document because it would restore natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, and critical marine and wildlife habitat in St. Bernard Parish. (St. Bernard Parish Government 2016)

The above three Coastal Strategy Document projects, along with a workforce development and job creation component, have formed the basis of SBPG's RESTORE MIP.

6. If applicable, describe the amount and current status of funding from other sources (e.g., other RESTORE Act contribution, other third party contribution) and provide a description of the specific portion of the project to be funded by the RESTORE Act Direct Component.

N/A