



About Florida's Gulf Consortium

Florida's Gulf Consortium is a public entity created in October 2012 by Inter-local Agreement among Florida's 23 Gulf Coast counties, from Escambia County in the western panhandle of Florida to Monroe County on the southern tip of Florida and the United States. Florida's 23 Gulf Coast counties formed the Consortium to meet requirements of the federal RESTORE Act, which was passed by the Congress and signed into law on July 6, 2012 by the President. The Gulf Consortium is responsible for developing a State Expenditure Plan for economic and environmental recovery of Florida's Gulf coast following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

To enhance restoration, avoid duplication and effectively utilize available resources, Florida's local governments are working in partnership with the State of Florida and the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council to develop and implement coordinated and consistent restoration plans to fully recover the Gulf of Mexico.

2013 Federal Action Agenda

The Consortium is awaiting formal rule guidance from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, which is critical for developing the Florida State Expenditure Plan. The Consortium has made specific requests regarding the Treasury rules, including:

- Acknowledging the Gulf Consortium as the "consortia of local political subdivisions" as specified in the RESTORE Act;
- Allowing for funds expended in the establishment of the Gulf Consortium and development of the State Expenditure Plan to be reimbursed;
- Ensuring new rules solidify what is already in the RESTORE Act that state allocations and expenditures be distributed directly to the appropriate county; and
- Accepting the formulas and methodologies adopted by the eight disproportionately and the 15 non-disproportionally affected counties regarding those funds appropriated directly to the local communities.

Projects undertaken will require local and state permitting, and may be required to meet federal regulations, which could slow economic and environmental recovery. The Consortium:

- Supports eliminating bureaucratic barriers and streamlining federal requirements so that projects can advance quickly and recovery can be completed in a timely manner.

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