

POT 1 - RESTORE Act Scoring Criteria Guide

Projects are scored related to the anticipated benefit it will provide in each category with a maximum of 5 points possible per category. Guidelines for scoring each category are provided below.

1. Provides Restoration and Protection of Natural Resources (NR)

0- No increase or net increase in protection of natural resources is anticipated by the project or program actions.

1- Identified NRs to be protected but Project only projected to causes a minor increase in NR protection through implementation of existing BMP practices. No new services provided to the public and no public lands set aside or placed into conservation easements. Protective and/or restorative measures estimated to have limited long term beneficial effect (less than 5 years).

2- NRs identified for protection and/or restoration. However, lands are not protected in long term ownership or easements in public trust. The life of the protective and or restoration measures expected to be viable for at least 10 years but will require maintenance and/or substantial repairs within that time frame.

3- NRs identified and will be protected and/or restored and project designates specific lands to be set aside for long term protection in easements or title ownership. Lifespan of protective measures more than 10 years with only minor repairs and maintenance anticipated.

4- New lands set aside and conservation easements and encumbrances recorded in perpetuity or complete ownership in public domain engaged. Public education and benefit elements from the resources have been included in the project. Lifespan of protective measures is estimated to be at least 20 years with only minor repairs and maintenance required and more substantial repairs or maintenance after 20 years.

5- New conservation lands created providing wildlife corridors set aside and owned by public or state lands. Actively protects native species especially T&E species or Species of Special Concern; and/or long term protection of other natural resources such as minerals, archeological sites, etc. the protected or restored NR are fully sustainable with no maintenance or repairs anticipated after 20 years or only minor occurrences after 20 or more years.

2. Mitigates damage to fish, wildlife or natural resources

0- No change in current status to mitigate damages to fish, wildlife, or NR.

1- Project indirectly halts any existing impacts to fish, wildlife or natural resources. No action is planned to restore or repair any previous damage that has occurred. Any mitigation will occur naturally and over a long duration. No change in current wildlife or fish status. Long term water quality improvement achieved.

2- Project intentionally halts existing impacts. Has some limited direct impact as well as long to mid-term indirect impact. Positive impact noted on recreational fishing and wildlife use. Natural resources benefit to a limited degree. Some short term water quality achieved.

3- Minor immediate impact seen in correcting damage. Fish, wildlife and natural resources damage is immediately mitigated although on a minor scale. Invasive species are eradicated or significantly reduced. Water quality is improved in the short term.

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4- Immediate impact noted. Indirect effects permanently felt. Public health is positively increased to some degree. Growth or recovery from previous damage noted immediately. Economic growth due to actions noted. Long term water quality improvement is achieved.

5- Action results in immediate, long term correction of damage. Public health is positively increased. Invasive species removed. Long term potential to correct endangered or threatened status. Other benefits such as economic growth are realized as a result.

3. Implements a federally approved marine or coastal conservation plan

0- Does not implement a federally approved marine or coastal conservation plan.

1- No growth of the current status. Fisheries monitoring created on a minor basis. Recreational fishing areas developed.

2- No growth on status however fisheries status is monitored for greater than the short term. Recreational fishing and other watersports develops as a result.

3- Some increases in the size and scope of the current conservation plan. Fisheries monitoring completed on a regular basis. Seasonal recreational use rises significantly as well as other watersport use.

4- Conservation plan increases in both size and scope. Fisheries monitoring is conducted on a routine basis with positive results noted. Annual increase in recreational use.

5- Broad increase in the fisheries development as a result of the project. Monitoring occurs on a frequent basis. Conservation areas are significantly increased in size resulting in a positive impact on the aquaculture industry.

4. Workforce Development and Job Creation

0- Project does not provide any opportunity for additional jobs within the private or public sector. Work can be performed through existing roles or jobs are lost through the termination of a job provider.

1- Project provides an increased backlog of available work for existing workers within the County and maintains the current number of public and private sector jobs.

2- Project demands that part-time jobs be created to perform necessary work within the project schedule.

3- Project creates 5-10 full-time positions which are necessary to perform work related to the project within the schedule determined for project execution. Upon project completion, 1-5 jobs (part-time or full-time) are created to staff any long-term result of the project.

4- Project provides for the creation of 20-30 jobs related to the construction/implementation of the project or as a result of the project's completion. All jobs are filled by a local resident.

5- Project provides a significant increase of jobs provided by an entire industry.

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5. Improvements to an impacted coastal State Park

0- Project does not provide any benefits or improvements to a State Park impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

1- A portion of the project indirectly provides benefits to a State Park which has been impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

2- Less than 50% of the project directly provides improvements to a State Park impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill; and the project is not specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park.

3- A significant portion of the project (more than 50%) directly provides improvements to a State Park impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill; but the project is not specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park.

4- A significant portion of the project (more than 75%) directly provides improvements to a State Park impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill; and the project is specifically designed for the purpose of improving the impacted portions of the State Park.

5- Project is specifically designed to improve a damaged State Park (100%) and provides significant improvements to the affected portions of the State Park. An education component is included in the project. The public experience within the State Park is significantly improved. The project adds improvements that relate to the principal feature of the State Park.

6A. Infrastructure Projects Benefitting Economy

0- Project has a negative impact to the economy or has no net positive benefit to the local economy.

1- Project provides an indirect, revenue generating mechanism for either the public or private sector. Growth provided in the short term with no sustainable effects.

2- Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy but not significantly. No specific local industry become more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage; however project results in an increase in local jobs.

3- Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy more significantly. One specific local industry becomes more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage and there is a projected increase in other local jobs.

4- Project provides a direct revenue generator that bolsters the local economy significantly. One or more specific local industries become more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage and there is a projected increase in other local jobs. Some new long-term residents are projected.

5- Project provides a sustainable revenue generator that significantly bolsters the local economy with two or more local industries becoming more robust through job creation, increased revenue, or increased patronage. Project results in a definite an increase in local, long-term residents.

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6B. Infrastructure Projects Benefitting Ecological Resources

- 0- Project negatively impacts or has no net benefit to any ecological resource.
- 1- Project has an indirect, but measurable benefit to an ecological resource. The benefit does not fully correct a deficiency or restore a function.
- 2- Project has a direct measurable benefit to an ecological resource, but the benefit does not fully correct a deficiency or restore a function (assume meets no more than 25% of such goals).
- 3- Project has a direct measurable benefit to an ecological resource with benefit, enhancement, or restoration goals, and the benefit does not fully correct a deficiency or restore a function (assume meets at least 50% of such goals).
- 4- Project has a direct measurable benefit to an ecological resource with benefit, enhancement, or restoration goals, and the benefit corrects a deficiency or restores a function to at least 75% of such goals).
- 5- Project has a direct measurable benefit to an ecological resource with benefit, enhancement, or restoration goals, and the benefit corrects a deficiency or restores a function to at least 90% of such goals).

7. Coastal Flood Protection and Related Infrastructure

- 0- Project does not reduce flood protection to a portion of the community nor has no net increase in flood protection to a known flood prone area.
- 1- Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods but provides no measure for increasing the flood protection for those areas; or project may indirectly provide minor benefit to flood prone area.
- 2- Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods and provides means for measuring the increase in flood protection for those areas (Level of Service [LOS]); or project may indirectly provide a fairly significant LOS benefit to flood prone area.
- 3- Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods; and there is more than 50% increase in the LOS to a large flood prone area (more than 100 residents) or a 75% increase to an area with less than 100 residents.
- 4- Project identifies areas potentially affect by floods; and there is more than 75% increase in the LOS protection to a large flood prone area (more than 100 residents) or a 90% increase to an area with less than 100 residents.
- 5- The project's primary goal is to improve stormwater level of service for the local community. The project includes sustainable solutions that include long term, large scale drainage improvements that do improve known flood prone areas to acceptable LOS with 90% LOS improvement to large scale (more than 100 residents).

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8. Promotes Tourism and Recreational Fishing

- 0- Does nothing to promote Tourism. No impact on current status.
- 1- Project spending anticipated having little effect on tourism. May affect local tourism on an event level basis. Some income generated for local business only and only for a short time period.
- 2- Some effect on tourism expected on a seasonal basis. Some economic income for the local area or city created as well as for small businesses.
- 3- Multi-seasonal impact. Generates some significant economic income for the local city.
- 4- Multi seasonal to year round impact. New generation of economic income created. Income effects multiple cities in the county.
- 5- Year round draw of new people to the area. Large amounts of economic income created. Entire county benefits.

9. Promotes Seafood Consumption Harvested from Gulf Coast Region

- 0- No additional seafood consumption created or project has the potential to negatively impact the seafood industry.
- 1- Small amount of seafood consumption created. Anticipated that the local seafood market increases sales of seafood consumption by less than 5% and catch rates do not increase noticeably.
- 2- Increased amount of seafood consumption created (more than 5%) . Little positive effect on the seafood industry occurs, in general, but catch rates increase some.
- 3-Noticeable positive effect on the seafood industry. More than 10% increase in seafood consumption anticipated. Includes habitat restoration and anticipated increase in catch rates of identified species by 5% or more.
- 4- Industry growth experienced. Some positive effect on the local economy seen because of seafood consumption increase. Anticipated increase more than 15%. Catch rates of identified species more than 10%.
- 5- Industry experiences new growth and invigoration. Measurable positive impact on the economy as evident by more than 20% increase in seafood consumption. Significant increase in the catch rate and production of new seafood products (by more than 15% in identified species).

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10. Timing

- 0- Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized more than 10 years away.
- 1- Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 7 to 10 years away.
- 2- Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 4-7 years away.
- 3- Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 2-4 years away.
- 4- Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 1-2 years away.
- 5- Initial effects of the project benefits projected to be realized 0-1 years away.