



State of Louisiana

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CPRA Board Approves Six Projects for \$20M under the CPRA RESTORE Act Parish Matching Program

BATON ROUGE, LA – Dec. 13, 2017 – Louisiana’s Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) announces \$20 million in projects selected for funding have been approved by the CPRA Board in the initial round of the CPRA Parish Matching Program under the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act). CPRA set aside up to \$100 million over a 15-year period from its RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component funds to establish this program. This investment will nearly double the amount of funds the parishes will receive over that same time period under the RESTORE Act Direct Component. This program is designed to help parishes leverage project funding to design and/or construct projects that might otherwise not be initiated or completed and to accelerate the timeline on projects that might otherwise have to wait to be fully funded out of a parish’s RESTORE Act funds. In all, six projects were selected at a total parish investment of \$6.1 million, representing both protection and restoration projects, in the following parishes: Cameron, Lafourche, St. Bernard, St. Charles, Tangipahoa and Vermilion. In order to meet the Federal requirements for this funding, CPRA will work with the parishes to incorporate these projects into an amendment to the State’s RESTORE Plan, which will be published for public comment early next year. Additional rounds of funding will be announced in the future.

“We are always looking for ways to make parish and state funds go farther and this program serves as an excellent model for how to partner at the state and local level to maximize project outcomes,” said Johnny Bradberry, Chairman of the CPRA Board. “These

projects represent parish priorities that are consistent with the Coastal Master Plan and we are excited to get these important projects moving forward,” said Michael Ellis, Executive Director of the CPRA.

The projects selected for funding under this initial round of the CPRA RESTORE Act Parish Matching Program include: Construction of the Rockefeller Shoreline Stabilization Project in Cameron Parish (\$6.67M); Engineering and Design of the Grand Bayou Freshwater Reintroduction Project in Lafourche Parish (\$412,722); Construction of the Lake Lery Marsh Creation Project in St. Bernard Parish (\$2.78M); Construction of the Paradis Canal Gate in St. Charles Parish (\$2.54M); Engineering and Design and Construction of the Manchac Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project in Tangipahoa Parish (\$3M); and Engineering and Design and Construction of the Freshwater Bayou Canal Shoreline Protection Project in Vermilion Parish (\$4.59M).

To participate in this program, an eligible parish had to dedicate some of its Direct Component RESTORE funds towards a project proposed for the matching program and agree to include the project in its parish RESTORE Act Direct Component Multiyear Implementation Plan. Projects were selected based on [scoring criteria](#) that took into account various factors including: consistency with the Coastal Master Plan; the ability to restore and protect habitats or the ability to reduce economic losses from storm surge; the relative merits of the project including scope of project benefits; synergy with other integrated coastal protection and restoration efforts; feasibility and/or constructability; and, the funds made available by the parish for the proposed activity.

The RESTORE Act allocates 80 percent of all Clean Water Act penalties paid by those responsible for the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster to the RESTORE Trust Fund for the restoration and protection of the Gulf Coast region. The RESTORE Act contains five different funding components, one of which directs 35% of the funds deposited into the Trust Fund to each of the five Gulf Coast States in equal shares for ecological and economic restoration (the “Direct Component”), and one of which directs 30% of the funds deposited in the Trust Fund to each of the five Gulf Coast States to address the ecological and economic impacts from the oil spill based on a formula established by the Council by regulation (the “Spill Impact Component”). In order for a Gulf Coast State to receive funding

under the Direct Component or the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act, the states must first submit a plan for the expenditure of Trust Fund monies under those funding components. The State's First Amended draft plan was approved by the CPRA Board on January 18, 2017. The expenditure of funds under the Spill Impact Component is subject to review by the RESTORE Council while the expenditure of funds under the Direct Component is subject to review by Treasury.

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Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is the single state entity with authority to develop, articulate, implement, and enforce a comprehensive coastal Master Plan of unified vision, to reduce tropical storm surge flood impact, to restore our bountiful natural resources, to build land to protect our nation's critical energy infrastructure, and to secure Louisiana's coast now and for future generations.