

Department of the Interior Contributions to the Gulf of Mexico Alliance



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Minerals Management Service



National Park Service



U.S. Geological Survey



U.S. Department of the Interior

Department of the Interior Contributions to the Gulf of Mexico Alliance



Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)



Interpretive and Educational Program



SPARROW (SPATIALLY Referenced
Regression On Watershed attributes) Model



Northern Gulf of Mexico Project



Minerals Management Service

Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)

- Projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetlands.
- Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources.
- Planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with this section.
- Implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan.
- Mitigation of the impact of Outer Continental Shelf activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.

<http://www.mms.gov/offshore/CIAPmain.htm#SupplInfo>

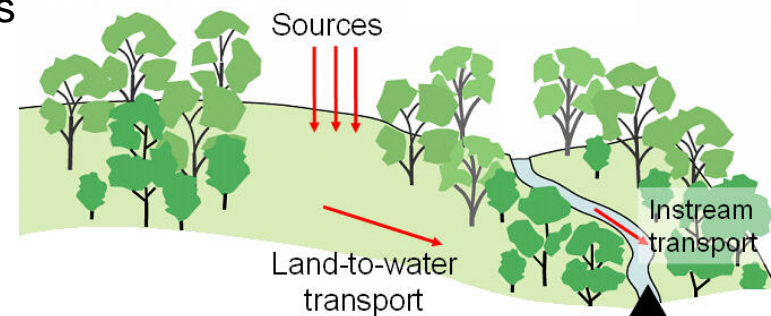


Interpretation & Education

- There are six units of the National Park system that are associated with the Gulf of Mexico
- As portals for millions of visitors a year, these parks provide a unique opportunity to reach and educate youth, communities, and teachers
- NPS proposes to develop
 - Free standing exhibit to highlight unique habitats and significance of the Gulf of Mexico to coastal communities as well as the nation
 - A 15-minute video to highlight need to preserve and protect Gulf of Mexico
 - Traveling trunks for each park consisting of educational materials for use with youth, educators and communities

Estimates of Stream Nutrient Loads and Concentrations – Application to Nutrient Management Strategies

- **Integration of data from State and Federal Agencies** to increase the model calibration data set and enhance the understanding of nutrient conditions beyond what could be achieved using data from one program or network.
- **Integration of monitoring and modeling** to improve our understanding of nutrient conditions in streams and the key factors that influence these conditions throughout the Gulf Coast Region.
 - Predict nutrient concentrations in unmonitored areas
 - Prioritize areas for future monitoring
 - Track nutrient contributions from natural, urban, atmospheric, and agricultural sources
 - Simulate changes in nutrient levels in response to management actions



SPARROW Nutrient Model

Monitored load

Long-term goal

Determine the susceptibility of northern Gulf of Mexico (NGOM) region ecosystems and human communities to landscape/coastal change, and hazards due to severe storms now and throughout the next 100 years

Project Objectives

- *Past* - Reconstruct the Holocene geologic stratigraphy, paleoenvironments, climate and sea-level histories of the eastern Louisiana to western Florida coastal and inner shelf region. Evaluate the 1000 year to present evolution of the northern Gulf of Mexico landscape driven by broad spatial scale physical processes of sea level rise, subsidence, storm events and anthropogenic drivers
- *Present* - Provide a regional synthesis of present day northern Gulf of Mexico ecosystem and human community structure, and forecast the evolution of this landscape over the next century
- *Future* – Evaluate/forecast the vulnerability of NGOM ecosystems and human communities to severe storms now and throughout the coming century

Other DOI Projects that could benefit the Gulf of Mexico Alliance

Fish and Wildlife Service

- Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP)
- Application of Lessons Learned from Hurricane Impacts to National Wildlife Refuges: Contaminant Remediation and Wetlands Restoration
- Coastal Program and Partners for Fish and Wildlife: Coastal Habitat Restoration

Other DOI Projects that could benefit the Gulf of Mexico Alliance

National Park Service

- Gulf Coast Network Water Quality Monitoring Program
- Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
- Exotic Plant Management