

Implementation and Integration Workshop



*Habitat Conservation & Restoration Team:
Proposal for Action Plan II*

August 2008

Action Plan II

Current and Future Challenges

- Habitat restoration is not keeping pace with the loss and degradation of coastal habitats nor is it currently sufficient to sustain critical ecological services such as storm surge reduction and fisheries production.
- It is critical that restoration efforts are increased and made more effective through the application of the growing body of restoration science and that conservation of habitats be implemented on a more aggressive scale.
- To achieve conservation and restoration goals, broad issues of policy, socioeconomics, and science as-well-as public awareness, understanding, and determination must be addressed.

Action Plan II

Current and Future Challenges

- The challenge to the HCRT is to provide leadership to advance conservation and restoration of coastal habitats and ecosystems throughout the Gulf of Mexico and associated watersheds. The Alliance partnership has the agencies and organizations essential for providing the leadership needed to meet this challenge

Action Plan II

Draft Actions

H-1: Continue development of the HCRT partnership structure

HEADLINE:

- “Congress increases funding of GOMA after 5 Gulf Governors report collaboration successes”

H-2: Address specific policy and scientific issues regarding habitat conservation & restoration

- Develop and promote in funding, policy, permitting and regulatory change recommendations
- Advocate for the advancement of state of restoration and conservation science and science-based management tools

HEADLINES:

- “States Clear Bureaucratic Hurdles to Coastal Conservation and Restoration”
- “City of Corpus Christi quickly restores marsh lost in storm with GOMA assistance”

Action Plan II

Draft Actions

H-3: Continue to develop and facilitate the Gulf Regional Sediment Management Master Plan

- Complete draft GRSMMP
- Recommend changes to the Federal Standard
- Promote the implementation of RSM in all GOM USACE Districts

HEADLINES:

- “States Agree on a Gulf-wide Plan for Effective Use of Sediment Resources in Conserving Coastal Habitat”
- “Revision of Federal Standard Promotes Creation of 1000’s of Acres of Coastal Wetlands”
- “Gulf States reduce shoreline erosion by 3 feet per year through comprehensive sediment management”

Action Plan II

Draft Actions

H-4: Facilitate public-private partnerships to support habitat restoration and conservation efforts

HEADLINES:

- “Gulf Alliance Targets Public-Private Partnerships for Habitat Conservation”
- “Governors announce record contributions from industry to conservation: GOMA partners to manage \$20M for ecosystem restoration in Governors’ Action Plan”

H-5: Support policy and economic incentives that promote stewardship, conservation and restoration on private lands

HEADLINES:

- “One million acres conserved through private landowner partnerships with GOMA”



Questions/Comments?