



## Committee zeros in on Year II projects

The Gulf of Mexico Community-Based Habitat Restoration Program (CRP) steering committee is currently in the final stages of selecting projects to receive funding for Year II.

In the first round of CRP funding (Year I), the Gulf of Mexico Foundation and its partners granted a total of \$64,365 to three restoration projects. This year, the funding will total more than \$450,000.

This year's projects will each receive

\$38,000-\$90,000. After careful consideration, 18 proposals submitted from all five Gulf states have been narrowed to eight finalists (see box at right).



Volunteers construct a dune-building fence at Breton National Wildlife Refuge, Year I CRP grant site.

As administrator, the Foundation monitors the CRP-funded restoration sites, receiving reports, issuing payments, and inspecting the restoration sites.

On March 10, Foundation staff members will visit the Maritime Forest Ridge and Marsh Restoration in Louisiana, one of the three Year II CRP projects. Visits to other project sites are planned for spring.

The Foundation has received first and second quarterly reports from all three Year I projects and is on schedule with payments.

### Year I NOAA CRP Projects

#1001 Armand Bayou Intertidal Marsh Restoration Project

Houston/Pasadena, Texas, \$10,800

#1002 Breton Island Restoration and Beach Stabilization Project

Chandeleur Islands, Louisiana, \$30,130

#1003 Fisheries Habitat Restoration in the Pearl River Project

Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana, \$23,435

### Year II NOAA CRP Projects

*CRP steering committee narrows field to eight*

#2001 Nature Trail Site Restoration Weeks Bay National Estuarine Reserve  
Location: Fairhope, Alabama  
Grant Amount: \$37,580  
Status: funded

#2002 Shellfish Restoration & Crab Trap Recovery Project  
Mobile Bay National Estuary Program  
Location: Mobile, Alabama  
Grant amount: \$42,960  
Status: funded

#2003 Clear Creek Restoration Project  
Three Rivers Resource Conservation  
Location: Milton, Florida  
Grant amount: \$75,000  
Status: processing grant

#2004 Prop Scar Restoration of Ft. Pickens & St. Andrews  
Florida Dept of Environ. Protection  
Location: Milton, Florida  
Grant amount: \$43,571  
Status: processing grant

#2005 Tarpon Bay Hydrologic Restoration - Rookery Bay  
Florida Dept of Environ. Protection  
Location: Naples, Florida  
Grant amount: \$70,000  
Status: processing grant

#2006 Maritime Forest Ridge & Marsh Restoration Pt. Fourchon  
Barataria-Terrebonne Ntl Estuary Prg  
Location: Thibodaux, Louisiana  
Grant amount: \$90,000  
Status: processing grant

#2007 Restoration of Essential Fish Habitat in Gulf Islands  
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory  
Location: Ocean Springs, Mississippi  
Grant amount: \$47,183  
Status: processing grant

#2008 Restoration of Bahia Grande  
Ocean Trust, Arlington, Virginia  
Location: Brownville, Texas  
Grant amount: \$44,940  
Status: researching project

## General info about NOAA CRP

*Gulf of Mexico Community-Based Habitat Restoration Program*

The Gulf of Mexico Community-Based Habitat Restoration Program Partnership (CRP) grant is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) with collaborative funding from the Gulf of Mexico Program, an office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Gulf of Mexico Foundation coordinates the CRP program.

Each of the five Gulf States contributes technical assistance and management expertise through offices of the EPA's Gulf

Ecological Management Sites Program.

The grant is aimed at funding citizen-driven habitat restoration projects which benefit ecologically sensitive living marine resources and foster local stewardship throughout the Gulf of Mexico region.

For more information, visit:

[www.gulfofmexicofoundation.com/restoration.htm](http://www.gulfofmexicofoundation.com/restoration.htm) and

[www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/index.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/index.html)



Gulf of Mexico Foundation  
 PMB 51 - 5403 Everhart  
 Corpus Christi, TX 78411  
 361/882-3939 phone  
 800/884-4175 toll free  
 361/882-1262 fax  
 gmexico@aol.com  
 www.gulfofmexicofoundation.com

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*America's  
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 Keep it  
 shining*



## News from the Gulf

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### Multicultural program receives funding

Richard Gonzales, an environmental community coordinator in South Texas, has received funding from the Foundation for a multicultural science and Spanish program designed to meet the needs of the diverse cultures of coastal Texas and Mexico. In addition to Foundation support, the program recently received the "Innovative Directions for Educational Achievement Grant" from the Texas Coastal Coordination Council. For more information, call Gonzales at 361-779-7351.

### Call us toll-free

The Gulf of Mexico Foundation now has a toll-free phone number, 800-884-4175, in addition to its regular office number, 361-882-3939 and fax number 361-882-1262.

## Teachers learn and dive at Flower Gardens

### *"Down Under, Out Yonder" takes teachers to the reef*

For the eighth consecutive year, the Foundation and the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary are offering two summer education workshops designed to bring educators to the reef.

Each of the two workshops will include a scuba diving field component and is open to teachers from the five Gulf states and beyond.

The introductory workshop is scheduled for July 26-30 and the advanced workshop for June 21-27.

Each event begins with a weekend educational workshop in Lake Jackson, near Galveston, and includes a visit to

the Texas Sea Center in Lake Jackson.

Each workshop will be followed by three days of scuba diving at the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, via a live-aboard dive vessel departing from Freeport, Texas.

The Flower Gardens is a federally protected underwater

sanctuary lying 110 miles off the Texas coast.

Application deadline is March 21. Information and applications are available to download on the Foundation's website: [www.gulfofmexicofoundation.com/education.htm](http://www.gulfofmexicofoundation.com/education.htm)

