Okaloosa RESTORE Advisory Committee (ORAC)

March 5, 2014

2:30 PM

Emerald Coast Convention Center

Agenda

- Minutes Approval
- Consultant's Administrative Report
- Scheduled Presentations - None
- Regional Updates - None
- Evaluation Tool
  - Review Environmental Factors
  - Project Example
- ORAC Members Open Discussion
  - Project Size Funding Thresholds
  - Quantitative Factor Significance
- Public Comment

Consultant's Administrative Report

- Okaloosa County e-mail account conductivity
- Regular scheduled meeting dates and locations:
  - NWFSC, Room 302, 6:00 PM (Thursdays) -- Apr 3, Jun 5, Aug 7, Oct 2, Dec 4
  - ECCC, various rooms, 2:30 PM (Wednesdays) -- May 7, Jul 2, Sep 3, Nov 5
  - Suggest moving Jul 2 meeting to NWFSC and maintaining same start time
- Scheduled Presentations

Roadmap

Public Input / Full Transparency

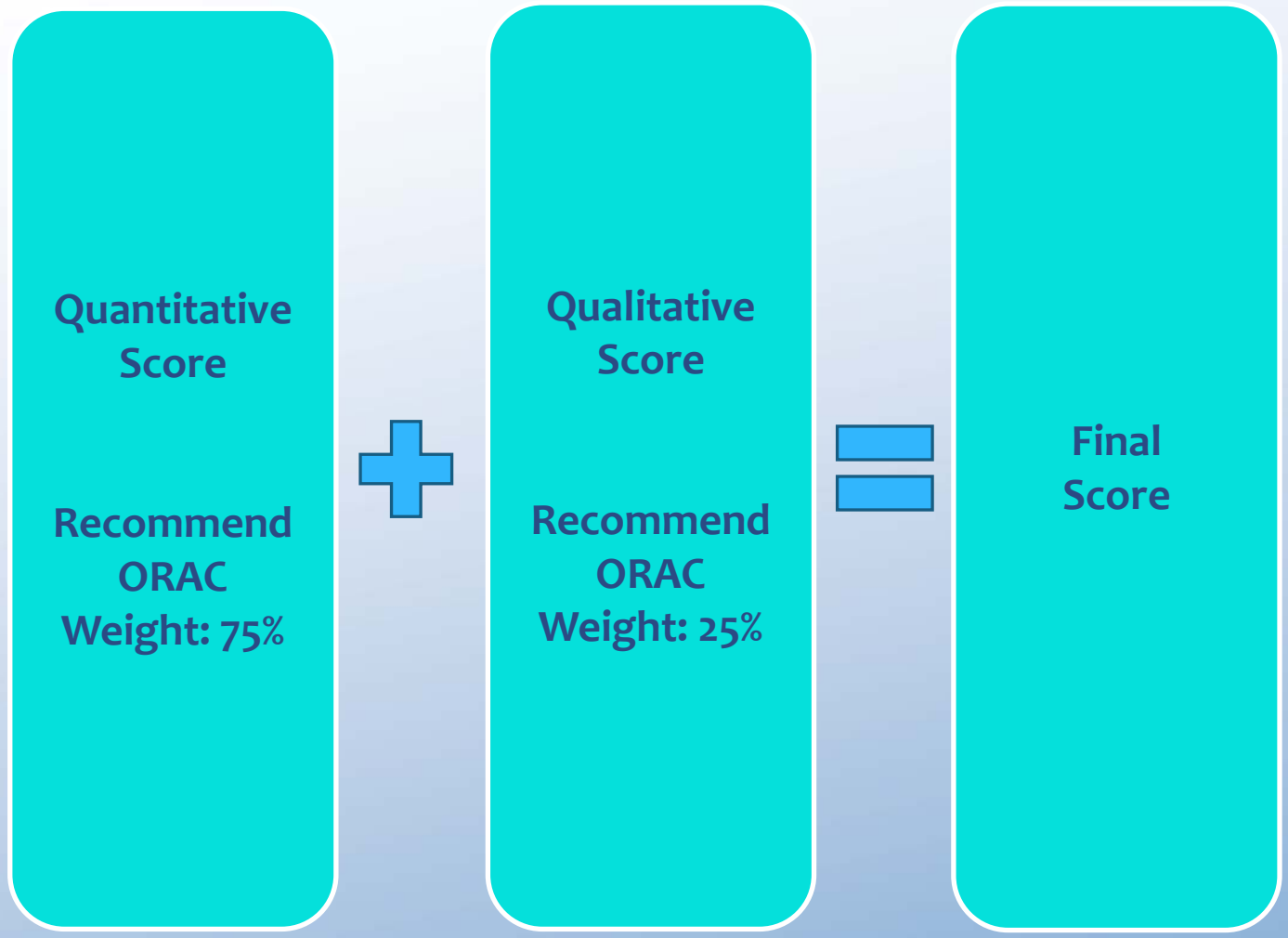
- ✓ Form the ORAC
- ✓ Establish administrative ground rules
- ✓ Educate the ORAC on the RESTORE process
- ✓ Establish ORAC mission statement and goals
- ✓ Evaluate Treasury Rules
- ❑ Develop model to help evaluate projects – we are here
- ❑ Test the model with several projects
- ❑ Refine model as necessary
- ❑ Develop project information collection tool
- ❑ Collect project requests
- ❑ Use model to score and rank projects
- ❑ Develop Multi-Year Implementation Plan

Funding Sources /Rigorous Evaluation

Regional Updates

		NRDA	NFWF	RESTORE Act: Pot #1 Local	RESTORE Act: Pot #2 GCERC	RESTORE Act: Pot #3 Consortium	RESTORE Act: Pot #4 Research	RESTORE Act: Pot #5 Research	Triumph Gulf Coast
Natural Resources	Restoration & Protection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Natural Resources	Mitigation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Federally Approved Management Plan Implementation				✓		✓			
Workforce Development / Job Creation				✓		✓			✓
Infrastructure: Economic & Ecological				✓		✓			✓
Flood Protection				✓		✓			
Administrative / Planning Assistance				✓	✓	✓			
Promotion	Tourism			✓		✓			
Promotion	Seafood			✓		✓			
Research / Monitoring							✓	✓	
Economic/Community Resilience					✓				✓

Evaluation Tool - Review



Quantitative Score

Economic

General

Environmental

	Proposed Quantitative Factors	Significance	Score
1.	Gross Product per RESTORE $ Invested	(%)	_____
2.	Return on Investment and LC Cost	(%)	_____
3.	Economic Diversification	(%)	_____
4.	Implementation Readiness	(%)	_____
5.	Project Feasibility	(%)	_____
6.	Create/Restore/Protect Habitats	(%)	_____
7.	Replenish/Protect Coastal & Marine Res	(%)	_____
8.	Restore Water Quality		
9.	Enhanced Environmental Resilience		

ORAC to select and place significance on factors

Quantitative Score: _____

Note: Once established, this portion of the model will be used by the consultants

Qualitative Score

Proposed Qualitative Factors

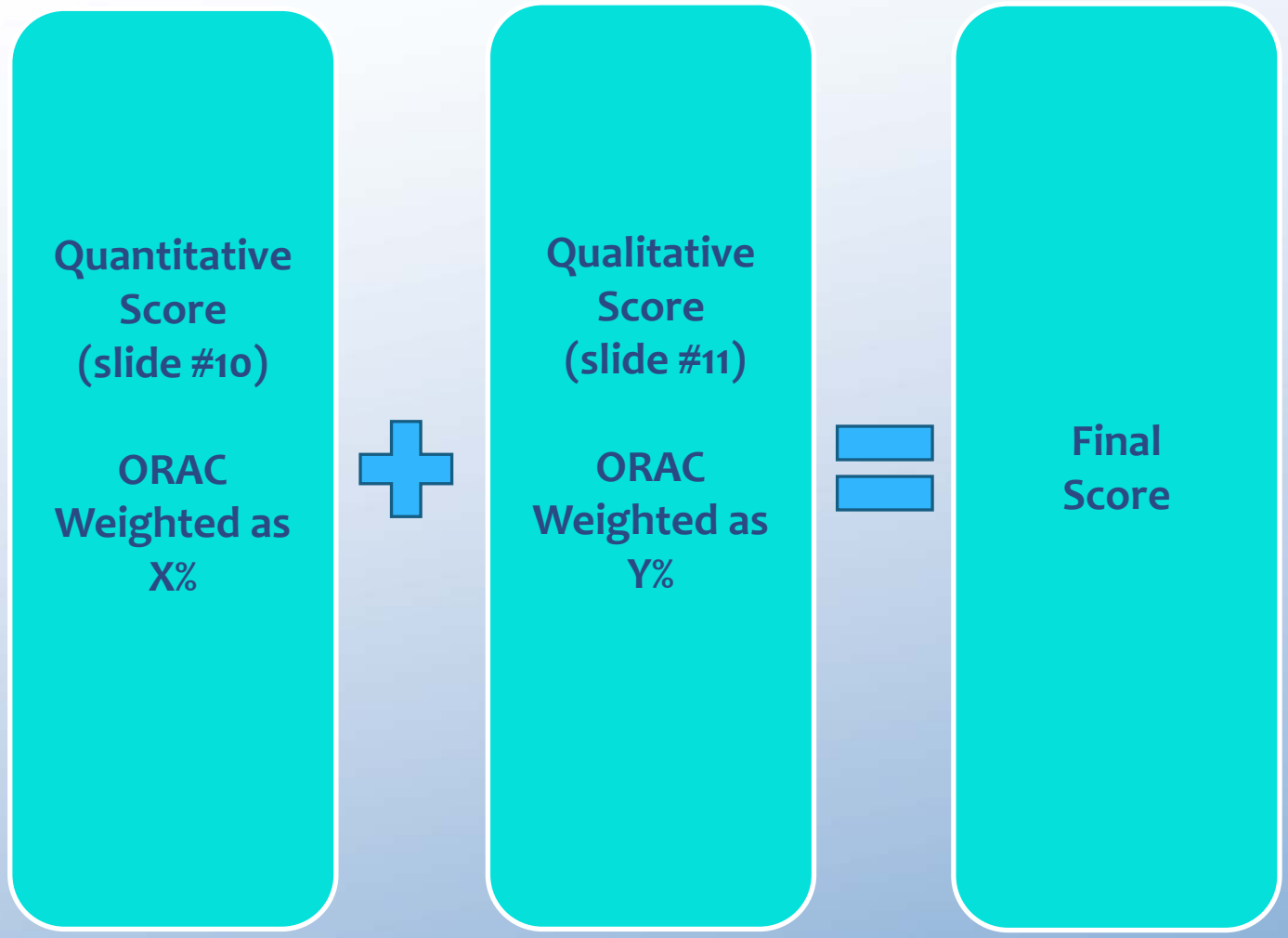
1. Community acceptance
2. Quality of life enhancement
3. Expert judgment
4. **Equity of distribution**
5. **Assists underrepresented group**
6.

ORAC to select factors

Qualitative Score: _____

Note: Once established, this portion of the model will be used by the ORAC

Proposed Evaluation Tool



Quantitative Evaluation Factors

- Economic
  - Job Opportunity / Job Creation
  - Economic Diversification
  - Life-Cycle Cost / Tax-Payer ROI / Sustained Economic Benefit
  - Leverage / Matching Funds / In-kind Consideration
- General
  - Implementation Readiness / Shovel Readiness
  - Permits / Compliance / Land Ownership
  - Proven Success / Technical Feasibility
- Environmental
  - Create / Restore / Protect Habitats
  - Replenish & Protect Living Coast and Marine Resources
  - Restore Water Quality
  - Enhanced Environmental Resilience

Environmental Factors - Review

1. Create / Restore / Protect Habitats
2. Replenish / Protect Living Coast & Marine Resources
3. Restore Water Quality
4. Enhanced Environmental Resilience

Environmental Factors

- **Definitions (1 of 3):**
  - **Create (Habitat) —** refers to an environment manufactured by humans, which contains elements, sometimes synthetic, which would otherwise be found in a natural habitat, and are necessary to support a species. *Typical example: new artificial reefs.*
  - **Restore (Habitat) —** refers to converting lands back to their natural state. *Typical example: allowing lands that were once cleared (usually for agriculture) to re-forest.*
  - **Protect/Conserve (Habitat) —** a land management practice that seeks to maintain habitat areas for wild plants and animals and prevent their fragmentation or reduction in range. *Typical example: Perpetual land easements.*
  - **Offset through Mitigation (Habitat) —** refers to a project that includes one or more adverse environmental impacts, but requires a mitigation program as part of a regulatory environmental permitting process to create offsetting environmental benefits. *Typical example: wetland mitigation bank to compensate for taking of wetlands.*

Environmental Factors

- **Definitions (2 of 3):**
  - **Allowable/Permitted Impact (Habitat)** — refers to a project that includes adverse environmental impacts permissible per applicable development codes. *Typical example: upland clearing for new road.*
  - **Replenish (Coastal or Marine Resources)** — to furnish or promote a new supply through improved habitat, food sources, or a management plan. *Typical example: new artificial reefs.*
  - **Protect/Conserve (Coastal or Marine Resources)** — a management practice that seeks to maintain coastal or marine resources by preventing reduction in stock**.** *Typical example: reducing artificial lighting in turtle nesting areas.*
  - **Offset through Mitigation (Coastal or Marine Resources)** — refers to a project that includes one or more adverse environmental impacts, but requires a mitigation program as part of a regulatory environmental permitting process to create offsetting environmental benefits. *Typical example: replacement of littoral zone impacted by development.*

Environmental Factors

- **Definitions (3 of 3):**
  - **Improve (Water Quality)** — refers to improving the quality of a water source or water body through removal of sedimentation, pollutants, debris, etc. *Typical example: elimination of untreated stormwater runoff sources.*
  - **None/Permitted Impact (Water Quality)**— refers to a project that does not affect water quality or mitigates any potential adverse impacts per applicable development codes. *Typical example: stormwater treatment ponds to address runoff from a new road.*
  - **Environmental Resilience** — the capacity of a natural or improved system to survive or respond to a disturbance by resisting damage or recovering quickly from unforeseen changes and catastrophic incidents. *Typical example: erosion control measures, seawalls, etc.*

Environmental Factor #1:

Create / Restore / Protect Habitats

- **Which habitat is directly affected? "Marine", "Coastal", "Freshwater", "Estuarine", "Upland/Wildlife", "None", "Other"**
- **Which best describes the impact of your project on habitat? "Create", "Restore", "Protect/Conserve", "Offset through Mitigation / None", "Allowable/Permitted Impact"**
- **Identify geographical area impacted and provide information as it relates to creating, restoring, or protecting habitat (240 words max)**

Environmental Factor #1:

Create / Restore / Protect Habitats

- **Is your project intended to improve the habitat of a listed / managed / protected species?**
  - **If yes, what type?**
- **Is your project intended to reduce an invasive species within a habitat?**
  - **If yes, what type?**
- **Please provide any additional information on the above items (120 words max)**

Environmental Factor #1:

Create / Restore / Protect Habitats

- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to create, restore, or protect habitat?**
  - **If yes, please identify the adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan(s)**
- **Please provide any additional information on the above items to demonstrate compliance with the goals and objectives of the plan (120 words max)**
- **Please upload any supporting documentation**

Environmental Factor #2:

Replenish/Protect Living Coast & Marine Resources

- **Check the coastal or marine resources directly protected or restored by the project: "Finfish", "Shellfish", "Birds", "Mammals", "Reptiles", "Amphibians", "Coral", "Benthic Communities"**
- **Which best describes the impact of your project on coastal or marine resources? "Replenish", "Protect/Conserve", "Offset through Mitigation / None"**
- **Provide information as it relates to replenishing or protecting coastal or marine fisheries (240 words max).**

Environmental Factor #2:

Replenish/Protect Living Coast & Marine Resources

* **Does your project address one or more of the following?**
  - ❑ **Overfishing and bycatch**
  - ❑ **Marine resource data collection that includes fishery dependent or fishery independent data collection**
  - ❑ **Public access or use of inshore, coastal or offshore marine resources**
  - ❑ **Sustainable resource management of commercially & recreationally important activities (fishing, hunting, wildlife watching)**
  - ❑ **Increased resource stocks**
  - ❑ **Sediment management**
  - ❑ **Restoration or protection of natural estuarine, coastal, or riverine processes**
  - ❑ **Restoration or protection of natural shorelines or wetlands**
  - ❑ **Enforcement**

Environmental Factor #2:

Replenish/Protect Living Coast & Marine Resources

- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to replenish or protect coastal or marine resources?**
  - **If yes, please identify the adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan(s).**
- **Please provide any additional information on the above items to demonstrate compliance with the goals and objectives of the plan (120 words max)**
- **Please upload any supporting documentation**

Environmental Factor #3:

Water Quality

- **Which best describes the impact of your project on water quality? "Improve", "None/Permitted"**
- **Does your project benefit one or more of the following?**
  - ❑ **Fresh water resource (including aquifers)**
  - ❑ **Estuarine water resource**
  - ❑ **Marine water resource**
- **Identify the water source/body affected and provide information as it relates to improving water quality (240 words max)**

Environmental Factor #3:

Water Quality

* **Does your project address one or more of the following?**
  - ❑ **Implementation of watershed best management practices**
  - ❑ **Improved agricultural or silvicultural management practices**
  - ❑ **Improved stormwater management**
  - ❑ **Improved wastewater management**
  - ❑ **Sediment runoff management**
  - ❑ **Improve discharges to & withdrawals from critical systems**
  - ❑ **Reduce or treat nutrient or pollutant loading**
  - ❑ **Improve management of freshwater flows**

Environmental Factor #3:

Water Quality

- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to restore, improve or protect water quality?**
  - **If yes, please identify the adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan(s).**
- **Please provide any additional information on the above items to demonstrate compliance with the goals and objectives of the plan (120 words max)**
- **Please upload any supporting documentation**

Environmental Factor #4:

Enhanced Environmental Resilience

- **Does your project build and sustain the ability to protect against short-term and long-term natural and man-made hazards? If so, please indicate which areas are addressed:**
  - ❑ **Long-term land use planning related to management and sustainability of coastal resources**
  - ❑ **Acquisition or preservation of undeveloped lands in coastal high hazard areas**
  - ❑ **Storm and surge protection / rise in sea level**
  - ❑ **Risk assessments**
  - ❑ **Natural resource recovery planning**
  - ❑ **Ecosystem restoration through non-structural buffers against storms and flooding**
- **Provide information as it relates to enhancing environmental resilience (240 words max)**

Environmental Factor #4:

Enhanced Environmental Resilience

- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to enhance environmental resilience?**
  - **If yes, please identify the adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan(s).**
- **Please provide any additional information on the above items to demonstrate compliance with the goals and objectives of the plan (120 words max)**
- **Please upload any supporting documentation**

Environmental Factors

The RESTORE Act suggests each project include a mechanism to evaluate the success of the project in helping to restore and protect the Gulf Coast region.

* **Following completion of the project & after funding has ended, will the project be subject to a monitoring program to evaluate project success?**
* **Will the project be subject to a management/maintenance program to ensure project success?**
* **Provide information on how the project will be monitored and maintained as well as the party (or parties) responsible for performing these tasks (240 words max).**

Proposed Environmental Factor Scoring

Environmental Factor #1

Create / Restore / Protect Habitats

- **Which best describes the impact of your project on habitat? "Create" (6 pts), "Restore" (4 pts), "Protect/Conserve" (2 pts), "Offset through Mitigation / None" (0 pts), "Permitted Activity Resulting in Environmental Degradation" (-2 pts)**
- **Is your project intended to improve the habitat of a listed / managed / protected species? "Yes" (1 pt), "No" (0 pts)**
- **Is your project intended to reduce an invasive species within a habitat? "Yes" (1 pt), "No" (0 pts)**
- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to create, restore, or protect habitat? "Yes" (2 pt), "No" (0 pts)**

Environmental Factor #2:

Replenish/Protect Living Coast & Marine Resources

- **Which best describes project impact on coastal or marine resources? "Replenish" (4 pts), "Protect/Conserve" (2 pts), "Offset through Mitigation / None" (0 pts)**
- **Does your project address one or more of the following? (0.5 pts for every category selected**

Overfishing and bycatch	Sediment management
Marine resource data collection	Restoration or protection of natural estuarine, coastal, or riverine processes
Public access or use of inshore, coastal or offshore marine resources	Restoration or protection of natural shorelines or wetlands
Sustainable resource mgt of commercially & recreationally important activities	Enforcement
Increased resource stocks	

- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to replenish or protect coastal or marine resources? "Yes" (2 pt), "No" (0 pts)**

Environmental Factor #3:

Water Quality

- **Which best describes the impact of your project on water quality? "Improve" (4 pts), "None/Permitted" (0 pts)**
- **Does your project address one or more of the following? (0.5 pts for every category selected**

Implementation of watershed best mgt practices	Sediment runoff management
Improved agricultural or silvicultural mgt practices	Improve discharges to & withdrawals from critical systems
Improved stormwater management	Reduce or treat nutrient or pollutant loading
Improved wastewater management	Improve management of freshwater flows

- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to restore, improve or protect water quality? "Yes" (2 pt), "No" (0 pts)**

Environmental Factor #4:

Enhanced Environmental Resilience

- **Does your project build and sustain the ability to protect against short-term and long-term natural and man-made hazards? (1 pt for every category selected)**
  - ❑ **Long-term land use planning related to management and sustainability of coastal resources**
  - ❑ **Acquisition or preservation of undeveloped lands in coastal high hazard areas**
  - ❑ **Storm and surge protection / rise in sea level**
  - ❑ **Risk assessments**
  - ❑ **Natural resource recovery planning**
  - ❑ **Ecosystem restoration through non-structural buffers against storms and flooding**
- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to enhance environmental resilience? "Yes" (2 pt), "No" (0 pts)**

Project Examples

Example 1 – Roads to Riches (EF1)

- **Which best describes the impact of your project on habitat? "Permitted activity resulting in environmental degradation" (-2 pts)**
- **Is your project intended to improve the habitat of a listed / managed / protected species? "No" (0 pts)**
- **Is your project intended to reduce an invasive species within a habitat? "No" (0 pts)**
- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to create, restore, or protect habitat? "No" (0 pts)**

Example 1 – Roads to Riches (EF2)

- **Which best describes project impact on coastal or marine resources? "Offset through Mitigation / None" (0 pts)**
- **Does your project address one or more of the following? (0.5 pts for every category selected) "None selected" (0 pts)**
- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to replenish or protect coastal or marine resources? "No" (0 pts)**

Example 1 – Roads to Riches (EF3)

- **Which best describes the impact of your project on water quality? "None/Permitted" (0 pts)**
- **Does your project address one or more of the following? (0.5 pts for every category selected) "None selected" (0 pts)**
- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to improve water quality? "No" (0 pts)**

Example 1 – Roads to Riches (EF4)

* **Does your project build and sustain the ability to protect against short-term and long-term natural and man-made hazards? (1 pt for every category selected) "None selected" (0 pts)**
* **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to enhance environmental resilience? "No" (0 pts)**

Example 1 – Roads to Riches Point Summary

- **Create / Restore / Protect Habitats: -2 pts**
- **Replenish / Protect Living Coast & Marine Resources: 0 pts**
- **Restore Water Quality: 0 pts**
- **Enhanced Environmental Resilience: 0 pts**

- **Total score for Environmental Factors: -2 pts**

Example 2 – Fishy Tails (EF1)

- **Which best describes the impact of your project on habitat? "Offset through Mitigation / None" (0 pts)**
- **Is your project intended to improve the habitat of a listed / managed / protected species? "No" (0 pt)**
- **Is your project intended to reduce an invasive species within a habitat? "Yes" (1 pt)**
- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to create, restore, or protect habitat? "Yes" (2 pt)**

Example 2 – Fishy Tails (EF2)

- Which best describes project impact on coastal or marine resources? "Protect/Conserve" (2 pts)
- Does your project address one or more of the following? (0.5 pts for every category selected) (1 pt)
  - Marine resource data collection
  - Sustainable resource mgt of commercially & recreationally important activities
- Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to replenish or protect coastal or marine resources? "Yes" (2 pt)

Example 2 – Fishy Tails (EF3)

* **Which best describes the impact of your project on water quality? "None/Permitted" (0 pts)**
* **Does your project address one or more of the following? (0.5 pts for every category selected) "None selected" (0 pts)**
* **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to improve water quality? "No" (0 pts)**

Example 2 – Fishy Tails (EF4)

- **Does your project build and sustain the ability to protect against short-term and long-term natural and man-made hazards? (1 pt for every category selected) "None selected" (0 pts)**
- **Is the project consistent with the goals of an adopted local, regional, state, or national comprehensive plan to enhance environmental resilience? "No" (0 pts)**

Example 2 – Fishy Tails Point Summary

- **Create / Restore / Protect Habitats: 3 pts**
- **Replenish / Protect Living Coast & Marine Resources: 5 pts**
- **Restore Water Quality: 0 pts**
- **Enhanced Environmental Resilience: 0 pts**

- **Total score for Environmental Factors: 8 pts**

ORAC
Open Discussion

Project Size Funding Thresholds

- Difficult to accurately establish
  - Number of project size categories
  - Thresholds for categories
  - Percentage of the total distribution per category
- Recommend a "micro project" set-aside
  - Project / initiative can not exceed $100K (*suggestion*)
  - "Fence" 10% of total distribution (*suggestion*)
    - Low end: $2.9M (nearly 30 projects @ max value)
    - High end: $11.8M (nearly 120 projects @ max value)
- Simplified Data Collection Tool – think 1040 vs 1040EZ

Quantitative Factor Significance

- Critical step in model development
- Will most likely be iterative in nature
- Should consider all internal and external factors
  - Knowledge of County's needs
  - BCC priorities
  - Other sources of fund
- Survey to establish range of factor significance

Public Comment