Environmental Compliance Readiness

Bucket 2 – Council Selected Restoration Component

PROPOSAL TITLE

Apalachicola Bay Watershed Restoration

LOCATION

Florida

SPONSOR(S)

Florida

TYPE OF FUNDING REQUESTED (Planning, Technical Assistance, Implementation):

Planning, Technical Assistance and Implementation

REVIEWED BY:

John Ettinger

DATE:

February 5, 2015

If Planning and/or Technical Assistance

1. Does the submission identify environmental laws potentially applicable at the implementation stage:

(●) YES ( ) NO ( ) N/A

Comments

A range of environmental laws could apply to the proposed activity, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Coastal Zone Management Act, Endangered Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Act, Clean Water Act and more. The Council could consider funding the planning and technical assistance portion of this submission separately from the implementation portion. If the planning and technical assistance portion of the submission is funded, the Council recommends the sponsor coordinate as early as possible with federal and state regulatory agencies to confirm all applicable regulatory requirements have been identified and help ensure such requirements are addressed as efficiently as possible. NEPA and other applicable environmental laws would need to be addressed prior to consideration by the Council of whether or not to fund the implementation portion of this submission.

If Implementation

1. Status of compliance with environmental laws applicable to a Council decision to include the submission on the Funded Priority List:

Some activities in this submission could be covered by NEPA Categorical Exclusions (CEs). Additional review is needed regarding the use of CEs, including review of any extraordinary circumstances, as well as compliance with other applicable laws. In addition, certain components of this submission may be covered by an existing Programmatic Environmental Assessment, prepared pursuant to NEPA. The Council could fund the planning and technical assistance portion of this submission, which could include completion of these environmental compliance activities. As noted above, NEPA and other applicable environmental laws would need to be addressed prior to consideration by the Council of whether or not to fund the implementation portion of this submission.