



Consultant Services for the

Development of the Gulf Consortium's State
Expenditure Plan required by the

RESTORE act



Presentation Outline

- **Consultant Team Overview**
- **SEP Development Strategy**
- **Funding & Goal Setting**
- **Project Nomination**
- **Project Evaluation**
- **Public Involvement**



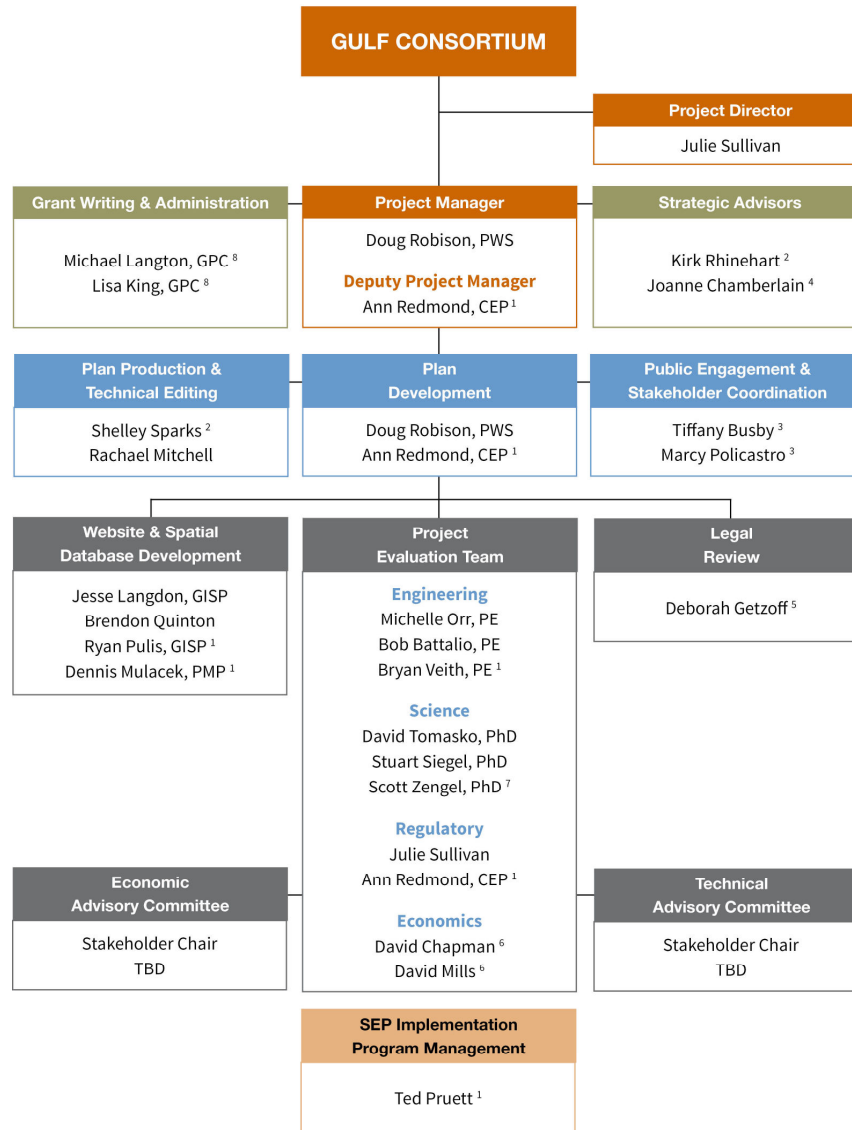
Consultant Team Overview

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Project Team Organization



Subconsultant Legend

- 1 - Brown and Caldwell
- 2 - Royal Engineers & Consultants
- 3 - Wildwood Consulting, Inc.

- 4 - Private Consultant
- 5 - Lewis, Longman, & Walker, PA
- 6 - Stratus Consulting

- 7 - Research Planning, Inc.
- 8 - Langton Associates



Project Team Firms & Roles



Environmental Science Associates (ESA)
Prime Consultant



Brown and Caldwell (BC)
Technical & Planning Support



Wildwood Consulting, Inc.
Public Engagement



Royal Engineers & Consultants (Royal)
Technical & Planning Support



Stratus Consulting, Inc.
Economic Analysis



Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. (LLW)
Legal Analysis



Research Planning, Inc., (RPI)
Technical Support & Coordination



Langton Associates
Grant Writing & Administration



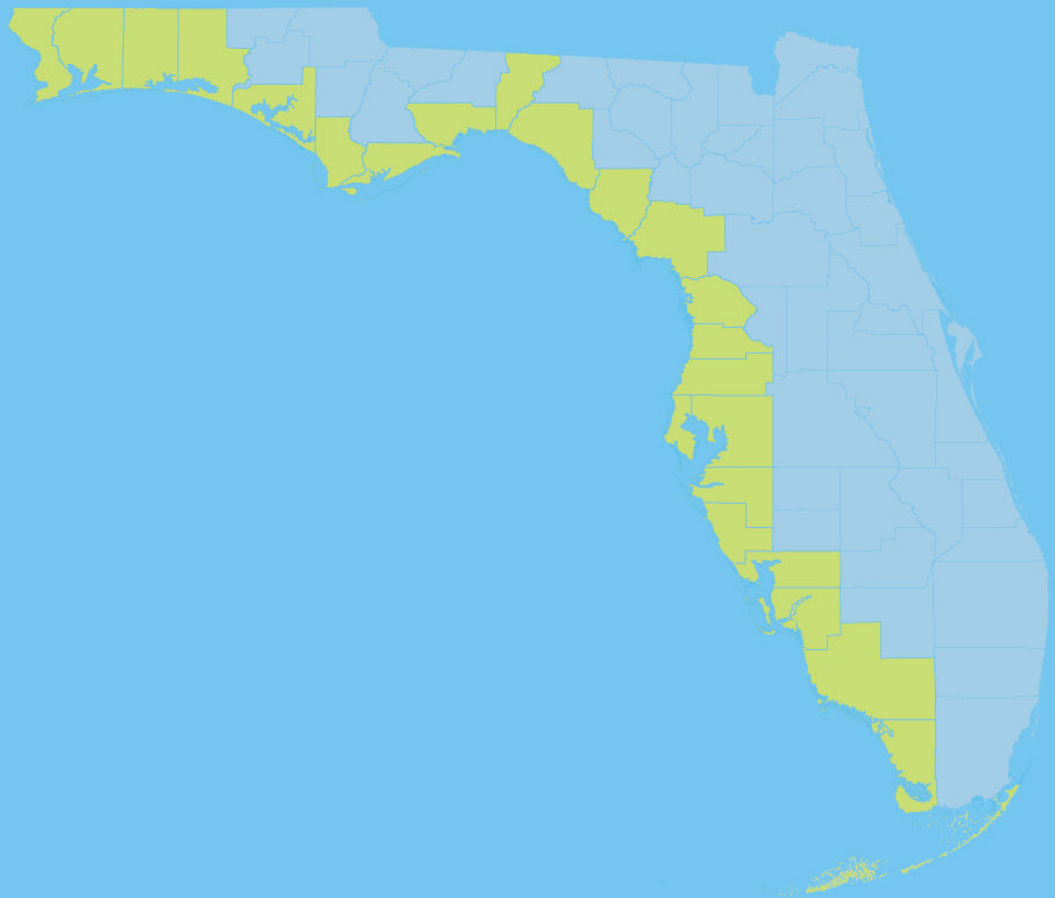
About ESA

- Formed in 1969
- 100% employee-owned
- 350 technical staff
- 14 offices nationwide
 - Tampa
 - Orlando
- Science & planning is our core business
 - Major focus on ecosystem restoration
- 62% state/regional/local government clients
- *This project is what we do!*



SEP Development Strategy

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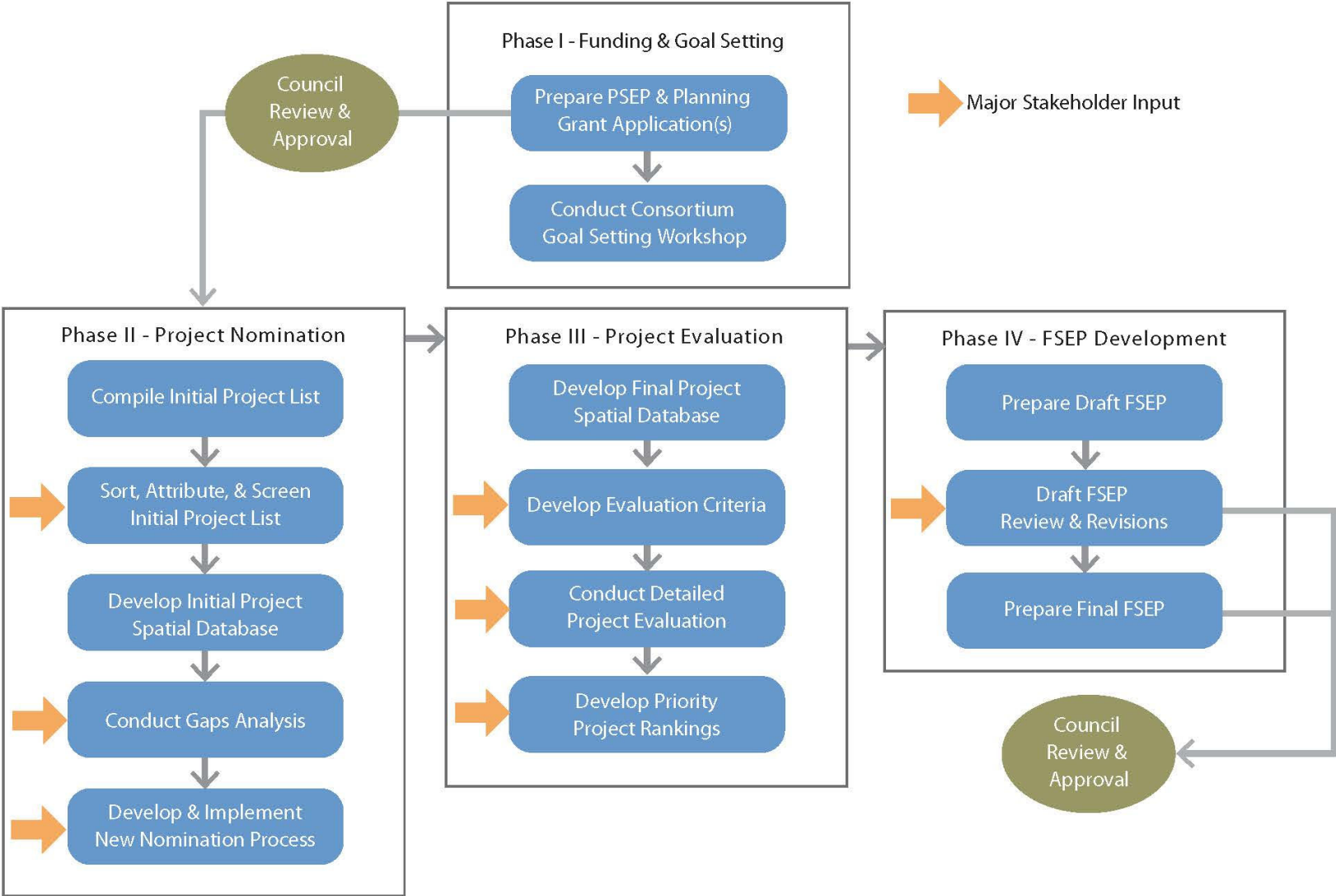


Challenges Unique to Florida

- Multiple environmental and economic themes
 - Water quality and watershed management
 - Job creation and economic development
 - Community resilience and sustainability
- Extensive coastline with many major watersheds
- Diverse range of ecosystems
- Uncertain and dynamic funding environment
- Disparate resources and interests among the 23 Gulf Coast counties

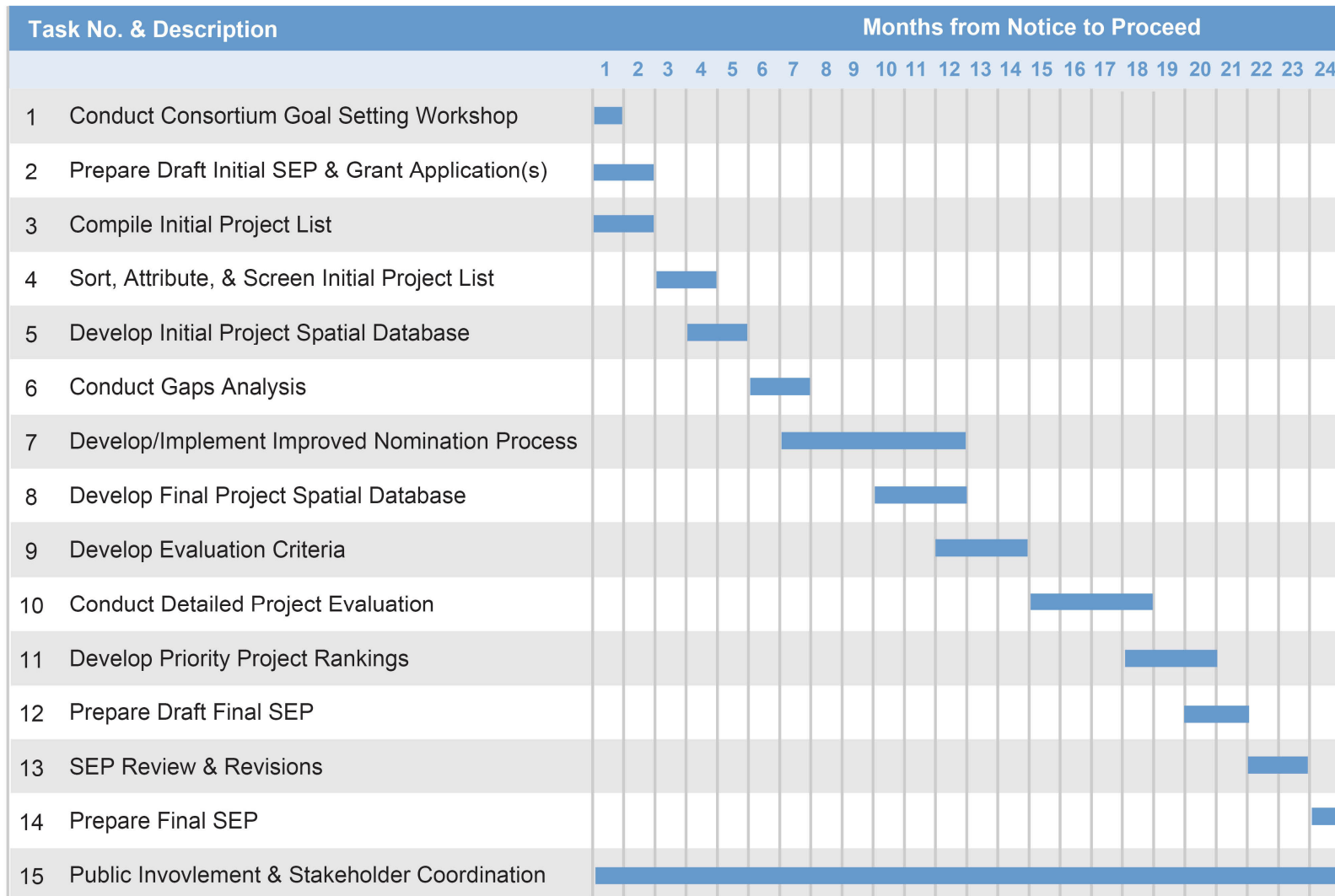


Project Flow Diagram



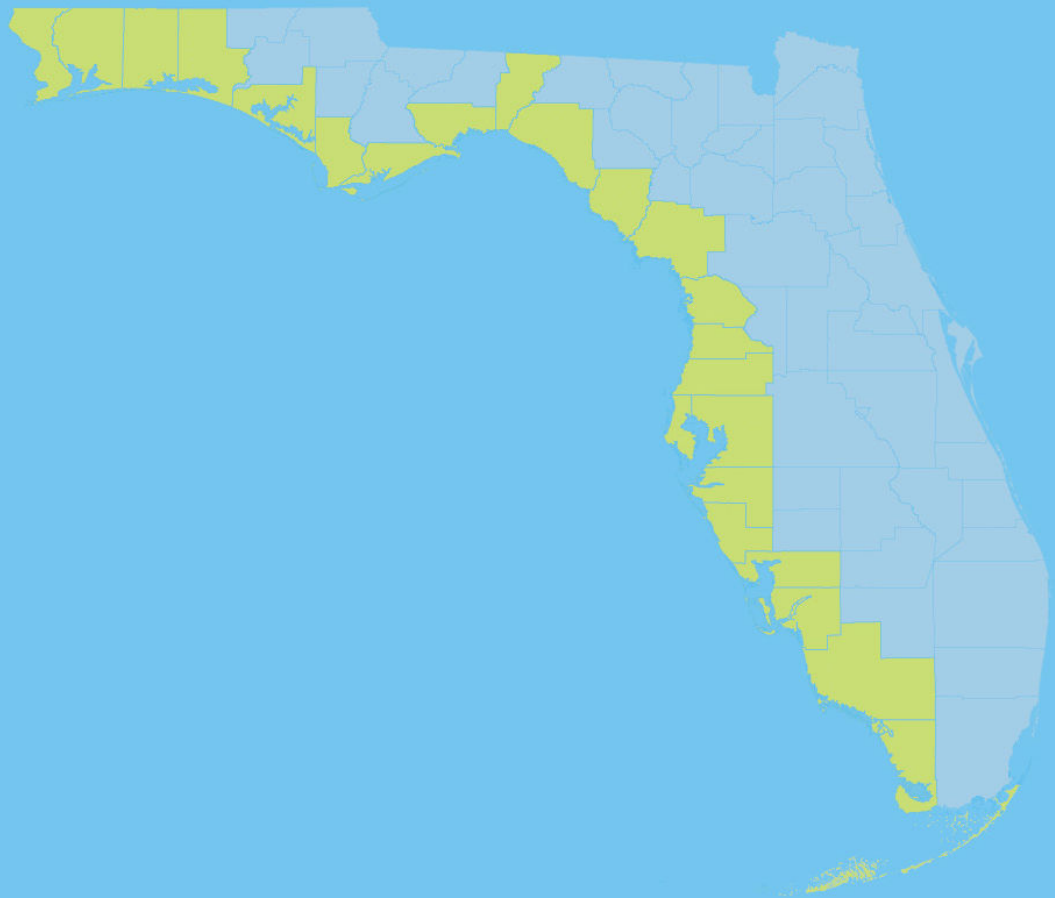


Project Schedule

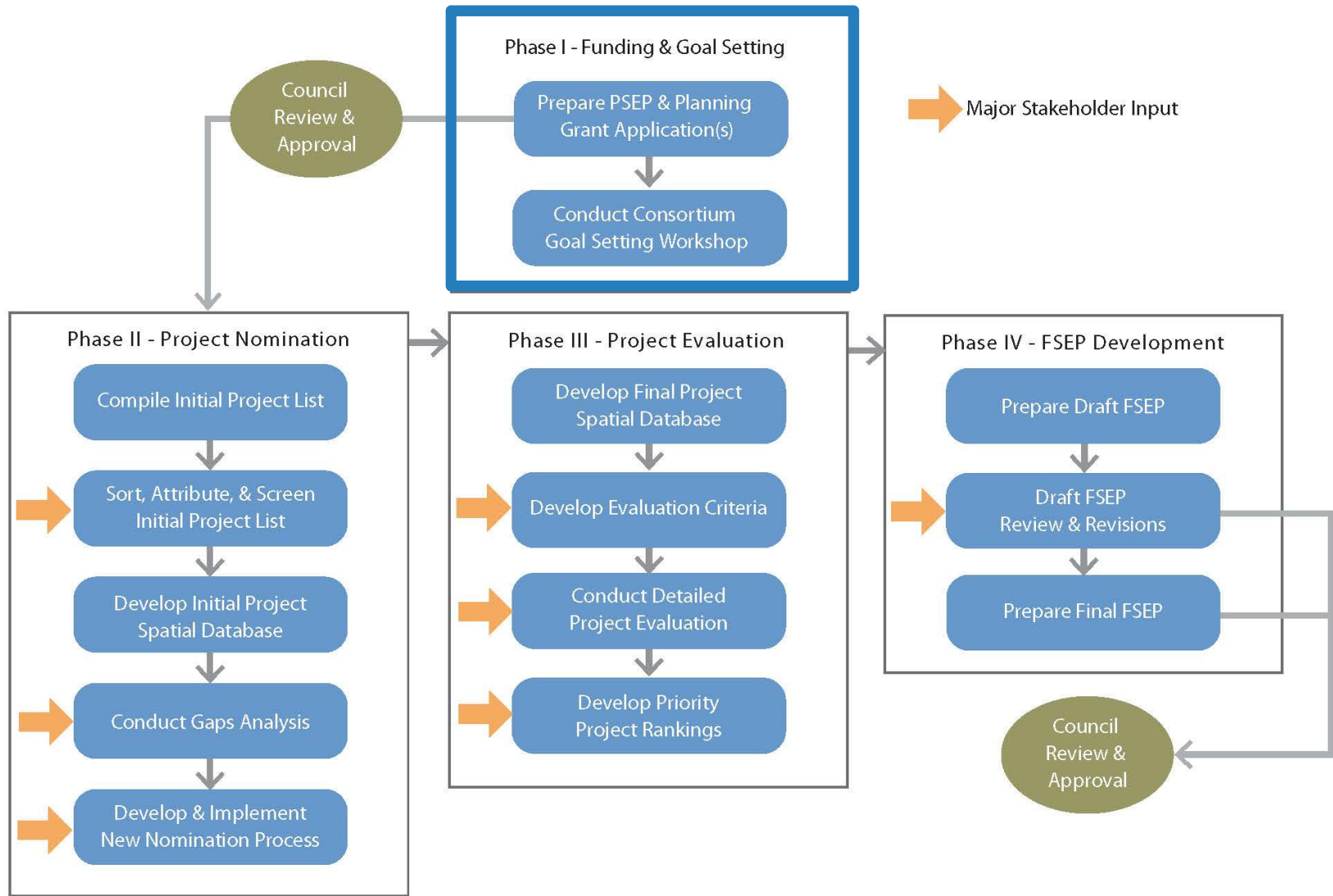


Funding & Goal Setting

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First Things First



Planning State Expenditure Plan (PSEP)

- Step one of a two-step process
 - PSEP approval by Council Chair
 - Administrative planning grant approval by Council
- Formulaic content defined by Council rule
 - Planning approach
 - Financial and conflict of interest controls
 - Exclusive purpose (\$ can only be used for)
 - Preparation of SEP
 - Conceptual design and feasibility studies
 - Excluded projects (\$ cannot be used for)
 - Infrastructure improvements
 - Engineering design for specific projects

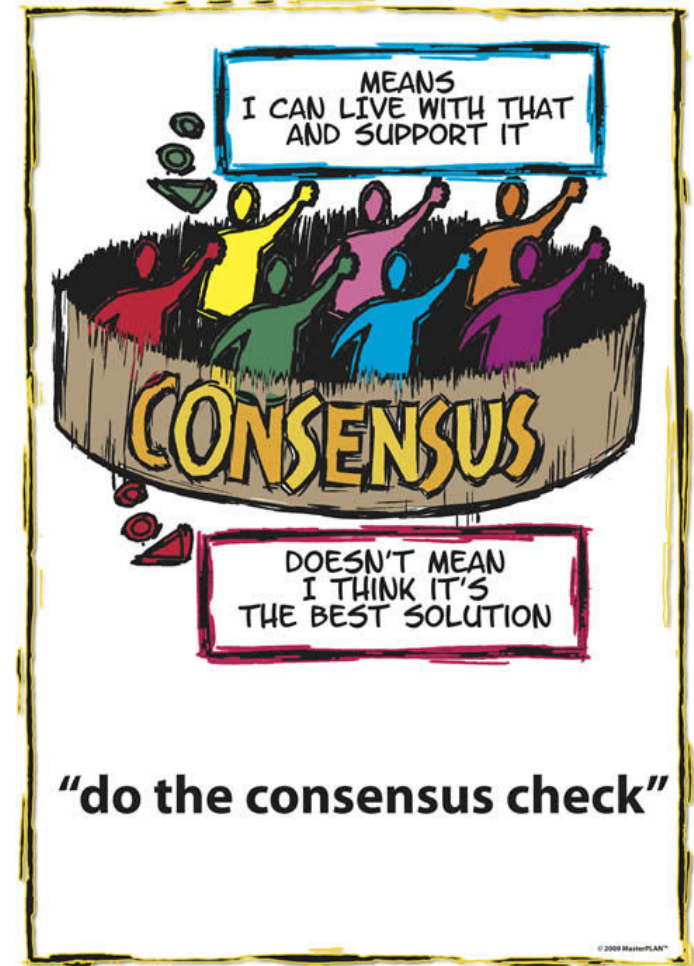


Administrative Planning Grant

- Up to 5% of Trust Fund balance available to each Gulf State for planning activities
- Planning funds are non-competitive
- Approximately \$9.8 million is available to Florida
- Pre-award planning and operational costs may be reimbursable
 - Post-August 22, 2014 costs reimbursable upon approval of planning grant
 - Pre- August 22, 2014 costs reimbursable upon approval of the SEP

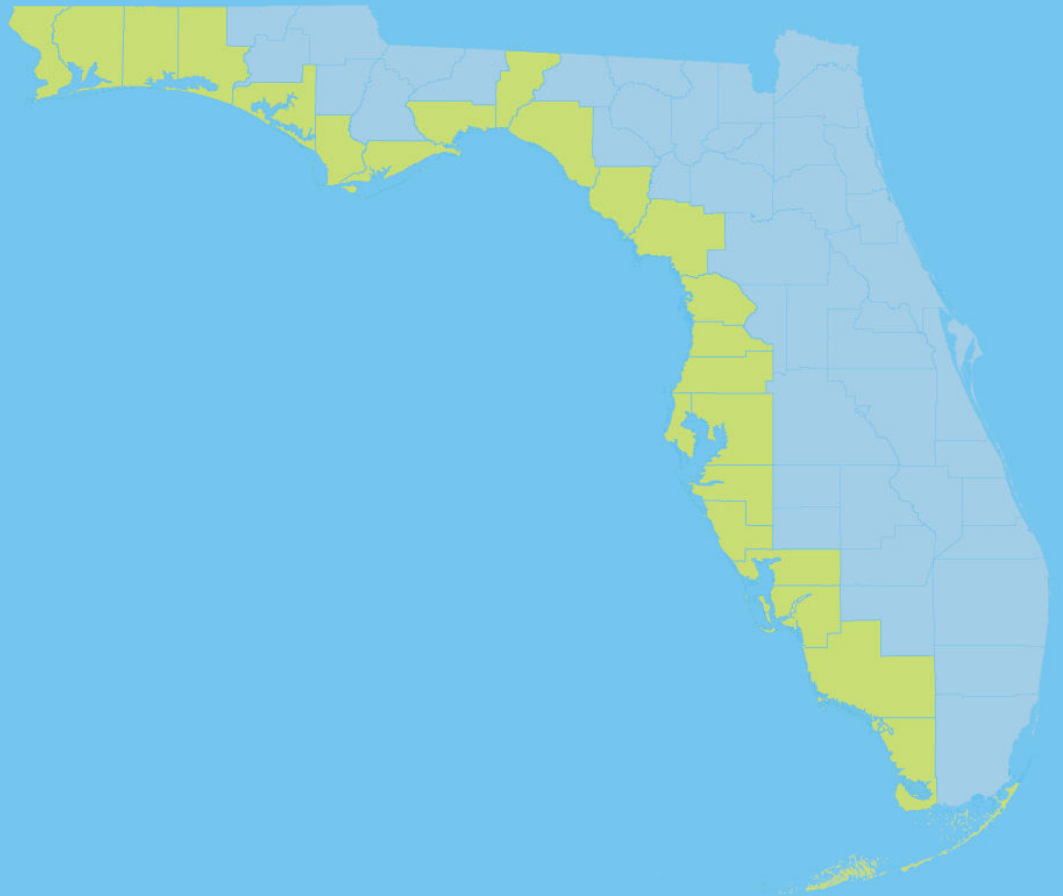
Goal Setting Workshop

- Facilitated workshop with the full Gulf Consortium
- Build on previous “Visioning” session
- Develop a consensus of support for the SEP:
 - Planning process
 - Goals and objectives
 - Measures of success

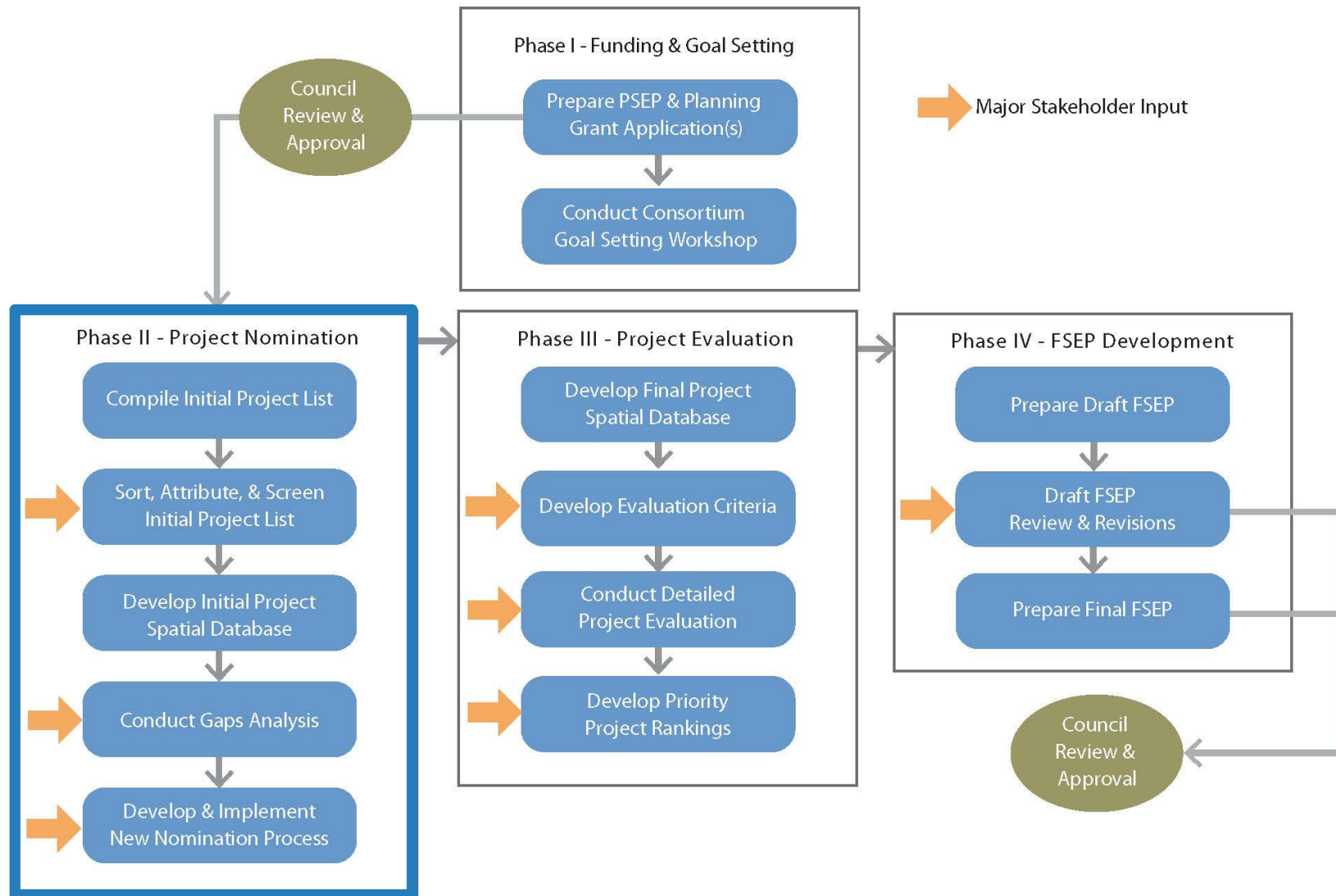


Project Nomination

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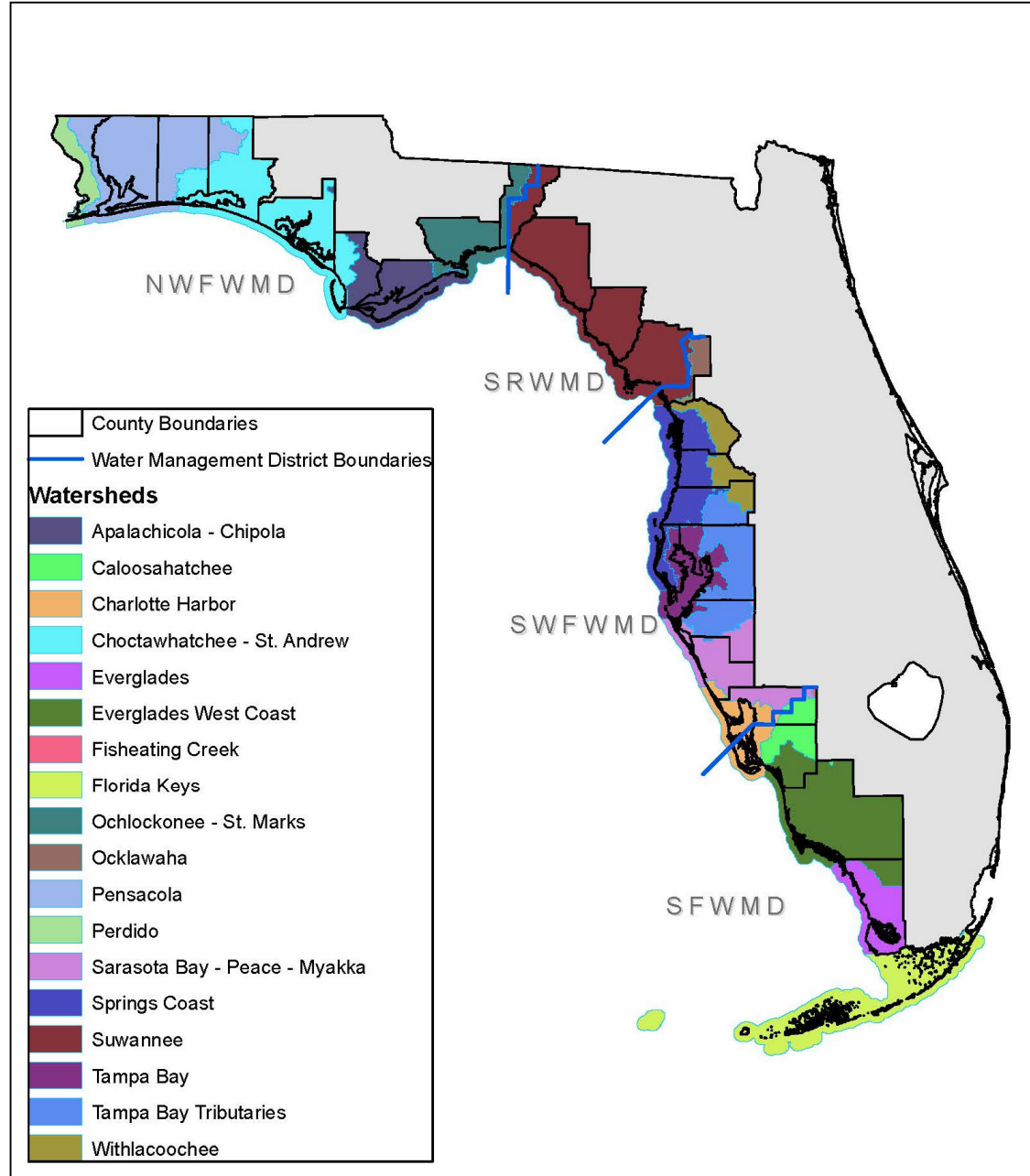
Project Nomination Phase



Project Nomination Tasks

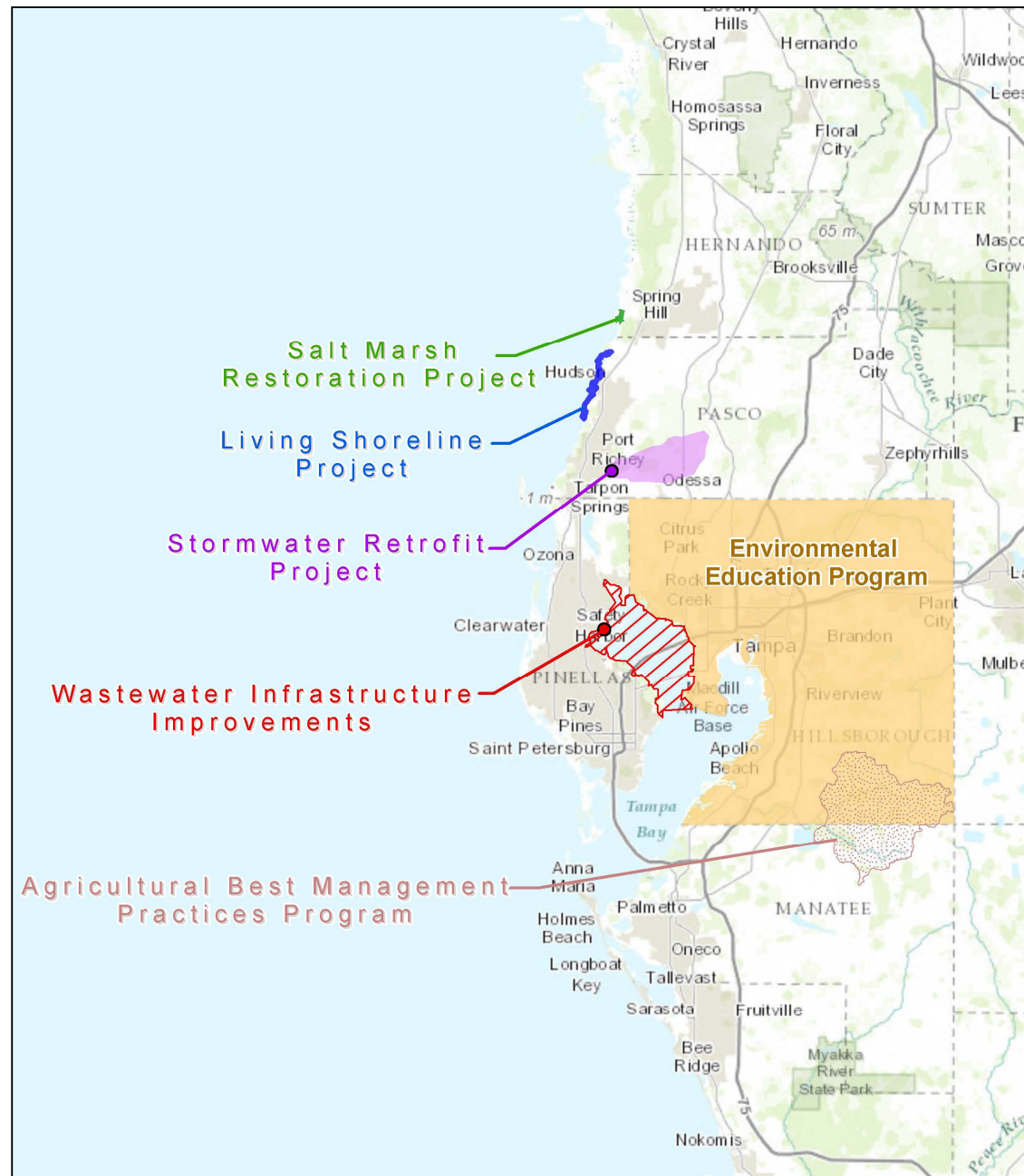
- Sort and attribute existing project list
 - Project type
 - Major watershed
 - County jurisdiction(s)
- Develop project spatial database
- Conduct gaps analysis
 - Appropriate balance of project types
 - Appropriate geographic distribution of projects
- Develop & implement new nomination process
 - Develop improved online portal for new project submittals
 - Solicit new project ideas through public involvement

Geographical Boundaries for Project Groupings





Example GIS Database of Nominated Projects

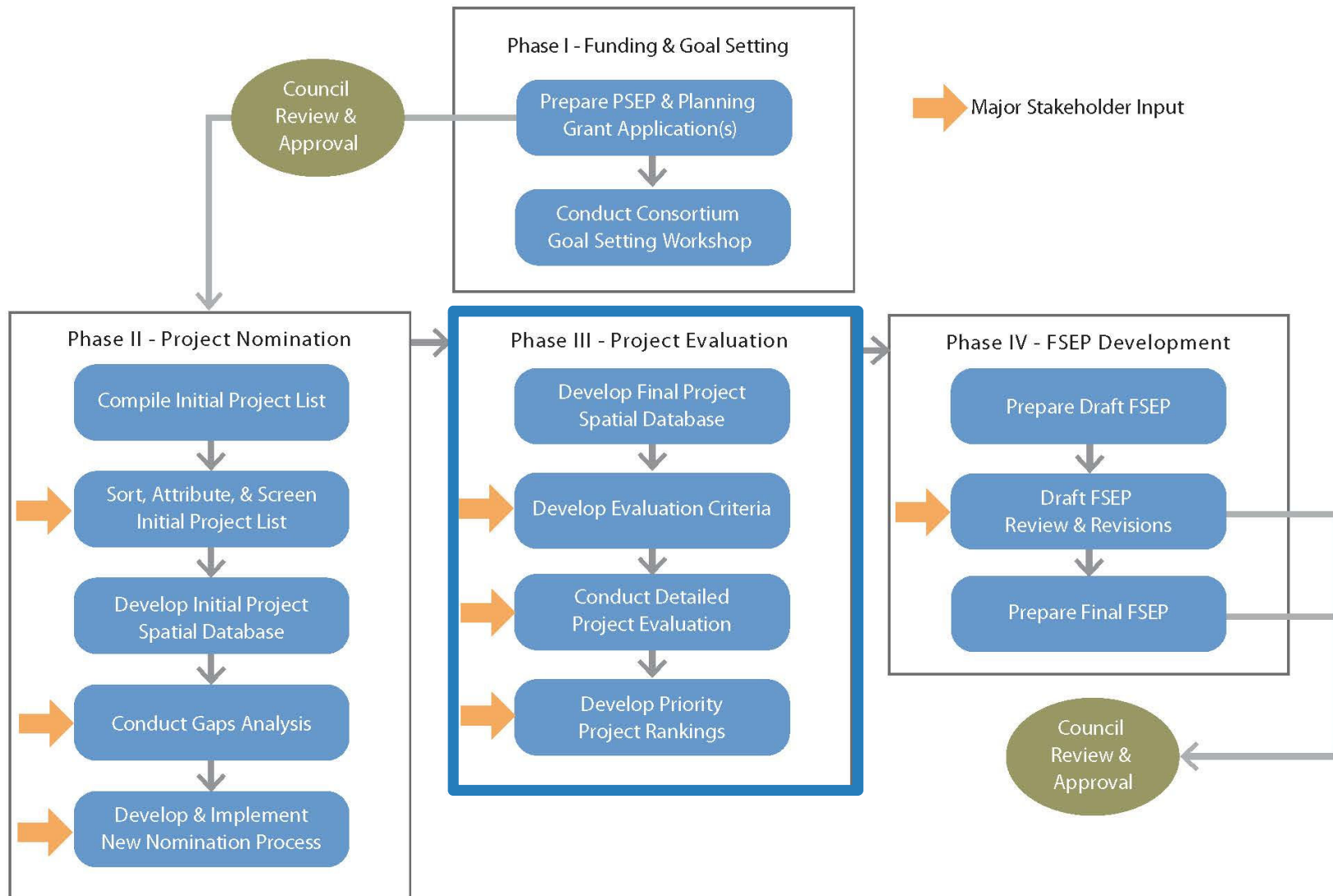


Project Evaluation

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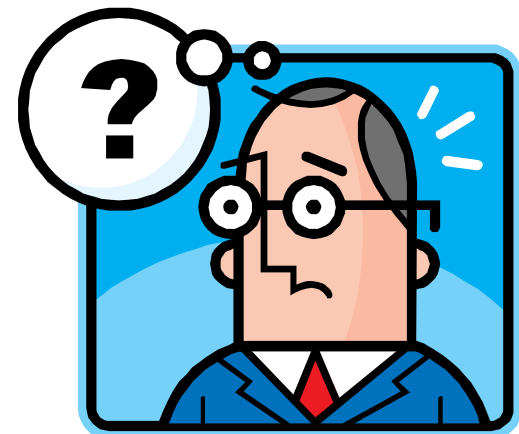


Project Evaluation Phase



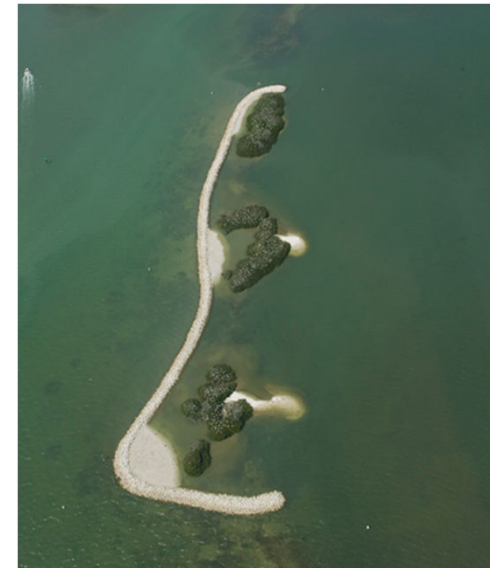
Evaluation & Ranking Challenges

- Developing a fair process that is understandable and transparent to stakeholders while also being technically robust
- Developing “common currencies” to allow for fair comparison of highly disparate project types
 - Ecosystem benefits
 - Socio-economic benefits
 - Costs



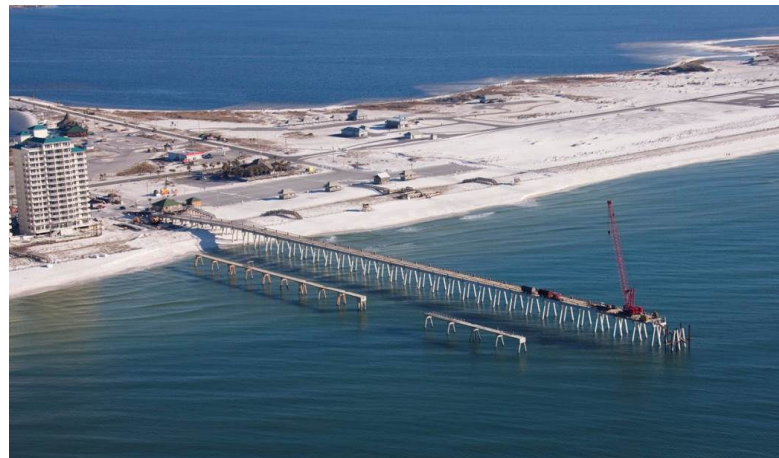
Project Evaluation Tasks

- Develop project evaluation criteria
 - Technical basis
 - Feasibility
- Conduct detailed project evaluation
 - Project screening
 - Project evaluation
 - Benefit/cost and ROI analysis
- Develop priority project rankings
 - Multiple cut lines



Examples of Technical Basis Criteria

- Address multiple Council goals/objectives?
- Address a documented need or problem?
- Provide immediate or lagged benefits?
- Have a high probability for long-term success?
- Benefit multiple natural resources?
- Mitigate or adapt to sea level rise?



Examples of Feasibility Criteria

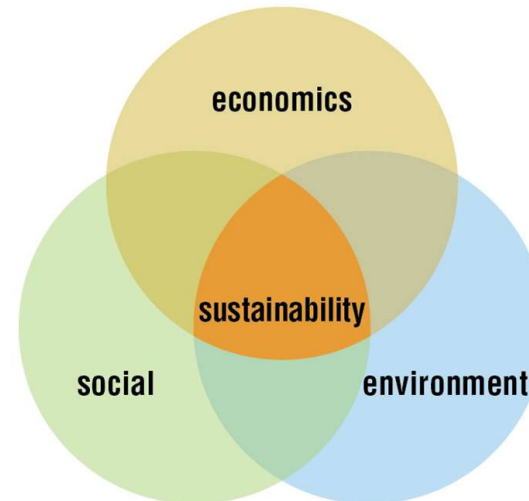
- Engineering design tested and well-proven?
- Cost estimate reasonable?
- Permittable under current regulations?
- Consistent with applicable federal/state policies?
- Acceptable to the affected public?
- Implementable by the proposing entity?



Triple Bottom Line Analysis

- Conducted within the cost-benefit/ROI framework
- Integrates three factors into the “bottom line” analysis

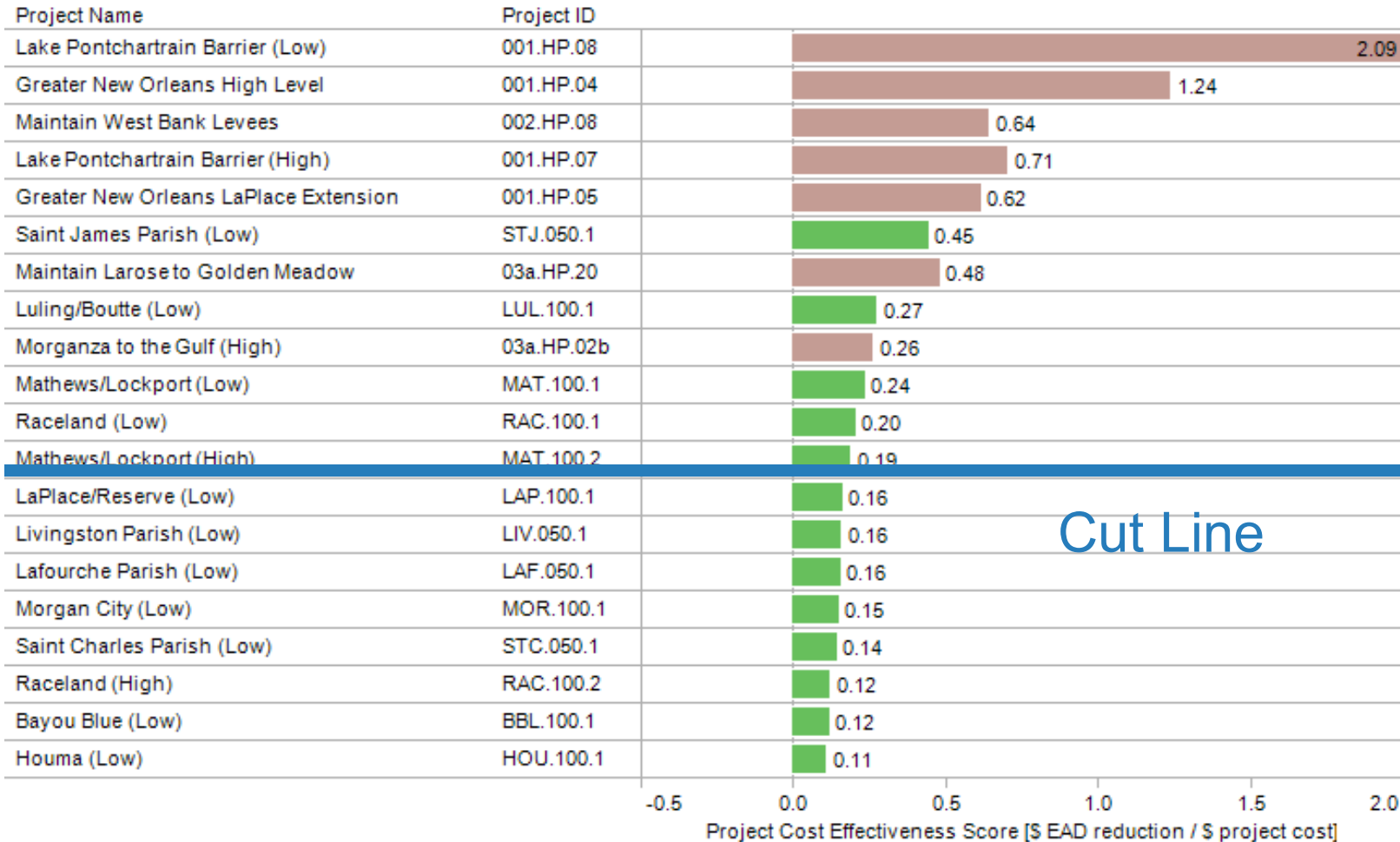
- Environmental
- Social
- Economic



- Allows for transparent balancing of various costs and benefits
- Offsets the difficulty in monetizing some costs and benefits



Example of Priority Project Rankings

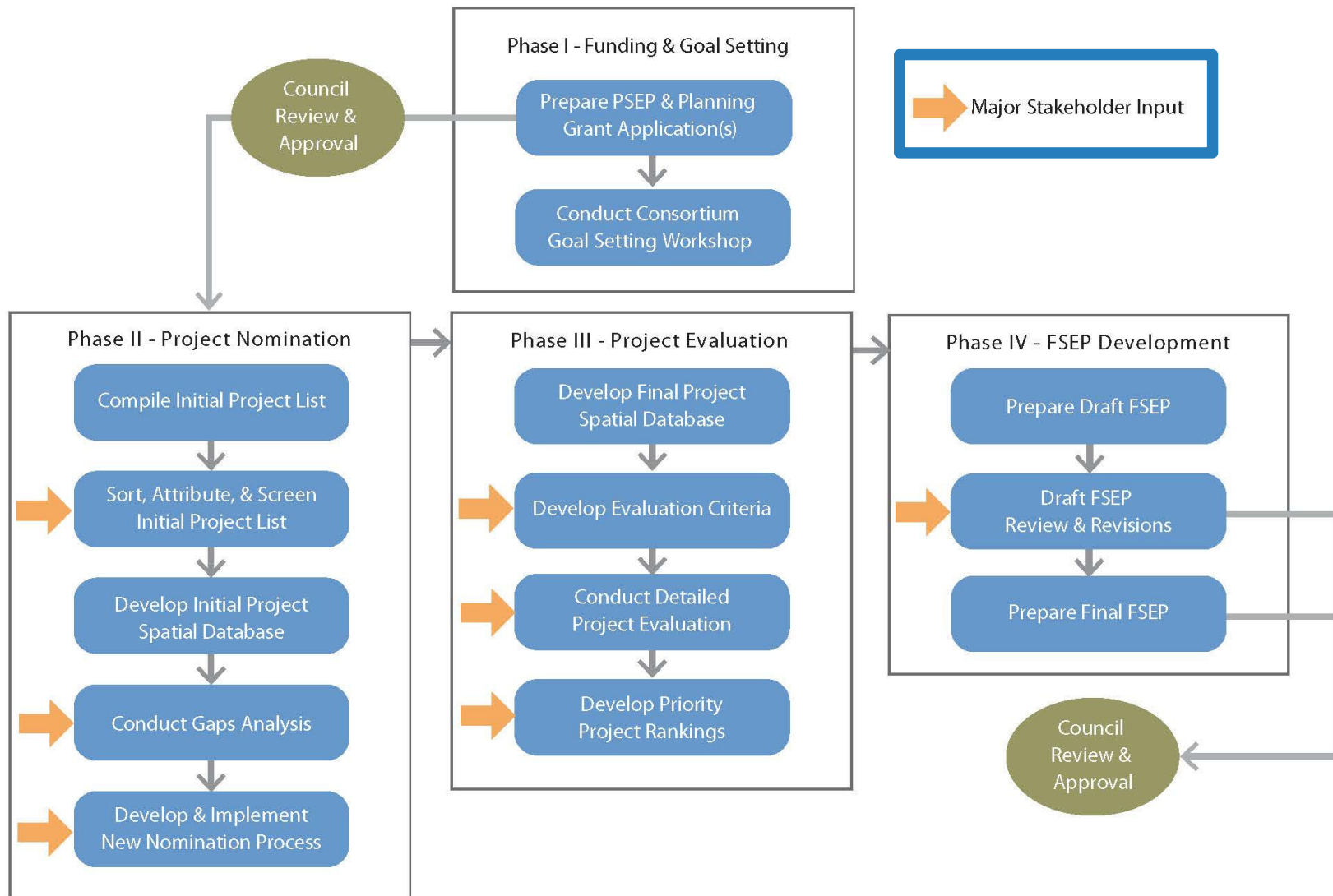


Public Involvement

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Major Stakeholder Input

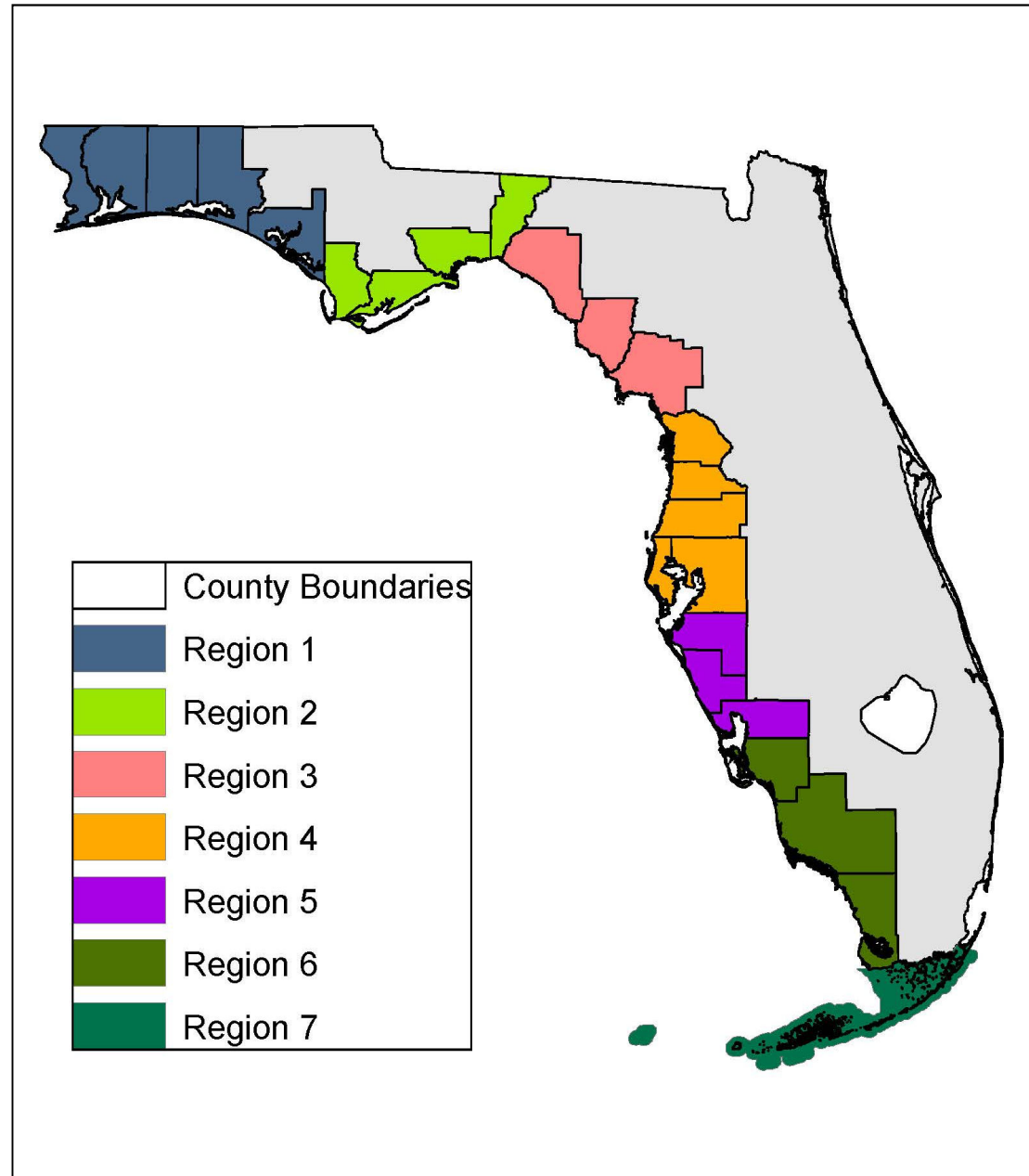


Public Involvement Goals

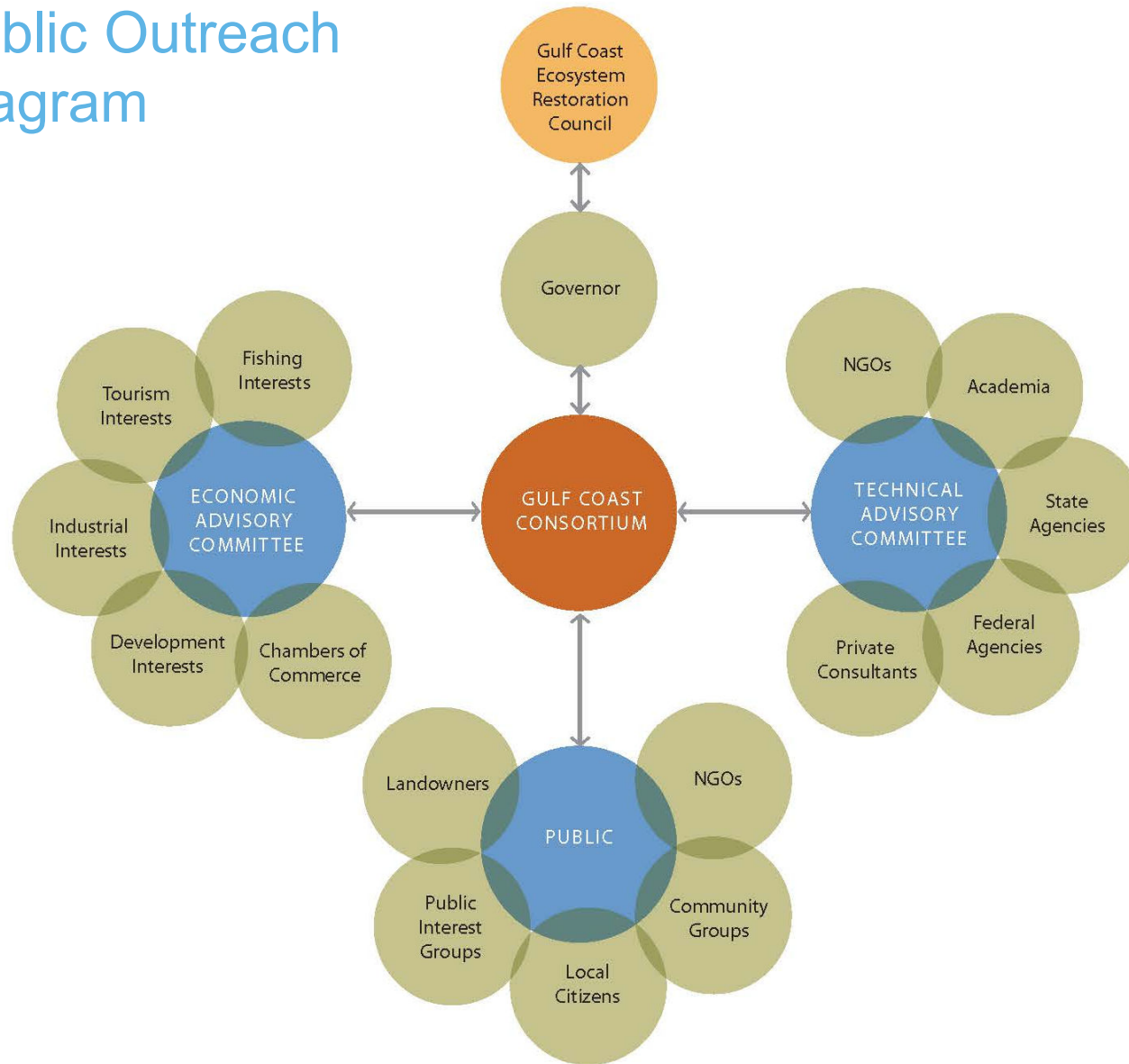
- The SEP planning process is transparent and fair
- All interests and viewpoints are heard and properly considered
- A broad consensus of support for the SEP is obtained from the major stakeholders



Regional Boundaries for Stakeholder Meetings



Public Outreach Diagram





Best Available Science

“Maximizes the quality, objectivity, and integrity of information, including statistical information; uses peer-reviewed and publicly available data; and clearly documents and communicates risks and uncertainties in the scientific basis for such projects.”



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

- Role of TAC is to ensure that the SEP planning process:
 - Uses the “best available science”
 - Support a science-based decision process
- TAC composed of scientists, engineers, planners and economists with related restoration experience, from:
 - Government agencies (DEP, FWC, WMDs, NEPs)
 - Universities (FIO, UF, FSU, USF, UWF)
 - Private sector (industry experts, consultants)
 - Science-based NGOs (TNC, NWF)

Economic Advisory Committee (EAC)

- Role of EAC is to ensure that the SEP planning process:
 - Properly accounts for economic factors
 - Balances the viewpoints of affected economic interests
- EAC composed of representatives from various business organizations:
 - Commercial & recreation fishing
 - Tourism
 - Industry & development interests
 - Chambers of commerce
 - Major land owners

Advisory Committee Involvement

- EAC and TAC will review and provide input on:
 - Project evaluation criteria
 - Project screening, classification and evaluation
 - Gap analyses
 - Project ranking
 - Technical issues
 - Draft and final SEP documents
- EAC and TAC will participate in:
 - Periodic meetings, conference calls, webinars
 - Reports and presentations to GC and stakeholders





Ongoing Governmental Coordination

- Individual Gulf counties
- Gulf Consortium
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Other State agencies
- Florida Governor
- Restoration Council



Comments & Questions

