Project Selection Criteria (Public Access Projects)

The DMR will initially determine whether a submitted proposal is eligible and whether the application contains all required information. After this initial screening, the DMR will use the following criteria to rate and rank proposals received in response to the notice of funding availability and proposal guidelines. The maximum number of points is (100) one hundred. Each criterion is assigned a weighted percent. The weighted percentage creates a distinction between the different criteria and their level of importance within the application. Each proposal will be judged on its own merits using the following criteria.

The criteria and maximum weighted points for each criterion are provided below:

Categories	Weighted Percentage
Need	20%
Performance Competence	10%
Relevance	30%
Technical Approach	15%
Linkages	10%
Budget	15%

Explanation of Categories

Need – What specifically is the need or problem being addressed? Why is the project needed – locally, regionally, or statewide? What are the current assets or current inadequacies/gaps? Is the need justified with data (scientific, social or demographic data)? How will the coastal community and state benefit?

Performance Competence – The likelihood of project success, based on applicant's resources and personnel, as well as past history with similar projects

Relevance – Does the project meet the goals and objectives of the Tidelands Trust Fund Program as related to the enhancement of Public Access? Is this project consistent with the Mississippi Coastal Program? What are the deliverables of the project and how will they enhance Coastal Management Resources or management issues?

Technical Approach – To what level has all necessary engineering and other planning/specifications requirements been supplied in conjunction with this application. Is this project eligible for permitting? Is this project currently permitted? Is the timeframe for completion of the project included?

Linkages – Does this project establish connections to existing or planned projects, activities or needs of the overall community as they relate to Public Trust Tidelands? Does the project enhance or support participation in boating, fishing, hunting, wildlife watching, or other outdoor recreational activities? Does the project enhance access to coastal ecosystems and view sheds? Does the project enhance or support educational activities? What is the proximity of this project to other tidelands projects or public access projects?

Budget – Is the budget complete and appropriate for the scale of the project? What resources are needed to successfully carry out and manage the project? Does it identify any cost savings, e.g., in-kind services or volunteer labor? Does it show total cost, as well as the amount being requested? Does it provide itemized breakdown associated with major activities? Is there a close match-up between the scope of work and budget request? Does it mention how long term maintenance will be funded?