



**Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Grants System Acquisition Recommendation
Steering Committee Meeting
April 25, 2018**



RAAMS support ending

9/25/2017 Letter from Altum announcing the end of Easygrants (RAAMS) support after October 2021

Stood up a Task Force to develop requirements and provide recommendation to Council

No longer developing enhancements; concerns regarding responsiveness of technical support

Less than 3 years to migrate to a new system

Lessons from the 360 group will be included in analysis

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Grants Program 360 Review

PURPOSE: To ensure that the RESTORE Grant Programs are managed as efficiently as possible

Council Members engage in the process of improvement

Gather Actionable Information

Develop improved processes

Intended Outcomes

- reduced burdens on member and Council staff
- faster turn-around of grant processes

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Grant System Acquisition Task Force

Purpose: To evaluate and identify the best options for replacement of the current RAAMS electronic grants system

Vision: By utilizing a multidisciplinary team of current recipients, grants specialists, and RAAMS administrators, the Task Force's assessment of software options and its recommendation is hoped to provide the Council with the best path forward for the acquisition of its new electronic grants management system

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Task Force Members and Milestones

- Form Task Force – EPA, USDA NRCS & USFS, LA CPRA, MDEQ, Council Staff
- Identified baseline Federal and Council Requirements
- Generated a list of options
- Evaluated options to meet base requirements
- Make recommendation based on system evaluation, cost, migration potential, and risk

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Elimination of COTS alternatives

Avoid being “stranded” by another commercial vendor

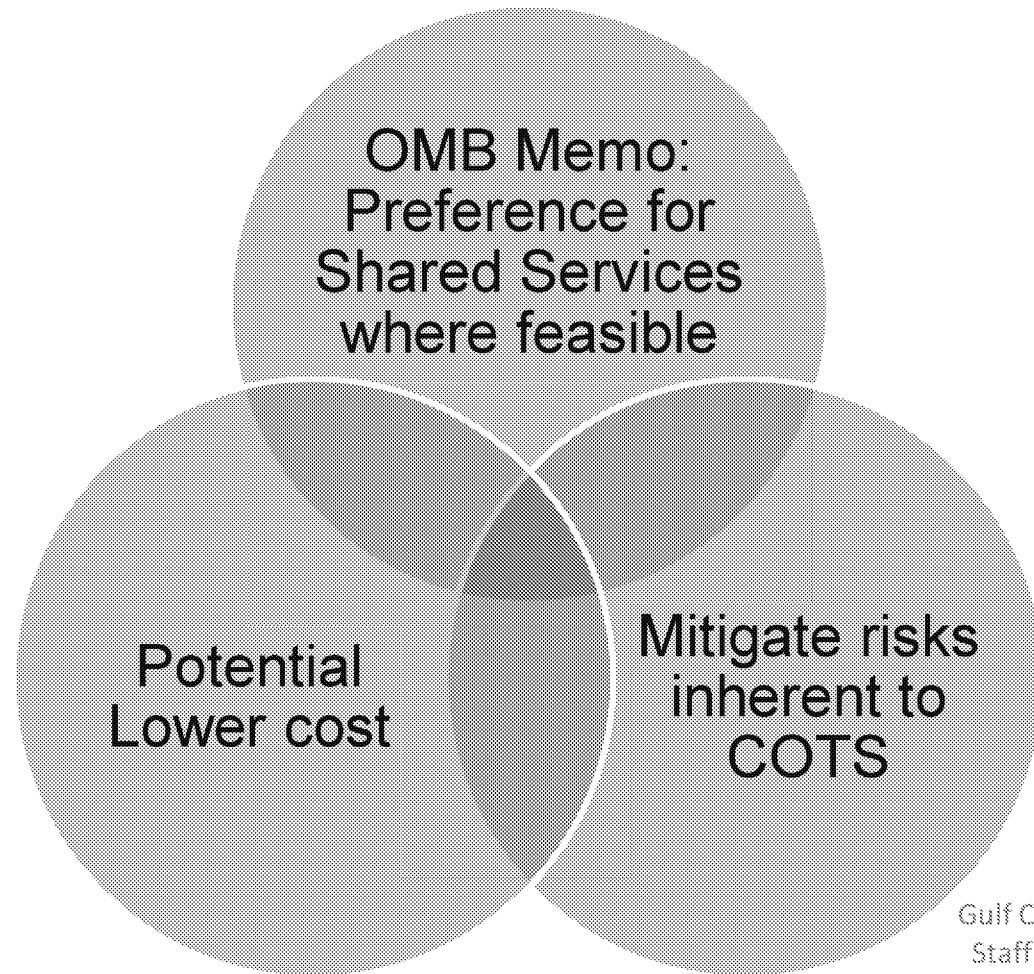
Mitigate costs of our responses to future grant regulation changes

With COTS – the help desk, training, and enhancement development would be the sole responsibility of the Council

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Federal Shared Services



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Baseline Requirements Analysis

GrantSolutions

- Meets baseline requirements (full lifecycle)
- Demonstrated capability for capturing some Programmatic data
- Will integrate with existing fiscal services
- Integrated reporting tools
- Analysis Score: 750**

ezFedGrants

- Meets baseline requirements (full lifecycle)
- No demonstrated capability for capturing Programmatic data
- Integrated reporting tools
- Analysis Score: 690**

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Preliminary Cost Comparison – No Customization

	GrantSolutions ¹	ezFedGrants ¹	RAAMs ²
Implementation	\$409,575	\$546,355	\$1,086,867.86
Yearly	\$366,725	\$28,500	\$572,446.12

- 1 {
 - Does not include customizations/enhancements

- 2 {
 - Includes several enhancements specific to RESTORE programs

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Schedule Comparison

GrantSolutions

- Begin Fit Gap Analysis
5/15/18
- Implementation activities
complete by December
2018
- Proposed “go live” date of
January 2019

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Comparison – No Customization

ezFedgrants

- 2-3 months for procurement
- 1 month for fit gap
- 4-6 months for implementation
- **HOWEVER**, USDA is not be able to commence implementation until FY20, unless....

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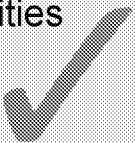
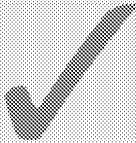
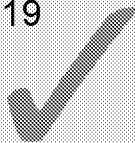
Other Considerations

- **GrantSolutions Diverse Ecology** – over 20 federal agency clients; evolution of many functions and features; built in resiliency because of the “constituencies”
- **GrantSolutions Affinities and Efficiencies** – Treasury OGCR uses GS for Bucket 1; EPA is likely to transition to GS – familiarity will ease training and use

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Recommendation

System	Requirements Analysis	Cost Comparison	Considerations
Grant Solutions	Meets minimum requirements along with some additional capabilities 	Implementation: \$409,575 Yearly: \$366,725 *No Restore specific enhancements 	Diverse Federal Clients including Treasury OGCR Timeline: Base configuration onboarding by Jan 2019 
EzFedGrants	Meets minimum requirements with no additional capabilities	Implementation: \$546,355 Yearly: \$28,500 *No RESTORE specific enhancements	Only USDA clients, limited customization Timeline: Oct 2020 before process can start

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Questions?

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