

Inventory of Restoration-Quality Sediment Availability Across the US Gulf of America

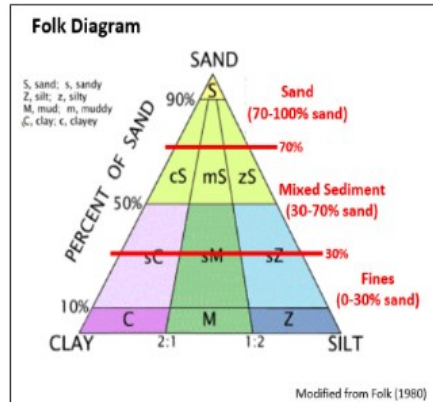
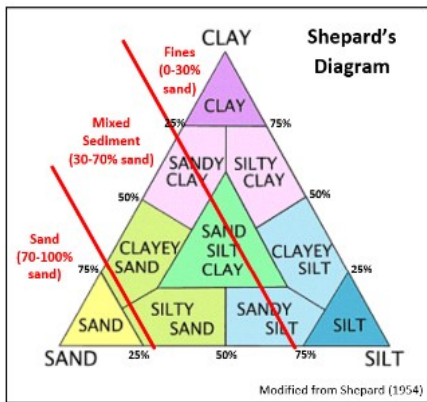
RFP #122539

Question 1: How does GOAA define sand versus mixed sediment? Will there be one uniform definition for the entire Gulf, knowing that Louisiana defines sand as >70% sand and mixed sediment as 30–70% sand, which may differ from states such as Florida or Texas?

Answer:

GOAA has not formally defined *sand* or *mixed sediment*.

In standard sedimentological literature, *sand* is defined texturally as a granular material composed of mineral particles with grain sizes ranging between 0.0625 mm and 2 mm, which is finer than gravel but coarser than silt (Folk, 1980; Shepard, 1954). Compositionally, sediment described as *sand* typically contains between 75% and 90% sand-sized material.



Louisiana’s restoration programs adopted a slightly lower threshold (>70% sand) to accommodate the need for large volumes of compatible sediment for coastal restoration and mixed sediment as 30-70% sand and rest fines. The term *mixed sediment* does not appear in traditional sediment classification schemes but has gained traction within the coastal restoration community, particularly for marsh platform creation projects. In practice, *mixed sediment* is a catch-all category encompassing sediment that contains significant proportions of both sand and finer fractions (silt and clay) but do not meet the threshold for *sand*.

Given the variability in regional geomorphology and restoration needs across Gulf States, it may be advisable to consult each state to determine if specific definitions are required. In the absence of a Gulf-wide standard, a simple classification—categorizing materials as sand, silt, clay, or sand, mixed sediment, and Fines (including Silt and Clay) would be practical and sufficient.

Question 2: On page 2 under Scope of Work the RFP states “Project will develop a comprehensive inventory that consolidates existing information on the location, type, and estimated volumes...” What does type mean? Is that simply sand vs mixed sediment?

Answer 2: Yes. It is sand, mixed sediment, and fines (silt and clay) as described in detail in Answer1