Appointment

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Subject: Bi-Monthly EPA/State/Tribal Oil and Natural Gas Conference Call
Attachments: FAQ.pdf
Location: Dial: **Ex. 6**

Start: 12/19/2018 6:00:00 PM
End: 12/19/2018 7:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: Monthly
the third Wednesday of every 2 month(s) from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

The focus of the December call is on waste-related oil and natural gas topics. We will hear from representatives with EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management on the following item:

1. Update on the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act consent decree (Civil Action No. 16-842 (JDB)) which requires the EPA to review the Subtitle D criteria regulations, 40 C.F.R. Part 257, for wastes associated with the exploration, development, or production of crude oil, natural gas, or geothermal energy (oil and gas wastes) and determine if regulatory updates are necessary by March 15, 2019.

To join the conference line, dial **Ex. 6** Please provide the operator with the following conference ID: **Ex. 6** You may join the call up to 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. If you need assistance during the call, use the following keypad commands on your phone: *0 - Operator assistance or *6 - Self mute/unmute.

If you have any questions about this particular call or would like to suggest topics for future calls, please contact me.
Sincerely,
Jim Kenney
--
James C. Kenney | Senior Policy Advisor for Unconventional Oil and Gas | US EPA
Desk/Mobile **Ex. 6** | **Email:** kenney.james@epa.gov

Please note: *I am geographically located in Albuquerque, New Mexico (Mountain Time Zone).*

This message may contain deliberative, attorney-client or otherwise privileged material. Do not release this message without the appropriate review. If you are not the intended recipient, kindly advise and delete this message/attachments. Namaste.

Bi-Monthly EPA/State/Tribe Oil and Natural Gas Conference Call
Frequently Asked Questions

1) What is the bi-monthly call schedule?
   - The first bi-monthly conference call took place on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 from 1-2 pm EDT. Conference calls occur every other month from 1-2 pm EDT on the third Wednesday of the month (i.e., August 15, 2018, October 17, 2018, December 19, 2018, February 20, 2019, etc.).

2) What will these conference calls cover?
   - The bimonthly conference calls will focus on topics related to responsible oil and natural gas exploration and development.

3) Who from my organization should participate?
   - The answer is to this question is likely agenda dependent. You will receive an agenda before each call that will help answer this question.

4) Can multiple individuals from my organization participate?
   - Yes. When practical, we ask that you gather the multiple individuals together and connect to the conference call using a single phone line.

5) Can I suggest agenda topics?
   - Yes. Please send suggested agenda topics for future calls to James Kenney (kenney.james@epa.gov).

6) Who is invited to these calls?
   - State and tribal representatives with oil and natural gas exploration and production interests. The conference calls are generally for state and tribal governments only.

7) Who from EPA will participate?
   - Depending on the agenda topic, representatives from EPA's program and regional offices.

8) What is the objective of these conference calls?
   - It is our hope that these conference calls will allow us to continue to build and improve relationships while finding meaningful solutions to various challenges. For additional background, please see the Oil and Natural Gas Roundtable Highlights document.

9) Do these conference calls replace various state and tribal calls with EPA program or regional offices?
   - No, these conference calls provide an additional opportunity for states, tribes and EPA to discuss topics related to onshore oil and natural gas exploration and production.

10) What else do I need to know?
   - During the conference calls, we are looking to hear from individual states and tribes on various topics. Please note that EPA is not seeking group consensus from states or tribes during these conference calls.

11) What if I have additional questions?
   - Please contact James Kenney, Senior Policy Advisor for Unconventional Oil and Natural Gas, at kenney.james@epa.gov or at Ex. 6

Message

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on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 8/8/2018 7:08:18 PM
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Subject: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions - August 8, 2018

Attachments: August 8, 2018 Steering Committee Call - Decisions and Actions.pdf

Council members:

Thank you for joining the Steering Committee call today. Attached are the decisions and actions from the call.

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www.restorethegulf.gov

Steering Committee Call
Wednesday, August 8, 2018

I. TOPIC: Scales of Outcomes and Objectives

Decision: N/A

Action:

- Council staff will further refine the issue and recommended next steps for discussion during the September Steering Committee meeting.
- Based upon member feedback, this topic will be introduced to the CMAWG for initial brainstorming during their scheduled October 2018 in-person meeting.

II. TOPIC: Steering Committee Discussion of Proposed FY19 Operating Budget

Decision: N/A

Actions:

- Members will review the proposed FY19 operating budget and provide any questions to Mary Pleffner by COB Wednesday, August 15, 2018.
- Council staff will provide all members with a compilation of answers to all budget questions received by COB Thursday, August 16, 2018.

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
August 22, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00171647-00001

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 8/7/2018 9:39:57 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; Amy Hunter [amy.hunter@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Newbold, Amy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=170de6133149482bbf1840f4b59ccd25-Newbold, Amy]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Robertson, Lakeshia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a9e509d8312b419ba40907372f834692-Lrober03]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith

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Subject: Draft FY19 Budget Presentation

Attachments: FY19 Council Budget- Draft Aug 8 Steering Committee.pdf

Council and Steering Committee Members: Please find attached the draft Fiscal Year 2019 Proposed Operational Budget that we will discuss on tomorrow afternoon's Steering Committee call. This will be an informational presentation; no decisions will be made regarding the proposed budget.

We look forward to our discussions tomorrow.

Thank you,

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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

FISCAL YEAR 2019 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

AUGUST 7, 2018

START-UP TO CURRENT OPERATIONS

FY 2013-2018: Start up to Steady-State Operations

- Grow from two detailees to current staff of 21.5 FTE
- Administrative and grant infrastructure put in place
- Two FPLs approved / grants and IAAs awarded
- Three PSEPs and three SEPS approved;
- Comprehensive Plan updated
- Enterprise risk management program established
- Collaboration activities in support of FPL 3 commenced

FY 2019:

- Continue to collaborate towards FPL 3
- Re-engineer FPL proposal and application process
- Migrate RAAMS to new federal automated system

FY 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET OVERVIEW

- **Council has demonstrated fiscal responsibility through prudent and conservative management of its operations.**
  - The Council brought $2.1 million in operational carry-forward funds to FY 2018.

- **The FY 2019 budget request for new funds is 3.35% less than the FY 2018 budget request.**
  - FY 2019: $5,762,391
  - FY 2018: $5,962,410
  - reduction: < $ 200,019 >

- **The FY 2019 budget will utilize $585,985 of carry-forward funds to cover selected FY 2019 requirements.**
  - Admin Expense category: $ 194,080
  - Program Expenses category: $ 391,905

FY 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET OVERVIEW

- **Major Budget Changes:**
  - **Salaries and staffing adjustments:**
    - Acquire administrative support through contracts – *increase*
    - Realign ASA position to financial analyst position – *increase*
    - Realign administrative analyst position to program support – *no change*
  - **Administrative and Human Resources MOUs**
    - Procurement system/support increased volume – *increase*
    - HR automated system completed in FY 2018 – *reduction*
  - **Program Costs, RAAMS and Travel**
    - BAS reviews – use recouped FY 2018 contract funds – *reduction*
    - Data and collaboration tools – use carry-over – *reduction*
    - RAAMS hosting and licensing – use carry-over – *reduction*
    - Travel for collaboration and site visits - *increase*

(Note: see slides 17-20 for detailed discussion of line item budget changes)

FISCAL YEAR 2019/2018 SUMMARY OPERATING EXPENSE FUNDS REQUEST

BUDGET CATEGORIES	FY 2019 FUNDS REQUEST for FY 2019 BUDGET	FY 2018 APPROVED BUDGET	INCREASE/ DECREASE	*PERCENT CHANGE*
Total Salaries and Benefits	$ 3,611,762	$ 3,521,186	$ 90,576	*2.57%*
Administrative Services MOUs	473,461	407,425	66,036	*16.21%*
Facilities MOUs	46,000	53,000	(7,000)	*-13.21%*
Human Resources MOUs	122,563	250,600	(128,037)	*-51.09%*
IT Contracts and MOUs	158,025	145,400	12,625	*8.68%*
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses	54,000	84,500	(30,500)	*-36.09%*
Program Expenses and MOUs	583,012	574,786	8,226	*1.43%*
RAAMS Contracts and MOUs	312,340	642,713	(330,373)	*-51.40%*
Travel	401,229	282,800	118,429	*41.88%*
TOTAL NON-PAYROLL EXPENSES	$ 2,150,630	$ 2,441,224	$ (290,594)	*-11.90%*
GRAND TOTALS	$ 5,762,392	$ 5,962,410	$ (200,018)	*-3.35%*

PROPOSED USE OF CARRY-FORWARD

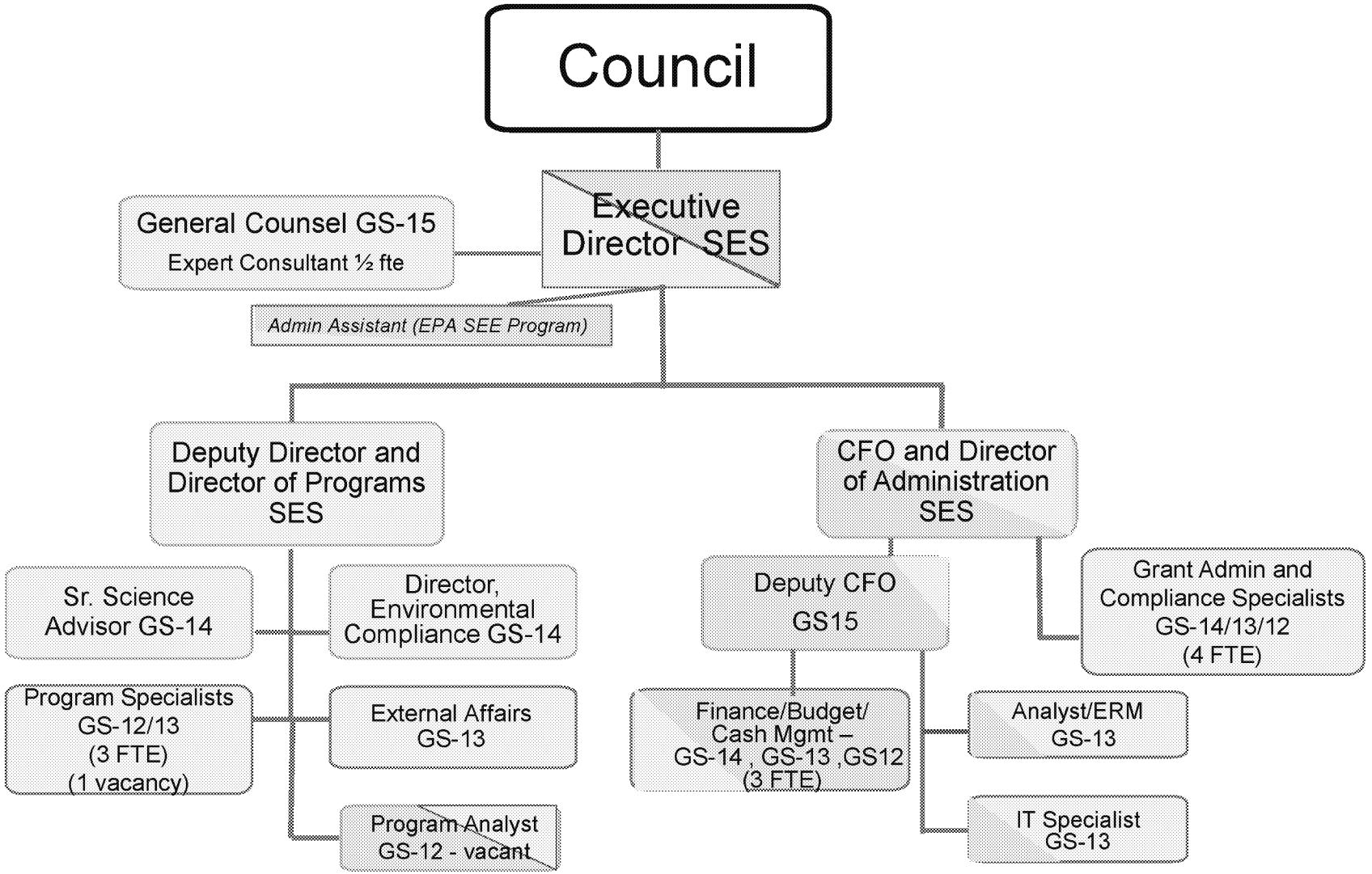
- **One time costs / Costs that will not recur:**
  - Metadata Tool Development $ 17,335 *(prog)*
  - Collaboration Tool Development 34,550 *(prog)*
  - RAAMS Hosting 175,650 *(prog)*
  - RAAMS Licensing 69,370 *(prog)*
  - Records Mgmt Program Development 100,000 *(admin)*
- **Recurring costs funded one time from carry-forward:**
  - BAS Reviews ($95K first year recovery) 95,000 *(prog)*
  - Contracted administrative support 94,080 *(admin)*
- **Total Use of Carry-Forward for Operating Costs** **$ 585,985**

CARRY-OVER AVAILABLE FOR RAAMS REPLACEMENT

- **Use carry-over funds to develop and implement new grants system**
  - Projected system costs will be available and briefed in September
- **Current program expense carry-over funds:**
  - Program expense funds available $ 1,706,397
  - Funds to be used for FY 2018 operating expenses < 391,905>
- **Balance of carry-forward funds available for system replacement** **$ 1,314,492**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

FY 2019 ORGANIZATION/STAFFING



21.5 positions / MOU support

- Blue denotes program funded
- Red denotes admin funded

CURRENT 3% ADMIN EXPENSE STATUS

Comprehensive Plan Total Deposits as of 6/30/2018	**$428,475,506**
• *Including interest earned and applied*	
3% Pool	**12,854,265**
3% Drawn Down (apportioned)	**< 6,398,400>**
Balance Available	**$ 6,455,865**

- *Admin funds drawn-down as a percent of total deposited Comprehensive Plan Trust Funds:* *1.5%*
- *Current recurring admin expenses per year:* *$1.5 M*
- *Portion of annual BP payment that is Council admin:* *$2.7 M*

Council 3% ADMIN PROJECTIONS

TOTAL PROJECTED TRUST FUND DEPOSITS

Comprehensive Plan	**$1,611,923,782**
◦ Including interest earned as of 6/30/2018	
3% Pool	**48,357,713**
3% Projected Expense through FY2040	
	< 47,102,622 >
Balance Available	**$ 1,255,091**
◦ *Admin funds expense projection as a percent of total Comprehensive Plan Trust Funds:*	*2.92%*

OPERATING EXPENSE PRIOR YEAR PLUS PROJECTION TO 2040 (28 YR)

$M	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20		FY34	FY35	FY36	FY37	FY38	FY39	FY40	28 years
FTE	0	5.4	11.4	17.6	21.1	21.5	21.5	21.5		21.5	19	18	17	15	11	8	TOTAL
SALARIES		0.86	1.74	2.69	3.37	3.52	3.61	3.71		4.40	3.91	3.78	3.62	3.27	2.48	1.88	**95.89**
OP EXP	0.36	1.10	1.81	1.58	2.08	2.44	2.15	3.00		3.46	3.04	2.97	2.81	2.74	2.73	2.67	**75.56**
TOTAL	**0.36**	**1.96**	**3.55**	**4.27**	**5.45**	**5.96**	**5.76**	**6.71**		**7.86**	**6.75**	**6.75**	**6.43**	**6.01**	**5.21**	**4.55**	**171.45**
Admin Exp. Breakout	**0.36**	**0.9**	**1.2**	**1.1**	**1.7**	**1.4**	**1.4**	**1.7**		**2.1**	**2.0**	**2.0**	**1.8**	**1.8**	**1.8**	**1.4**	**47.10**
																	2.9%

LONG TERM BUDGET PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- **Twenty Seven Year Projection Assumptions and Planning Considerations:**
  - FY2031 last year of BP payment schedule
  - All grants awarded and closed by FY 2040
    - Grants awarded in FY31 must be closed out within nine years
  - Planning Considerations:
    - Timing of grants with long completion times
    - Timing of grants with long-term operations and maintenance costs
  - From last payment of $91M:
    - Must reserve at least $50M for FY32-FY40 operations
    - Should reserve funds for contingencies
  - For every year grants are open beyond FY2040, add $5-6M per year to total and reserved operations costs
    - Amount dependent on volume of grants open in the out-years

Detailed FY19 Operating Budget

BUDGET DETAIL	FY18 APPROVED BUDGET	ADMIN BUDGET	PROGRAM BUDGET	FY19 BUDGET REQUEST	ADMIN BUDGET	PROGRAM BUDGET	INCREASE/ DECREASE	PERCENT CHANGE
Salaries	2,634,164	684,527	1,949,637	2,700,504	671,754	2,028,750	66,340	
Benefits	887,022	230,503	656,519	911,258	226,634	684,624	24,236	
Accrued Leave		-	-				-	
Total Salaries and Benefits	3,521,186	915,030	2,606,156	3,611,762	898,388	2,713,374	90,576	2.57%
ARC Procurement Services	24,474	7,171	17,303	75,069	22,520	52,549	50,595	
ARC travel svcs	12,855	3,767	9,088	21,777	6,533	15,244	8,922	
OIG-Audit expense	85,000	24,907	60,093	85,000	75,000	10,000	-	
ARC general accting/budget/payroll	285,096	285,096	0.00	289,115	289,115	-	4,019	
EPA SEE PROGRAM (IAA funded bi-annually)	-	-	-	-	-	-		
National Associates Inc (Contractor Adm Spt)	-	-	-	[94,080]		-		
Transerve Employee Benefits	-	-	0.00	2,500	1,250	1,250	2,500	
Administrative Services MOUs	407,425	320,941	86,484	473,461	394,418	79,043	66,036	16.21%
Security DHS	3,000	879	2,121	3,000	879	2,121	-	
Office space GSA Rent	40,000	11,721	28,279	38,000	11,400	26,600	(2,000)	
Office equipment	10,000	2,930	7,070	5,000	1,500	3,500	(5,000)	
Facilities MOUs	53,000	15,530	37,470	46,000	13,779	32,221	(7,000)	-13.21%
USDA NFC Payroll	2,100	2,100	-	2,100	2,100	-	-	
EPA Executive Resourcess	18,500	-	18,500	18,500	5,550	12,950	-	
Treasury HR Connect transition services	125,000	36,628	88,372	-	-	-	(125,000)	
Personnel security svcs (background checks)	5,000	1,465	3,535	13,700	4,110	9,590	8,700	
ARC HR general services	100,000	29,302	70,698	74,063	22,219	51,844	(25,937)	
USPS EEO Services Support	-	-	-	500	150	350	500	
DOI PIV & Background check	-	-	-	13,700	4,107	9,593	13,700	
Human Resources MOUs	250,600	69,495	181,105	122,563	38,236	84,327	(128,037)	-51.09%

Detailed FY19 Operating Budget

BUDGET DETAIL	FY18 APPROVED BUDGET	ADMIN BUDGET	PROGRAM BUDGET	FY19 BUDGET REQUEST	ADMIN BUDGET	PROGRAM BUDGET	INCREASE/ DECREASE	PERCENT CHANGE
Info Technolgy (Email-NOAA)	3,000	879	2,121	4,140	1,242	2,898	1,140	
Cellphone/Phone services/ Internet	35,000	10,256	24,744	35,000	10,500	24,500	-	
Equipment refresh (Laptops)	22,400	6,564	15,836	22,400	6,564	15,836	-	
IT Managed Services	38,000	11,135	26,865	45,644	13,693	31,951	7,644	
IT Security requirements	14,000	4,102	9,898	14,000	4,102	9,898	-	
G Suite Eas	18,000	5,274	12,726	-			(18,000)	
MTIPS w/ VPN	15,000	4,395	10,605	33,468	10,040	23,428	18,468	
Phone Lines (AT&T and Cox)	-	-	-	1,817	545	1,272	1,817	
Conferencing (Uber and Goto Meeting)	-	-	-	1,556	467	1,089	1,556	
IT Contracts MOUs	145,400	42,605	102,795	158,025	47,153	110,872	12,625	8.68%
Misc other svc	20,000	5,860	14,140	15,000	4,500	10,500	(5,000)	
Supplies/printer toner/etc	40,000	11,721	28,279	15,000	4,500	10,500	(25,000)	
Training	22,000	6,447	15,553	22,000	6,447	15,553	-	
Mail and transportation of things	2,500	733	1,767	2,000	600	1,400	(500)	
MISC Operating Expense MOUs	84,500	24,761	59,739	54,000	16,047	37,953	(30,500)	-36.09%
GOMA Cross Agency Tracker	90,000	-	90,000	52,500		52,500	(37,500)	
BAS reviews [reduced by $95K - yr 1 recovery]	125,000	-	125,000	30,000		30,000	(95,000)	
ODP-DMP support USGS	55,505	-	55,505	34,307		34,307	(21,198)	
GIS Svs, website sytem admin, security	33,031	-	33,031	263,665		263,665	230,634	
Metadata Tool development / Support	34,500	-	34,500	[17,335]			(34,500)	
Collaboration Tool / APP MOU	60,400	-	60,400	[34,550]			(60,400)	
NOAA MOU for Graphics	32,500	-	32,500	32,701		32,701	201	
Meta Data Tool training/support NOAA NCEI	65,000	-	65,000	64,799		64,799	(201)	
Principals/Public meetings and Collaboratories	53,350	-	53,350	-			(53,350)	
Conference attendence fees	10,500	3,078	7,422	15,040	2,820	12,220	4,540	
Land Appraisal	10,000	-	10,000	10,000		10,000	-	
Multi-media/printing -PE Materials	5,000	-	5,000	10,000		10,000	5,000	
Tribal Support with DOI	-			70,000	-	70,000	70,000	
Program Expenses/MOUs	574,786	3,078	571,708	583,012	2,820	580,192	8,226	1.43%

Detailed FY19 Operating Budget

BUDGET DETAIL	FY18 APPROVED BUDGET	ADMIN BUDGET	PROGRAM BUDGET	FY19 BUDGET REQUEST	ADMIN BUDGET	PROGRAM BUDGET	INCREASE/ DECREASE	PERCENT CHANGE
Grants system - IT and helpesk - contract	307,020	-	307,020	312,340	-	312,340	5,320	
Grant System hosting USGS updated cost	209,150	-	209,150	[175,650]		[175,650]	(209,150)	
Grants system-Altum - contract	126,543	-	126,543	[69,370]		[69,370]	(126,543)	
RAAMS	642,713	-	642,713	312,340	-	312,340	(330,373)	-51.40%
Travel	282,800	26,000	256,800	401,229	34,340	366,889	118,429	41.88%
Travel	282,800	26,000	256,800	401,229	34,340	366,889	118,429	41.88%
TOTAL NON-PAYROLL EXPENSES	2,441,224	502,410	1,938,814	2,150,630	546,793	1,603,837	(290,594)	-11.90%
GRAND TOTALS	5,962,410	1,417,440	4,544,970	5,762,392	1,445,181	4,317,211	(200,018)	-3.35%

OPERATING EXPENSE INCREASES

- **Salaries and Benefits (Labor): +$90,576**
  - Small 2.5% increase
  - Expect to be fully staffed with 21.5 FTE plus inflation impacts increase Reduction in lapse rate
  - Change in COLA / step increases / difference in actual salary from budgeted salary
  - Conversion of Admin Assistant to Financial Analyst
- **Admin Services, Facilities, HR MOUs -$69,001**
  - HR and Facilities decrease due to one time HR connect cost in FY18 and reduction in Office equipment
  - Admin has increase due to increase in ARC MOU services for contracts and travel based on actual FY18 usage and NAI contract support
  - Will cover NAI contractor $94,080/ Records Management contract $100,00 (est.) with carry forward.

OPERATING EXPENSE INCREASES

- **IT Contracts / MOUs : +$12,624**
  - **MTIPS / VPN : increase $18,468**
    - Allows access to financial system remotely, increases efficiency of fiscal support to Council. Increased AT&T cost in FY19
  - **G suite Eas : decrease 18,000**
    - This funding was not executed in FY18. It was a contingency for email if we were not able to extend our current agreement for G-We were successful and Gsuite has increased **$1,140** from FY18 .
  - **IT Managed Services: increase $7,644**
    - Security software from provider required by FISMA. This support is critical to provide IT support remotely to our geographically dispersed staff.
  - **UBER Conferencing/ Goto Meeting : increase $3,372**
    - Required to conduct business, Conference lines were provided by Commerce and we now bear the cost. We have used UBER at a fraction of the cost of major providers.
  - **Misc and Supplies : decrease -$30,500**

OPERATING EXPENSE INCREASES

- **Program MOUs:** **+$8,226**
  - **GOMA tracker reduced : Decrease $37,500**
    - Reduced from $125K in FY18 to $52,500 due to reimbursable agreements
  - **BAS Appraisal : Decrease $95,000**
    - Will apply $95K in funding de-obligated from FY18 Contract to BAS
  - **USGS :GIS, Website hosting, Security lines: net Increase $209,436**
    - The real increase from FY18 is $41,664. $350,263 of support for FY18 was covered in 3 year MOU starting in FY15. We will now use one year MOUs
  - **Metadata & Collaboration Tool lines: Decrease $ 94,900**
    - Will apply Carry Forward funds resulting in reduction from FY18 cost
  - **Public Meetings/Collaboratories lines: decrease $53,350**
    - Reduction in budgeted collaboration
  - **DOI Tribal Support : increase $70,000**
    - New requirement for better tribal outreach and support
  - **PE materials, conference fees, : Increase $9,540**
    - Small increase in conference fees multi media

OPERATING EXPENSE INCREASES

- **RAAMS MOUs:** **-$330,373**
  - Small increase in Grants System Help desk contract of $5,320
  - MOU with HHS for new Grants Management System Fit Gap Analysis is still in progress. There will be more transition and cost data to follow.

- **Travel:** **+$118,429**
  - Net increase due to addition of program collaboration travel.
  - Increase in Site visit and recipient assistance visits

BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

Expenses

- Out-year expenses assume steady-state operations; known changes factored in.
- Accounting, payroll, human resources, procurement, website, and travel systems/services.
  - IT will be managed with internal staff overseeing contracts for services and IT security.
- Grant management function performed in-house using externally sourced and hosted automated grant management system.
- Minimum staff needed to accomplish requirements in statute.
  - Leverage resources of Council members to meet surge requirements
- Office footprint is small – majority of staff will telework.
  - Leverage cloud collaboration tools.
- Expenses inflation rate: 1.5%
- Salary/cost of living increase rate: GS – 1.75% then lowered to 1.5% in FY28 due to tenure of staff
- Length of operations based on 28 years – FY 2013 to FY 2040

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 7/11/2018 6:42:04 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

[megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]

Subject: Follow Up to July 11, 2018 Steering Committee Teleconference

Attachments: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions July 11, 2018.docx.pdf; RAAMS_Status_7-11-2018.pdf

Council members:

Thank you for joining the Steering Committee call today. Attached are the decisions and actions from the call. Please also find attached the latest Application Status (RAAMS) Update for the Council-Selected Restoration and Spill Impact Components.

Thanks again.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
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New Orleans, LA 70130
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Council-Selected Restoration Component (Initial FPL)

Of the approximately 51 Category 1 applications for funding expected to be submitted for the 2015 FPL, to date a total of 46 applications have been initiated in RAAMS. Thirty (31) grant/IAA awards have been made, totaling $114,791,200.

LEGENDS

Figure 1: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

Figures 1 and 2:

Not Started in RAAMS (Member) – application in the development stage; application data entry in RAAMS has not been initiated.

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

IAA Approval (Member) – IAAs only; review and approval of award by federal Members.

Figure 1

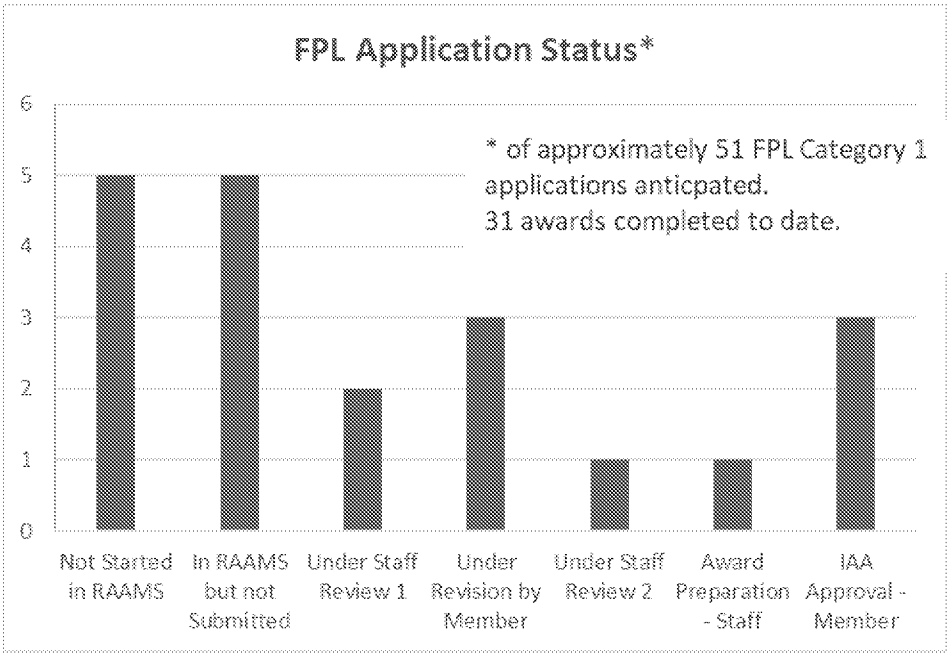
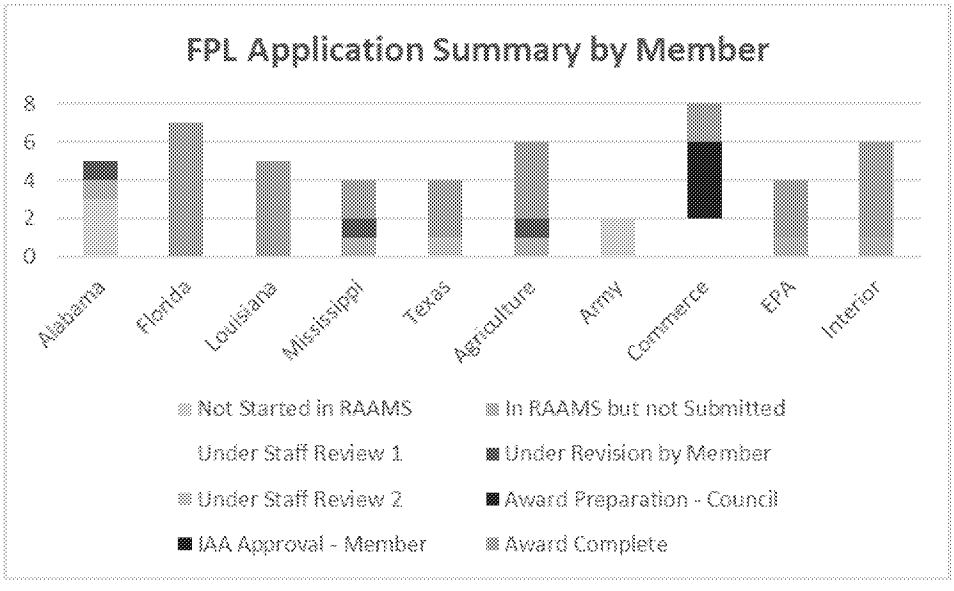


Figure 2



Commitment and Planning Support FPL (2017 CPS FPL)

Five Commitment and Planning Support grants have been awarded to the States of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas for a total $10,493,880. The Interagency Agreement between the Council and the Coast Guard has been approved for $1,964,766. IAA's have been drafted for review and signature by the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the agreement with the Department of the Interior is currently being drafted by Council staff.

Spill Impact Component

Three Planning State Expenditure Plans (PSEPs) have been approved, and three PSEP grants have been awarded to the Gulf Consortium and states of Mississippi and Texas. Two State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) have been submitted in RAAMS and approved by the Council Chair, the Louisiana SEP and the Mississippi SEP. The Mississippi SEP was amended to add additional funds and projects, with approval by the Chair on April 16, 2018. An amendment to the Louisiana SEP to include six Parish Matching Projects was approved on June 18, 2018. In addition, the Gulf Consortium submitted a Stand-Up SEP, which was approved by the Chair on April 23, 2018, to prepare for implementation of the future Florida SEP. $44,295,859 in grants have been awarded to date under this component.

LEGEND

Figure 3: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

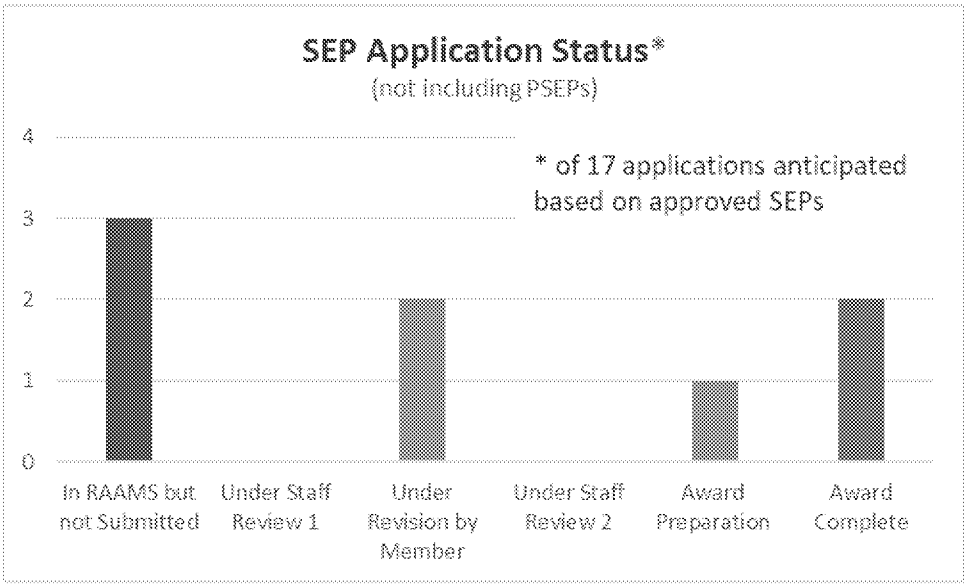
Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Table 1

Approved SEP	# Projects or Programs in Approved SEP	Anticipated Grant Awards	# Awarded
Louisiana	3	8	2
Mississippi	7	8	0
Florida Stand-Up	1	1	0

Figure 3



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Decisions/Actions
From Steering Committee Call
July 11, 2018

- **TOPIC: Draft Agenda for July 31/August 1 Face to Face**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: N/A

- **TOPIC: Other Business**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: N/A

Next Steering Committee Meeting: July 25, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00171710-00001

Message

From: Bode, Denise A (53804) [dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com]
Sent: 8/29/2017 8:00:37 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Nichols, Alex (53820) [janichols@michaelbeststrategies.com]; Swanson, Kevin O (59578) [koswanson@michaelbeststrategies.com]
Subject: FW: Thank you and follow up!
Attachments: 64B8A5FB-1FB1-4B74-89D6-75000E3BBCD7[41].png; 64B8A5FB-1FB1-4B74-89D6-75000E3BBCD7[28].png; About Newtrient -- 20896270 v1.PDF; Newtrient Market Opportunity.pdf

Importance: High

Hi Ken, long time since we have chatted in Oklahoma when I served on the Oklahoma Corporation Commission during Governor Keating's term. I am now the lead partner for our federal practice.

Lee suggested we might both reach out to you to brief you on the work we are doing in a number of states for the dairy industry on technology and market based solutions for cleaning up our water. Would love to set up a time to bring the industry folks in and brief you on our efforts and get your counsel on dealing with the EPA regional office's involvement with the states. Looking forward to catching up.

Best, Denise

Denise A. Bode
Partner
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T Ex. 6 | M Ex. 6 | F 202.347.1819
[cid:3960308D-2E71-4985-B566-2784DFCB00EC]

my bio<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/dc/lawyer/denise-bode/> | our firm<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/> | vCard<http://www.michaelbest.com/People/Denise-Bode.vcf>

From: Denise Bode <dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>>
Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 11:36 AM
To: "forsgren.lee@epa.gov<mailto:forsgren.lee@epa.gov>" <forsgren.lee@epa.gov<mailto:forsgren.lee@epa.gov>>, Byron Brown <brown.byron@epa.gov<mailto:brown.byron@epa.gov>>, "Greenwalt, Sarah" <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov<mailto:greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>>
Cc: Steven Rowe <steven.rowe@newtrient.com<mailto:steven.rowe@newtrient.com>>, Clay Detlefsen <cdetlefsen@nmpf.org<mailto:cdetlefsen@nmpf.org>>, "Swanson, Kevin O (59578)" <koswanson@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:koswanson@michaelbeststrategies.com>>
Subject: Thank you and follow up!

Lee, Sarah and Byron, We really appreciate the productive meeting. With Vermont as our first target, we will work to flesh out next steps with the state in preparation for further industry, state and federal discussions.

Lee, you mentioned that we should reach out to Ken Wagner on this as well, and just wondered if you want to initiate those conversations, or if you want us to reach out directly?

Sarah, we are sorry to miss you but hope to catch up at your convenience.

We had very productive meetings on the hill with Senate EPW including Susan Bodine, House Energy and Commerce Counsel, Tom Hassenboehler, House and Senate Ag Committee staffs and members of Congress from Wisconsin and Vermont.

Thanks again, for your time and looking forward to deploying more technology in dairy country to clean up the environment!

D
Denise A. Bode
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my bio<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/dc/lawyer/denise-bode/> | our firm<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/> | vCard<http://www.michaelbest.com/People/Denise-Bode.vcf>

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NEWTRIENT
INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS IN RESOURCE RECOVERY

Who is Newtrient?

Forward-looking dairy industry leaders driving to play an increasingly important role in supplying the world with healthy food, stimulating the rural economy, and effectively protecting the environment.

Agri-Mark · DFA · Foremost Farms USA · Land O'Lakes, Inc. · Maryland & Virginia · MMPA · Northwest Dairy Association · Prairie Farms · Select Milk Producers, Inc. · Southeast Milk · Tillamook

These dairy cooperatives represent 50+% of the milk produced in the U.S. representing 20,000+ dairy farms of all sizes.

DMI Dairy Management Inc. · NMPF National Milk Producers Federation

Playing integral roles on Newtrient's Board of Managers, these two industry associations work on behalf of the entire dairy industry in terms of promotion, research, education, innovation, issues management, international trade and public policy.

Newtrient is a dairy driven venture focused on reducing the environmental footprint of dairy farming and making it economically viable to do so. **Newtrient** does this by advancing:

1. The state of manure management technologies
2. The marketplace for manure-based products
3. The adoption of environmental asset markets for voluntary, pollution prevention services

I. Farmers are perfectly situated to

A. voluntarily protect the environment,
B. reduce the total cost of environmental protection,
C. receive economic value for the products and protections created

II. Environmental Asset Markets Are the Key

to unlocking the potential environmental and economic potential of agricultural by-product. Environmental Asset Markets shift government's role from environmental "cop" to economic stimulator using an environmental services marketplace:

A. Incentivizing the lowest cost pollution prevention to voluntarily act first, and
B. Directing some of those economic savings to the benefit of those obligated to incur higher cost pollution prevention efforts

III. The Result:

A. Unleashed power of the marketplace
B. Increased application of technologies
C. Stimulated rural economies
D. Increased economic opportunity for farmers performing voluntary environmental protection actions
E. Reduced environmental protection costs for municipalities and other large sources
F. Aligning of incentives between regulators and the regulated community
G. Overall improved environmental protection

I. Timely confluence of political change, technological opportunity and shift of focus from point sources to non-point sources of potential pollution

A. EPA's command & control model was built on the belief that environmental protection required "negative drivers" to force certain behaviors

B. Positive economic drivers, will result in both faster and less expensive environmental protection/improvement with the additional benefits of:

1. Economic stimulation in rural (non-point source) America
2. Cost reduction in urban (point source & stormwater) America
3. Regulators welcomed rather than feared and avoided
4. Farmers valued as the true protectors of the environment

II. Manure is a largely neglected valuable resource

A. Manure's economic value is trapped

1. Farmers are "price takers" for their products
2. Commodity pricing
3. Necessary cooperative structures
4. Antiquated farm input supply chain

B. Antiquated concepts of environmental protection

1. Command & Control works well in urban and point-source settings
2. Command & Control is antithetical to rural outlook and non-point settings

III. Newtrient's recently released Technology Catalog is a publicly available analysis of all relevant dairy manure management technologies in the U.S.

A. Open source: available to all

1. Dairy farmers
2. The rest of the barnyard
3. Regulators
4. Technology vendors and consultants

B. Designed to provide information and spur technological competition

C. Views manure management as a means to generate economic value

Newtrient: 10255 West Higgins Road, Suite 900 Rosemont, IL 60018 www.NEWTRIENT.com

NEWTRIENT
INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS IN RESOURCE RECOVERY

The Case for an Environmental Asset Services Marketplace

Background

The dairy industry came together in 2015 to form Newtrient, a private company focused on reducing the environmental footprint of dairy farming while sustainably strengthening the rural economy without the need for ongoing government subsidies. Newtrient's board directly represents more than 50 percent of the country's milk supply and more than 20,000 farms of all sizes. The board includes Dairy Farmers of America, Land O'Lakes, Select Milk, United Dairymen of Arizona, Agri-Mark and more. The dairy check-off program is also represented on the board as well as the industry trade association for dairy farmers, the National Milk Producers Federation. Although it is a private company, Newtrient acts like a foundation with an entrepreneurial spirit supporting the long-term viability of the dairy industry and environmental stewardship.

Newtrient's Work

Newtrient and the dairy industry work to support the adoption of advanced manure treatment technologies and practices develop and market value-added manure-based products and create innovative market-driven approaches to achieving economically viable pollution prevention services. Newtrient has a history of partnering with EPA and has been a supporter and significant influencer in EPA's Nutrient Recycling Challenge.

Dairy farmers are eager to voluntarily incorporate technologies and practices that protect the environment. Because dairy farmers do not set the price for their own product, innovative approaches are needed to achieve outcomes that are both environmentally effective and economically viable. One such approach aligns the interests of the private sector, the regulatory community and the dairy industry through the development of voluntary pollution prevention markets. Such a program holds the key to unleashing the efficiency of private sector markets looking to reduce their pollution prevention obligation costs by paying farmers for products and services they can provide at a much lower cost. The result is a low cost and voluntary program driven by economic incentives to achieve pollution prevention more rapidly and at lower cost to manufacturers, taxpayers and their communities.

Proposed Private/Public Partnership with EPA

Working together with the EPA and several key states, Newtrient seeks to create an Environmental Asset Marketplace that will stimulate private sector investment in environmental protection infrastructure. This marketplace would shift the EPA's role from command and control as an environmental "cop" to encouraging a private sector

NEWTRIENT
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environmental services marketplace that simultaneously protects the environment and stimulates the economy.

Farmers are uniquely situated to protect the environment. The available technologies and the physical location of many farms provide significant pollution prevention advantages over more urban and/or industrial communities. For example, utilizing currently available technologies, a farmer can remove a pound of phosphorous from manure at a cost that is considerably less than it costs many municipal wastewater treatment plants and/or other NPDES permit-holders. If the appropriate regulatory red tape is removed, a market would develop allowing expensive downstream permit-holders to purchase lower cost, verified environmental credits as a way of complying with their own phosphorous reduction obligations.

The net effect would be more phosphorous removal throughout the watershed at a lower cost for permit-holders like wastewater treatment plants and their public rate payers. Furthermore, under such a market, farmers would have an adequate revenue stream to finance the technology required to remove the phosphorous at the farm and to make it economical to recycle, process, transport and sell the removed phosphorous as fertilizer in areas where it is needed. Significant secondary benefits of this approach are reduced in regulatory enforcement costs and increased market incentives resulting in a cleaner environment.

We would like to work with EPA to get recognition, encouragement and certainty for the states to facilitate these markets where they make sense. This would include the legal authority for such private sector efforts and state assurances that EPA could support this type of market-based approach to achieve pollution prevention obligations, while stimulating local economies.

We would like to work with USDA to encourage policy that would support farmers in employing manure management technology, which would result in improved conservation, environmental protection and grow rural economies.

Message

From: Rodrigues, Cecil [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4515B309FE314660B3E3069A2925F01A-CRODRI06]

Sent: 8/16/2017 2:18:09 PM

To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userf6840911]; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; gary burdette [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user1edc1165]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user58ea86b1]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user184574b6]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]; Yamada, Kazumi [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Yamada, Kazumi]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]

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Subject: State Secretary Mtg Update

Attachments: State Sec Meeting - FINAL Agenda 8-24-17.docx

Hello Everyone,
We have been advised that Ken Wagner, EPA Senior Advisor for Regional and State Affairs will not be able to attend the State Secretaries Meeting scheduled for August 24th, 2017. I still think it is important that we get together. Therefore, a revised agenda is attached. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my front office staff at 215-814-2900.

Thanks. Cecil

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State Secretary Meeting Agenda

August 24, 2017

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

10:00 am	Welcome - Cecil Rodrigues
10:15 am	State Secretaries Discussion - Topics identified by the Secretaries • Safe Drinking Water • Technology and Data Management (ICIS and SDWIS) • Superfund Task Force • PFOS/PFOA • CAFO permitting strategies • Lead
12:00 pm	Break
12:15 pm	Addressing Research Needs of the States Richard Yamada, Bruce Rodan Office of Research & Development
1:00 pm	Cooperative Federalism EPA to share examples of cooperative federalism General discussion on principles and next steps Federal resources and how we manage/prioritize deliverables for delegated and authorized programs
2:45 pm	Additional Topics of Interest – Cecil Rodrigues • WOTUS Rule Update • Effluent Limitation Guidelines for Coal Fired Plants
3:00	Wrap Up

Message

From: Rodrigues, Cecil [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4515B309FE314660B3E3069A2925F01A-CRODRI06]

Sent: 8/22/2017 5:49:47 PM

To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userf6840911]; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; gary burdette [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user1edc1165]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user58ea86b1]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user184574b6]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]; Yamada, Kazumi [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Yamada, Kazumi]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]

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Subject: State Secretary Mtg Update

Attachments: State Sec Meeting - FINAL Agenda 8-24-17 v2.docx

Hello Everyone:

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Thursday. Plan on business casual attire (for me it means no tie). Good news, due to another change in travel plans Ken Wagner, EPA Senior Advisor for Regional and State Affairs will be attending the State Secretaries Meeting scheduled for August 24th, 2017. Therefore, a revised agenda is attached.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my front office staff at 215-814-2900.

Thanks. Cecil

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State Secretary Meeting Agenda

August 24, 2017

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

10:00 am	Welcome - Cecil Rodrigues
10:15 am	Agency Priorities - Ken Wagner
10:30 am	Cooperative Federalism EPA to share examples of cooperative federalism General discussion on principles and next steps
12:00 pm	Break
12:15 pm	Addressing Research Needs of the States Richard Yamada, Bruce Rodan Office of Research & Development
1:00 pm	State Secretaries Discussion - Topics identified by the Secretaries • Safe Drinking Water • Technology and Data Management (ICIS and SDWIS) • Superfund Task Force • PFOS/PFOA • Federal resources and how we manage/prioritize deliverables for delegated and authorized programs • CAFO permitting strategies • Lead
2:45 pm	Additional Topics of Interest – Cecil Rodrigues • WOTUS Rule Update • Effluent Limitation Guidelines for Coal Fired Plants
3:00	Wrap Up

Message

From: Rodrigues, Cecil [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4515B309FE314660B3E3069A2925F01A-CRODRI06]
Sent: 8/14/2017 7:13:22 PM
To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userf6840911]; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; gary burdette [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user1edc1165]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user58ea86b1]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user184574b6]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]; Yamada, Kazumi [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Yamada, Kazumi]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]
Subject: RE: State Secretaries Agenda (Resending email with Agenda attached.).
Attachments: State Sec Meeting - Draft Agenda 8-24-17.docx

Thanks. Cecil

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From: Rodrigues, Cecil
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2017 9:03 AM
To: 'tommy.wells@dc.gov' <tommy.wells@dc.gov>; 'Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC)' <Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us>; 'Ben Grumbles' <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov>; 'McDonnell, Patrick' <pmcdonnell@pa.gov>; 'Ward, Molly (GOV)' <Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov>; 'david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov' <david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov>; 'austin.caperton@wv.gov' <austin.caperton@wv.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; 'Michael Dandrea' <Dandrea.Michael@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Linda Miller <Miller.Linda@epa.gov>; Kyle Zieba <Zieba.Kyle@epa.gov>; Brown, Kinshasa <Brown.Kinshasa@epa.gov>; Hamilton, Brian <Hamilton.Brian@epa.gov>; Mark Ferrell <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>; 'Horacio Tablada -Mde-' <horacio.tablada@maryland.gov>; Mandirola, Scott G <Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov>; Armstead, John A. <armstead.john@epa.gov>; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) <yamada.richard@epa.gov>; Blackburn, Elizabeth <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>; Searfoss, Renee <searfoss.renee@epa.gov>; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' <Vicki.Ward@state.de.us>; 'Kathy Bishop' <kathy.bishop@maryland.gov>; 'Reim, Heather' <hreim@pa.gov>; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' <Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov>; 'Burdette, Gary C' <Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov>; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea <Barbery.Andrea@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE' <edna.ebanks@dc.gov>; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; 'Ziadeh, Ramez' <rziadeh@pa.gov>; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) <Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov>; Karad, Meryem (GOV) <Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov>; 'Reese, Leslie (DNREC' <Leslie.Reese@state.de.us>; Rodan, Bruce <rodan.bruce@epa.gov>; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen <Radzikowski.Maryellen@epa.gov>; Yamada, Kazumi <yamada.kazumi@epa.gov>; Blackburn, Elizabeth <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>
Subject: State Secretaries Agenda

Hi Everyone,

Attached is a draft agenda for your consideration. We were excited to have such a great response to the request and tried to include as many topics as possible. As you know, we only have 5 hours to meet, so as we go through the agenda for the day, EPA staff will be taking notes on follow up items. In addition, both John and I are open to having follow up calls on those topics warranting additional discussion.

If you could please provide Rhonda Purnell and me with your feedback on the agenda by Wednesday, August 16th, we will finalize the agenda and attach it to the scheduler.

Thanks. Cecil.

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State Secretary Meeting Agenda

August 24, 2017

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

10:00 am	Welcome (Cecil Rodrigues)
10:10 am	Administration Remarks (Ken Wagner)
10:45 am	State Secretaries Discussion - Topics identified by the Secretaries • Safe Drinking Water • Technology and Data Management (ICIS and SDWIS) • Superfund Task Force • PFOS/PFOA • CAFO permitting strategies • Lead
12:00 pm	Break/Working Lunch
12:15 pm	Richard Yamada Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Research & Development
1:00 pm	Cooperative Federalism EPA to share examples of cooperative federalism General discussion on principles and next steps Federal resources and how we manage/prioritize deliverables for delegated and authorized programs.
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3:00	Wrap Up

Message

From: Rodrigues, Cecil [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4515B309FE314660B3E3069A2925F01A-CRODRI06]

Sent: 8/14/2017 1:02:37 PM

To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; 'Reim, Heather' [hreim@pa.gov]; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE' [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]; Yamada, Kazumi [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Yamada, Kazumi]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]

Subject: State Secretaries Agenda

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Rodrigues, Cecil has shared a OneDrive for Business file with you. To view it, click the link below.

State Sec Meeting - Draft Agenda 8-24-17.docx

<!--[endif]-->
Hi Everyone,

Attached is a draft agenda for your consideration. We were excited to have such a great response to the request and tried to include as many topics as possible. As you know, we only have 5 hours to meet, so as we go through the agenda for the day, EPA staff will be taking notes on follow up items. In addition, both John and I are open to having follow up calls on those topics warranting additional discussion.

If you could please provide Rhonda Purnell and me with your feedback on the agenda by Wednesday, August 16th, we will finalize the agenda and attach it to the scheduler.

Thanks. Cecil.

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Message (Digitally Signed)

From: Owen, Gib A CIV USARMY HQDA ASA CW (US) [gib.a.owen.civ@mail.mil]
Sent: 7/6/2018 11:09:54 AM
To: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Ambrose, Barbara J CTR (US) [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Hershey, Christopher L CIV (US) [christopher.l.hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Chabot, Helen K CIV (US) [helen.chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. 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Subject: Army Civil Works Emergency Disaster Supplemental Funding in the Gulf

Attachments: Final FY18 LDRIP Construction Project Table_3 July 18.pdf; Final OM Priority Short Term Repairs_3 July 18 REVISED.PDF; Construction Short Term Repairs_3 July 18.pdf; FCCE Short Term Repairs_3 July 18.pdf; MRT Short Term Repairs_3 July 18.pdf; Final FY18 LDRIP MR&T Project Table_3 July 18.pdf; Final FY18 LDRIP Investigation Project Table_Revised_5 July 18.pdf; smime.p7s

Good morning,
Attached are the lists of projects and studies that Army Corps Civil Works will be undertaking with the $17B Emergency Disaster Supplemental funding that was authorized in February 2018. The lists were released publicly yesterday afternoon. I wanted to make sure you all were aware of the projects since approximately $10B of the supplemental funds will be dedicated to projects/studies in the Gulf.

The execution of these projects and studies is going to add additional challenges for the state and federal regulatory agencies and resource challenges for many of the states who will be cost share partners on these project. The supplemental funding brings additional opportunities for the states to leverage their Bucket 1 and 3 funds as their cost shares for these projects.

Glad to discuss this effort if you all have any questions.

Gib

Gib Owen
Water Resources Policy & Legislation
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BiPartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) Damage Estimate		
Construction Account		
As of July 5, 2018		
Program Name	**State**	**Repair Estimate ($)**
HERBERT HOOVER DIKE, FL	FL	
WEST BANK AND VICINITY, NEW ORLEANS, LA	LA	
TOWNSENDS INLET TO CAPE MAY INLET, NJ	NJ	
BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	TX	
GIWW, CHOCOLATE BAYOU, TX	TX	
SANDBRIDGE BEACH, VA	VA	
TOTAL		**$10,898,000**

BiPartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) Damage Estimate
Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) Account
As of July 5, 2018

Program Name	State	Repair Estimate
RIVERDALE LEVEE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #134, AR	AR	
PHOENIX & VICINITIES FCCE REHAB, AZ	AZ	
ALAMEDA ZONE 7 PIR FIELD PROJECT, CA	CA	
DOWNTOWN GUADALUPE RIVER, CA	CA	
Riverside Levees, CA	CA	
SACRAMENTO RIVER FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT, CA	CA	
PROSPECT BEACH, WEST HAVEN, CT	CT	
BREVARD COUNTY, CANAVERAL HARBOR, FL	FL	
BROWARD COUNTY, FL	FL	
DUVAL COUNTY, FL	FL	
LEE COUNTY, FL	FL	
NASSAU COUNTY, FL	FL	
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL	FL	
PINELLAS COUNTY, FL	FL	
CLINTON, IA	IA	
CARMEN LEVEE, LEMHI COUNTY, ID	ID	
DCTBL - TWIN BRIDGES LEVEE, ID	ID	
HEISE ROBERTS LEVEE, ID	ID	
LITTLE WOOD RIVER, LINCOLN CO., ID	ID	
MEADOWHURST LEVEE, ST. JOE RIVER BASIN, ID	ID	
COAL CREEK DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICT, IL	IL	
EAST CAPE GIRARDEAU, IL	IL	
EAST PEORIA, IL	IL	
FORT CHARTRES D&LD, IL	IL	
KASKASKIA D&L, IL	IL	
METRO EAST SANITARY, IL	IL	
OAKFORD SPECIAL DRAINAGE DISTRICT, IL	IL	
PRAIRIE DU ROCHER, IL	IL	
WOOD RIVER D&LD, ORIGINAL PROJECT, IL	IL	
A-1 LEVEE ASSOCIATION OSAGE COUNTY, MO	MO	
AUGUSTA BOTTOM LD, MO	MO	
BERGER LEVEE DISTRICT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO	MO	
CAMBRIDGE LEVEE ASSOCIATION, SALINE COUNTY, MO	MO	
ELM POINT, MO	MO	
FCCE NON-FED 2015 LABADIE BOTTOMS CORPORATION, SEC 4, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO	MO	
FCCE NON-FED 2015 MO VALLEY SEC 1 & 2 (MARTHASVILLE), WARREN COUNTY, MO	MO	
FCCE NON-FED 2015 ST. ALBAN'S PARTNERS LEVEE, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO	MO	
FCCE NON-FED 2015 ST. JOHN'S LEVEE DISTRICT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO	MO	
GREGORY DRAINAGE DISTRICT, MO	MO	
KUHS LEVEE, MO	MO	
LABADIE BOTTOMS 5&6, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO	MO	
MORRISON LOWER BOTTOM LEVEE DISTRICT, MO	MO	
NORTHEASTERN SALINE LEVEE ASSOCIATION, SALINE COUNTY, MO	MO	
STE. GENEVIEVE #2 D&LD, MO	MO	
TRI-COUNTY LEVEE DISTRICT, MONTGOMERY & WARREN COUNTIES, MO	MO	
TUQUE CREEK LEVEE DISTRICT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MO	MO	

CAROLINA BEACH AND VICINITY, NC	NC	
BINGHAMTON NICHOLS, NY	NY	
FIRE ISLAND INLET TO JONES INLET, NY	NY	
RIDGWAY, PENNSYLVANIA - ELK CREEK, PA	PA	
RIO GRANDE DE MANATI, PR	PR	
RIO PUERTO NUEVO, PR	PR	
FOLLY BEACH, SC	SC	
MYRTLE BEACH, SC	SC	
BRAYS BAYOU, HOUSTON, TX	TX	
BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	TX	
FREEPORT HURRICANE PROTECTION LEVEE, TX	TX	
GALVESTON ISLAND HARBOR , GALVESTON, TX	TX	
HIGHLAND BAY, TX	TX	
PORT ARTHUR & VICINITY, TX	TX	
SIMS BAYOU, HOUSTON, TX	TX	
TEXAS CITY HURRICANE FLOOD PROTECTION LEVEE, TX	TX	
VINCE BAYOU, TX	TX	
WHITE OAK BAYOU, TX	TX	
BRIDGE STREET LEVEE, PUYALLUP RIVER BASIN, WA	WA	
CARBON RIVER, LB SEG 3A/ALWARD SEGMENT 1, PIERCE CO, WA	WA	
CITY OF NACHES LEVEE, NACHES R, LB SEG 7, YAKIMA CO, WA	WA	
DIKING DIST NR 1, SKAGIT CO, WA	WA	
DIKING DIST NR 22, SKAGIT CO, WA	WA	
ELMWAY RB LEVEE, OKANOGAN RIVER, OKANOGAN COUNTY, WA	WA	
FRENCH SLOUGH FLOOD CTRL DIST PILCHUCK RVR LB SEG 1 LEVEE, WA	WA	
LEACH ROAD LEVEE, PUYALLUP RIVER, WA	WA	
MAZAMA RB LEVEE, METHOW RIVER, OKANOGAN COUNTY, WA	WA	
MCCORMICK LEVEE, WA	WA	
MR L-575 BENTON-WASHINGTON, WA	WA	
NILE ROAD LEVEE, NACHES RIVER, YAKIMA COUNTY, WA	WA	
ROCK CREEK LEVEE, WA	WA	
SAND-WILLIAMS LEVEE, WA	WA	
UNION SLOUGH, WA	WA	
WAITSBURG-COPPEI FLOOD PROJECT, WA	WA	
SHERIDAN, WYOMING BIG GOOSE CREEK, WY	WY	
Total		**$644,980,491**

BiPartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123)

Long Term Disaster Recovery Investment Plan

Construction Account

As of July 5, 2018

PROJECT NAME	STATE	CURRENT WORKING ESTIMATE
American River - Common Features, CA	CA	$1,565,750,000
American River Watershed (Folsom Dam Raise), CA	CA	$216,523,185
Isabella Lake, CA	CA	$258,231,000
Santa Ana River Mainstem, CA	CA	$161,643,000
South San Francisco Shoreline, CA	CA	$177,200,000
Tule River/Lake Success Enlargement (Success Dam), CA	CA	$74,000,000
Yuba River Basin, CA	CA	$13,586,000
Brevard County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
Broward County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
Dade County, FL	FL	$158,300,000
Duval County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
Flagler County, FL	FL	$17,500,000
Herbert Hoover Dike, FL	FL	$514,208,000
Lee County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
Manatee County, FL	FL	$14,300,000
Nassau County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
Palm Beach County (Mid-Town Beach Segment), FL	FL	$25,000,000
Palm Beach County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
Sarasota County (Venice), FL	FL	$2,000,000
St John's County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
St Lucie County (South Segment), FL	FL	$20,276,000
St. John’s County (Villano Segment), FL	FL	$36,834,000
Tybee Island, GA	GA	$13,000,000
Ala Wai Canal, Oahu, HI	HI	$345,076,000
Cedar River, Cedar Rapids , IA	IA	$117,480,000
Kansas Citys/Armourdale, KS & MO	KS & MO	$453,821,341
Section 202 (Johnson County), KY	KY	$118,000,000
Section 202 (Town of Martin), KY	KY	$80,000,000
Comite River, LA	LA	$343,000,000
East Baton Rouge Flood Control, LA	LA	$255,000,000
Grande Isle, LA	LA	$15,000,000
West Shore, Lake Pontchartrain, LA	LA	$760,000,000
Bois Brule, MO	MO	$11,300,000
Alamogordo, NM	NM	$6,500,000
Rio de La Plata, PR	PR	$500,000,000
Rio Grande de Arecibo, PR	PR	$82,892,000
Rio Grande de Loiza, PR	PR	$250,000,000
Rio Guanajibo at Mayaguez, PR	PR	$60,000,000
Rio Nigua at Salinas, PR	PR	$60,000,000
Rio Puerto Nuevo, PR	PR	$1,552,453,000
Colleton County (Edisto Island), SC	SC	$22,228,000
Folly Beach, SC	SC	$2,000,000

Pawleys Island, SC	SC	$9,230,000
Mill (Seven Mile) Creek, TN	TN	$15,900,000
Brays Bayou, TX	TX	$75,000,000
Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries, TX	TX	$1,454,000
Clear Creek, TX	TX	$295,165,000
Dallas Floodway Extension, TX	TX	$53,000,000
Dallas Floodway, TX	TX	$222,911,000
Hunting Bayou, TX	TX	$65,000,000
Lewisville Dam, TX	TX	$91,959,000
Lower Colorado River Phase 1 (Wharton), TX	TX	$73,290,000
Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay, TX	TX	$3,957,134,000
White Oak Bayou, TX	TX	$45,000,000
Bluestone Lake, WV	WV	$574,736,000
Lower Mud River, Milton, WV	WV	$96,200,000
Section 202 (McDowell County), WV	WV	$20,000,000
TOTAL		**$13,913,080,526**

BiPartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123)		
Long Term Disaster Recovery Investment Plan		
Investigations Account		
As of July 5, 2018		
STUDY NAME	**STATE**	**Current Working Estimate**
Selma, AL	AL	$3,000,000
Valley Creek, AL	AL	$3,000,000
LA County Flood Control System, CA	CA	$3,000,000
Westminster (East Garden Grove) Watershed, CA	CA	$2,051,000
Collier County Beach Erosion Control, FL	FL	$3,000,000
Dade County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
Miami Back Bay, FL	FL	$3,000,000
Monroe County, FL	FL	$3,000,000
Okaloosa County, FL	FL	$3,000,000
Pinellas County, FL	FL	$2,000,000
South Atlantic Coastal Study, FL, PR & USVI	FL, PR, USVI	$16,000,000
Proctor, Fulton County, GA	GA	$3,000,000
Metro Louisville Flood Protection System, KY	KY	$3,000,000
Amite River & Tributaries East of the Mississippi River, LA	LA	$3,000,000
Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, LA (General Reevaluation Report)	LA	$3,000,000
South Central Coast, LA	LA	$3,000,000
Upper Barataria Basin, LA	LA	$3,000,000
West Bank and Vicinity, New Orleans, LA (General Reevaluation Report)	LA	$3,000,000
Nassau County Back Bays, NY	NY	$540,000
Tulsa West Tulsa Levees, OK	OK	$3,000,000
Portland Metro Levee System, OR	OR	$3,000,000
Puerto Rico Study, PR	PR	$3,000,000
Rio Culebrinas, PR	PR	$400,000
Rio Grande de Manati, PR (Ciales)	PR	$1,200,000
Rio Guayanilla, PR	PR	$3,000,000
San Juan Metro Area Study, PR	PR	$3,000,000
Charleston Peninsula, SC	SC	$3,000,000
Folly Beach, SC	SC	$3,000,000
Memphis Wolf River Backwater Levee System, TN	TN	$3,000,000
Brazos River, Fort Bend County, TX	TX	$3,000,000
Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries Resiliency Study, TX	TX	$6,000,000
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, TX	TX	$1,902,000
Houston Regional Watershed Assessment, TX	TX	$3,000,000
Guadalupe and San Antonio River Basins, TX	TX	$2,000,000
Savan Gut Phase II, St. Thomas, USVI	USVI	$400,000
Turpentine Run, St. Thomas, USVI	USVI	$400,000
Upper Connecticut River, VT	VT	$3,000,000
Mill Creek, Walla Walla County, WA	WA	$2,000,000
TOTAL		**$111,893,000**

BiPartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123)		
Long Term Disaster Recovery Investment Plan		
Mississippi River and Tributaries Account		
As of July 5, 2018		
Channel Improvement, Revetments	Multi	$98,500,000
Mississippi River Levees	Multi	$147,000,000
TOTAL		**$245,500,000**

Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) Damage Repair Estimate
Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Account
As of July 5, 2018

Program Name	State	Repair Estimate
BAYOU LA BATRE, AL	AL	
DAUPHIN ISLAND BAY, AL	AL	
MCCLELLAN-KERR ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM, AR	AR	
OUACHITA AND BLACK RIVERS, AR & LA	AR	
CHANNEL ISLANDS HARBOR, CA	CA	
HUMBOLDT HARBOR AND BAY, CA	CA	
PORT SAN LUIS, CA	CA	
ANCLOTE RIVER, FL	FL	
CANAVERAL HARBOR, FL	FL	
CENTRAL & SOUTHERN FLORIDA, FL	FL	
CHANNEL FROM NAPLES TO BIG MARCO PASS, FL	FL	
FORT MYERS BEACH, FL	FL	
HORSESHOE COVE, FL	FL	
INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI, FL	FL	
MANATEE HARBOR, FL	FL	
MIAMI HARBOR, FL	FL	
OKEECHOBEE WATERWAY, FL	FL	
PALM BEACH HARBOR, FL	FL	
PONCE DE LEON INLET, FL	FL	
SUWANNEE RIVER, FL	FL	
TAMPA HARBOR, FL	FL	
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, GA	GA	
BRUNSWICK HARBOR, GA	GA	
SAVANNAH HARBOR, GA	GA	
KANOPOLIS LAKE, KS	KS	
ATCHAFALAYA RIVER AND BAYOUS CHENE, BOEUF & BLACK, LA	LA	
BAYOU LAFOURCHE AND LAFOURCHE JUMP WATERWAY, LA	LA	
CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA	LA	
FRESHWATER BAYOU, LA	LA	
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, LA	LA	
J BENNETT JOHNSTON WATERWAY, LA	LA	
LAKE PROVIDENCE HARBOR, LA	LA	
MERMENTAU RIVER, LA	LA	
MISSISSIPPI RIVER OUTLETS AT VENICE, LA	LA	
MISSISSIPPI RIVER, BATON ROUGE TO THE GULF OF MEXICO, LA	LA	
GREEN HARBOR, MA	MA	
CLEARWATER LAKE, MO	MO	
BILOXI HARBOR, MS	MS	
GULFPORT HARBOR, MS	MS	
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NC	NC	
CAROLINA BEACH INLET, NC	NC	
LOCKWOODS FOLLY RIVER, NC	NC	

MOREHEAD CITY HARBOR, NC	NC	
NEW RIVER INLET, NC	NC	
SILVER LAKE HARBOR, NC	NC	
SALEM RIVER, NJ	NJ	
LONG ISLAND INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NY	NY	
FORT GIBSON LAKE, OK	OK	
PORT ORFORD, OR	OR	
TILLAMOOK BAY & BAR, OR	OR	
ARECIBO HARBOR, PR	PR	
MAYAQUEZ HARBOR, PR	PR	
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, SC	SC	
CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	SC	
BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	TX	
CEDAR BAYOU, TX	TX	
CHANNEL TO PORT MANSFIELD, TX	TX	
CORPUS CHRISTI SHIP CHANNEL, TX	TX	
GALVESTON HARBOR AND CHANNEL, TX	TX	
GIWW, CHANNEL TO VICTORIA, TX	TX	
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, TX	TX	
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL, TX	TX	
MOUTH OF THE COLORADO RIVER, TX	TX	
SABINE - NECHES WATERWAY, TX	TX	
WALLISVILLE LAKE, TX	TX	
UNION VILLAGE DAM, VT	VT	
Grand Total		608,000,000

Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) Damage Repair Estimate		
Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) Account		
As of July 5, 2018		
Program Name	**State**	**Repair Estimate**
WHITE RIVER BACKWATER, AR	AR	
ST FRANCIS BASIN, AR & MO	AR & MO	
CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, DIKES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MO, MS, & TN	AR, IL, KY, LA, MO, MS & TN	
CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, REVETMENTS, AR, IL, KY, LA, MO, MS & TN	AR, IL, KY, LA, MO, MS & TN	
MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MO, MS & TN	AR, IL, KY, LA, MO, MS & TN	
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, FLOODWAY SYSTEM, LA	LA	
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LA	LA	
OLD RIVER, LA	LA	
WAPPAPELLO LAKE, MO	MO	
YAZOO BASIN, MAIN STEM, MS	MS	
TOTAL		**$370,000,000**

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 7/5/2018 7:22:38 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov];

Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]

Subject: Agenda and Materials for July 11 2018 Steering Committee Teleconference

Attachments: SC Members Collaboration Updates_Template (3).pdf; Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_July 11.pdf; Draft July 31%2FAugust 1 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Agenda.pdf

Steering Committee Members, please finds attached three files:

- Agenda for the July 11th Steering Committee Teleconference
- Draft Agenda for the July 31/August 1 Face to Face meeting in Gulfport, MS
- Final Collaboration Update Template

We hope everyone had a great July 4th holiday and look forward to our call next week. If you need additional information or clarification of any of the agenda items, please do not hesitate to contact staff.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
July 31 and August 1, 2018
Port of Gulfport Marine Research Center
Gulfport, Mississippi

DRAFT AGENDA

Tuesday, July 31 Agenda

8:30 am – 8:40 am	**Welcome and Introductions** (Chair, Co-Chair, Louisiana, Ben Scaggs)
8:40 am – 8:45 am	**Overview of Agenda and Desired Outcomes** (Buck Sutter)
8:45 am – 10:15 am	**Member Collaboration Reports and Discussion** • Florida (8:45 am to 9:15 am) • Alabama (9:15 am to 9:45 am) • Mississippi (9:45 am to 10:15 am)
10:15am – 10:30 am	**Break**
10:45am – 12:15pm	**Member Collaboration Reports and Discussion Continued** • Louisiana (10:30 am to 11:00 am) • Texas (11:00 am to 11:30 am) • EPA (11:30 to 12:00 pm)
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	**LUNCH: On your own**
1:15 pm – 3:15 pm	**Member Collaboration Reports and Discussion Continued** • DOC/NOAA (1:15 pm to 1:45 pm) • DOI (1:45 pm to 2:15 pm) • US Coast Guard (2:15 pm to 2:45pm) • USDA (2:45 pm to 3:15 pm)
3:30pm – 5:00pm	**Mississippi Field Trip - Institute for Marine Mammal Studies**

Adjourn for the day

Wednesday, August 1 Agenda

8:30 am – 9:30 am **Overview of Member Collaboration Reports** (Ben Scaggs, Jean Cowan)

Objectives:

- Discuss member collaboration reports, summarizing best practices, lessons learned, and potential collaborative Opportunities

Materials:

- Staff prepared summaries from Day 1

9:30 am – 10:15 am **FPL Shortfall Funding Process** (John Ettinger)

Objectives:

- Decide on a Council process for addressing potential budget shortfalls on FPL projects/programs.

Materials:

- FPL Budget Shortfalls Policy Options

10:15am - 10:30am **Break**

10:30 am – 12:15pm **FPL 3 Schedule and Status** (Jean Cowan, Ben Scaggs)

Objectives:

- In depth discussion of the schedule and process to get to FPL 3 in May 2020.

Materials:

- TBD

12:15 pm – 1:30 pm **LUNCH: On your own**

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm **RAAMS Update, Applications and Awards Status** (Kristin Smith)

Objectives:

- Update Steering Committee on FPL Application and Award Status
- Update Steering Committee on RAAMS Replacement

Materials:

- *TBD*

2:30 pm – 3:00pm **Role of Public Engagement Workgroup** (Keala Hughes)

Objectives:

- Discuss the critical role of the PE Workgroup in reaching the objectives of the Council's Comprehensive Plan Update and FPL 3

Materials:

- *TBD*

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00172205-00002

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm **Scales of Outcomes and Objectives** (Jean Cowan)

Objectives:

- Introduce how information provided by Steering Committee member report-outs may be used to develop outcomes and measurable objectives at appropriate scales (e.g., projects, watershed/restoration types, program).

Materials:

- *TBD*

3:45 pm – 4:15 pm **Operating FY19 Budget Discussion** (Mary Pleffner/David Gilliland)

Objectives:

- .

Materials:

- *TBD*

4:15 pm – 4:30 pm **Wrap-up**

Adjourn

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00172205-00003

Steering Committee Members Collaboration Updates Template

Please be prepared to provide brief summary information, to the extent that it is currently available, on the following topics at Steering Committee face-to-face meetings, starting with the July meeting. Any visual aids are encouraged (slides and/or handouts). Each member will have a maximum of 30 minutes for each report-out.

- CPS Award Summary (See draft provided by Council staff and revise as appropriate)

- Year 1 activities (those included in your Year 1 Work Plan); information may include:
    - Planned meetings and/or workshops
    - Completed meetings and/or workshops, including:
        - Participants
        - Outcomes
        - Next steps
    - Funding partners and/or stakeholders collaboration/engagements
    - Member to Member collaboration:
        - Cross-member collaborations (state-fed; state-state; fed-fed)
        - If you are a state member: federal technical assistance you are seeking
        - If you are a federal member: technical assistance you are offering or would like to receive from states

- Maintaining a long-view on Gulf restoration
    - Just as there needs to be a cohesive story within any one FPL, we need to consider the consistent thread between FPL 3 and subsequent FPLs
        - What thoughts do you have at this time regarding long-term "success" and how would you be able to articulate that success? This could be success for a watershed or restoration type, or for Bucket 2 funding writ large.
        - How could success be demonstrated qualitatively and/or quantitatively?
        - What may be your "so what" message 5, 10 15 years from now?
    - Path to FPL 3 Priorities; some topics may include:
        - <u>What/where:</u>
            - Existing regional plans and/or plans under development that you will be drawing upon in the development of FPL 3 proposals
            - Known watershed and/or restoration type priorities that you may be focusing your collaboration efforts on
        - <u>Why:</u>
            - Goals and objectives of any watershed and/or restoration type that you may be seeking to support with FPL funds
            - 1 or 2 potential long-term outcomes and indicators of success that you foresee from your efforts
        - Any "Gulfwide" ideas that you may propose

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, July 11, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: Draft Agenda for July 31/August 1 Face to Face** (Ben Scaggs, Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Review draft agenda for the Steering Committee's July 31/August 1 Face to Face meeting.

Materials:
- Draft July 31/August 1 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
- SC Members Collaboration Updates_Template

III. **Other Business**
- Reminder: SC members have email for review of Staff proposed comments on NPRM to revise Treasury 3% administrative cost cap calculation methods
- Reminder: SC members have email for action on members' no-conflict-of-interest certifications

IV. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
July 25, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: Purnell, Rhonda [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4A3AE0E3175A4B2C922D5ECFF3D0AA5B-RPURNELL]

Sent: 8/21/2017 4:49:01 PM

To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Robbins, Chris [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=958b4b78eb42457eacf53514e428efd6-Robbins, Chris]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userf6840911]; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; gary burdette [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user1edc1165]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user58ea86b1]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user184574b6]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Kavlock, Robert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=eebac67f01094409a7fdaa955a837884-Kavlock, Robert]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]; Matthews, Michael (DOEE) [michael.matthews@dc.gov]

CC: D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Correa, Laura [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5c50055d8fd6453bbd4d897c402f9dda-Correa, Lau]; Lewis, Jacqueline

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0d9cba1195aa4c14815813f6f371ff20-Jlewis]

Subject: Logistics for State Secretaries Mtg

Hello All, We are looking forward to seeing you all at the next State Secretaries this Thursday, August 24th at 10am. Here some logistics for your meeting at EPA Region 3 Office in Philadelphia:

- Once you have arrived in the Lobby of the US EPA Region III Office, ask Security to call (215-814-2900) for an escort to the RA's Conference Room. Please make sure you have valid identification to enter the building.

- Below Also, Coco's Delicatessen will be taking orders for the working lunch. Please see attached menu and send your selection to Rhonda and Renee of the RA's Staff by morning of August 24th. https://cafecoco.revelup.com/weborder/#index

- Below is a list of hotels near our Regional Office if you plan to stay over. Please let us know if you should need any additional information.
  - Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel, 201 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA http://www.sheratonphiladelphiadowntown.com/
  - Embassy Suites Philadelphia, 1776 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA http://embassysuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/pennsylvania/embassy-suites-by-hilton-philadelphia-center-city-PHLDTES/index.html
  - The Westin Philadelphia, 99 South 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1231&EM=VTY_WI_1231_PHILADELPHIA_PROP_OVERVIEW
  - The Windsor Suites Philadelphia, 1700 Ben Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA http://www.thewindsorsuites.com/
  - The Logan Hotel, One Logan Square, Philadelphia, PA http://www.theloganhotel.com/
  - Radisson Blu Warwick Hotel, 220 South 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA https://www.radissonblu.com/en/hotel-philadelphia
  - Le Meridian Philadelphia, 1421 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA http://www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=3238

Have a Staff Trip!

Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-2188
Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

Message

From: Don Parrish [donp@fb.org]
Sent: 7/28/2017 9:11:05 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: RE: RE:

Do you have a specific time on Monday you might have a minute? I am about to get on a train right now.

Don R Parrish
American Farm Bureau Federation®
Ex. 6
donp@fb.org

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 5:08 PM
To: Don Parrish
Subject: Re: RE: RE:

Sorry, could not answer as the Administrator was speaking to a group

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 28, 2017, at 3:47 PM, Don Parrish <donp@fb.org> wrote:

> When would be a good time to schedule a short visit?
>
> *Don R Parrish*
> *American Farm Bureau Federation®*
> Ex. 6
> *donp@fb.org*
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
> **Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2017 4:34 PM
> **To:** Bennett, Tate
> **Cc:** Don Parrish
> **Subject:** Re: RE:
>
> Hey...would love to visit, my contact is below
>
> **Kenneth E. Wagner**

Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 28, 2017, at 3:28 PM, Bennett, Tate <Bennett.Tate@epa.gov> wrote:

> Ken Wagner cc'd. He's awesome- Sr. Advisor to the Administrator specializing in state and regional affairs.
>
> **From:** Don Parrish [mailto:donp@fb.org]
> **Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2017 10:10 AM
> **To:** Bennett, Tate <Bennett.Tate@epa.gov>
> **Subject:**
>
> I forgot an important question – who does Regional EPA's for you guys?
>
> *Don R Parrish*
> *American Farm Bureau Federation®*
> Ex. 6
> *donp@fb.org*

Message

From: Dudley Hoskins [Dudley@nasda.org]
Sent: 7/25/2017 7:31:07 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Automatic reply: NASDA Request: EPA Local Government Advisory Comm (LGAC)

I am attending the WASDA Annual Meeting from July 22nd - July 28th and will have intermittent access to email. For urgent matters, please call or text: Ex. 6

Message

From: Katie Mitchell [mitchell@cgcn.com]
Sent: 7/19/2017 2:39:48 PM
To: Jay Cranford [cranford@cgcn.com]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]
Subject: RE: connect

See list of attendees below! Let us know what time works best for you Friday morning and we'll get it on the books. Thanks so much!

Kate Fay, Noble Energy
Chad Calvert, Noble Energy
Ben Dillon, Noble Energy
Jay Cranford, CGCN Group
Mike Freeman, CGCN Group

KATIE MITCHELL | CGCN GROUP
1101 K STREET, NW, SUITE 650 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
Ex. 6 / mitchell@cgcn.com / www.cgcn.com

From: Jay Cranford
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 6:27 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
Cc: Katie Mitchell <mitchell@cgcn.com>
Subject: Re: connect

Thanks so much to both of you. Late morning Friday will work for us. Please let us know what time works best for you and we will be there.

We'll also get our final list of attendees to you this morning. We will have 3-4 people from our end, max.

Thanks again. -Jay

Jay Cranford
CGCN Group
Ex. 6
www.cgcn.com

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 10:55 PM
Subject: Re: connect
To: Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
Cc: Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com>

As it happens...I'm actually in town on Friday...late morning would work

Let me know if it can work out?

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 18, 2017, at 10:50 PM, Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov> wrote:

Jay, always a pleasure!

I have added Ken to the email in the hopes that his schedule will allow for a visit.

Ken, please see Jay's below.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 18, 2017, at 5:44 PM, Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com> wrote:

> Good afternoon Troy. I'm emailing to see if you could help connect me with Ken Wagner at EPA. Our client, Noble, is coming in from Denver this week and would like an opportunity to sit down with him to discuss some CO-specific ozone issues. At this point Noble has availability this Friday (7/21) morning until 11:30am. I realize this is a small window of availability but I know they would like to try to meet. If it doesn't work out this time, maybe they can try again the next time they are in town.
>
> As a side note, Noble will be meeting with the Administrator's policy team Thursday afternoon. Just want to make sure you are aware.
>
> Thanks, -Jay
>
> **JAY CRANFORD** | CGCN GROUP
> 1101 K STREET, NW, SUITE 650 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
> Ex. 6 /cranford@cgcn.com /www.cgcn.com

Message

From: Armstead, John A. [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=93CD7A462484482780391E94F240902E-ARMSTEAD, JOHN]
Sent: 7/27/2017 6:54:43 PM
To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; 'Reim, Heather' [hreim@pa.gov]; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE' [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov]
CC: Poeske, Regina [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a239b4e724f149bcb07fe4e0010298c9-Rpoeske]; Rodrigues, Cecil [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4515b309fe314660b3e3069a2925f01a-Crodri06]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Lewis, Jacqueline [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0d9cba1195aa4c14815813f6f371ff20-Jlewis]
Subject: August 24th State Secretaries' Meeting - Request for Scientific Concerns and Issues before August 9th

Good day Colleagues

Dr. Richard Yamada, EPA's Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Research & Development will be attending our August 24, 2017 meeting. The purpose of the session with Dr. Yamada is to explore potential collaborations between the States and the Agency. During this session we will discuss scientific issues/concerns that are relevant to States, EPA, and science matters unique to Region 3.

It is clear that emerging contaminants such as PFOA/PFAS, nutrients, and lead are major issues of national concern. As State agencies working on the front lines of protecting public health and the environment, I am reaching out to you to help expand this list to shape the conversation with Dr. Yamada by sharing with me the top concerns and scientific issues your State is grappling with. By providing insights on the environmental problems you face we can best translate EPA and ORD science into well informed decision tools for States and communities.

To have ample time to prepare I am hoping to have feedback before August 9, if possible. Please copy Regina Poeske, acting Regional Science Liaison (Poeske.regina@epa.gov) and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to let her know.

Thank you for taking the time to provide your thoughts. I look forward to hearing from you.

John A. Armstead
Acting Deputy Regional Adminstrator
EPA Mid-Atlantic Region 3
215-814-2918 (o)

Message

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski [mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: 7/18/2017 1:42:19 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Importance: High

Ken,

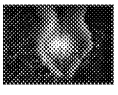
I had a chance to talk with Jay this morning, and he wants to proceed with an in person meeting. I'm happy to work with your scheduler to get this on the calendar, if you could share with me their name and email address, or forward my email to them.

Otherwise, I can offer the following days and times that Jay is available to meet at your office (or you are welcome to come here):

- Wednesday, July 26 – between 3:00 and 5:00p
- Tuesday, August 1

I look forward to hearing from you or someone from your office. Thank you.
MJ

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial (Ex. 6
Mobile Ex. 6
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org


How can I serve you today?

Future Meetings
2017 Spring Regulator Conference – April 6-7, Arlington, VA
2017 Annual Meeting – September 22-27, Dana Point, CA
2018 Winter Board of Directors Meeting – March 5-7, Washington, DC
2018 Annual Meeting – September 21-26, The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island

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From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

If he's in Oklahoma... I could do a call?

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: 202-309-2418
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 14, 2017, at 3:05 PM, Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org> wrote:

How about Friday, July 21? Jay's open all day.

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial (202) 872-3849
Mobile (703) 943-9705
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

<image003.jpg> ***How can I serve you today?***

Future Meetings
2017 Spring Regulator Conference – April 6-7, Arlington, VA
2017 Annual Meeting – September 22-27, Dana Point, CA
2018 Winter Board of Directors Meeting – March 5-7, Washington, DC
2018 Annual Meeting – September 21-26, The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island

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From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 3:55 PM
To: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

I will be at the ECOS meeting as I'm speaking so Monday won't work. Sorry

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
202-309-2418 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 14, 2017, at 1:32 PM, Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org> wrote:

Ken,

As it happens Jay will be at a meeting at EPA on Monday at 1:00p, which should end by 2:00 or 2:30p. Are you available to meet after that meeting? Or before?

MJ

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial (202) 872-3849
Mobile (703) 943-9705
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

<image002.jpg> ***How can I serve you today?***

Future Meetings
2017 Spring Regulator Conference – April 6-7, Arlington, VA
2017 Annual Meeting – September 22-27, Dana Point, CA
2018 Winter Board of Directors Meeting – March 5-7, Washington, DC
2018 Annual Meeting – September 21-26, The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island

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From: Mary Jo Tomalewski
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 3:56 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Jay Vroom <JVroom@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: FW: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?
Importance: High

Ken,

I misspoke – would you be available for a meeting on Monday afternoon, July 17, after 1:00p?
MJ

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Ken,

Would you be available for a phone call with Jay Vroom on Monday afternoon, July 17, after 1:00p?
MJ

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial (202) 872-3849
Mobile (703) 943-9705
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

From: Jay Vroom
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2017 10:48 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Thanks Ken!

I'm on business travel today through Thursday but think I can tell you about my availability the week of July 17.

I am receiving about 3 discreet international colleague groups that week and am basically tied down with them from noon in Tuesday the 18th until 5 pm on Thursday the 20th. My very best time to catch up would we Tuesday morning the 18th-- and I could make it as early as you like. If that's not possible let's look at Friday?

Jay
Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 3, 2017, at 8:49 AM, Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:

> Jay:
>
> I am out until the week of the 17th, but would love to catch up then. Wednesday the 19th is the best for me (probably in the afternoon). Let me know if that can work.
>
> Hope all is well.
>
> Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
202-309-2418 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Jay Vroom [mailto:JVroom@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2017 6:04 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Hi Ken and happy July!

We have not talked in a while and since the second half of 2017 is now begun I thought it is timely to check in and see if we could get together in the coming weeks?

I'll be on travel for meetings next Wednesday and Thursday following the long holiday weekend but my assistant, Mary Jo, can follow up with you Wednesday to see what might be possible to converge our calendars.

Have a great holiday and enjoy the 4th!

Jay

Jay Vroom
President & CEO
CropLife America
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 400

Washington, DC 20005
202 872 3850 (O)
202 427 7932 (M)
Vroom@croplifeamerica.org
www.croplifeamerica.org

Message

From: Ben Grumbles -MDE- [ben.grumbles@maryland.gov]
Sent: 8/25/2017 2:29:14 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Thanks

Ken,

Thanks for attending the region 3 meeting today. Your presence was critical and your travel-stamina has become legendary.

Lots of good info and insight relayed.

Two items:

1. Maryland is certainly willing to discuss alternatives to litigation over our section 126 petition over air transport.

2. As chair of the 13 state Ozone Transport Commission, I'd love to have a senior political appointee participate in and speak at our annual meeting, which will be November 14-15 in DC. (This was the little note I passed you at the end of the meeting.)

Thanks for all.
Ben

--
Click here
<http://www.doit.state.md.us/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?agencycode=MDE&SurveyID=86M2956> to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Searfoss, Renee [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DF11455E026D4599AE0D6A5471F1C0A4-RSEARFOS]
Sent: 8/2/2017 6:08:07 PM
To: Paylor, David (DEQ) [David.Paylor@deq.virginia.gov]; tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Robbins, Chris [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=958b4b78eb42457eacf53514e428efd6-Robbins, Chris]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; 'Reim, Heather' [hreim@pa.gov]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ) [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE' [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Kavlock, Robert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=eebac67f01094409a7fdaa955a837884-Kavlock, Robert]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]
Subject: RE: gentle reminder

Absolutely.

My apologies for not mentioning that Cecil thought it important to include this topic is an agenda item.

Thank you Dave!

Renee Searfoss
Executive Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
215-814-2137
Searfoss.renee@epa.gov

From: Paylor, David (DEQ) [mailto:David.Paylor@deq.virginia.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, August 02, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Searfoss, Renee <searfoss.renee@epa.gov>; tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) <Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us>; Ben Grumbles <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov>; McDonnell, Patrick <pmcdonnell@pa.gov>; Ward, Molly (GOV) <Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov>; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; D'Andrea, Michael <DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Miller, Linda <miller.linda@epa.gov>; Horacio Tablada -Mde- <horacio.tablada@maryland.gov>; Mandirola, Scott G <Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov>; Armstead, John A. <Armstead.John@epa.gov>; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) <yamada.richard@epa.gov>; Blackburn, Elizabeth <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>; Robbins, Chris <Robbins.Chris@epa.gov>; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' <Vicki.Ward@state.de.us>; 'Kathy Bishop' <kathy.bishop@maryland.gov>; 'Reim, Heather' <hreim@pa.gov>; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ) <Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov>; 'Burdette, Gary C' <Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov>; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea <Barbery.Andrea@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE' <edna.ebanks@dc.gov>; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez <rziadeh@pa.gov>; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) <Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov>; Karad, Meryem (GOV) <Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov>; Reese, Leslie (DNREC <Leslie.Reese@state.de.us>; Kavlock, Robert <Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov>; Rodan, Bruce <rodan.bruce@epa.gov>; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen <Radzikowski.Maryellen@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: gentle reminder

We could certainly discuss the ECOS Cooperative Federalism ideas. David

David K. Paylor, Director
Dept. Environmental Quality
804-698-4020

From: Searfoss, Renee [mailto:searfoss.renee@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, August 02, 2017 1:45 PM
To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC); Ben Grumbles; McDonnell, Patrick; Ward, Molly (GOV); Paylor, David (DEQ); austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth; D'Andrea, Michael; White, Terri-A; Miller, Linda; Horacio Tablada -Mde-; Mandirola, Scott G; Armstead, John A.; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro); Blackburn, Elizabeth; Robbins, Chris; Searfoss, Renee; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)'; 'Kathy Bishop'; 'Reim, Heather'; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ); 'Burdette, Gary C'; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea; Nitsch, Chad; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE'; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE); Karad, Meryem (GOV); Reese, Leslie (DNREC; Kavlock, Robert; Rodan, Bruce; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen
Subject: gentle reminder

Hi Everyone,

This is a gentle reminder that we would appreciate any suggestions on agenda items for the upcoming State Secretaries' meeting by tomorrow if possible.

Thank you!

Renee Searfoss
Executive Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
215-814-2137
Searfoss.renee@epa.gov

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From: Searfoss, Renee [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DF11455E026D4599AE0D6A5471F1C0A4-RSEARFOS]
Sent: 8/4/2017 7:28:16 PM
To: Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; Paylor, David (DEQ) [David.Paylor@deq.virginia.gov]
CC: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Robbins, Chris [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=958b4b78eb42457eacf53514e428efd6-Robbins, Chris]; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; Kathy Bishop [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [hreim@pa.gov]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ) [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; Burdette, Gary C [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Kavlock, Robert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=eebac67f01094409a7fdaa955a837884-Kavlock, Robert]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]
Subject: RE: gentle reminder

Thanks so much Secretary!

With the exception of the ECOS document, everyone provided a diverse selection of topics to discuss.

I have a meeting scheduled with Cecil and John on Monday to go over these topics and begin drafting an agenda for you all to review and provide additional comment.

Have a great weekend.

Renee Searfoss
Executive Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
215-814-2137
Searfoss.renee@epa.gov

From: Ben Grumbles -MDE- [mailto:ben.grumbles@maryland.gov]
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 3:19 PM
To: Paylor, David (DEQ) <David.Paylor@deq.virginia.gov>
Cc: Searfoss, Renee <searfoss.renee@epa.gov>; tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) <Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us>; McDonnell, Patrick <pmcdonnell@pa.gov>; Ward, Molly (GOV) <Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov>; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; D'Andrea, Michael <DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; Miller, Linda <miller.linda@epa.gov>; Horacio Tablada -Mde- <horacio.tablada@maryland.gov>; Mandirola, Scott G <Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov>; Armstead, John A. <Armstead.John@epa.gov>; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) <yamada.richard@epa.gov>; Blackburn, Elizabeth <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>; Robbins, Chris <Robbins.Chris@epa.gov>; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) <Vicki.Ward@state.de.us>; Kathy Bishop <kathy.bishop@maryland.gov>; Reim, Heather <hreim@pa.gov>; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ) <Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov>; Burdette, Gary C <Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov>; Barbery, Andrea <Barbery.Andrea@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE <edna.ebanks@dc.gov>; Ziadeh, Ramez <rziadeh@pa.gov>; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) <Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov>; Karad, Meryem (GOV) <Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov>; Reese, Leslie (DNREC <Leslie.Reese@state.de.us>; Kavlock, Robert <Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov>; Rodan, Bruce <rodan.bruce@epa.gov>; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen <Radzikowski.Maryellen@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: gentle reminder

I agree with Dave Paylor! Specific, region 3 examples (existing or future) of Cooperative Federalism would be helpful. Also, a few more topics of regional interest, at least from a Maryland perspective:

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation permitting strategies (including air emissions and recent litigation)

Innovative financing opportunities (especially water and wastewater)

Advancing "sustainable materials management" in the states.

Stream restoration science, permitting, and policy. How do we encourage a "restoration economy"?

Thanks.
Ben

Best.
Ben

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 2, 2017, at 2:01 PM, Paylor, David (DEQ) <David.Paylor@deq.virginia.gov> wrote:

> We could certainly discuss the ECOS Cooperative Federalism ideas. David
>
> David K. Paylor, Director
> Dept. Environmental Quality
> 804-698-4020
>
> **From:** Searfoss, Renee [mailto:searfoss.renee@epa.gov]
> **Sent:** Wednesday, August 02, 2017 1:45 PM
> **To:** tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC); Ben Grumbles; McDonnell, Patrick; Ward, Molly

(GOV); Paylor, David (DEQ); austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth; D'Andrea, Michael; White, Terri-A; Miller, Linda; Horacio Tablada -Mde-; Mandirola, Scott G; Armstead, John A.; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro); Blackburn, Elizabeth; Robbins, Chris; Searfoss, Renee; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)'; 'Kathy Bishop'; 'Reim, Heather'; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ); 'Burdette, Gary C'; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea; Nitsch, Chad; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE'; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE); Karad, Meryem (GOV); Reese, Leslie (DNREC; Kavlock, Robert; Rodan, Bruce; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen
Subject: gentle reminder

Hi Everyone,

This is a gentle reminder that we would appreciate any suggestions on agenda items for the upcoming State Secretaries' meeting by tomorrow if possible.

Thank you!

Renee Searfoss
Executive Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
215-814-2137
Searfoss.renee@epa.gov

Click here to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski [mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: 7/14/2017 8:04:06 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

How about Friday, July 21? Jay's open all day.

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial ([Ex. 6]
Mobile ([Ex. 6]
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

How can I serve you today?

Future Meetings
2017 Spring Regulator Conference – April 6-7, Arlington, VA
2017 Annual Meeting – September 22-27, Dana Point, CA
2018 Winter Board of Directors Meeting – March 5-7, Washington, DC
2018 Annual Meeting – September 21-26, The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 3:55 PM
To: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

I will be at the ECOS meeting as I'm speaking so Monday won't work. Sorry

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
[Ex. 6] **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 14, 2017, at 1:32 PM, Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org> wrote:

> Ken,
>
> As it happens Jay will be at a meeting at EPA on Monday at 1:00p, which should end by 2:00 or 2:30p. Are you available to meet after that meeting? Or before?
>
> MJ
>
> *Mary Jo Tomalewski*
> Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
> CropLife America

Direct Dial (Ex. 6
Mobile (Ex. 6
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

<image002.jpg> ***How can I serve you today?***

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---

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 3:56 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Jay Vroom <JVroom@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: FW: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?
Importance: High

Ken,

I misspoke – would you be available for a meeting on Monday afternoon, July 17, after 1:00p?
MJ

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Ken,

Would you be available for a phone call with Jay Vroom on Monday afternoon, July 17, after 1:00p?
MJ

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial Ex. 6
Mobile (Ex. 6
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

From: Jay Vroom
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2017 10:48 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Thanks Ken!

I'm on business travel today through Thursday but think I can tell you about my availability the week of July 17.

I am receiving about 3 discreet international colleague groups that week and am basically tied down with them from noon in Tuesday the 18th until 5 pm on Thursday the 20th. My very best

time to catch up would we Tuesday morning the 18th-- and I could make it as early as you like. If that's not possible let's look at Friday?

Jay
Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 3, 2017, at 8:49 AM, Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:

> Jay:
>
> I am out until the week of the 17th, but would love to catch up then. Wednesday the 19th is the best for me (probably in the afternoon). Let me know if that can work.
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Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Jay Vroom [mailto:JVroom@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2017 6:04 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Hi Ken and happy July!

We have not talked in a while and since the second half of 2017 is now begun I thought it is timely to check in and see if we could get together in the coming weeks?

I'll be on travel for meetings next Wednesday and Thursday following the long holiday weekend but my assistant, Mary Jo, can follow up with you Wednesday to see what might be possible to converge our calendars.

Have a great holiday and enjoy the 4th!

Jay

Jay Vroom
President & CEO
CropLife America
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6 (O)
Ex. 6 (M)
Vroom@croplifeamerica.org
www.croplifeamerica.org

Message

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski [mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: 7/14/2017 6:31:00 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
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> **Sent:** Saturday, July 1, 2017 6:04 PM
> **To:** Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
> **Cc:** Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
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Jay

Jay Vroom
President & CEO
CropLife America
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
Ex. 6 (O)
Ex. 6 (M)
Vroom@croplifeamerica.org
www.croplifeamerica.org

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 6/19/2017 11:07:42 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: Re: In DC this week

Thanks!

Mary
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 19, 2017, at 7:05 PM, Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:

> I will check and see if he can meet. I will let you know tomorrow
>
> **Kenneth E. Wagner**
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> *For Regional and State Affairs*
> **U S Environmental Protection Agency**
> **202-564-1988 office**
> Ex. 6 **cell**
> **wagner.kenneth@epa.gov**
>
> On Jun 19, 2017, at 5:54 PM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:
>
> > Ken
> >
> > Just wanted to let you know I am in route to DC right now, will be there until Thursday mid-day. If Kel happens to have some time to meet would gladly come over and say hello. I am with my trustee colleagues from the Nature Conservancy for their annual trustee summit.
> >
> > Look forward to talking again!
> >
> > *Mary Draves*
> >
> > Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
> > Environmental Operations and Technology Center
> > The Dow Chemical Company
> > 1790 Building
> > Midland, MI 48674
> >
> > Phone:
> > Mobile: Ex. 6
> > mfdraves@dow.com
> > @mary_draves
> > <image001.png>

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 6/19/2017 10:53:14 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: In DC this week

Ken

Just wanted to let you know I am in route to DC right now, will be there until Thursday mid-day. If Kel happens to have some time to meet would gladly come over and say hello. I am with my trustee colleagues from the Nature Conservancy for their annual trustee summit.

Look forward to talking again!

Mary Draves

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Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 6/27/2018 9:04:34 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov];

Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]

Subject: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions, June 27 2018

Attachments: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions June 27, 2018.docx.pdf; CPS Award Summaries.docx.pdf; SC Members Collaboration Updates_Template june 26 draft.pdf

Council members:

Thank you for joining the Steering Committee call today. Attached are the decisions and actions from the call. Please note the following member actions and deadlines coming out of the call:

-
- Steering Committee member comments on their respective draft CPS one-page summaries are due by COB Friday, June 29 (one-page summaries are attached). Please send comments to Buck Sutter.

-
-
- Steering Committee member comments on the Collaboration Report Template are due by COB Friday, July 6 (Comment Report Template is attached). Please send comments to Buck Sutter.

-
- Federal members are asked to provide a records management point of contact for their agency to David Gilliland (David.Gilliland@restorethegulf.gov) by COB, Friday, July 6.

Thanks again.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130

www.restorethegulf.gov

DRAFT: CPS Collaboration Summaries

Steering Committee Member: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships that will result in a comprehensive long-term approach to addressing restoration needs in coastal Alabama, with a specific emphasis on identifying "best fit," collaborative projects for consideration for the Council-Selected Restoration Component. These efforts will contextualize proposals within the broader framework of restoration efforts in coastal Alabama, potentially leveraging restoration efforts across funding streams, where appropriate, while also leveraging technical expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council. Activities will also increase public engagement and transparency in the decision-making process and utilize existing partnerships, including but not limited to the Management Conference of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP).

Mechanism for Implementation:

1. A stepwise approach to conducting planning and collaboration activities to meet the near-term need to develop strong proposals for future FPLs while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success while allowing for the flexibility needed as planning process proceeds.
2. Convene a "Coastal Alabama Restoration Summit" in the fall of 2018 to review current restoration work and solicit input from the public regarding future restoration priorities for Bucket 2.
    a. The restoration summit will also provide updates for NFWF, Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (AGCRC), and NRDA activities,
    b. Increasing understanding of these processes and the potential types of projects that could be funded through and potentially across the various funding sources.
3. Development of "Alabama's Bucket 2 Project Development Strategy" in the context of work currently on going, including:
    a. Coordination between the MBNEP and the Alabama Nature Conservancy (TNC) to develop a Habitat Restoration Plan (HRP) to identify potential restoration projects located in priority habitats that could be expected to succeed based on proximate stressors and ongoing activities to reduce those stressors.
    b. MBNEP finalizing Watershed Management Plans (WMPs) in priority watersheds as well as the anticipated 5-year update of the MBNEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).
4. Attend and/or host up to ten {10) focus group and/or collaboration meetings with potential Federal and State project partners and technical experts. The strategy document will be utilized as part of these focus group efforts.
5. With support from the MBNEP Management Conference, the State will conduct planning and collaboration to develop conceptual, pre-submission project/program ideas for future FPLs.

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. Design an evaluation structure and process to support efforts to establish potential indicators/measures of Bucket 2 project/program impacts;
2. Develop a framework for project and program level adaptive management recommendations;
3. Consider potential mechanisms to support learning and subsequent transfer of knowledge gained (and lessons learned) to future project design and implementation. To the extent

possible, this work will consider similar approaches developed to track NRDA project/program success in Alabama.

Steering Committee Member: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships, in consultation with the public that will result in a comprehensive long-term vision for its coastal habitats, communities, and economy to support more effective submissions for Council-Selected Restoration Component funding. Specifically, this work will contextualize the proposals for Bucket 2 funding within the broader vision for Florida, leveraging not only restoration dollars across funding streams but also expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council. Activities will also increase public engagement and transparency in the decision-making process.

Mechanism for Implementation: State of Florida will take a long-term approach toward building and sustaining restoration partnerships, including expanding investment in public engagement and best available science endeavors. Specific activities include:

1. A stepwise approach to conducting planning and collaboration activities will be taken over the 5-year period of this award to meet the near-term need to develop the strongest proposals as possible for the next FPL while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success, allowing for flexibility as needed as the planning process proceeds.
2. Workplans will be developed with activities that contribute to achieving input from and buy-in of the public, stakeholders, and experts to support the long-term vision for coastal Florida that incorporates existing relevant regional plans, using the best available science, and includes goals and, to the extent possible, quantifiable objectives.
    a. Cultivation of new/reaffirmation of current restoration funding partners to leverage Bucket 2 funds to their greatest benefit in contributing to the long-term vision for Florida;
    b. Enter into technical and funding partnerships for projects development and implementation; and
    c. Development of a monitoring and evaluation approach for adapting the long-term vision and restoration priorities over time based upon new information
3. Collaboration activities will be focused on
    a. identifying those project/program concepts (including technical and funding partners) for which proposals will be developed for consideration in the next FPL, and then
    b. Initiating development of those proposals in conjunction with those partners.
    c. With support from a contractor, the State will conduct planning and collaboration to develop conceptual, presubmission project/program ideas for the next FPL These activities will include stakeholder and public engagement as part of the planning needed to place proposals within a broader context of long-term ecological goals and leveraging with other relevant funding streams. Contractor support may also include participation in the RESTORE Council Monitoring and Assessment Work Group (CMAWG).

Success Evaluation Methods: The State of Florida anticipates utilizing the following methods:

1. Developing a decision-support tool by adding evaluation criteria that are directly related to Council-Selected Restoration Component planning and adaptive management.
2. Procuring a contractor to conduct periodic evaluations of overall Bucket 2 project/program impact at scales of the watersheds within the state in order to develop and implement adaptive management strategies.
3. Complete an inventory or relevant data, reports, plans, and models and conducting an analysis of critical information gaps. An outcome of this work would be to develop specific tasks and strategies related to evaluation and adaptive management within the State.

Steering Committee Member: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Purpose: Planning and collaboration with local, State, Federal, and other leaders and experts to achieve commitments of the Comprehensive Plan by meeting and coordinating with technical points of contact (including state and federal), other funding entities, and academics across the Gulf of Mexico utilizing BAS to highlight the location and severity of known or emerging stressors both in Louisiana and Gulf-wide. This information will be synthesized to inform Louisiana's position on future FPL investments intended to mitigate those stressors or restore impacted resources, leverage funding from other sources, identify measures/metrics/indicators for success of actions in Gulf priority watersheds, and inform adaptive management for future FPLs.

Mechanism for Implementation:

1. CPRA anticipates working with the Water Institute of the Gulf.
2. Engagement, meetings, and discussions with relevant technical partners across the Gulf, monthly webinars or in person meetings with the RESTORE Council Staff, and compiling the information from the collaborative process into a digestible format to inform future FPL investments and long-term planning maximizing co-benefits across funding streams.
3. Through Council staff engagement, Council staff may be able to identify opportunities to utilize the information for future proposal evaluation based on BAS or to support other staff activities which in turn support the Council.
4. Through regular meetings with the Council Staff Science Advisor, as well as through CPRA's POC on CMAWG, as these proposed engagement activities on stressors moves forward, strategic points of connection with CMAWG may be identified and coordinated on.
5. Development of concepts that could be pursued for future FPL funding through discussions and meetings will be both deliberative and opportunistic, based upon participation in regional, state, or national meetings with relevant partners and stakeholders.

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. The Water Institute of the Gulf will meet and coordinate with technical points of contact (both state and federal), other funding entities, and academics across the Gulf of Mexico utilizing BAS to highlight the location and severity of known or emerging stressors.
2. Information will be compiled from the collaborative process into a digestible format to inform future FPL investments and long-term planning maximizing co-benefits across funding streams.
3. The synthesized information will be used to inform the State of Louisiana's position on future FPL investments and proposals the State wants to prioritize which best support projects intended to mitigate those stressors or restore impacted resources, leverage funding from other sources, identify measures/metrics/indicators for success of actions in Gulf priority watersheds, and inform adaptive management for future FPLs.
4. Development of concepts that could be pursued for future FPL funding and how projects and programs in watersheds and estuaries facing similar stress could be aligned to leverage other investments to increase ecological services. For example, meetings with the Centers of Excellences (COEs) and other funders will provide opportunities for leveraging of investments based on BAS.

Steering Committee Member: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Purpose: Identify and develop new restoration partnerships and maintain existing partnerships, in consultation with the public, which will result in a comprehensive long-term vision for its coastal habitats, communities, and economy by leveraging not only restoration dollars across funding streams but also expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council.

Mechanism for Implementation: Mississippi will take a long-term, step-wise approach toward building and sustaining restoration partnerships, including investments in public engagement and best available science endeavors. Activities will build upon existing partnerships and collaboration pathways to maximize restoration efforts and outcomes, and to develop the strongest proposals as possible for the next FPL while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success.

Activities in year 1 (2018) will be focused on identifying those project/program concepts (including technical and funding partners) for which proposals will be developed for consideration in the next FPL, and then initiating development of those proposals in conjunction with those partners. The State of Mississippi will conduct planning and collaboration to develop conceptual, pre-submission project/program ideas for the next FPL. These activities may include stakeholder and public engagement as part of the planning needed to place proposals within a broader context of long-term ecological goals and leveraging with other relevant funding streams. MDEQ will also participate in any Council-wide workgroups needed to support development of FPL 3/10-Year Strategy.

Activities in year 2 (2019) will be focused on finalizing and submitting proposals. In addition to continuing all collaboration activities needed to maintain the foundation built in year 1, CPS activities in the remainder of 2019 and early 2020 will focus on participating in Council-level activities to develop and finalize the next FPL 3/10-Year Funding Strategy. Activities in year 2 (2019) will be further focused on finalizing and submitting proposals. In addition to continuing all collaboration activities needed to maintain the foundation built in year 1, CPS activities in the remainder of 2019 and early 2020 will focus on participating in Council-level activities to develop and finalize the next FPL 3/10-Year Funding Strategy. Activities in years 3-5 (2020-2022) will build upon those outlined for years 1-2. Upon finalization of FPL 3/10-Year Strategy in 2020, the State of Mississippi will turn its attention to finalizing the awards for projects and initiating planning for the FPL 3/10-Year Strategy.

Success Evaluation Methods: The State of Mississippi will continue investments in its monitoring and adaptive management tools by adding evaluation criteria that are directly related to Council-Selected Restoration Component (Bucket 2) planning and adaptive management. As part of this effort, the State of Mississippi will conduct periodic evaluations of overall Bucket 2 project/program impact at scales of the watersheds within Mississippi in order to develop and implement adaptive management strategies. Further, the State of Mississippi will interact with the Council Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup to aid in the development of procedures, standards, and plans that could be used to inform any FPL related projects, proposals, and/or activities. An outcome of this work will be the inclusion of monitoring and adaptive management information in the respective developed FPL proposals.

Steering Committee Member: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Purpose: Work in coordination with a team of Texas coastal experts, elected officials, representatives for Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the four other Gulf states, federal entities and the public, using the best available science, in meeting the requirements of the RESTORE Act Council-Selected Restoration Component and the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan update in 2016.

Mechanism for Implementation: The State will hire a contractor (Harte Institute) to:

1. Identify and enhance partnerships through the consultation with technical coastal experts, elected officials, Deepwater Horizon funding partners, federal entities and the public along the Texas and Gulf coast.
2. Build on existing plans already developed for the Texas coastal areas to identify priorities, reaffirm or cultivate new restoration funding partners and contribute to the long-term vision for addressing coastal habitats and vitalize the Texas coastal economy.
    a. First year activities will focus on identifying priorities, partners and pre-submission program/project ideas that are within the broad vision for Texas and Gulf coast areas.
    b. Include workshops/meetings with technical coastal experts to present a summary of plans, partnerships and priorities that have been implemented and to introduce any missing Bucket 2 objective area plans.
3. Work with local elected officials and the public regarding the identification of priorities and to introduce the thought process for large-scale partnerships and leveraged funding for future FPLs to approach the Deepwater Horizon (NRDA and NFWF) programs to identify similar priorities, and restoration needs on the Texas and Gulf coast.
4. Year two will include best available science endeavors with on-going engagement with technical experts and Gulf state partners to identify additional activities for the developing of the 10-year funding strategy (longterm vision). Proposed work in year two will also include discussions on evaluation and adaptive management tools

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. TCEQ and its contractor, with the input of the technical coastal experts, local elected officials and the public, will develop decision-support tools and evaluation criteria that support Council-Selected Restoration Component planning requirements.
2. Development of adaptive management strategies for incorporation into FPLs will also be completed.
3. Activities that will be conducted in year one of the CPS award include completing an inventory of reports, relevant data, plans, and models and conducting analyses to identify information gaps.

Steering Committee Member: Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard

Purpose: Strengthen Gulf of Mexico restoration by determining the need/ability to incorporate spill resiliency and spill response readiness into selected RESTORE restoration activities.

Mechanism for Implementation: Collaborative meetings with the restoration and response offices within each of the Council member agencies, as well as Council members, will be held to determine the need/ability to integrate spill resilience into restoration planning both conceptually and in the design and development of FPL projects.

1. Coast Guard will lead an interagency developed process to develop a proposal to assess the risk of spills in areas where Bucket 2 funded and/or proposed restoration projects are located
2. Use an iterative process to develop a Risk Matrix which could be used by Council members to facilitate right-sizing contingency planning relative to risk.
    a. Identify existing processes and tools for assessing threat of spills, vulnerability of resources, and risk measures.
    b. The risk scoring matrix will be used to evaluate proposed restoration project locations to allow for the appropriate level of planning to be incorporated into the relevant FPL project proposal
3. An interagency team will write a proposal to fund development of a matrix to establish contingency planning targets based on risk level.
4. Public engagement is anticipated to occur through public collaboration meetings in each state and through regular updates and discussions at standing response community public meetings and conferences.

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. Identification of available threat assessment tools and vulnerability assessment tools, including inventory of relevant data, reports, plans, and models and conducting an analysis of critical information gaps.
2. Design a risk assessment matrix to categorize restored areas according to their risk of impact from acute pollution events. For areas categorized as high risk, recommendations will be made for modifications in response strategies to be incorporated into future FPL proposals and/or recommendations for project design modifications to improve resiliency.

DRAFT: Steering Committee Members Collaboration Updates Template

Please be prepared to provide brief summary information, to the extent that it is currently available, on the following topics at Steering Committee face-to-face meetings, starting with the July meeting. Any visual aids are encouraged (slides and/or handouts). Each member will have a maximum of 30 minutes for each report-out.

- CPS Award Summary (See draft provided by Council staff and revise as appropriate)

- Year 1 activities (those included in your Year 1 Work Plan); information may include:
    - Planned meetings and/or workshops
    - Completed meetings and/or workshops, including:
        - Participants
        - Outcomes
        - Next steps
    - Funding partners and/or stakeholders collaboration/engagements
    - Member to Member collaboration:
        - Cross-member collaborations (state-fed; state-state; fed-fed)
        - If you are a state member: federal technical assistance you are seeking
        - If you are a federal member: technical assistance you are offering or would like to receive from states

- Maintaining a long-view on Gulf restoration
    - Just as there needs to be a cohesive story within any one FPL, we need to consider the consistent thread between FPLs
        - What thoughts do you have at this time regarding long-term "success" and how would you be able to articulate that success? This could be success for a watershed or restoration type, or for Bucket 2 funding writ large.
        - How could success be demonstrated qualitatively and/or quantitatively?
        - What may be your "so what" message 5, 10 15 years from now?
    - Path to FPL 3 Priorities; some topics may include:
        - <u>What/where:</u>
            - Existing regional plans and/or plans under development that you will be drawing upon in the development of FPL 3 proposals
            - Known watershed and/or restoration type priorities that you may be focusing your collaboration efforts on
        - <u>Why:</u>
            - Goals and objectives of any watershed and/or restoration type that you may be seeking to support with FPL funds
            - 1 or 2 potential long-term outcomes and indicators of success that you foresee from your efforts
        - Any "Gulfwide" ideas that you may propose

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Decisions/Actions
From Steering Committee Call
June 27, 2018

- **TOPIC: Next Steering Committee Draft Agenda**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Council staff will send a draft agenda for the next face-to-face meeting to the members by COB, July 5.

- **TOPIC: CPS Transparency**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: 1) Steering Committee member comments on their respective draft CPS one-page summaries are due by COB Friday, June 29. Please send comments to Buck Sutter.
  2) Steering Committee member comments on the Collaboration Report Template are due by COB Friday, July 6. Please send comments to Buck Sutter.

- **TOPIC: Public Engagement Workgroup Report Out**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: N/A

- **TOPIC: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Amend Treasury Regulations on 3% Administrative Costs Cap**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Council staff will draft comments to Treasury for Steering Committee review, then consolidate member input and submit prior to Treasury's July 20, 2018 deadline. Members may also submit separate comments to Treasury.

- **TOPIC: Conflict of Interest**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Using a template provided by Council legal staff, each Council member (Secretary/Governor or representative on behalf of Secretary/Governor) is asked to submit an updated and/or new Conflict of Interest certification to Council staff.

- **TOPIC: Follow-Up on FPL Budget Shortfall Process Options**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Members are encouraged to consider the policy options for FPL budget shortfalls in preparation for the upcoming face-to-face meeting.

- **TOPIC: Records Management**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Federal members are asked to provide a records management point of contact for their agency to David.Gilliland@restorethegulf.gov by COB, Friday, July 6.

- **TOPIC: Other Business**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: N/A

Next Steering Committee Meeting: July 11, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00172892-00001

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 6/12/2017 8:09:00 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: Agenda for Thursday 6/15

Ken

Here is our agenda for Thursday. We will possibly modify in case of weather issues. Rain is currently in the forecast for Thursday. Dress is business casual and sensible shoes as we will be on the move quite a bit!

Please let me know if you have any questions. We will look forward to seeing you Thursday at the Holiday Inn!

Time	Activity	Details
8:00 AM	**Introductions**	Holiday Inn Midland Breakfast available
8:10:9:50 AM	**Review of Work on River**	Holiday Inn Midland
9:50 AM – 11:20 AM	**Boat Tour and Remediation Discussion**	Depart Coldwell Boat Launch via Pontoon Boat
11:30 AM – 11:45 AM	**Travel to Dow East End**	
11:45 AM – 1:30 PM	**Lunch Roundtable with Neil Hawkins and Dow EH&S&S Leadership**	East End Building
1:30 PM – 1:45 PM	**Transfer Michigan Operations Site**	Check in with Security
1:45 PM – 2:30 PM	**Michigan Operations Manufacturing Site Tour via Suburban**	
2:30 pm -3:30 pm	**Toxicology Lab tour**	
3:30 pm-3:45 pm	**Transfer to R&D tour**	
3:45 PM – 5:15 PM	**Tour of Dow R&D** Center	Closed toed shoes are required
5:30 PM	**Return** to Hotel	
6:00PM – 8:00 PM	**Group Dinner** Café Zinc – H Hotel Reservation under Draves; center table of restaurant	Address: 111 W Main St, Midland, MI 48640

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company

1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone: Ex. 6
Mobile:
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 6/11/2017 9:18:53 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: Visit

Ken

I will send you an agenda that we have worked out. We will start at the Holiday Inn on Thursday at 8 am and then wrap up around 5:30 with dinner at 6 pm.

Look forward to seeing you!

Mary

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Sunday, June 11, 2017 5:12 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
Subject: Re: Visit

Mary:

I get in the evening of the 14th staying at the Holiday Inn - Midland. Not sure about the schedule for the next day, but we can work out this week. I am told that Mary from R5 will be at the site visit, but is meeting us there.

Looking forward to seeing the site. Thanks for the hospitality.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 31, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

> Ken
>
> EPA Region 5 folk have not yet confirmed they will join us on the tour. Will let you know. Trying to get schedules to match up can be tough!
>
> We are working on a draft agenda and hope you could provide me with a couple things. Full names of those coming with you besides yourself. I am speculating all are US citizens (we have to ask for security purposes). Also where will you be staying and what does your arrival and departure times look like?
>
> Many thanks and look forward to seeing you on the 15th

Mary

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 12:21 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
Subject: Re: Visit

I think you mentioned that someone from Region 5 will attend the viewing of the site...I think that's good as I do not want to be seen as interfering.

Thanks

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 26, 2017, at 1:26 PM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

> Ken
>
> Just checking in to see if you have made your travel plans.
>
> Thanks!
>
> Mary
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
> **Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 3:08 PM
> **To:** Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
> **Cc:** Deziel, Dennis (DR) <DRDeziel@dow.com>
> **Subject:** RE: Visit
>
> Mary:
>
> Hope all is well. Following up on our call of last week hoping to see if the 15th of June would work for you?
>
> Please let me know as I am excited to see the site and hear of the successes between you and Region 5.
>
> Ken
> **Kenneth E. Wagner**
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> *For Regional and State Affairs*
> **Environmental Protection Agency**
> **202-564-1988 office**
> **Ex. 6 cell**

wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Draves, Mary (M) [mailto:MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 1:15 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Deziel, Dennis (DR) <DRDeziel@dow.com>
Subject: Visit

Ken

Just checking in to see how you are doing on narrowing a date for a possible visit.

We will look forward to having you come see our site!

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone:
Mobile: **Ex. 6**
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves
<image001.png>

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 6/16/2017 6:55:32 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: Thanks!

Ken

I think that the file will not be able to be sent to you directly as it contains many pictures. I will see if we can pdf it and then if not could send on a flash drive to you.

Mary

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 16, 2017 2:23 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
Subject: Re: Thanks!

Can you send me an electronic copy of the spiral bound book on the T-River project?

Thx

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jun 16, 2017, at 10:30 AM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

> Ken
>
> We were very pleased that you were able to join us. Will look forward to talking again soon!
>
> I hope travels home were safe and uneventful!
>
> Mary
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
> **Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2017 9:36 AM
> **To:** Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
> **Subject:** Thanks!
>
> Mary:

Thanks for a great day! The tour and discussion about Adaptive Management of a remediation site was well-taken and will certainly be discussed with our team. The tour and history of the company was fascinating.

Please express my thanks to all of your team who participated in the tours. I look forward to continuing the discussion.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: Lyons, Troy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=15E4881C95044AB49C6C35A0F5EEF67E-LYONS, TROY]
Sent: 6/9/2017 4:17:43 PM
To: Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]
CC: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Re: Many Thanks!

No better kind of crab!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 9, 2017, at 11:59 AM, Ben Grumbles -MDE- <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov> wrote:

> Ditto on all counts. Thanks so much for your good work and close coordination. □
>
> Ben
> PS That crab is an all Maryland crab.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Jun 9, 2017, at 11:24 AM, Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> > I echo Ken's sentiments! For Baltimore boy it was a true honor to be in Government House and to meet Governor Hogan!
> >
> > **From:** Wagner, Kenneth
> > **Sent:** Friday, June 9, 2017 11:22 AM
> > **To:** Ben Grumbles <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
> > **Subject:** Many Thanks!
> >
> > Ben:
> >
> > Thanks for your hospitality yesterday. I thought it went as well as it could under the circumstances and you and Governor Hogan have our gratitude. I am looking forward to continuing to work together. By the way, your boss is an awesome guy! Truly enjoyed meeting him and seeing all the history at the Government and State Houses.
> >
> > Ken
> >
> > Kenneth E. Wagner
> > *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> > *For Regional & State Affairs*
> > **US Environmental Protection Agency**
> > Office: 202-564-1988
> > Cell: Ex. 6
> > wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Click here to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Hawkins, Neil (N) [NCHawkins@dow.com]
Sent: 6/16/2017 1:18:16 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: Meeting Yesterday

Ken --- thank you for taking the time to visit. We were very pleased to host you and to show you how intricate and extensive a machine you must be to deliver materials science solutions, in a responsible way. You met many of my team members, and they are outstanding professionals. We look forward to assisting where we can.

Have safe travels and visits all over as you wade into your role.

Neil C. Hawkins, Sc.D.

Corporate Vice President
Chief Sustainability Officer
Environment, Health, & Safety
The Dow Chemical Company
Ex. 6
nhawkins@dow.com (email)
@neilchawkins (Twitter)

We Listen. We Deliver.
www.dow.com/sustainability

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 16, 2017 9:15 AM
To: Hawkins, Neil (N) <NCHawkins@dow.com>
Subject: Meeting Yesterday

Neil:

Thanks so much for the meeting yesterday with the Sustainability team at Dow. I learned so much and enjoyed seeing the innovation and ways that your company is finding better and cleaner ways to do things. The Superfund Site and the R&D tour was amazing.

I also enjoyed the good discussion about regulatory reform, uniform chemical and product regulation as well as the areas where Dow differs from the Administrator's views. Please know that the Administrator values the views of all stakeholder's, including responsible corporate citizens like Dow.

Thanks again,

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs

US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: Mapes, Cathy (CJ) [CJMapes@dow.com]
Sent: 6/16/2017 12:06:51 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Thanks for your time!

Ken,

Thanks again for your visit to Midland yesterday. As you can tell, we're all pretty proud of what we do and we're excited about the future. We'd love to have you visit our Freeport site as well as your schedule allows. I promise the barbeque will beat the turkey wraps you almost got to eat yesterday!

I'd also like to enlist your assistance with our flare enforcement as discussed yesterday. If there's anyone specific we should be calling on, please let me know. In the meantime, I also have an action for you to provide feedback on the Regional offices. Since I have several direct reports that interact with Regional offices on a routine basis, I will reach out to them for their thoughts. I'll send along a summary within a few days. As noted, we have the highest level of activity with Regions 5 and 6 due to the locations of our largest manufacturing sites, so I would expect that feedback to be more substantial than that for other Regions.

Again, thanks for your time yesterday.

Best regards,

Cathy Mapes
EH&S and Sustainability Director
Latin America & North America
Global Regulatory Services,
EH&S Auditing & Compliance
The Dow Chemical Company
Tel. Ex. 6
E-mail: cjmapes@dow.com

Message

From: Purnell, Rhonda [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4A3AE0E3175A4B2C922D5ECFF3D0AA5B-RPURNELL]
Sent: 6/15/2017 9:14:02 PM
To: Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; Kathy Bishop [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [hreim@pa.gov]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov
CC: tommy.wells@dc.gov; shawn.garvin@state.de.us; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; saxe, jennie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c43a71c022c46829bb990105e48b681-Jpsaxe]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]
Subject: RE: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (August 24th)

OK, let's lock in the Date!
Hello All: We have a date for the State Secretary 's Meeting w/ EPA, Thursday, August 24th, 2017. Please place a Hold on your principals calendar. We will be sending an invite out soon with the logistics and additional information. For now we want to have the date save on the calendar. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Region 3 Front Office POCs (Rhonda Purnell @ 215-814-2188 or Renee Searfoss at 215-814-2137).

Assistants, Thank You All so very much for your swift responses!!! Rhonda ☺

Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-2188
Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

From: Purnell, Rhonda
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 3:11 PM

Subject: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (August)

OK, Here we go again! We are going to try to reschedule this meeting again but sometime in August. Please see the new proposed dates below.

****

Hello, EPA Acting Regional Administrator, Cecil Rodrigues would like to request a Mid-Atlantic State Secretaries Meeting with EPA Region 3 and EPA HQ (Ken Wagner, Senior Advisor to the Administrator for Regional and State Affairs. This would be an all-day meeting at EPA Region 3 Office in Philadelphia, PA. We are looking for Thursday dates in August. These are some available dates: August 3, 10, 17 or 24th. Please let me know, which dates would work for your State Secretary or if should have any questions.

Thanks, Rhonda

Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-2188
Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 6/26/2017 7:18:02 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: June 15th info
Attachments: Site Background.pdf; Site Overview.pdf

Ken

Attached are the documents from your visit on the 15th

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone:
Mobile: Ex. 6
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves

Tittabawassee River and Floodplain Cleanup

June 15, 2017

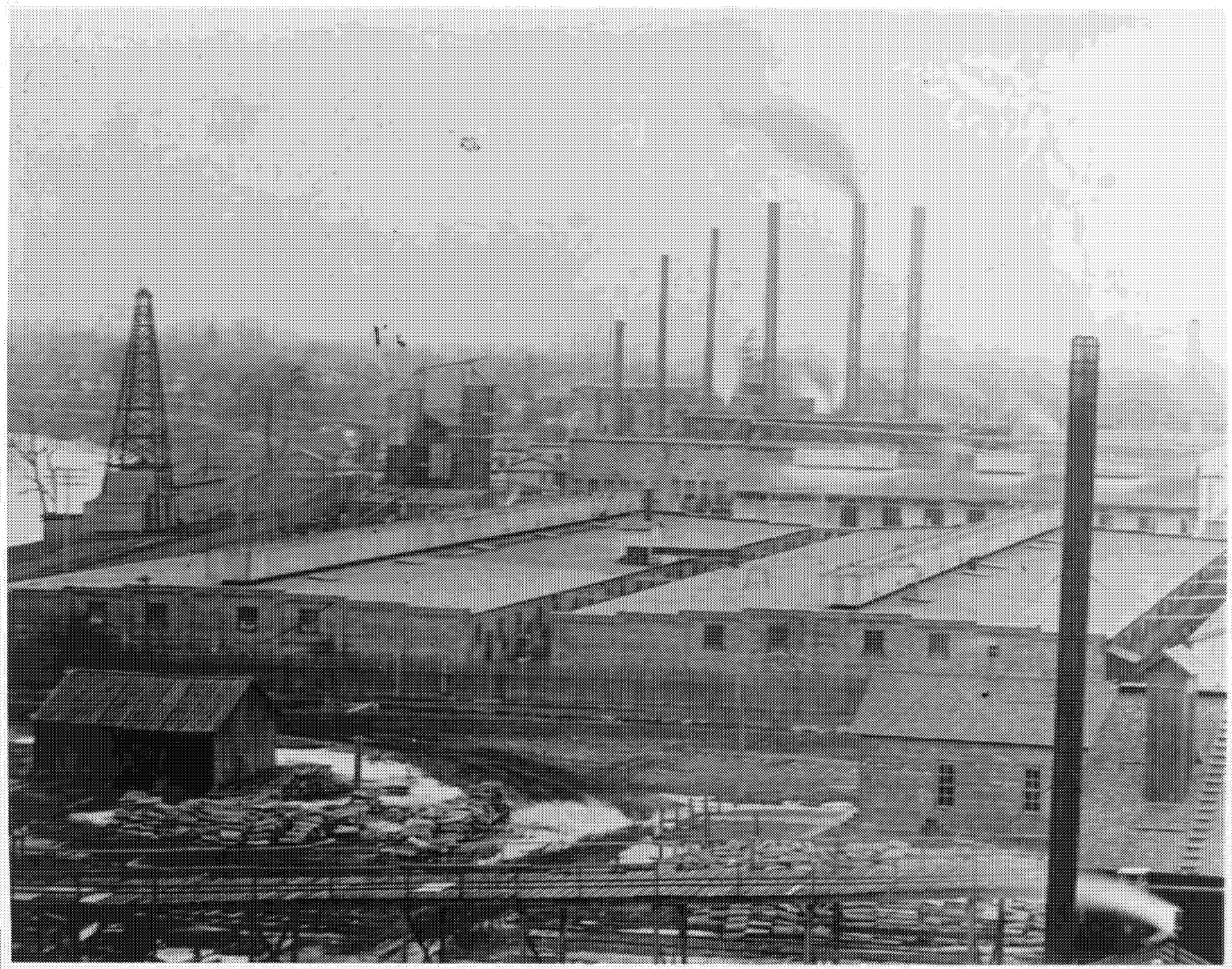
Site Overview

- Defined as: Tittabawassee River and its floodplain, Saginaw River and its floodplain, and portions of Saginaw Bay
  - Tittabawassee River & Banks - 24 miles
  - Tittabawassee River Floodplain - ~4,500 acres
  - Saginaw River - 22 miles
- Primary constituent of concern: furans (a chemical in the dioxin family)

Site Map
Dow Plant
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image NOAA
Google Earth
Imagery Date: 6/28/2016 43°29'44.55" N 84°00'14.63" W elev 613 ft eye alt 19.96 mi

Background

- Early 1900's, is when the furans were released to the river
- Dow's early manufacturing used an electrolysis process to produce bleaching powders and bromides
  - **Electric current** was used to initiate a chemical reaction
  - **Graphitic carbon anodes/rods** were used to introduce the electric current
- Facility started with 9 bromine cells and grew to 16 cell buildings with 2 million graphitic carbon anodes by 1913



6

Background

- The tar binding agent in the graphitic carbon contained **furans**
- Small particles of the graphitic carbon would flake off and settle in the cells, requiring frequent cleaning
- Prior to the construction of Waste Management Ponds around 1920, the solids were washed to the Tittabawassee River
- Furans were primarily discharged to the river prior to the 1920's

7

Extensive Investigation Activities

- Essential to understand where contamination was and where it wasn't
- From 2006 to 2009:
  - 10,000 samples floodplain and bank soils
  - 8,000 samples of in-channel sediments
- Since 2010, over 1,000 samples have been collected to inform remedy selection and design

Dow Plant
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image NOAA
Google Earth
Imagery Date: 6/28/2016 43°29'44.55" N 84°00'14.63" W elev 613 ft eye alt 19.96 mi

Critical Elements for Success:

- Early Cleanup Process
- Collaboration
- Adaptive Management
- Innovative and Sustainable Approaches
- Community Engagement

Early Cleanup Process

- Superfund Alternative Process
- Early clean-up approach
- Prioritized, targeted cleanup actions
- Residual risk assessment to come later
  - Element of risk for Dow

Collaboration with EPA and MDEQ

- Pragmatic and flexible approach by EPA, MDEQ and Dow teams
- Strong commitment to the process
  - Work in real time
  - Face-to-face monthly meetings
  - Common goal to meet the aggressive timeline
  - Over 250 major documents submitted to Agencies, that require review and approval

Adaptive Management Approach

- Learn by doing and improvement as you go along
  - Numerous pilot trials of remedies
  - Lessons learned in one phase of the cleanup inform the next
  - Facilitates continuous improvement and innovation
  - Results in faster and more effective cleanups

Innovative and Sustainable Approaches

- Cleanup designed specifically for the characteristics of the Tittawassee River
- Development of technologies and specialized equipment for remedy implementation
- Used green technologies to minimize impact
  - DNAPL removal – 4,500 gallons removed without any environmental releases or worker exposures
  - Natural capping utilizing Geoweb technology
  - Bank stability using green bioengineering techniques

Community Engagement

- Extensive outreach to property owners and community
  - EPA Information Sessions
  - Public Meetings
  - Community Advisory Group (CAG)
- Ongoing communications with property owners on all project stages and activities

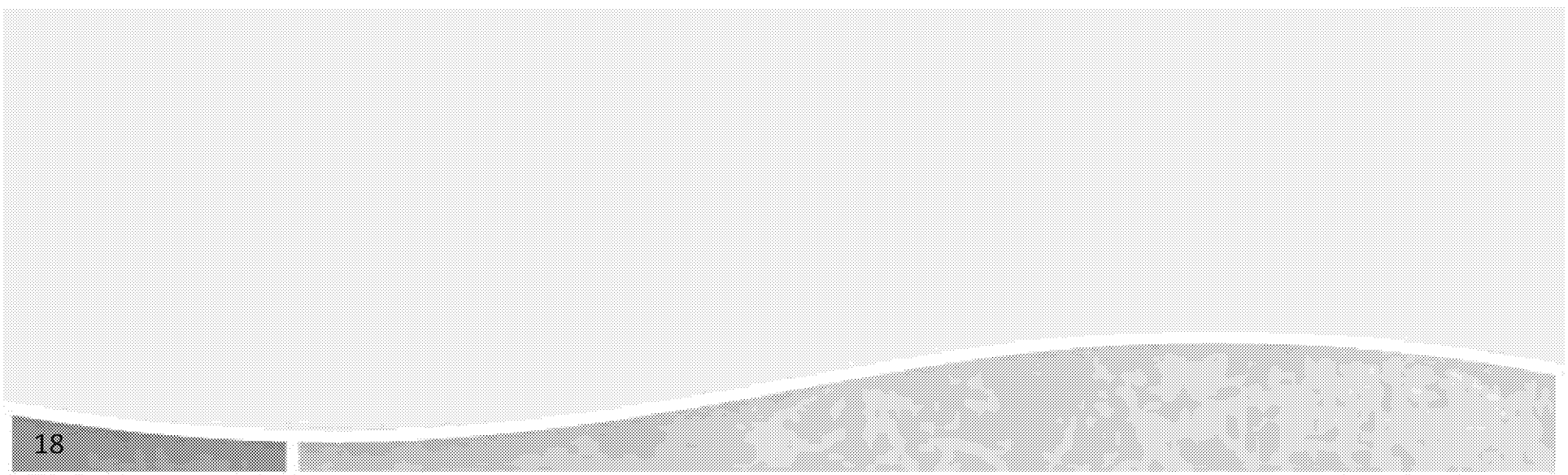
Aggressive Timeline

- Following the EPA's systematic process, working from upstream to downstream
  - AOC signed in 2010; work began same year
  - Currently working on Segment 4
  - Expect to complete Tittabawassee River and floodplain work in 2020
  - Saginaw River efforts will begin prior to 2020
- Would not be this far along with traditional approaches
- Need to continue on path with EPA

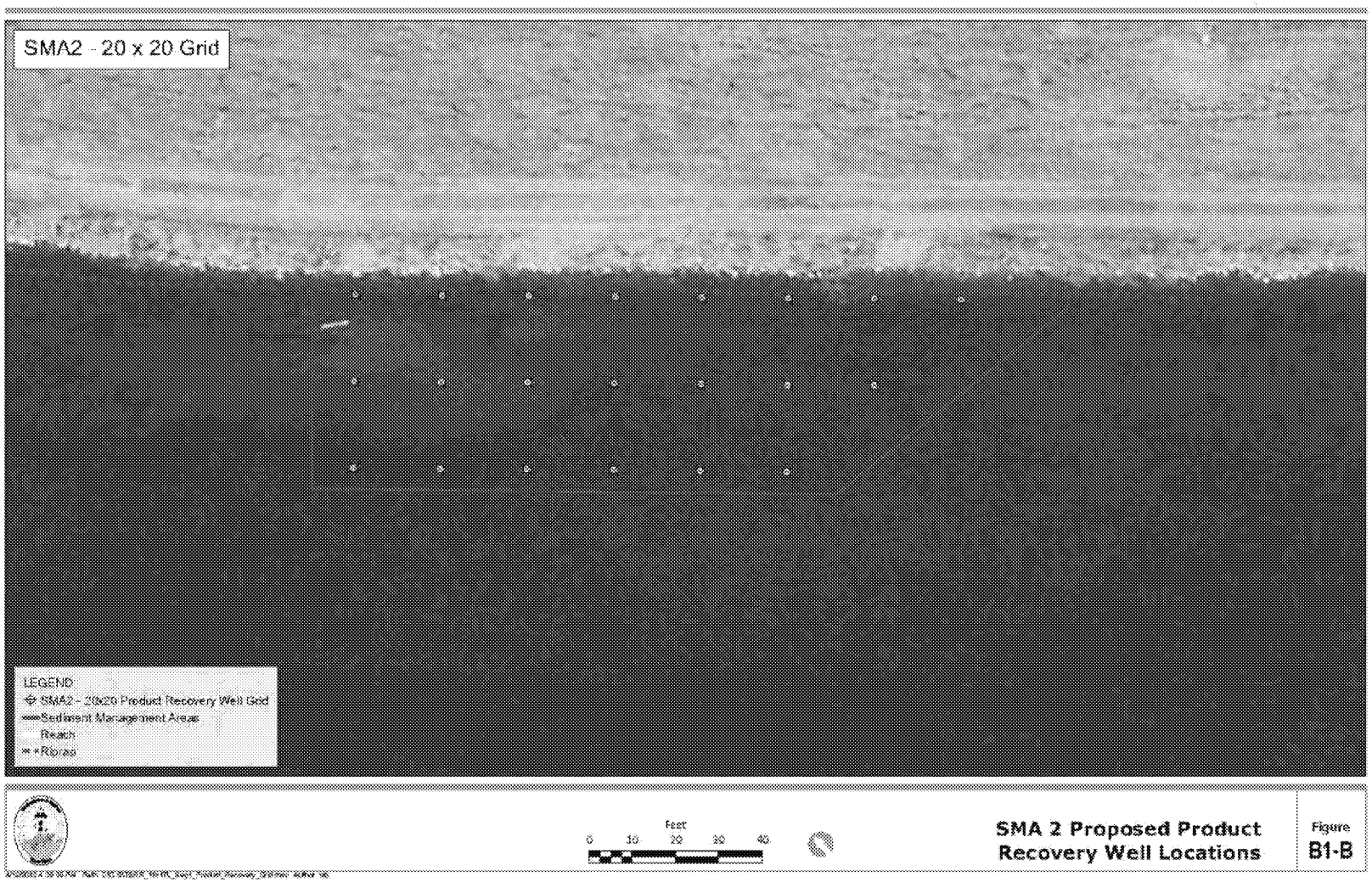
Implementation

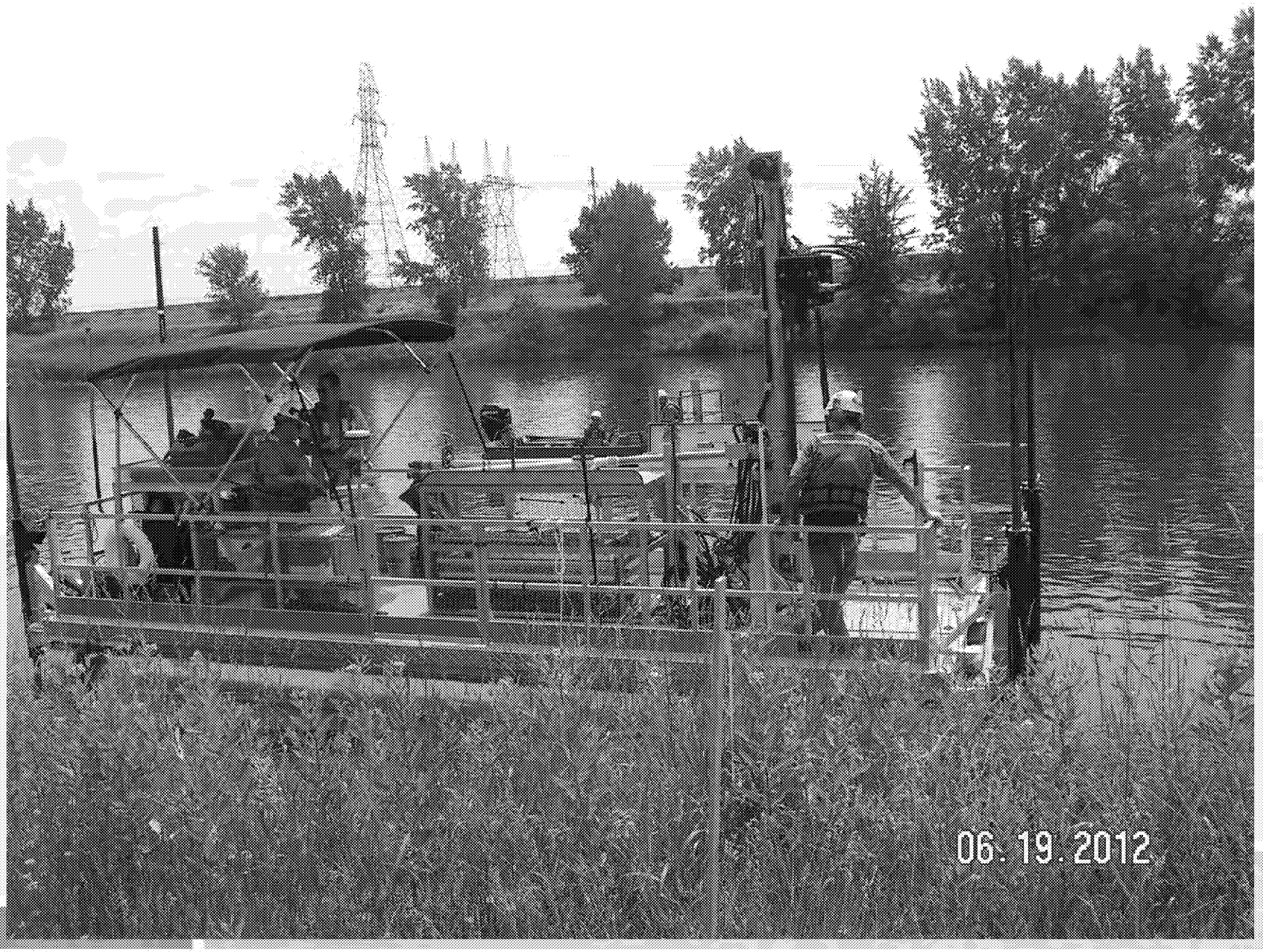
Examples of Remedy Implementation Activities

DNAPL Removal



SMA 1-2 Initial Recovery Well Locations





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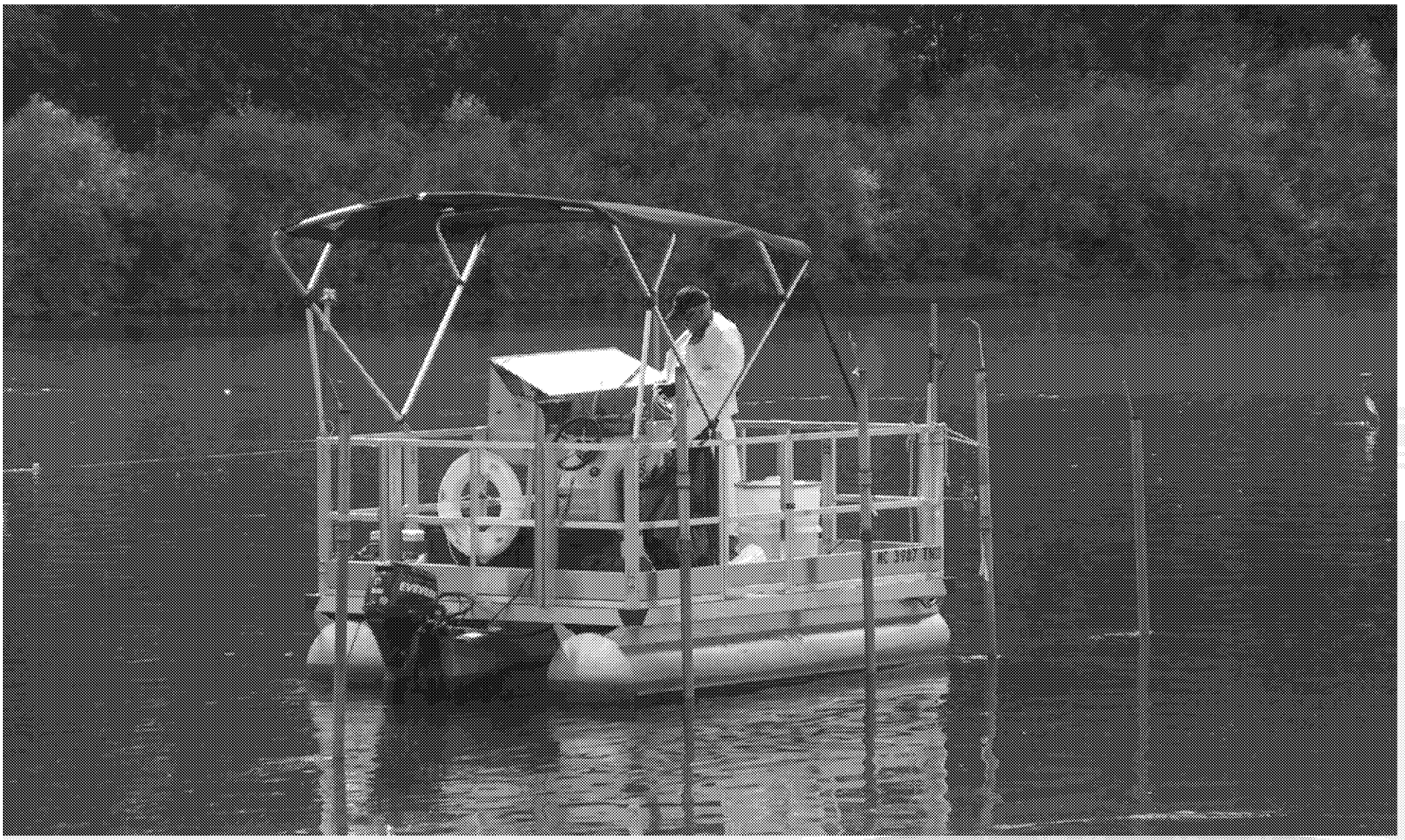

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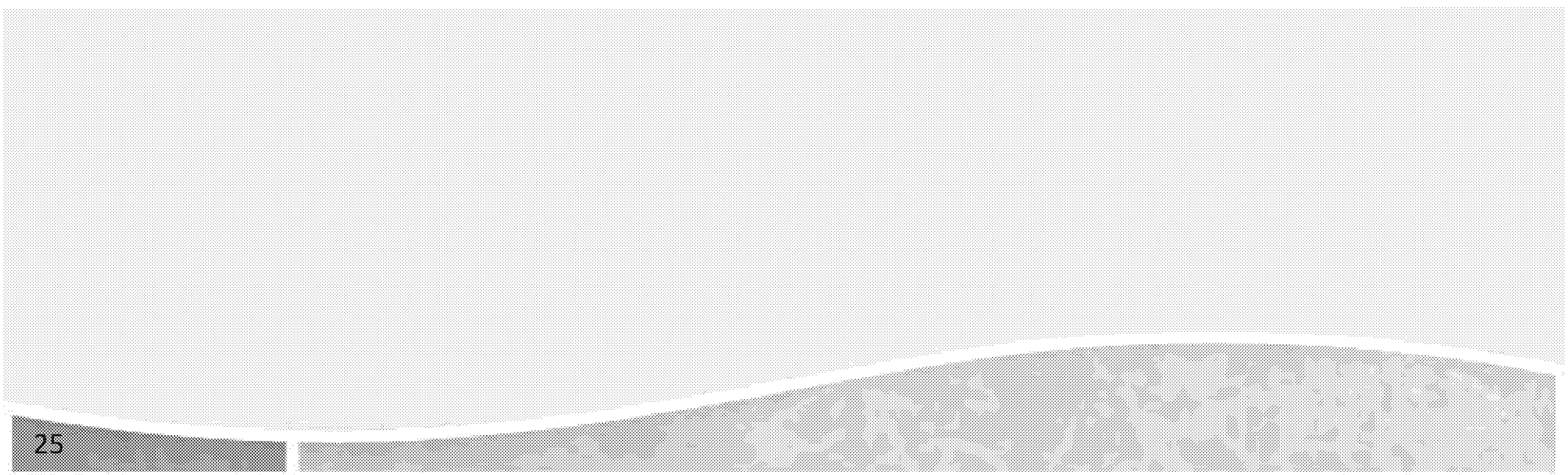
Bank Removal



Reach J/K Bank Removal

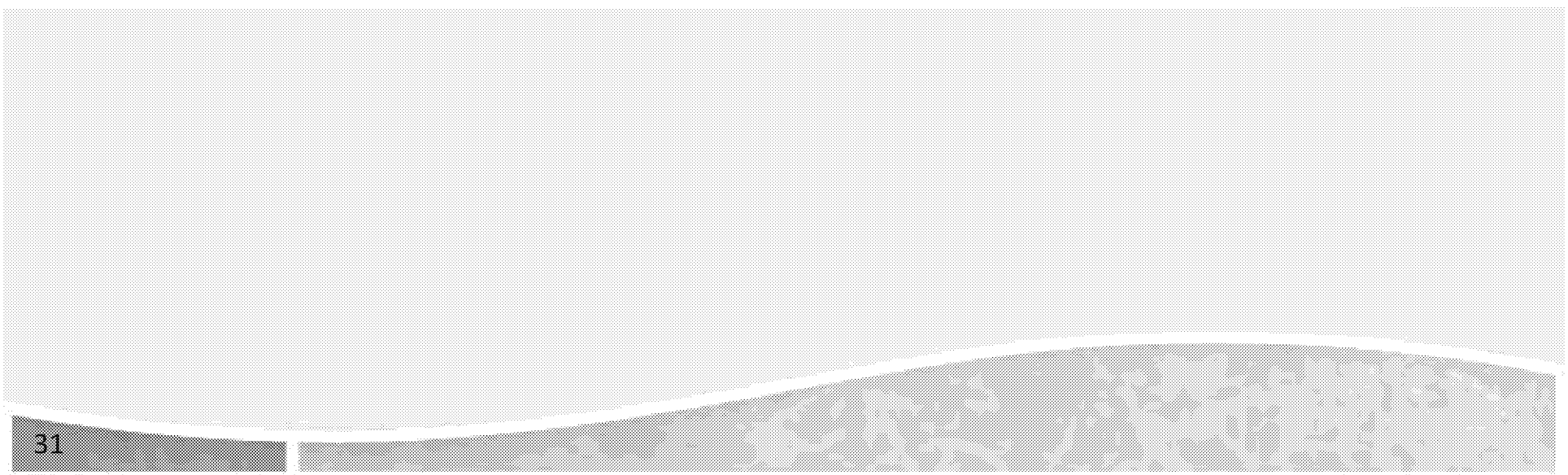
Reach J/K Bank Removal

Reach J/K Bank Removal

Reach J/K Bank Removal

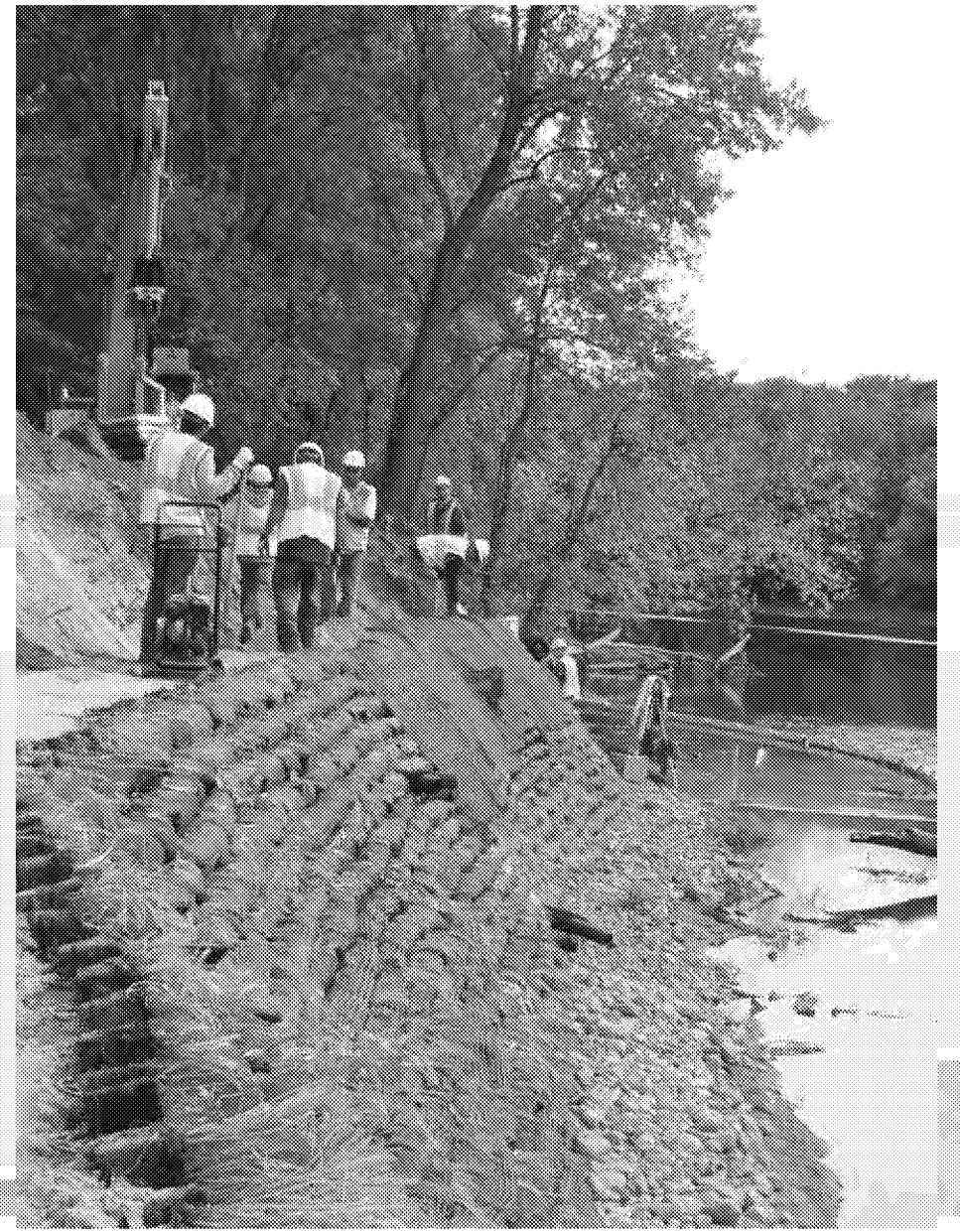
Reach J/K Bank Removal

Bank Stabilization



Reach M Bank Treatment-Upper M

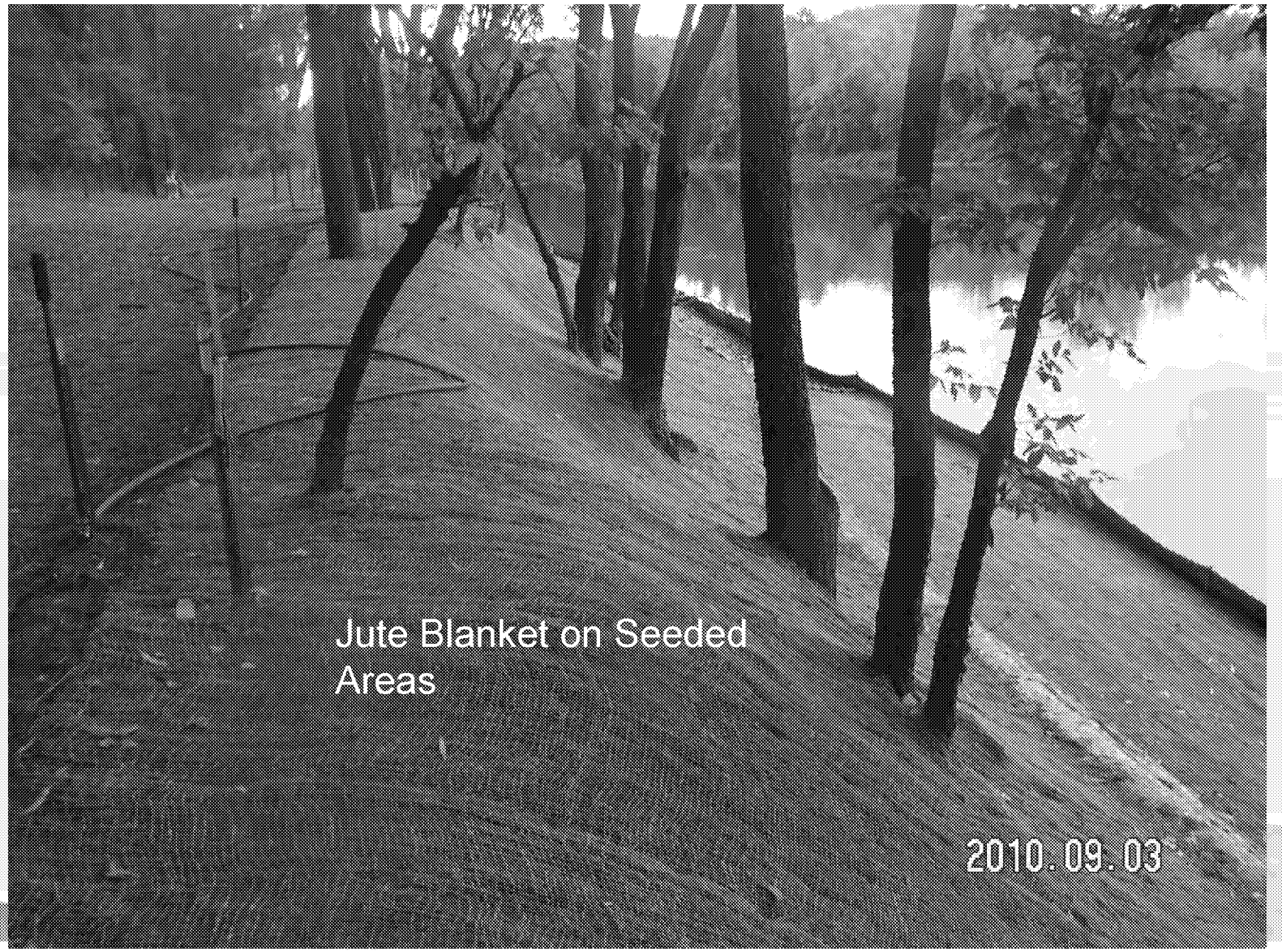
Reach M Bank Treatment-Upper M



Reach M Bank Treatment-Upper M

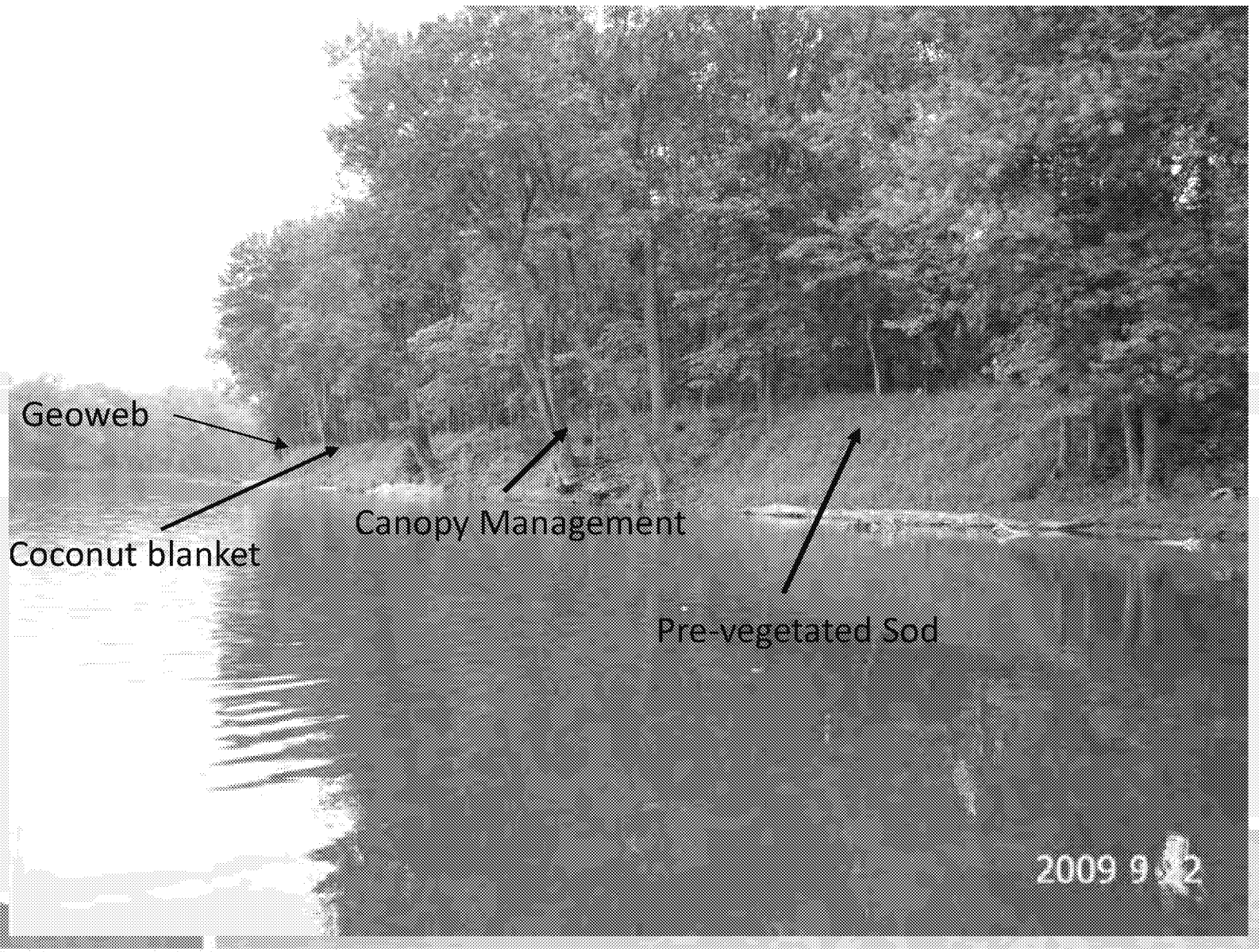
Reach O Bank Stabilization

Reach O Bank Stabilization



Reach O Bank Stabilization

Reach M Bank Treatment-Lower M



BMA 2-4 – Bank smoothing/shaping

BMA 2-4 – Treatment installation

BMA 2-4 – Treatment installation

Reach O Bank Stabilization

Reach O Bank Stabilization

BMA 2-3 – Enkamat Treatment installation

BMA 2-3 – Trees planted and irrigation

BMA 2-4 – Seed germination

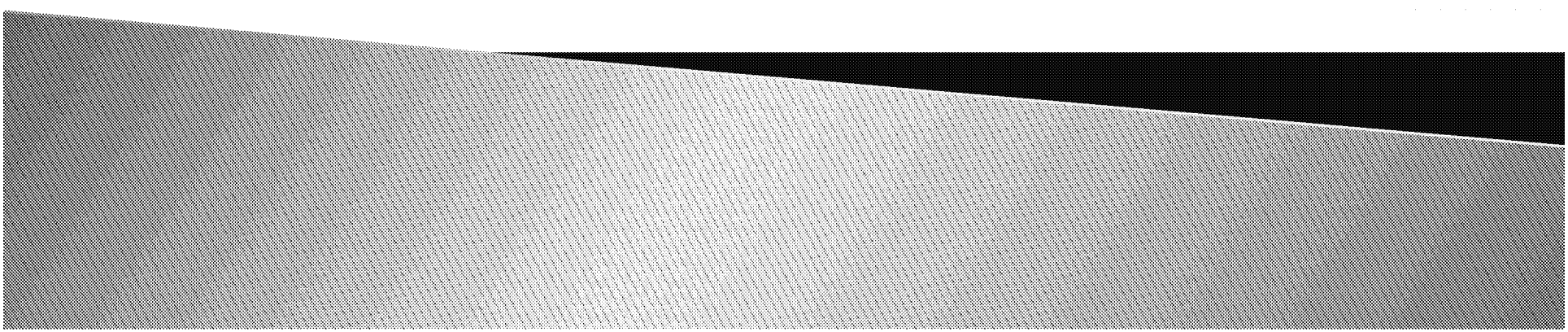
BMA 2-4 – Cover vegetation establishing

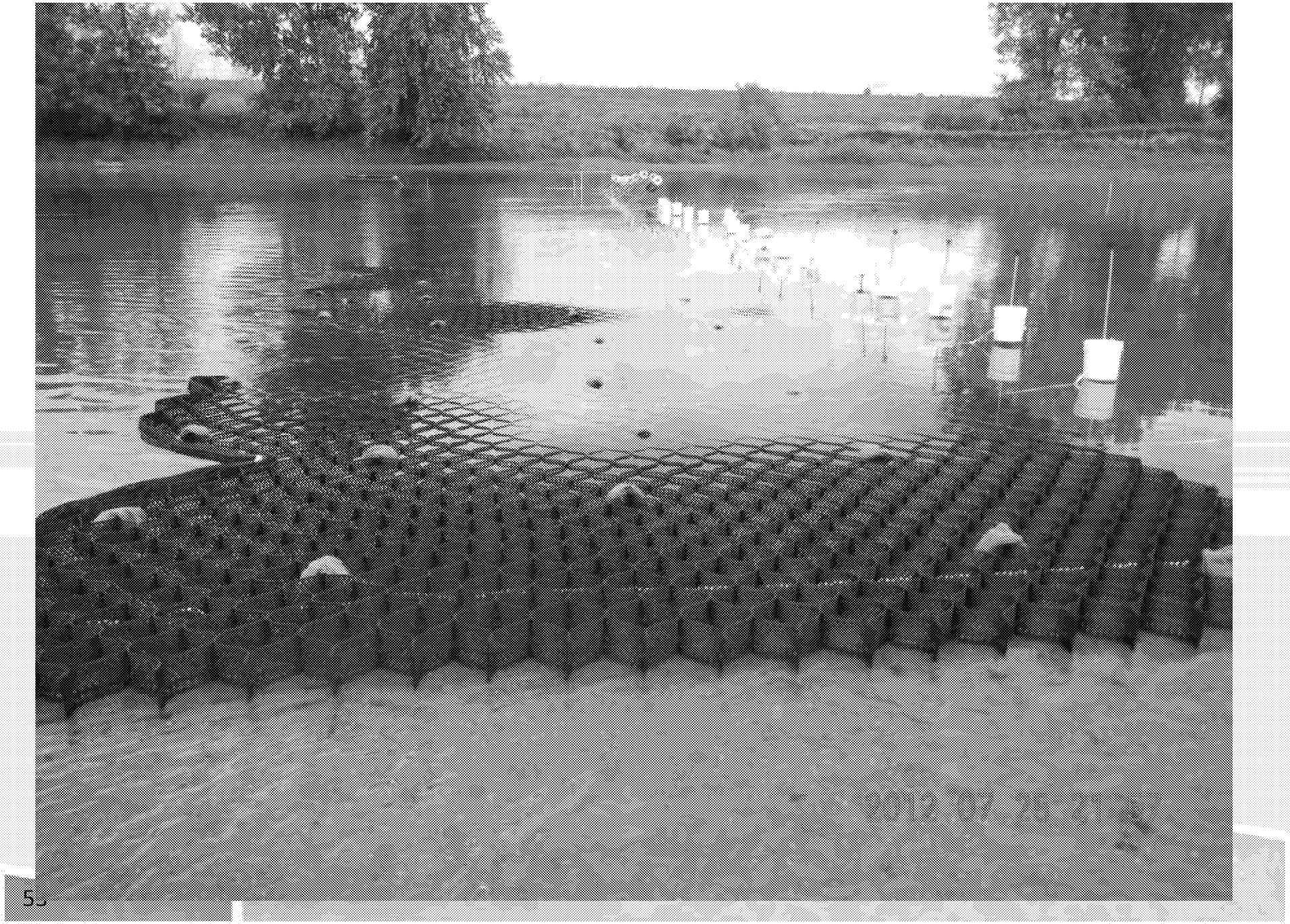
Reach M Bank Treatment-Lower M

Reach M Bank Treatment-Lower M

Reach M Bank Treatment-Upper M

Cellular Confinement System (CCS) Cap

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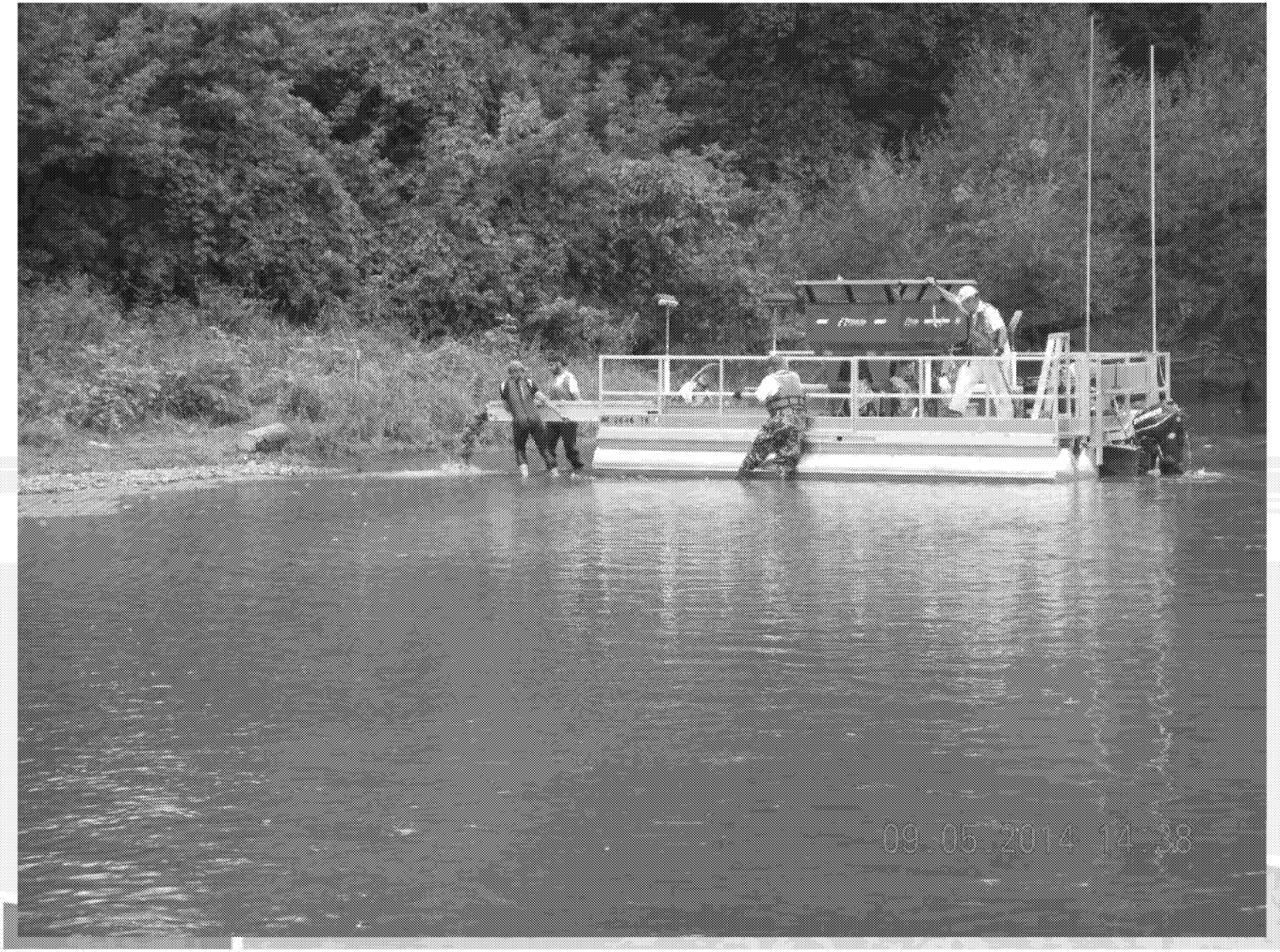
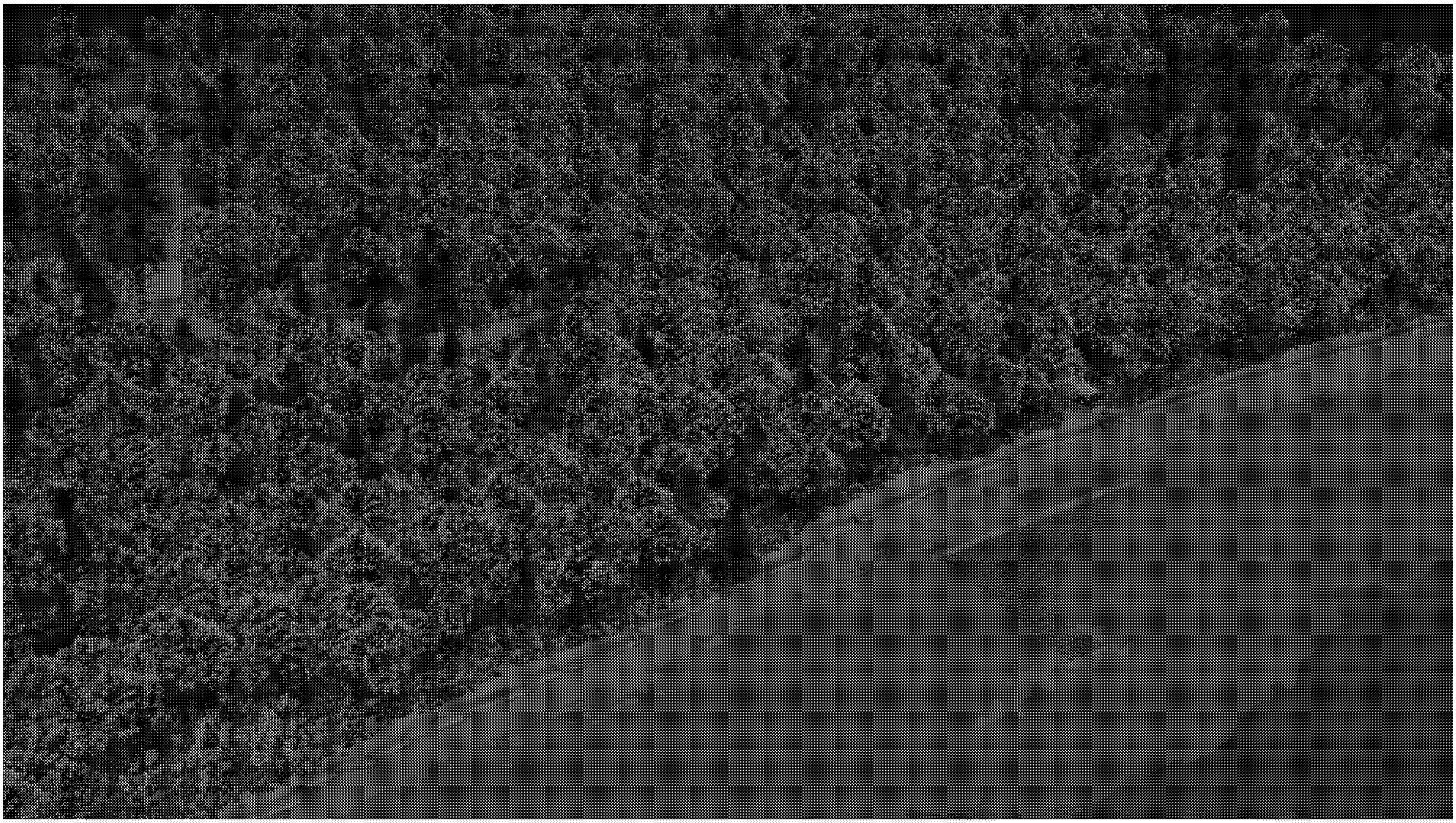
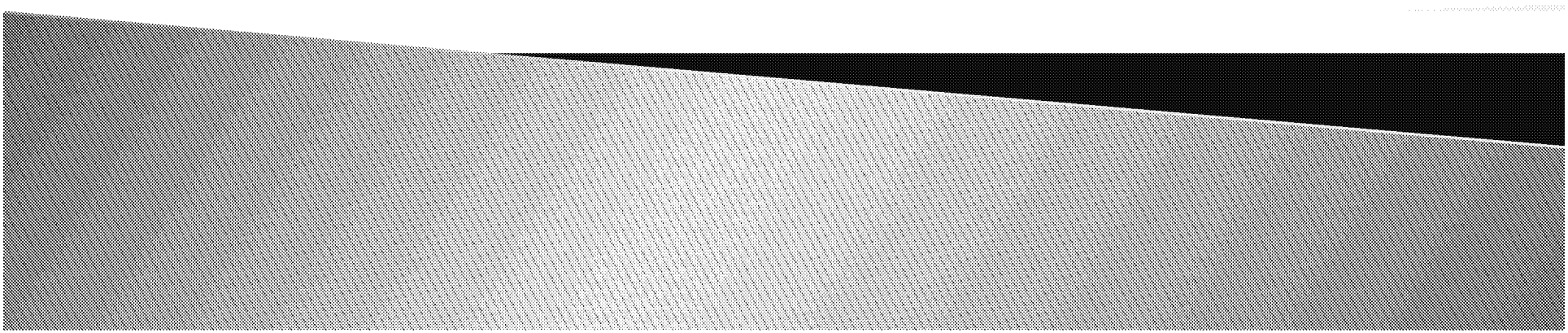
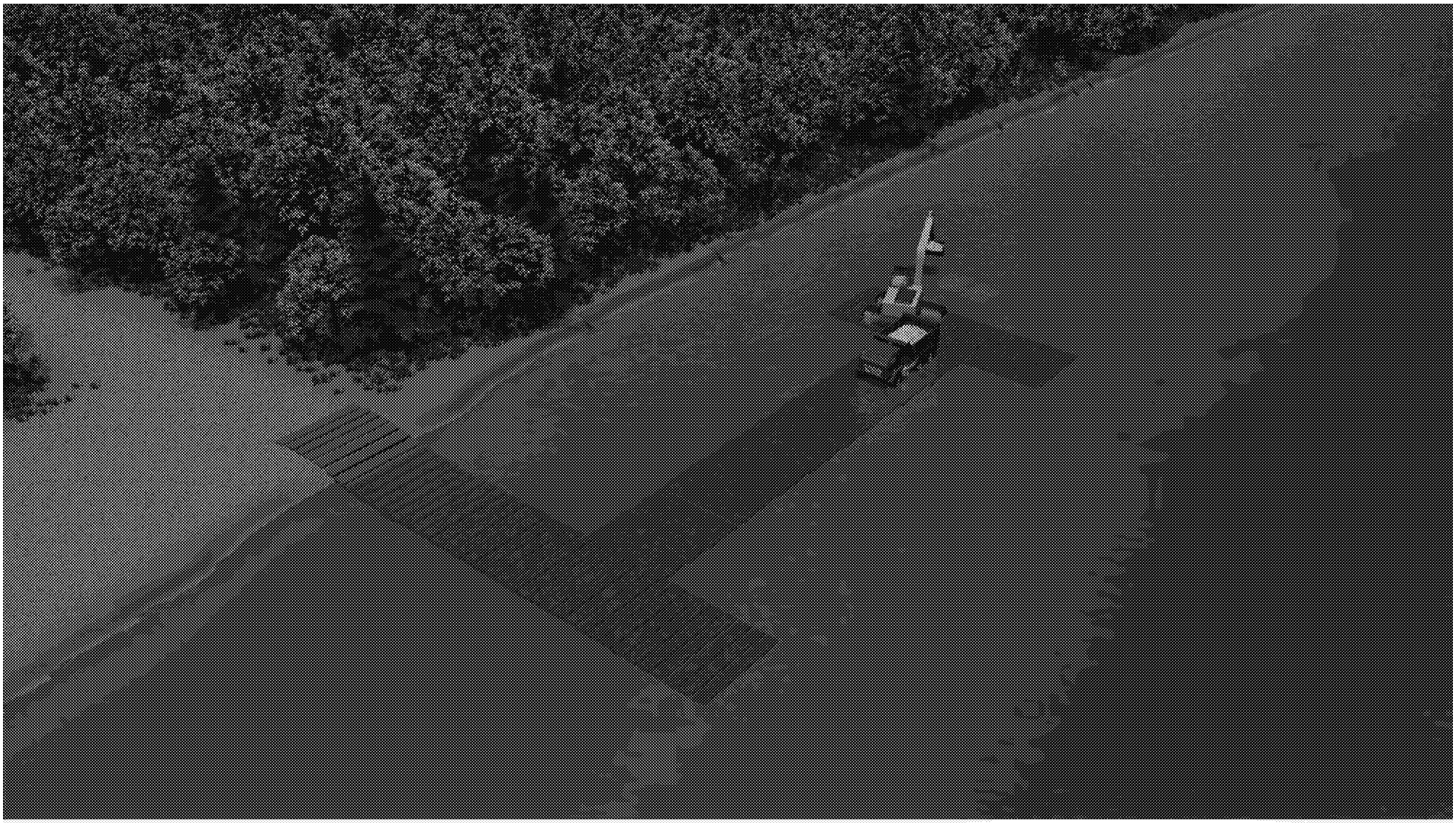
HYUNDAI

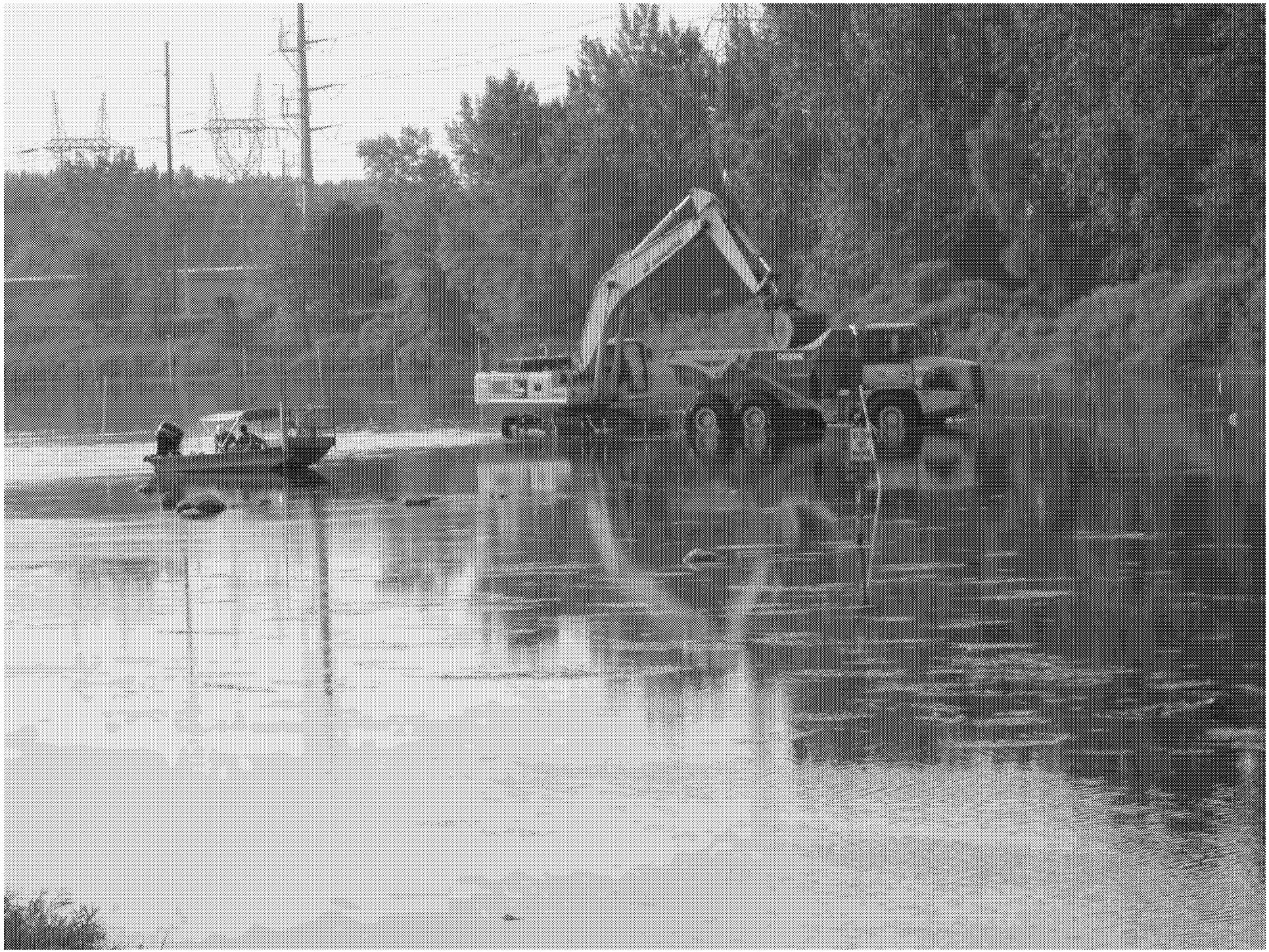




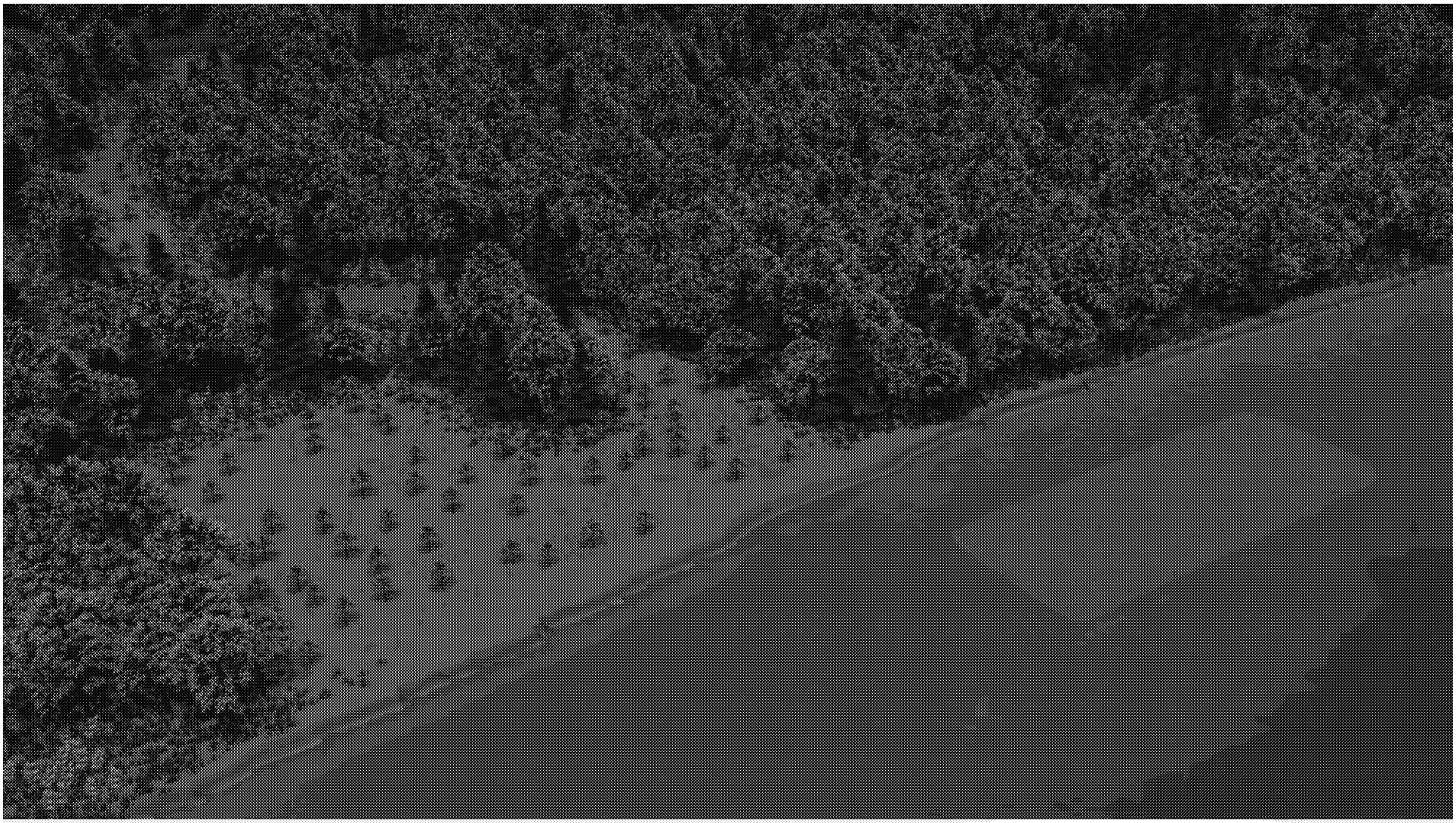
Traditional Capping



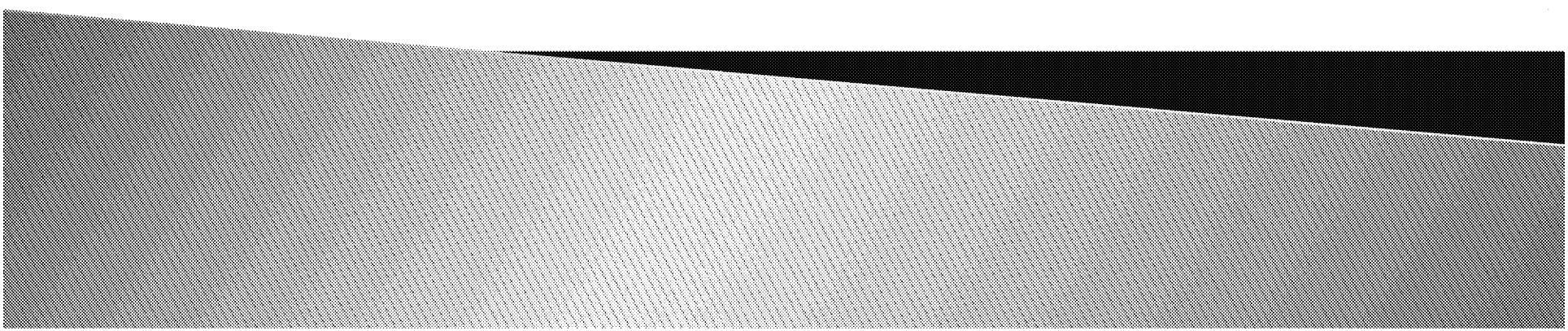


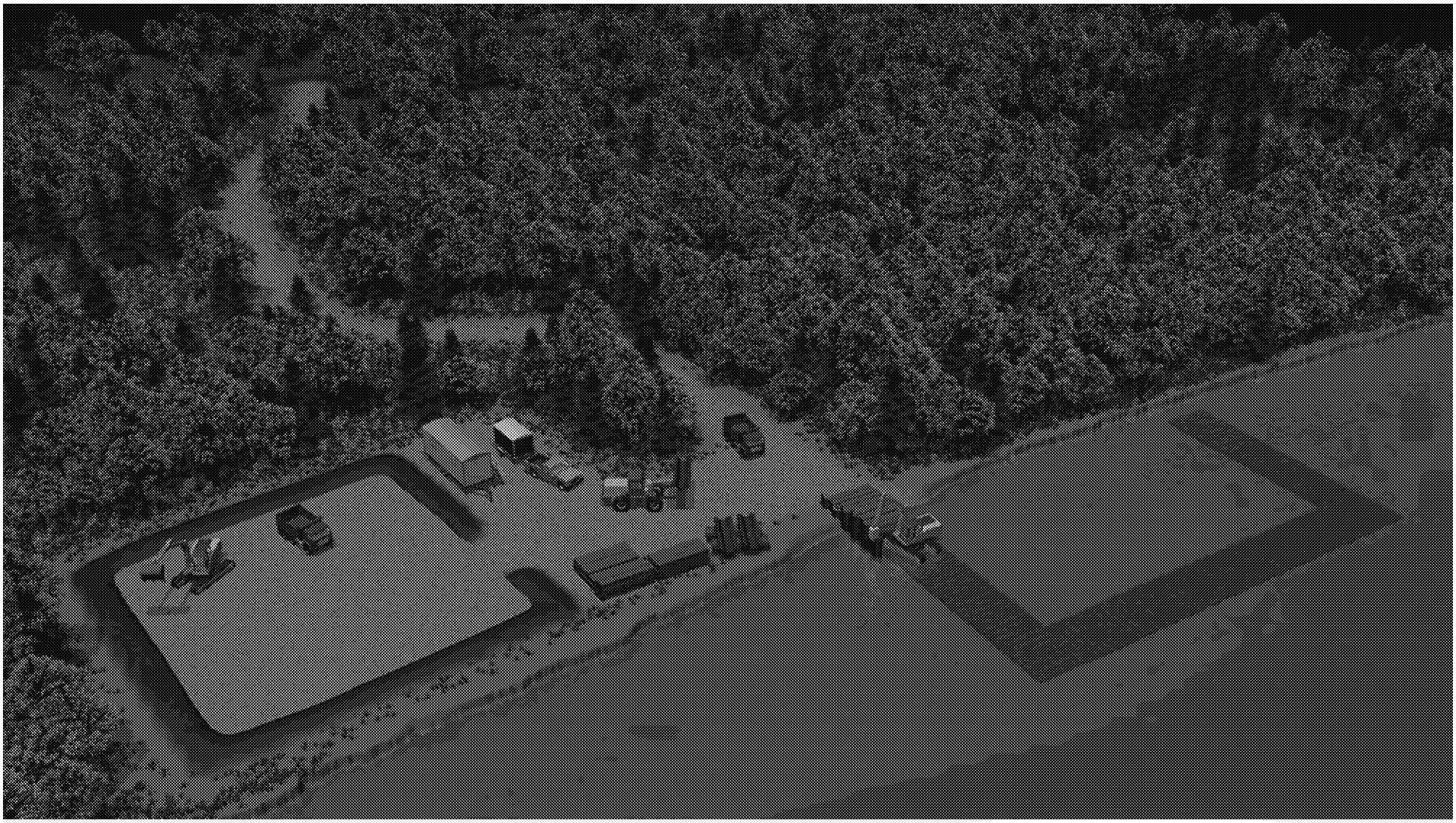


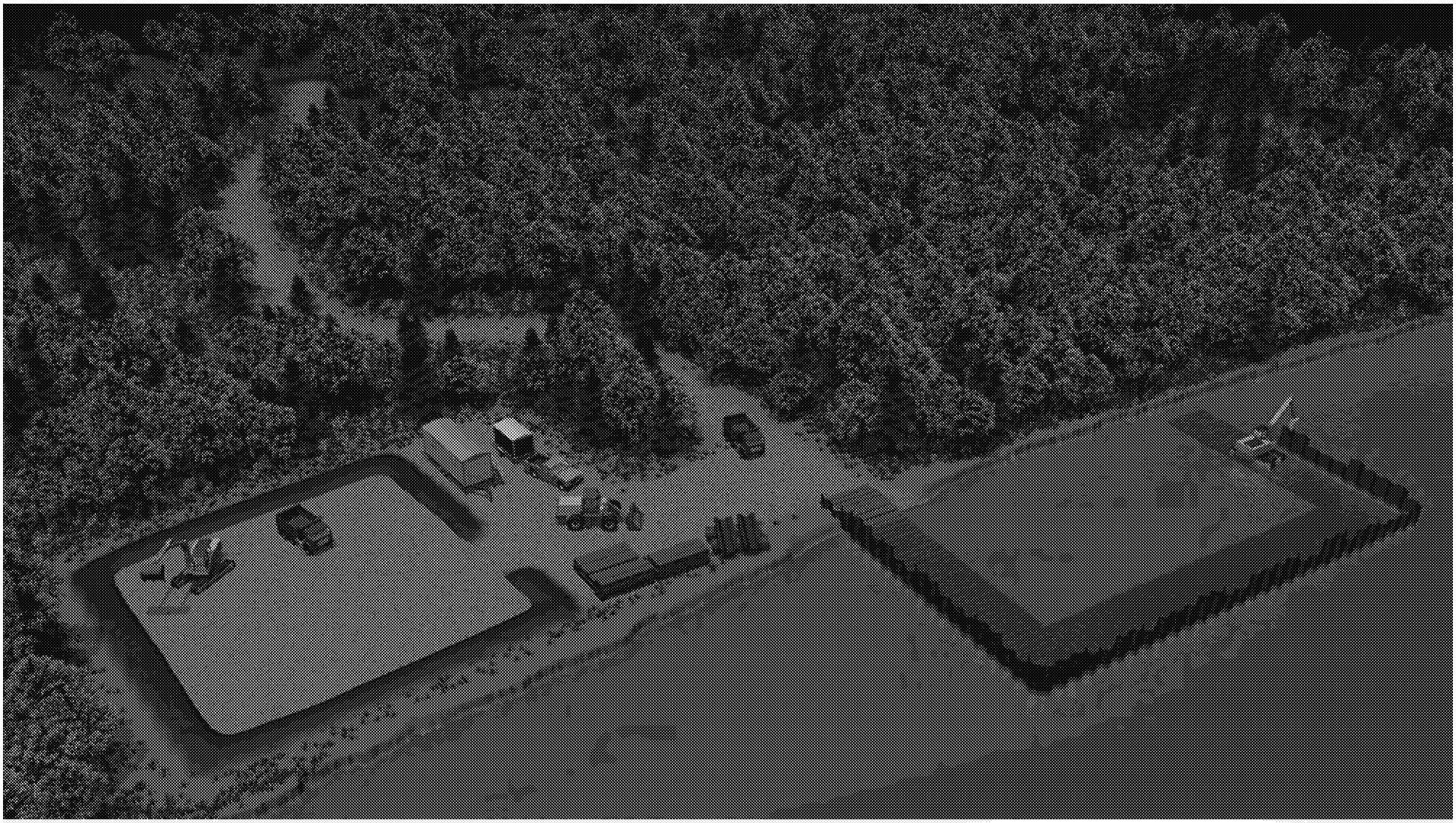
KOMATSU



Dry Dredging

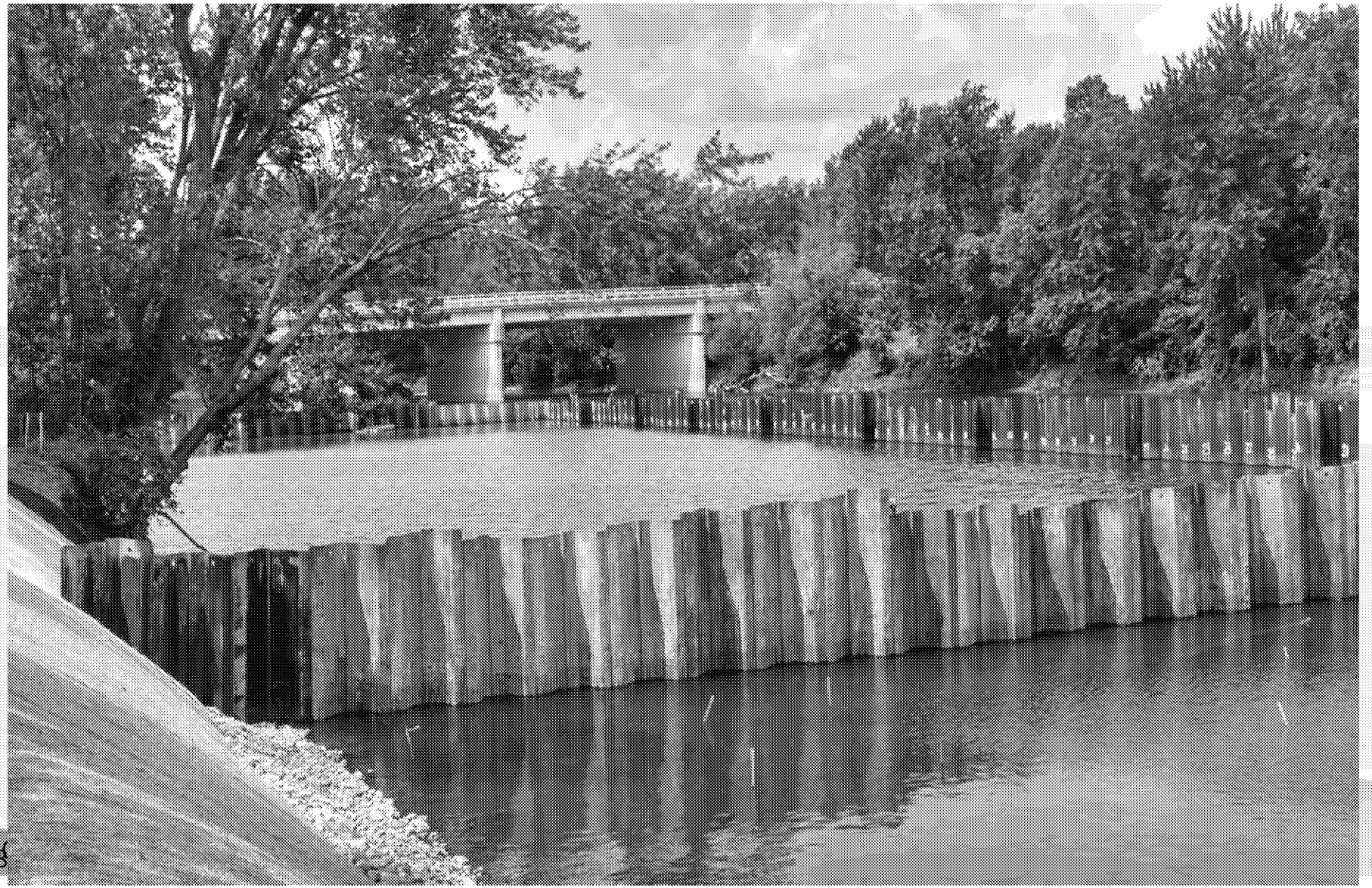






BMA 2-3 In-Channel Removal

BMA 2-3 In-Channel Removal



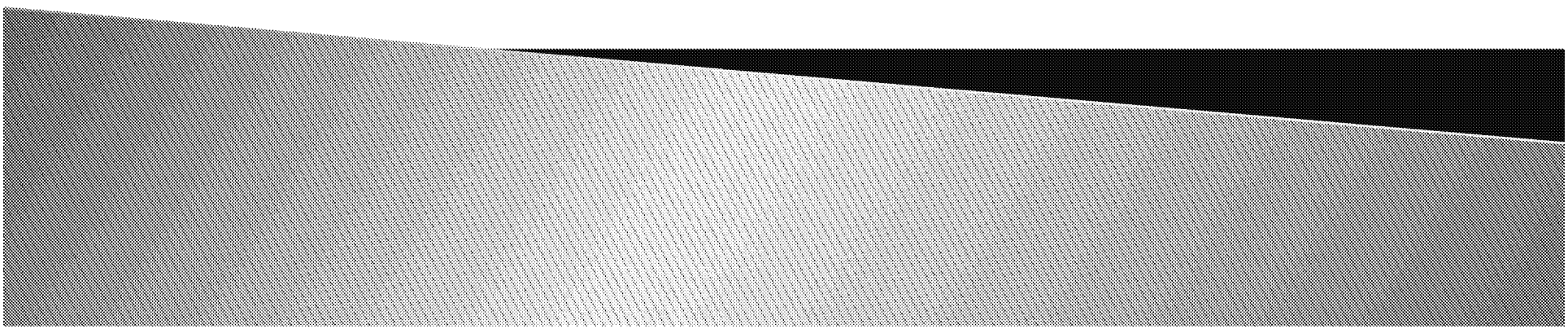
BMA 2-3 In-Channel Removal

BMA 2-3 In-Channel Removal

BMA 2-3 In-Channel Removal

CAT

Floodplain Removal



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10/17/2018 09:19

10/17/2016 09:19

08-24-2015 17:23

18.12.2015 16:33:3
100

Tittabawassee River Conservation Program

- Voluntary program offered by Dow
- Helps ensure long-term effectiveness of the remedy
- Keeps the natural areas from becoming maintained

Risk Assessment

- Required for Project to be completed
- Collaborative effort between Dow and the Agencies to evaluate:
  - Risk for humans engaged in activities around the Tittabawassee River and floodplain
  - Risk for wildlife living in and near the Tittabawassee River and floodplain

Human Exposure Study

- University of Michigan Dioxin Exposure Study (UMDES) funded by an unrestricted grant from Dow
- Scientific Advisory Board that provided guidance to the study included a representative from the EPA, Dr. Linda Birnbaum
- Featured at international conferences and in 17 publications
- Concluded that there was no correlation between living on soils with elevated concentrations of dioxin and people's blood dioxin levels

"The Study found no direct exposure pathway by which dioxins in soils and sediments have accumulated in bodies of residents inhabiting Midland and Saginaw."

- Principal Investigator Dr. David Garabrant

Risk Assessment:
Ecology Study

- Michigan State University Wildlife Study

- Seven-year study funded by an unrestricted grant from Dow concluded that there were no adverse effects on wildlife in the Tittabawassee River basin from exposure to dioxins and furans:

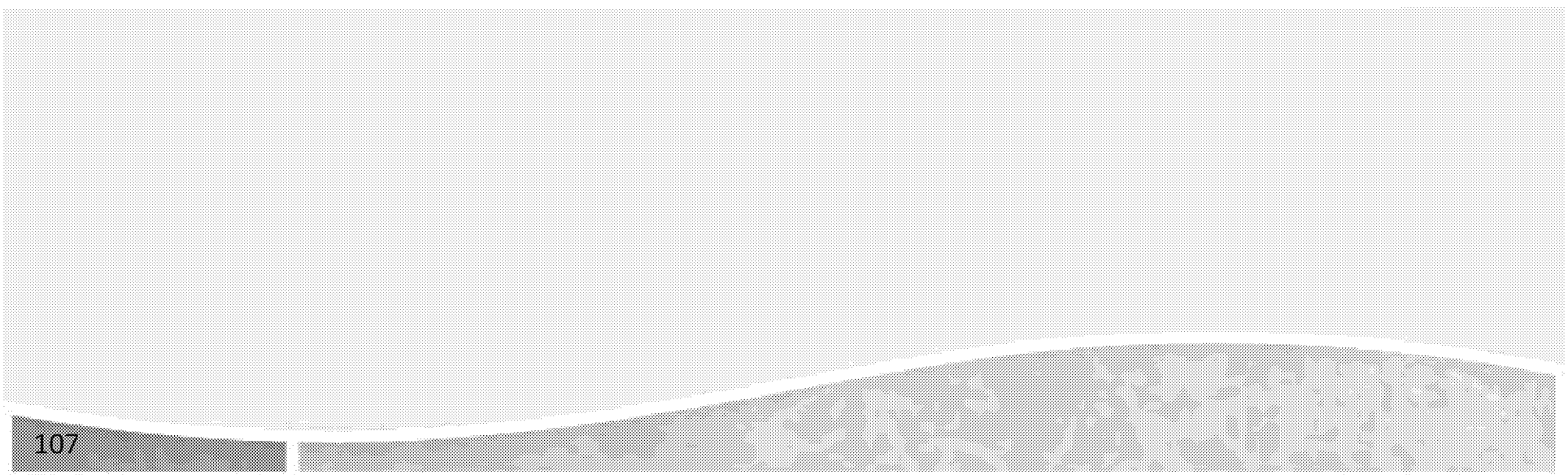
"Despite more than 20,000 person-hours in the field and the conscription of more than 6,350 animals, we were unable to identify the presence of any adverse effects associated with exposure to the contaminants of concern."

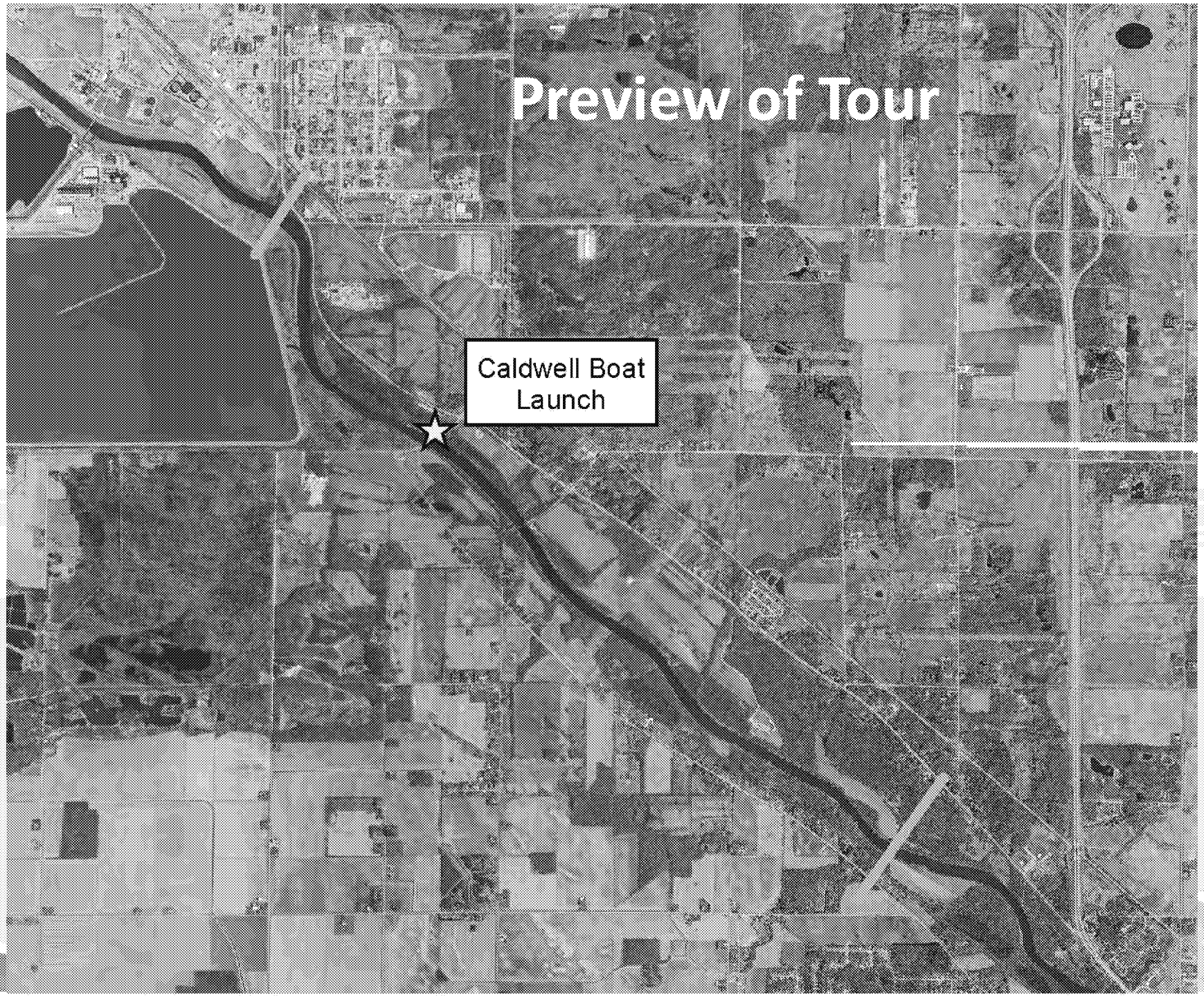
- Principal Investigator Dr. Matt Zwiernik

Risk Assessment

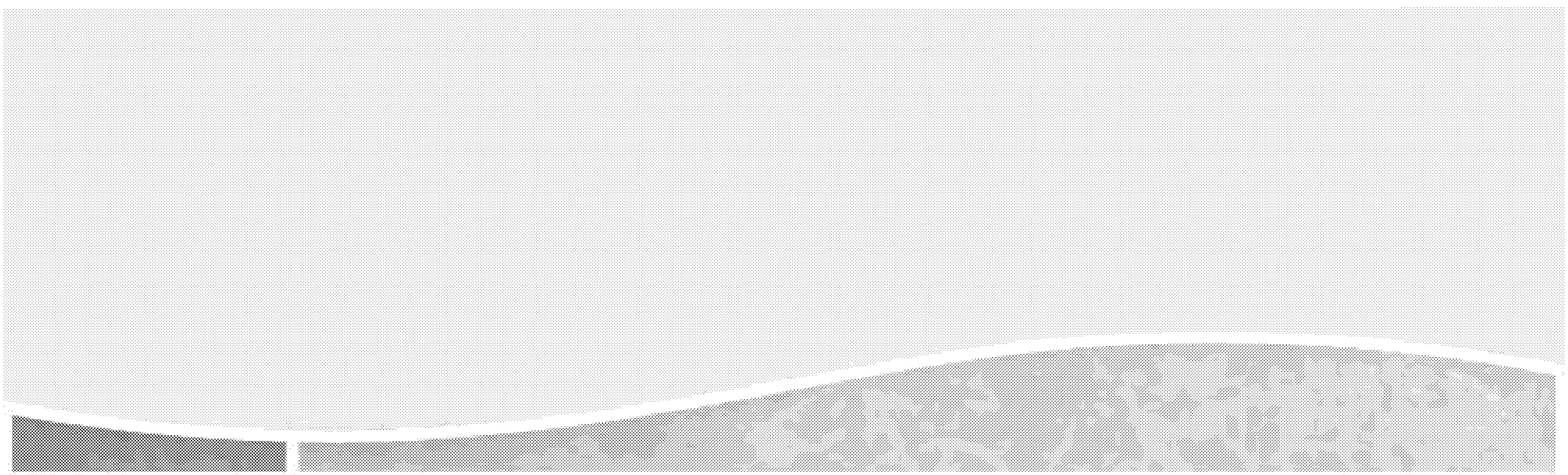
- The risk assessment will ultimately determine the success of this project.
- A realistic and pragmatic approach utilizing the site specific data with the risk assessment is needed to get to a Record of Decision.

Questions




Preview of Tour
Caldwell Boat Launch

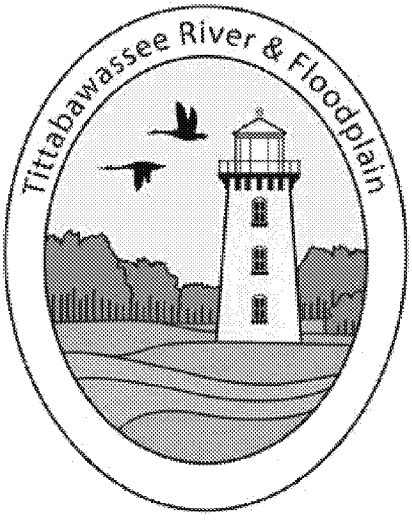
end



Tittabawassee River and Floodplain Cleanup:

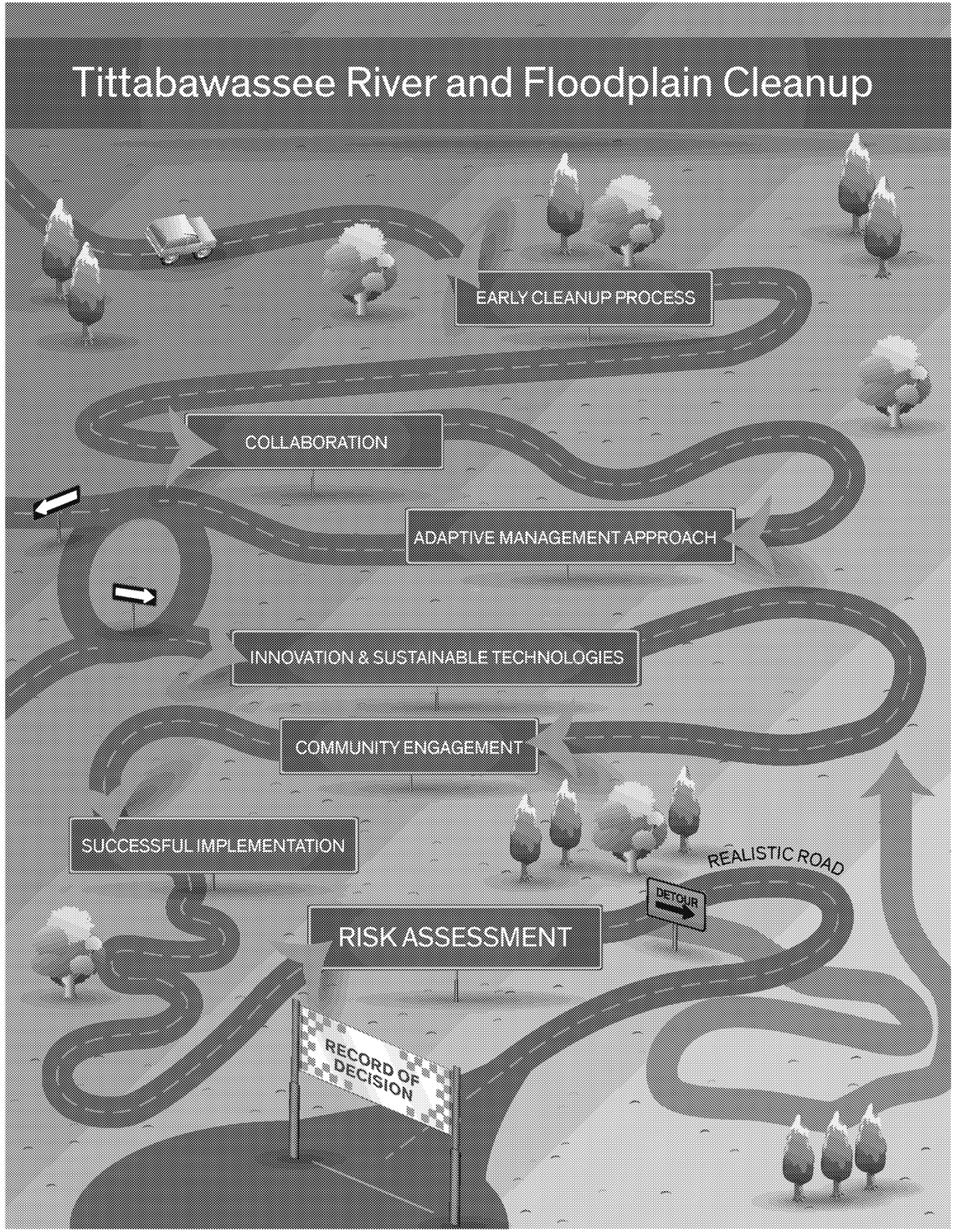
A Model for Success

JUNE 15, 2017



Introduction

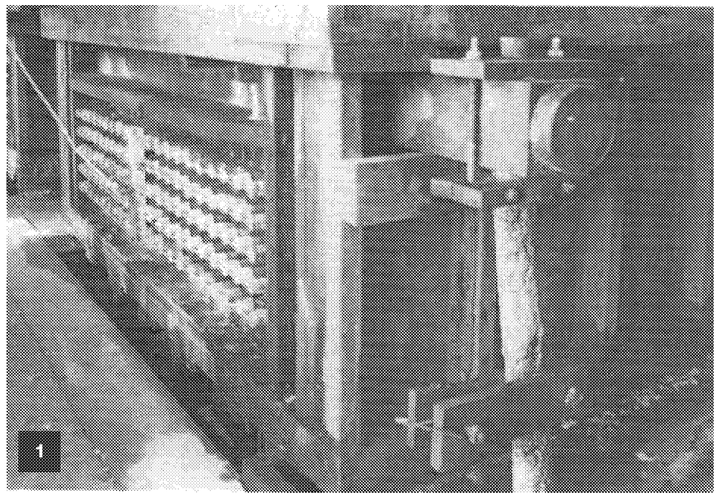
Tittabawassee River and Floodplain Cleanup

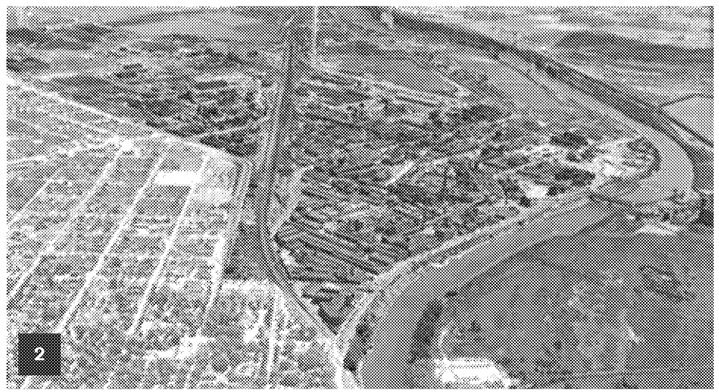


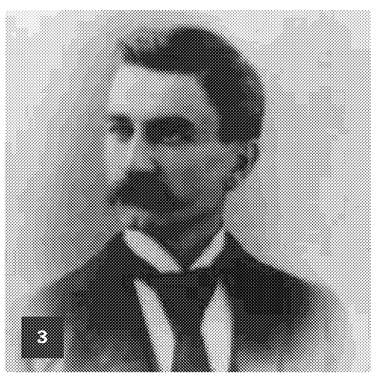
Introduction

Background

Dioxins and furans were formed in the early days of Dow's manufacturing processes. In the early 1900s, Dow used an electrolysis process to produce bleaching powders and bromides. Before waste management ponds were built around 1920, some solids were washed into the Tittabawassee River. Dioxin and furan compounds were not well understood until the 1960s.







1 **Dow electrolytic bromine cell, 1910-1916 period.**

2 **Historic photo of Michigan Operations showing early waste management ponds.**

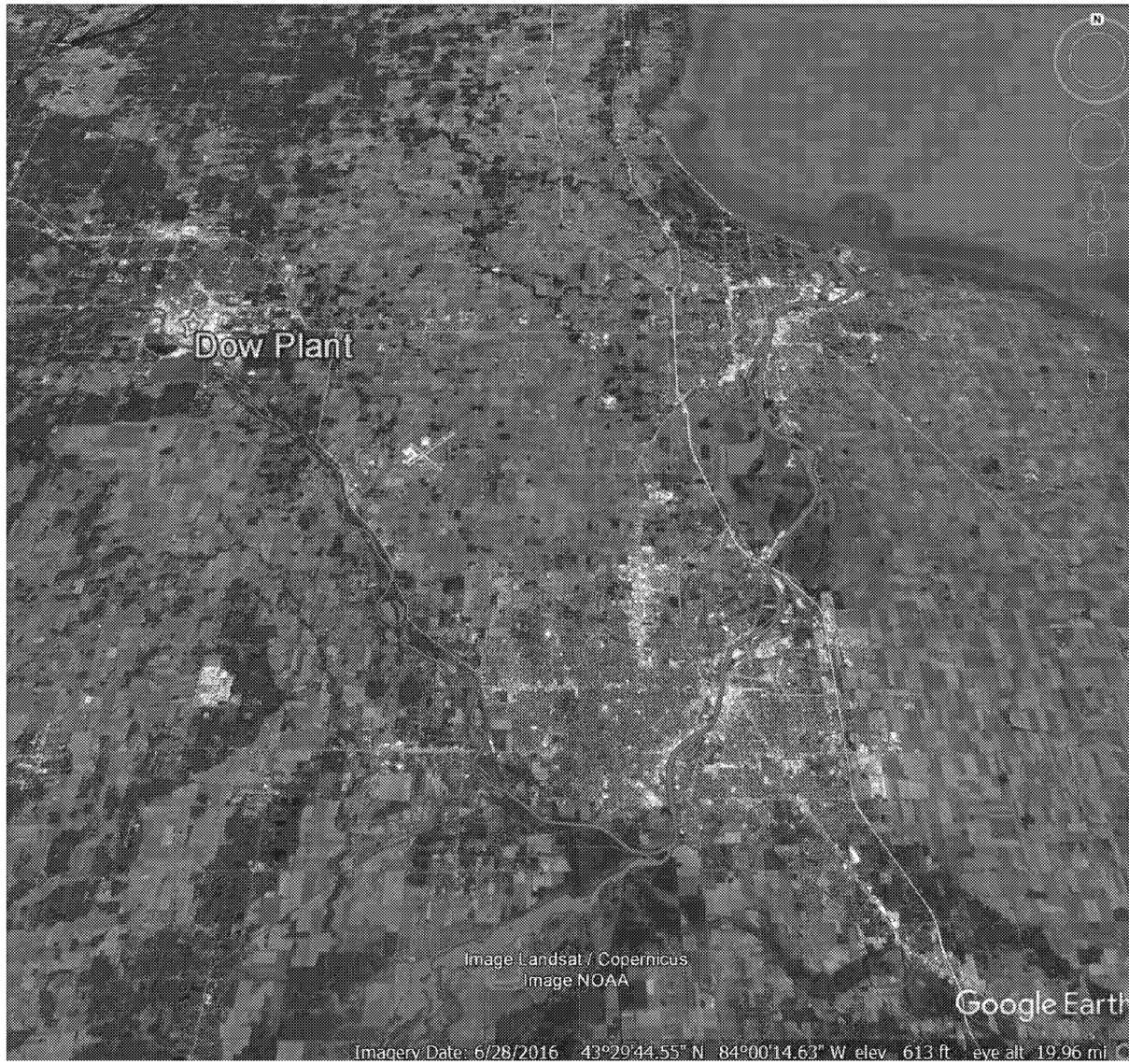
3 **Herbert H. Dow founded The Dow Chemical Company in 1897.**

4 **Historic photo of Michigan Operations showing cell buildings used in the electrolysis process.**

Site Overview

The site is defined as the lower Tittabawassee River and its floodplain, the Saginaw River and its floodplain, and and portions of the Saginaw Bay.

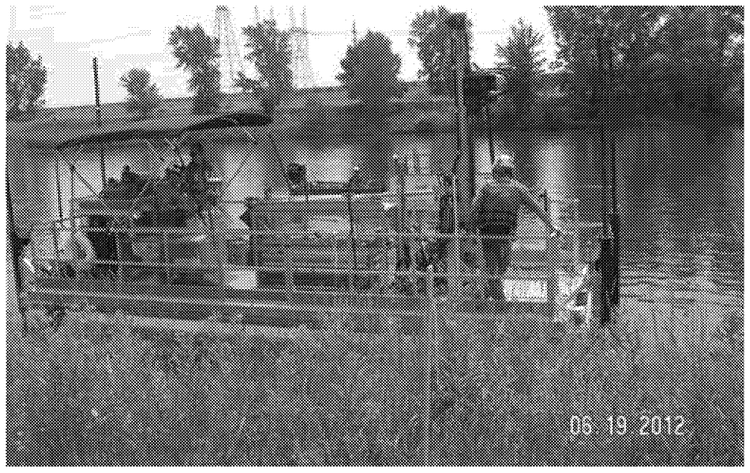
- **Tittabawassee River and banks:** 24 miles
- **Tittabawassee River floodplain:** about 4,500 acres
- **Saginaw River:** 22 miles



Extensive Investigation Activities

Dow, in partnership with DEQ and EPA, has extensively studied floodplain and bank soils and in-channel sediments since 2006, gathering tens of thousands of samples. Since 2010 alone, Dow has collected more than 1,000 samples to help inform remedial design, cleanup and monitoring activities.

Field crews collecting floodplain and bank soil samples



Sonic rig used to install sampling wells

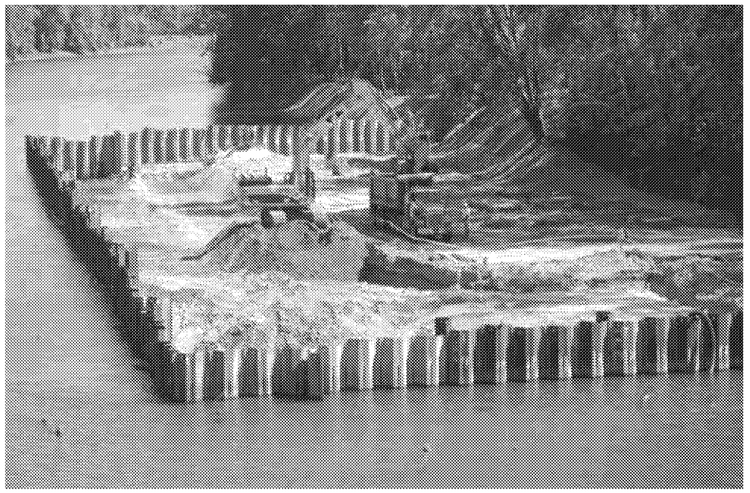
Introduction

Site map showing soil and sediment sample locations

Critical Elements for Success

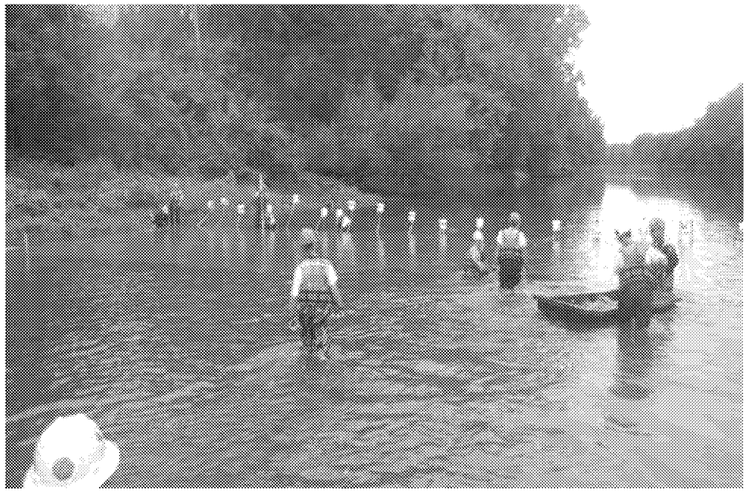
Early Cleanup

While following the Superfund Alternative Process under CERCLA, Dow's efforts have focused on rapid implementation, with residual risk assessment at a later time.



In-channel sediment removal

In-channel sediment removal

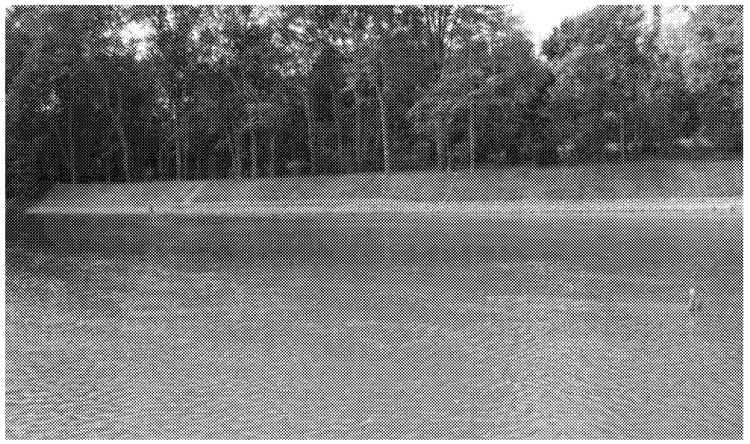


Installation of a Cellular Containment System (CCS)

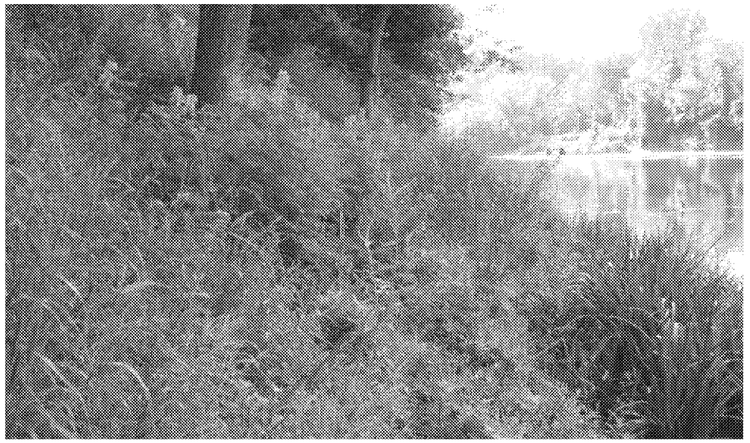
DNAPL Recovery activities in Segment 1

Bank preparation for stabilization including canopy management

Early Cleanup – continued



Bank management area after construction and early vegetation growth

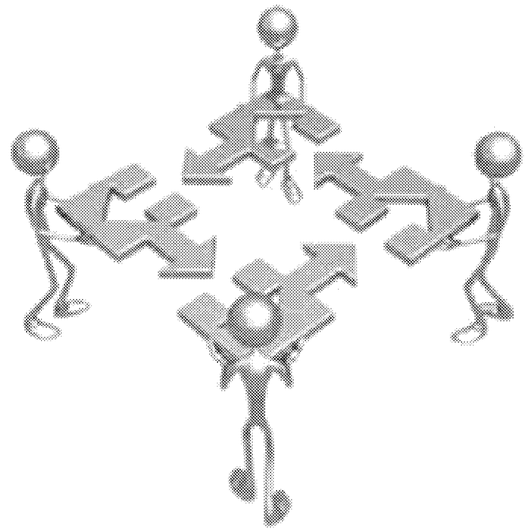


Bank management area showing established vegetation

Floodplain removal area being seeded following the completion of removal activities

Collaboration with EPA and MDEQ

Working in partnership with EPA and MDEQ, Dow teams have taken a pragmatic yet flexible approach to project management. This involved monthly meetings, work in real-time and commitment to an aggressive timeline.



Critical Elements for Success

Adaptive Management Approach and Innovative, Sustainable Technologies

With the adaptive management approach, lessons learned in one phase of cleanup inform the next. Promoting continuous improvement and innovative technologies, this approach results in faster and more effective cleanups tailored to the specific characteristics of the Tittabawassee River.

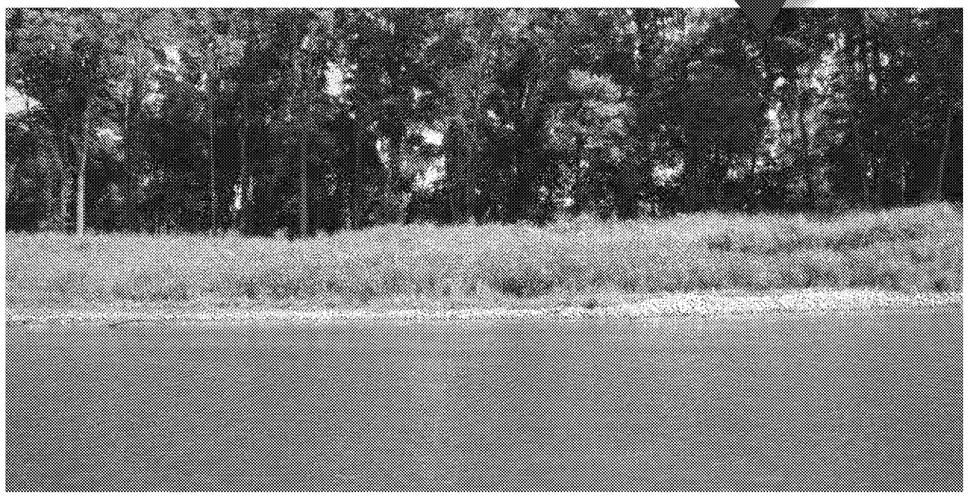
In-channel CCS cap pilot technology installed at Reach J in 2010. Information gained from the pilot about the implementablity and effectiveness of the cap was used to inform future cap projects.

What we learned

The piloted cap technology became a final remedy selected by the EPA. Picture of cap installed at Sediment Management Area 1-4.

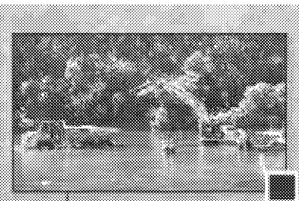
Pilot bank stabilization technologies were installed in 2008 through 2011 along the Tittabawassee River. The pilots provided EPA and Dow information to select and design effective, bioengineered and sustainable technologies for banks.

What we learned

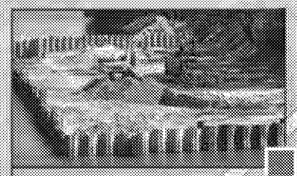


The piloted bank technologies that performed well became final cleanup technologies at bank management areas. Pictures depicts stabilized bank at Bank Management Area 2-4.

Aggressive Timeline



SMA 1-5 -
Sediment capping



SMA 2-3 -
Sediment removal

BMA 2-3 -
Bank stabilization and canopy management

SMA 2-5 -
CCS capping (Cellular Containment System)

SMA 3-2 -
CCS capping (Cellular Containment System)

SMA 1-6 -
Recovered DNAPL, a contaminated oily liquid

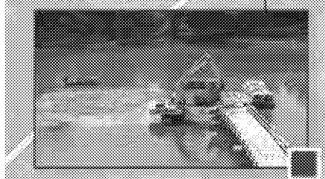
Floodplain -
Soil removal and replacement

Floodplain -
Soil removal and replacement

BMA 3-9 -
Bank stabilization

Riverside Boulevard -
Removed and replaced soil

Wickes Park -
Sediment dredging



MM Island -
Soil removal and sediment capping

West Michigan Park -
Removed soil

LEGEND: Cleanups completed within the Tittabawassee River and its floodplain from Midland to the confluence of the Shiawassee River.

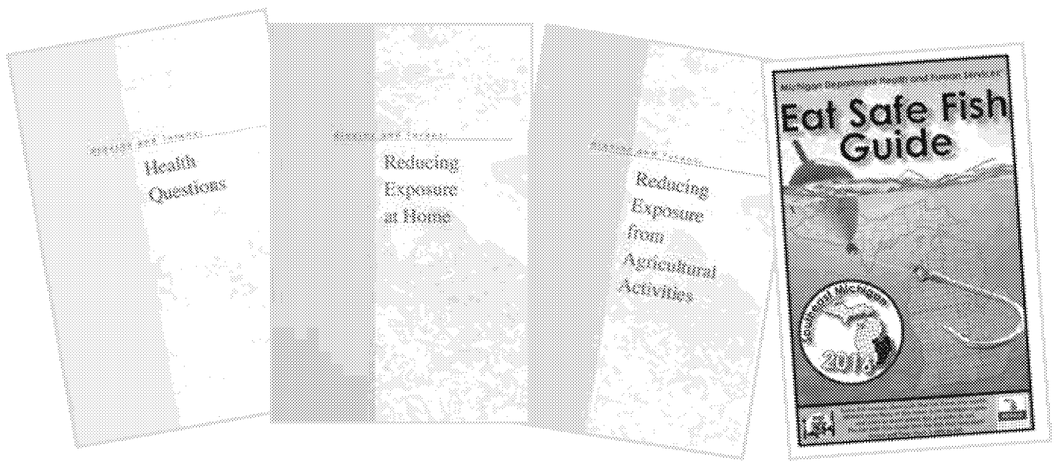
Early Actions Pre 2010	2010 & 2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016

○ Sediment Cleanup Areas
▭ Bank Cleanup Areas
Tittabawassee River
Floodplain Area
△ Floodplain Cleanup Areas
⬡ Early Actions

www.epa.gov/superfund/tittabawassee-river

Community Engagement

Dow and EPA continue to partner on extensive outreach to affected property owners and the community at large. The robust community involvement program includes EPA Information Sessions, public meetings and a Community Advisory Group (CAG), as well as frequent communications to keep property owners updated on project stages and activities.



Educational brochures

TITTABAWASSEE RIVER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Dow created this voluntary program to preserve the natural features of the river and floodplain and ensure the long-term effectiveness of the cleanup. The Tittabawassee River Conservation program is available to qualifying land owners who have property within the eight-year floodplain and whose land will be evaluated for cleanup. The current use of the floodplain consists of 5% residential maintained, 18% active agriculture, and 76% forest, wetland, meadows or ponds.

FIGURE: Eight-Year Floodplain Along the Tittabawassee River

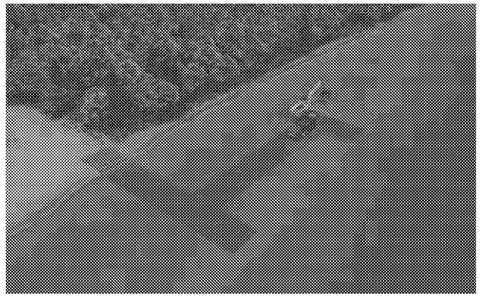
Fast Facts
Preserves the natural features of the river and floodplain.
Provides access to the property for sampling and implementing the cleanup, and for periodic monitoring, if needed.
Allows property owners to continue using the property as they do today (unless they currently raise poultry or livestock on the floodplain, which the Covenant prohibits).
Signing the Conservation Covenant means the owner is confirming property ownership, and agrees to the conditions of the Covenant.

Successful Implementation

The adaptive management approach and use of innovative sustainable technologies – along with collaboration and early cleanup actions – resulted in faster and more effective cleanups. Remedy options were tailored to the specific characteristics of the Tittabwassee River.

Armor Stone Cap

Site access for equipment into the sediment management area at SMA 1-5.

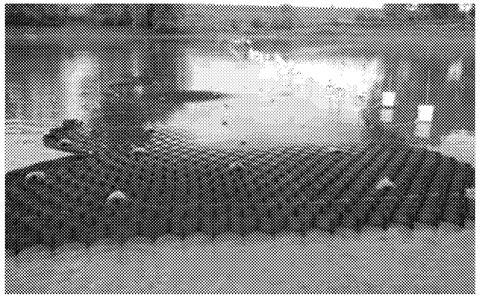


Installing armor stone over the sediment managment area in SMA 1-5.

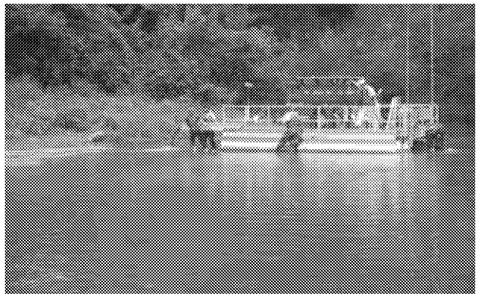
Floodplain Removal Activities

Floodplain removal activities along the Tittabawassee River.

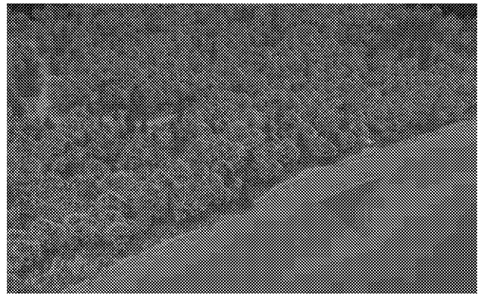
CCS Cap

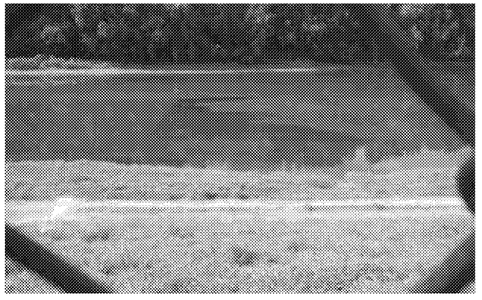


After establishing access, installation of cellular containment system (CCS) cap.



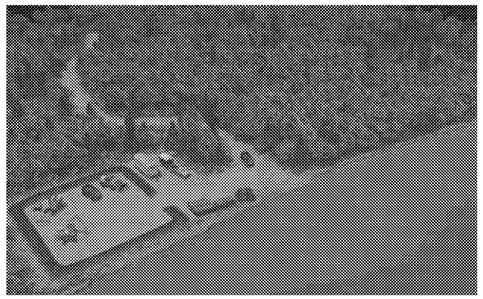
Installation of armor stone around the outer edge of the CCS cap using a pontoon boat with a conveyor system.

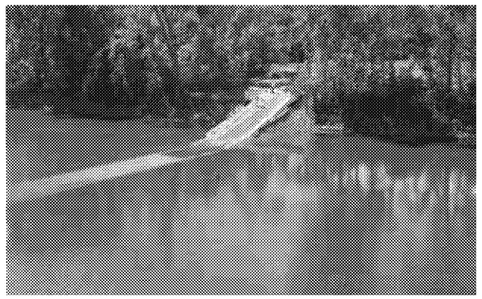




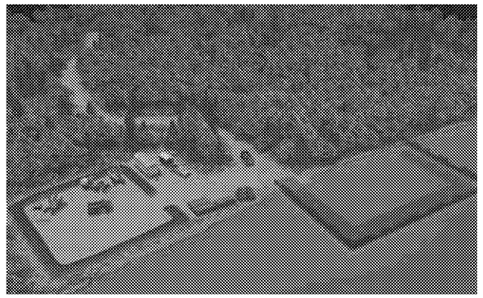
CCS cap filling with clean river sediment which naturally moved down the river system.

In-channel Removal

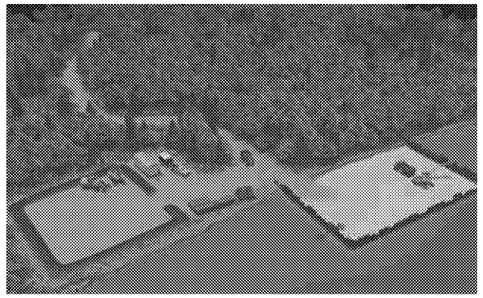




Establishing access into the sediment management area.



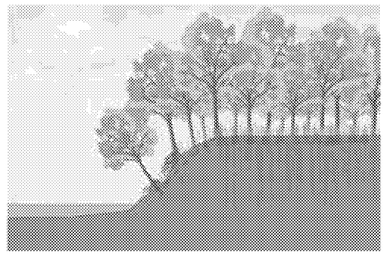
Installation of sheetpile walls around the sediment management area to allow the area to be dewatered, removal of sediment in the dry.



Removal of river sediment with direct loading into trucks for transportation and disposal.

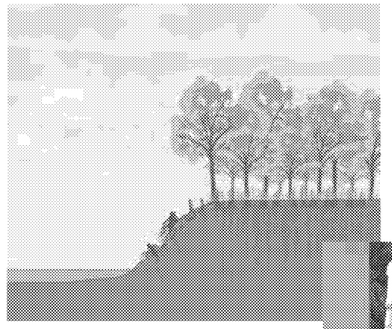
Bank Stabilization

Before

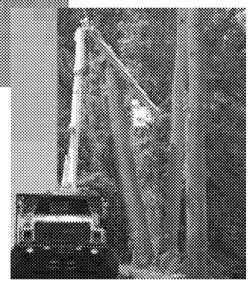


Banks that are unstable and contain contaminated soil are being stabilized to stop bank erosion.

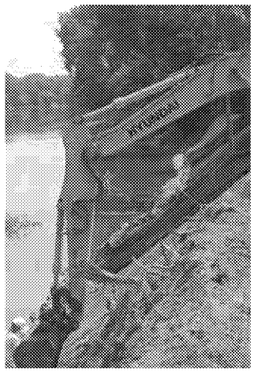
During



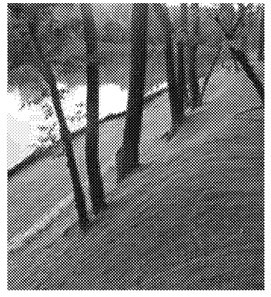
Step 1: Trees are trimmed or removed to allow sun light to the bank so deep rooting vegetation can stabilize the banks.



Step 2: In some cases the bank angle is reduced to help create stable conditions.



Step 3: Special materials are often used to help stabilize the banks and allow the native vegetation to be established.



After

Monitoring and maintenance activities will ensure that the remedy continues to maintain bank stability over time.

Risk Assessment

Extensive site-specific human exposure and ecological risk studies funded by unrestricted grants from Dow, along with other scientific studies, will be factored into final risk assessment.

University of Michigan Dioxin Exposure Study (UMDES)

"The Study found no direct exposure pathway by which dioxins in soils and sediments have accumulated in bodies of residents inhabiting Midland and Saginaw."

- Principal Investigator
Dr. David Garabrant

The University of Michigan Dioxin Exposure Study

Michigan State University Wildlife Study

"Despite more than 20,000 person-hours in the field and the conscription of more than 6,350 animals, we were unable to identify the presence of any adverse effects associated with exposure to the contaminants of concern."

- Principal Investigator
Dr. Matt Zwiernik

The final step of a risk assessment will be a collaborative effort between Dow, EPA, and MDEQ, and will require a realistic, pragmatic approach in order for this project to be successful.

Message

From: Kathy Bishop -MDE- [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]
Sent: 6/15/2017 8:04:49 PM
To: Purnell, Rhonda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4a3ae0e3175a4b2c922d5ecff3d0aa5b-Rpurnell]
CC: Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; Reim, Heather [hreim@pa.gov]; Levy, Rachel (GOV [Rachel.Levy@governor.virginia.gov]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; Burdette, Gary C [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; tommy.wells@dc.gov; shawn.garvin@state.de.us; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; saxe, jennie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c43a71c022c46829bb990105e48b681-Jpsaxe]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]
Subject: Re: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (August)

Hi Rhonda,

The best date for Secretary Grumbles is 8/3, but we can make 8/17 or 8/24 work. August 10 is a definite no.

--
Kathy Bishop
Executive Associate to the Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
Ex. 6
Kathy.Bishop@Maryland.gov

On Thu, Jun 15, 2017 at 3:10 PM, Purnell, Rhonda <Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov> wrote:

OK, Here we go again! We are going to try to reschedule this meeting again but sometime in August. Please see the new proposed dates below.

****

Hello, EPA Acting Regional Administrator, Cecil Rodrigues would like to request a Mid-Atlantic State Secretaries Meeting with EPA Region 3 and EPA HQ (Ken Wagner, Senior Advisor to the Administrator for Regional and State Affairs. This would be an all-day meeting at EPA Region 3 Office in Philadelphia, PA. We are looking for Thursday dates in August. These are some available dates: August 3, 10, 17 or 24th. Please let me know, which dates would work for your State Secretary or if should have any questions.

Thanks, Rhonda

Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant

Office of the Regional Administrator

U.S. EPA Region III

215-814-2188

Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

Click here to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Ebanks, Edna (DOEE) [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]
Sent: 6/15/2017 7:32:25 PM
To: Purnell, Rhonda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4a3ae0e3175a4b2c922d5ecff3d0aa5b-Rpurnell]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; Kathy Bishop [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [hreim@pa.gov]; Levy, Rachel (GOV [Rachel.Levy@governor.virginia.gov]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]
CC: Wells, Tommy (DOEE) [tommy.wells@dc.gov]; shawn.garvin@state.de.us; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; saxe, jennie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c43a71c022c46829bb990105e48b681-Jpsaxe]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]
Subject: RE: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (August)

Hello Rhonda,

Tommy Wells will be out of Office August 3-10, so those two dates does not work for him. He is available on August 17 and 24.

Thanks,

Edna

From: Purnell, Rhonda [mailto:Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Searfoss, Renee; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC); Kathy Bishop; Reim, Heather; Levy, Rachel (GOV; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ; 'Burdette, Gary C'; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov; Barbery, Andrea; Nitsch, Chad; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE)
Cc: Wells, Tommy (DOEE); shawn.garvin@state.de.us; Ben Grumbles; McDonnell, Patrick; Ward, Molly (GOV); david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth; D'Andrea, Michael; White, Terri-A; saxe, jennie; Zieba, Kyle; Brown, Kinshasa; Hamilton, Brian; Ferrell, Mark; Horacio Tablada -Mde-
Subject: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (August)

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Thanks, Rhonda

Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-2188
Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

Message

From: Reim, Heather [hreim@pa.gov]
Sent: 6/15/2017 7:22:44 PM
To: Purnell, Rhonda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4a3ae0e3175a4b2c922d5ecff3d0aa5b-Rpurnell]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; Kathy Bishop [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Levy, Rachel (GOV [Rachel.Levy@governor.virginia.gov]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]
CC: tommy.wells@dc.gov; shawn.garvin@state.de.us; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; saxe, jennie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c43a71c022c46829bb990105e48b681-Jpsaxe]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]
Subject: RE: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (August)

PA DEP is available on August 3 or 17. August 24 is a last option. August 10 is not an option.

Thank you,

Heather

Heather D. Reim | Executive Assistant to the Secretary
Department of Environmental Protection | Secretary's Office
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17101
Phone: Ex. 6 | Fax: 717-705-4980
www.depweb.state.pa.us

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From: Purnell, Rhonda [mailto:Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Searfoss, Renee <searfoss.renee@epa.gov>; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) <Vicki.Ward@state.de.us>; Kathy Bishop <kathy.bishop@maryland.gov>; Reim, Heather <hreim@pa.gov>; Levy, Rachel (GOV <Rachel.Levy@governor.virginia.gov>; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ <Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov>; 'Burdette, Gary C' <Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov>; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov; Barbery, Andrea <Barbery.Andrea@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE <edna.ebanks@dc.gov>
Cc: tommy.wells@dc.gov; shawn.garvin@state.de.us; Ben Grumbles <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov>; McDonnell, Patrick <pmcdonnell@pa.gov>; Ward, Molly (GOV) <Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov>; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; D'Andrea, Michael <DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>; saxe, jennie <saxe.jennie@epa.gov>; Zieba, Kyle <Zieba.Kyle@epa.gov>; Brown, Kinshasa <Brown.Kinshasa@epa.gov>; Hamilton, Brian <Hamilton.Brian@epa.gov>; Ferrell, Mark <Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>; Horacio Tablada -Mde- <horacio.tablada@maryland.gov>
Subject: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (August)

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Thanks, Rhonda
Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-2188
Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

Message

From: Turnbough, Anne [AnneT@amvac-chemical.com]
Sent: 5/15/2017 3:38:09 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Jay Vroom [JVroom@croplifeamerica.org]; Wintemute, Eric [EricW@amvac-chemical.com]; Donnelly, Tim [TimD@amvac-chemical.com]
Subject: RE: follow up /Request meeting Ken Wagner/ Letter from AMVAC Chemical

Appreciate it Ken,
Sorry if I just missed your call but was speaking on an internal business call .
Travel safe and hope to hear from you soon,
Anne

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 10:36 AM
To: Turnbough, Anne
Cc: Jay Vroom; Wintemute, Eric; Donnelly, Tim
Subject: Re: follow up /Request meeting Ken Wagner/ Letter from AMVAC Chemical

Anne:

I am on a flight from Detroit to DCA and have a pretty full day and have not been in DC since May 5. I have not heard back from the policy folks to whom I forwarded your letter. I am happy to have a call anytime, but figured you would want to visit with someone from the appropriate policy shop. I will follow up today and see what I can find out.

Thanks,

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 15, 2017, at 10:14 AM, Turnbough, Anne <AnneT@amvac-chemical.com> wrote:

> Hi Ken,
> Another follow up.
> I shall try you again via the phone today or feel free to call me at 713-8516076.
> Anne
>
> Anne Turnbough Ph.D.
> Vice President of Regulatory Affairs
>
> AMVAC CHEMICAL
> 4695 MacArthur Court
> Suite 1200
> Newport Beach, CA 92660

Cell Ex. 6
Office: Ex. 6

From: Turnbough, Anne
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 4:24 PM
To: 'Wagner, Kenneth'
Cc: Jay Vroom; Wintemute, Eric; Donnelly, Tim
Subject: follow up /Request meeting Ken Wagner/ Letter from AMVAC Chemical

Hi Ken,
I am just following up on my voicemail and previous email to see if we can schedule a call or face to face asap with you directly and/ or your policy advisors ?
I have copied in Jay Vroom from Crop Life America who originally approached you on this situation who would most likely participate in the discussions.

I would greatly appreciate an update as we are anxious to discuss with you as soon as possible.

Anne

Anne Turnbough Ph.D.
Vice President of Regulatory Affairs

AMVAC CHEMICAL
4695 MacArthur Court
Suite 1200
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Cell : Ex. 6
Office: Ex. 6

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 9:46 PM
To: Turnbough, Anne
Subject: Re: Request meeting Ken Wagner/ Letter from AMVAC Chemical

Anne:

I am glad that you have reached out. I have passed the letter with my explanation of the situation to one of the senior Policy Advisors for fa bit of direction on how best to address the issue. Check back with me at the beginning of next week andI should have some better direction.

Thanks,

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency

Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: [Ex. 6]
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 5/22/2017 11:48:01 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: June 15th

Ken

Sorry I missed your call last Friday. We look forward to seeing you on the 15th. If possible can you let us know when you will arrive and when you need to depart? We will be working on an agenda and would like to make sure it fits your time. Also can you let us know who will be with you?

Many thanks

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone: Ex. 6
Mobile:
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves

Message

From: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]
Sent: 5/17/2017 6:02:40 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Gunasekara, Mandy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=53d1a3caa8bb4ebab8a2d28ca59b6f45-Gunasekara,]
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

Thanks! I will be be there tomorrow with my colleague Kathryn Floyd and Brad Moore from PolyMet.

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 5:56:06 PM
To: Smith, Robert L.
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

Yes...I can do 5-5:30pm in my office. Come to the North Entrance by the Federal Triangle Metro Stop and I will come get you. My room # is 3309

Please confirm.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 16, 2017, at 2:08 PM, Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com> wrote:

> Can we meet Thursday afternoon?
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
> **Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 1:48:40 PM
> **To:** Smith, Robert L.
> **Cc:** Gunasekara, Mandy
> **Subject:** Re: R5 Issue
>
> Wednesday does not work as I am in Annapolis for a Chesapeake Bay meeting. Thursday afternoon could work after 2pm? How long will you need?
>
> Kenneth E. Wagner
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> *For Regional & State Affairs*
> **US Environmental Protection Agency**
> Office: 202-564-1988
> Cell: Ex. 6

wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 15, 2017, at 1:43 PM, Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com> wrote:

Thanks Mandy.

Ken - nice to e-meet you. I represent PolyMet and we are building the NorthMet Copper and Nickel mine in MN. Might you be available to see us on Wednesday to discuss the project and some of the issues we're having with R5? Thanks.

From: Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 12:14:00 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth
Cc: Smith, Robert L.
Subject: R5 Issue

Hi Ken,
I'm connecting you with my friend Rob Smith (cc'd) who is having some issues out in Region 5 with regards to a mine. I think you would be a good place to start. Let me know if you need help from my end (or Sarah's if it involves water).

Rob, as I mentioned, Ken is the Administrator's go-to person for all things involving in the Regional Offices.

Best,
Mandy

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Message

From: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]
Sent: 5/20/2017 8:19:39 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Gunasekara, Mandy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=53d1a3caa8bb4ebab8a2d28ca59b6f45-Gunasekara,]
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

Kenneth -- really great meeting you on Thursday and I hope you're enjoying the weekend in the 918. Looking forward to talking again and, INTM, feel free to bring me back some Coney I-Lander. --rob

---

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 12:58 PM
To: Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com>
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

So the entrance is the right by the Federal Triangle Metro Stop off of 12th St NW between Constitution and Pennsylvania. Enter just north of the Metro escalators (North Entrance) go through Security and ask them to call 202-564-1988 and I will come and get you.

Thanks,

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Smith, Robert L. [mailto:RLSmithII@Venable.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

We'll be there. Question - is the building named or is there an EPA sign?

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 5:56:06 PM
To: Smith, Robert L.
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

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Ken

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Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: 2[Ex. 6]
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

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> > **Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 12:14:00 PM
> > **To:** Wagner, Kenneth
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> > **Subject:** R5 Issue
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Mandy

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Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 5/12/2017 11:51:34 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: Re: Visit

Ken

Great news ! We will tentatively hold June 9th. Look forward to hearing from you early next week!

Mary
Sent from my iPhone

On May 12, 2017, at 1:32 PM, Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:

> Mary: I am working on the June 9 date, It I have been in Region 8 (and 3 states) all week so haven't had time to work on my travel schedule. I will try to find something with you this Monday
>
> **Kenneth E. Wagner**
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> *For Regional and State Affairs*
> **U S Environmental Protection Agency**
> **202-564-1988 office**
> **Ex. 6 cell**
> **wagner.kenneth@epa.gov**
>
> On May 12, 2017, at 11:16 AM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:
>
> > Ken
> >
> > Just checking in to see how you are doing on narrowing a date for a possible visit.
> >
> > We will look forward to having you come see our site!
> >
> > *Mary Draves*
> >
> > Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
> > Environmental Operations and Technology Center
> > The Dow Chemical Company
> > 1790 Building
> > Midland, MI 48674
> >
> > Phone:
> > Mobile: **Ex. 6**
> > mfdraves@dow.com
> > @mary_draves
> > <image001.png>

Message

From: Rodrigues, Cecil [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4515B309FE314660B3E3069A2925F01A-CRODRI06]
Sent: 7/20/2017 2:05:20 AM
To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; 'Kathy Bishop' [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; 'Reim, Heather' [hreim@pa.gov]; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; 'Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov'; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE' [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; 'valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov'; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [Adriana.Hochberg@dc.gov]
Subject: August 24th State Secretaries' Meeting
Attachments: ECOS_Cooperative Federalism 2.0_6-12-17.pdf

Hi Everyone,

Our meeting is almost a month away and we welcome your suggested topics for the agenda. We do propose adding some time to discuss the ECOS Cooperative Federalism 2.0 document (attached). Other than that, we are interested in what you would like to discuss. If you would please provide your suggestions to my assistant, Renee Searfoss (searfoss.renee@epa.gov), by Thursday, August 3, 2017, that would be great. We will send out the draft final agenda once more after that to solicit additional ideas or recommendations prior to the meeting. We are also hopeful that Ken Wagner will be joining us for this meeting.

Feel free to call or email with any questions.

Thanks. Cecil.

Acting Regional Administrator (3RA00)
EPA Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215.814.2683
215.814.2901 (fax)
Iphone: Ex. 6
rodrigues.cecil@epa.gov

COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM 2.0:

Achieving and *Maintaining* a Clean Environment and *Protecting* Public Health

JUNE 2017

ECOS

Introduction

The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) is the national nonprofit, nonpartisan association of state and territorial environmental agency leaders. Its purpose is to improve the capability of state environmental agencies and their leaders to protect and improve human health and the environment of our nation.

The following document was produced through a consensus-based process among the members of ECOS. It is respectfully shared by ECOS with all who desire to participate in a conversation related to these matters. Please feel free to direct questions or comments to ECOS Executive Director and General Counsel Alexandra Dunn at adunn@ecos.org or 202.266.4929, or to any of the undersigned officers.

JOHN LINC STINE

ECOS President
Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
john.stine@state.mn.us
651.757.2014

BECKY KEOGH

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Director, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
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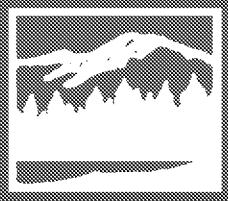
MARTHA RUDOLPH

ECOS Past President
Director, Environmental Programs
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
martha.rudolph@state.co.us
303.692.3397



ECOS

COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM 2.0:

Achieving and *Maintaining* a Clean Environment and *Protecting* Public Health

A national conversation is underway as to the best and highest purpose for state and federal environmental regulators from 2017 forward. We are convinced a recalibration of state and federal roles can lead to more effective environmental management at lower cost — that this is a call for a Cooperative Federalism 2.0. The purpose of this paper is to stimulate and advance this important national conversation. We have an opportunity to engage the Administration, Congress, and all other parties and interests in how states and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) can put the "meat on the bone" and more fully define what we mean by Cooperative Federalism 2.0 from a policy, operational, and fiscal standpoint that ensures effective public health and environmental protections. We believe that through this concept we can build on the foundations of national statutes, learn from the innovations and successes of state programs, and confidently meet the challenge of providing 21st century environmental protection with the best of 21st century methods and relationships.

As states evaluate the future of environmental protection, we believe each of the key roles and functions laid out in this document is crucial for high quality, nimble, reliable, and transparent environmental and public health protection across the nation. We look forward to engaging others on how they see this important relationship.

Background

When the foundation of environmental protection was established in the United States in the late 1960s and early 1970s, a key, constitutionally based tenet was cooperative federalism. Under this tenet, the U.S. Congress establishes the law, the federal government implements the law through national minimum standards for the media/pollutant in question, and states can seek authorization or delegation to implement the programs needed to achieve these standards. Generally, states may develop programs to go beyond these standards if a state chooses to do so.

Initially, when states first began to implement programs delegated to them in the 1970s and 1980s, many state programs benefitted not only from federal funding, but also from significant U.S. EPA oversight. Over the last 45 years, states have become the primary implementers of these environmental statutes, such that today, states have assumed more than 96 percent of the delegable authorities under federal law. These state programs have now matured, and states have undertaken many continuous improvement efforts to address new environmental challenges and to modernize and streamline decision-making processes. Indeed, from the first fledgling state programs to those we implement today, we have always sought out ways to be better and inspire public confidence in our efforts. States are a critical part of achieving our nation's environmental and public health goals and mandated responsibilities in an effective and efficient way.

Document Structure

This document contains two parts. Part I enumerates, as principles, the roles and functions of states and U.S. EPA in cooperative federalism. The state and U.S. EPA principles we lay out here must be taken together; the principles reflect corollary responsibilities. These principles, which are laid out in the following table, are derived from a deep reflection on the current tenor and functioning of state/EPA relationships. Part II then documents 2.0 an initial list of important policy-neutral issues where the application of Cooperative Federalism could be focused.

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00173224-00002

Part I: Principles of the Roles and Functions of States and U.S. EPA in Cooperative Federalism

	Principles of the States' Role and Function in Cooperative Federalism	Principles of the Federal Role and Function in Cooperative Federalism
1	States should be engaged, as key partners with the federal government, in the development of national minimum standards to protect human health and the environment, and in any federal requirements regarding implementation of those standards. States bring experience in identifying and understanding evolving science and emerging environmental challenges, and in developing effective programmatic options and alternatives. In particular, states have first-hand knowledge of how to ensure successful implementation of programs designed to meet these standards including experience communicating with the regulated community and the public.	U.S. EPA should continue to lead in setting and adopting national minimum standards to protect public health and the environment.
2	States are the preferred implementing entities for national environmental regulatory programs for which federal statutes authorize their delegation. Only where states elect not to pursue delegated federal authority, do not provide the resources necessary to meet national regulatory minimum standards, or have a documented history of failure to make progress toward meeting national standards, should U.S. EPA implement these environmental programs.	U.S. EPA should be the lead implementer of national environmental regulatory programs in those instances where states decline to assume this role, where the states fail to appropriately implement such programs, or where federal statutes establish that role for the federal government.
3	States should have flexibility to determine the best way for their programs to achieve national minimum standards that enables them to incorporate and integrate their unique geophysical, ecological, social, and economic conditions.	U.S. EPA should involve states as partners early and often in developing federal environmental and public health policy, and should specifically seek state and other stakeholder input on the efficacy of new or changed standards or program requirements.
4	States should engage local governments, regulated entities, tribes, and the public, as well as recognize community and equity concerns, in implementation of national environmental regulatory programs, policies, and standards.	U.S. EPA should ensure appropriate federal consultation with Native American tribes in the implementation of federal environmental and public health policies, programs, and standards.
5	States should be the primary enforcement authority for programs delegated to the states and have the ability access federal enforcement authorities when federal enforcement is needed or appropriate.	U.S. EPA should respect the states' role as the primary implementer of national environmental regulatory programs and not review individual state implementation decisions, including enforcement, on a routine or recurring basis unless programmatic audits identify this need or particular circumstances compel federal action.

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00173224-00003

	Principles of the States' Role and Function in Cooperative Federalism	Principles of the Federal Role and Function in Cooperative Federalism
6	States should gather, maintain, and share information transparently with U.S. EPA and the public on how human health and the environment are protected, based on nationally agreed upon measures and metrics, through the activities states conduct and the environmental outcomes states achieve for federally delegated programs.	U.S. EPA should periodically and routinely audit state implementation programs authorized or delegated to achieve national minimum standards (including adequacy of state implementing authorities and resources). These audits should be based on criteria mutually developed by states and U.S. EPA in light of federal regulations and grant requirements. When a state is not adequately achieving standards, U.S. EPA should be able to take appropriate action to ensure that a state will make consistent progress. Ultimately, if a state is not making sufficient progress, U.S. EPA should be able to reassume a lead implementation role.
7	Consistent with Constitutional principles, states should be encouraged through flexible federal requirements to develop, pursue, and implement state innovations to effectively and efficiently achieve desired environmental outcomes. States should generally have the ability to set standards that are more stringent or that are broader in scope than federal standards.	U.S. EPA has a role as a convener and facilitator in important pollutant-related interstate issues to efficiently support multi-state solutions and in some cases, to ensure final decision-making. States' willingness to work on these types of issues collectively and collaboratively with each other is also critical for success. Regional collaborations of national significance often require additional assistance (i.e., technical or scientific support, funding, regulatory accountability, and dispute resolution) that U.S. EPA should have the capacity to provide.
8	States should work cooperatively with U.S. EPA in the development of shared services, implementation toolkits, and other key resources to facilitate permitting and reporting functions and to efficiently use resources to accomplish these tasks as well as shared functions.	U.S. EPA should maintain a robust scientific research and data gathering capacity to effectively inform and establish national regulatory minimum standards based on sound science, to understand how best to respond to complex environmental pollution challenges, to respond to emerging pollutants, to incorporate modern technologies, and to efficiently determine protective alternative remediation strategies and other solutions to facilitate protection of human health and the environment. The federal government has well-developed capacity to keep abreast of emerging challenges and to research potentially successful technologies or remedies for current challenges that no single state has the capacity to replicate or replace.
9	States that choose to implement federal programs should be both adequately funded by the federal government to do so as Congress directed in authorizing statutes and should also invest state resources (either directly or through fees or other methods) sufficient to implement a successful program.	U.S. EPA should have sufficient resources to meet these responsibilities and to financially support states in the implementation of federal statutes and programs. U.S. EPA should have sufficient resources to meet all obligations to states and to ensure timely review and decisions on program submittals by the states. The level of federal support to states implementing federal programs, policies, and standards should be calibrated to the scope and complexity of federal requirements that states must achieve in order to assume or continue implementation responsibility.

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00173224-00004

Part II: Changes Implied by Cooperative Federalism 2.0

Our state environmental programs exist to provide the level of environmental and human health protection promised to the American people through our national and state statutes. The key principles articulated above spark the following observations and entreaties for consideration by all parties with an interest in these critical matters. Many of them are buttressed by work underway between U.S. EPA and the states. However, the full embodiment of the principles clearly means a change from business as usual for most states and U.S. EPA and requires a willingness for U.S. EPA and the Congress to align the state/federal relationship with the current realities and responsibilities of state implementation of national regulatory programs. States are willing and eager to engage in this important dialogue.

A. Ensuring adequate capital and operating resources to fully implement federal environmental laws has been and must remain a priority focus. Robust cooperative federalism cannot be achieved if one party or the other is not capable of performing its critical functions. Inadequate implementation by states benefits no one; insufficient or non-timely performance by U.S. EPA hurts everyone. Both states and U.S. EPA need to perform as required and expected under a truly effective cooperative federalism. Neither party can, nor should be expected to, perform the important functions needed by the other for each to be successful. For example, adequate capital requirements for clean water (including drinking water) are a crucial public health necessity and a shared responsibility between the federal government, the states, and local governments. The federal government should financially support state implementation efforts commensurate with the complexity and breadth of federal requirements. Furthermore, when states implement federally delegated authorities, they must continue to provide a level of resources commensurate with their responsibilities. In the event there are decreases in the level of support for the operation of federally delegated programs by either federal or state governments, it is critical that there be a shared understanding, and transparency around, what work may no longer be performed by either party.

B. With robust engagement of all interests, including states, U.S. EPA should identify key outcomes for implementing federal environmental and public health laws that each federal program, standard, or policy is intended to accomplish. U.S. EPA should seek to demonstrate this through environmental and service delivery (i.e., time) "outcome" metrics rather than "output" metrics. These metrics should be understandable to the regulated community and the public. States should report at regular and consistent intervals to U.S. EPA and the public, through these agreed-upon and, to the extent possible, nationally consistent metrics, what environmental, public health, and service delivery outcomes the state-implemented federal programs, policies, and standards have achieved.

C. U.S. EPA and states' working relationships should be continually reviewed, improved, and reformed to conform with the key principles. EPA's oversight of state's performance should emphasize developing, aligning, and mutually supporting efforts that successfully address environmental challenges instead of routinely reviewing state's individual implementation actions. Such cooperative efforts should include development of new regulations and guidance consistent with the key principles, review of past practices and regulations that may be outdated and inefficient (and hence should be modified or eliminated), and determination of how regional and national consistency on implementation can be harmonized with state flexibility and innovation in implementation. There are significant ongoing efforts ready for scale to accomplish this, including E-Enterprise, in which U.S. EPA, states, and tribes jointly identify, manage, and implement projects designed to improve agency performance, implement efficiencies, and reduce burdens on the public and the regulated community. The widespread adoption of business process improvement techniques by states and U.S. EPA shows the benefit of continuing and expanding this effort through adoption of the principles.

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00173224-00005

D. Healthy and vibrant communities and economies rely upon both effective environmental protection and resilient economic growth. Achieving national minimum standards contributes greatly to the former; implementing efficient and effective programs contributes greatly to the latter. State flexibility to determine the best way for its programs to achieve national minimum standards that accounts for unique geophysical, ecological, social, and economic conditions is a particularly important aspect of ensuring that environmental protection and economic prosperity go hand-in-hand with healthy and vibrant communities.

E. As the scope and breadth of environmental programs has grown to address the issues upon which they are focused, assuring regulatory compliance has become increasingly complex. Robust and appropriate enforcement of regulations is a key aspect of compliance assurance, both by stopping and remedying non-compliance and by creating a climate of deterrence for other potential deliberate violators. States see significant benefit in providing focused compliance assistance and assurance programs that assist the regulated community to come into compliance by increasing its understanding of regulatory requirements and by developing effective ways to achieve compliance. Providing assistance is critical to support the vast number of entities that want to be in compliance. Creating a connection to those entities who may need compliance support can prevent them from becoming cases for formal enforcement action. States are implementing a wide range of such programs and developing methods to measure overall compliance, as well as the effectiveness of these programs.

F. Support for small communities to help improve community health and build necessary resilience to sustain it is needed across the nation. National minimum standards often represent significant financial burdens on these communities, which can be considerably exacerbated when investments are considered one program or one pollutant at a time. States and U.S. EPA have begun to address this pressing challenge, but ensuring that all communities in need of this support — and capable of implementing it responsibly — receive it, remains elusive.

G. As our environmental challenges become more complex and diffuse, novel approaches are needed that will depend upon comprehensive cooperative federalism to be successful. Pollutants are often found to have cumulative and synergistic relationships that are difficult to address under our single pollutant-by-pollutant statutory approach. Pollutants also do not respect political boundaries, highlighting the need for multi-state and multi-national approaches and cooperation.

Conclusion and Next Steps

We strongly believe that positive reforms and improvements to the bedrock of cooperative federalism are needed and warranted at this time to create and implement environmental protection programs worthy of 21st century challenges. States are eager to engage our federal partners, and others who have a keen interest in how the states and federal governments perform their roles, on how we can move forward consistent with these principles, in order to protect the environment and public health of our great nation.

ECOS

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@ECOSTATES @ECOSTATES

PRINTED WITH SOY INK

Message

From: Jay Cranford [cranford@cgcn.com]
Sent: 7/19/2017 8:34:07 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]; Katie Mitchell [mitchell@cgcn.com]
Subject: Re: connect

Perfect. Thank you!

Jay Cranford
CGCN Group
Ex. 6
www.cgcn.com

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 4:33:08 PM
To: Jay Cranford
Cc: Lyons, Troy; Katie Mitchell
Subject: Re: connect

How about 10:30am? Come to the North Entrance off of 12th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania (by the Metro Stop),,,Come through Security and have them call my office phone.. Ex. 6

My office suite is 3309....I will come down and meet you when called.

See you then!

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 19, 2017, at 5:28 AM, Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com> wrote:

> Thanks so much to both of you. Late morning Friday will work for us. Please let us know what time works best for you and we will be there.
>
> We'll also get our final list of attendees to you this morning. We will have 3-4 people from our end, max.
>
> Thanks again. -Jay
>
> Jay Cranford
> CGCN Group

Ex. 6
www.cgcn.com

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 10:55 PM
Subject: Re: connect
To: Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
Cc: Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com>

As it happens...I'm actually in town on Friday...late morning would work

Let me know if it can work out?

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 18, 2017, at 10:50 PM, Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov> wrote:

> Jay, always a pleasure!
>
> I have added Ken to the email in the hopes that his schedule will allow for a visit.
>
> Ken, please see Jay's below.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Jul 18, 2017, at 5:44 PM, Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com> wrote:
>
> > Good afternoon Troy. I'm emailing to see if you could help connect me with Ken Wagner at EPA. Our client, Noble, is coming in from Denver this week and would like an opportunity to sit down with him to discuss some CO-specific ozone issues. At this point Noble has availability this Friday (7/21) morning until 11:30am. I realize this is a small window of availability but I know they would like to try to meet. If it doesn't work out this time, maybe they can try again the next time they are in town.
> >
> > As a side note, Noble will be meeting with the Administrator's policy team Thursday afternoon. Just want to make sure you are aware.
> >
> > Thanks, -Jay
> >
> > **JAY CRANFORD** | CGCN GROUP
> > 1101 K STREET, NW, SUITE 650 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 6/26/2018 3:30:49 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov];

Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]

Subject: Additional Material for June 27th Steering Committee Teleconference

Attachments: SC Members Collaboration Updates_Template june 26 draft.pdf

As part of the discussion of our upcoming Steering Committee face to face meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi July 31 to August 1, staff are suggesting an agenda item: Member collaboration report out (30 minutes per member).

Staff has put together a draft template for consideration to facilitate consistency for those report outs, and will be asking members for their feedback following our Steering Committee teleconference tomorrow afternoon.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

DRAFT: Steering Committee Members Collaboration Updates Template

Please be prepared to provide brief summary information, to the extent that it is currently available, on the following topics at Steering Committee face-to-face meetings, starting with the July meeting. Any visual aids are encouraged (slides and/or handouts). Each member will have a maximum of 30 minutes for each report-out.

- CPS Award Summary (See draft provided by Council staff and revise as appropriate)

- Year 1 activities (those included in your Year 1 Work Plan); information may include:
    - Planned meetings and/or workshops
    - Completed meetings and/or workshops, including:
        - Participants
        - Outcomes
        - Next steps
    - Funding partners and/or stakeholders collaboration/engagements
    - Member to Member collaboration:
        - Cross-member collaborations (state-fed; state-state; fed-fed)
        - If you are a state member: federal technical assistance you are seeking
        - If you are a federal member: technical assistance you are offering or would like to receive from states

- Maintaining a long-view on Gulf restoration
    - Just as there needs to be a cohesive story within any one FPL, we need to consider the consistent thread between FPLs
        - What thoughts do you have at this time regarding long-term "success" and how would you be able to articulate that success? This could be success for a watershed or restoration type, or for Bucket 2 funding writ large.
        - How could success be demonstrated qualitatively and/or quantitatively?
        - What may be your "so what" message 5, 10 15 years from now?
    - Path to FPL 3 Priorities; some topics may include:
        - <u>What/where:</u>
            - Existing regional plans and/or plans under development that you will be drawing upon in the development of FPL 3 proposals
            - Known watershed and/or restoration type priorities that you may be focusing your collaboration efforts on
        - <u>Why:</u>
            - Goals and objectives of any watershed and/or restoration type that you may be seeking to support with FPL funds
            - 1 or 2 potential long-term outcomes and indicators of success that you foresee from your efforts
        - Any "Gulfwide" ideas that you may propose

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 5/19/2017 7:10:01 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: RE: Visit

It's great.

Let's plan on it! Let me know your travel plans and would be glad to assist in any way we can.

Mary

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 3:08 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
Cc: Deziel, Dennis (DR) <DRDeziel@dow.com>
Subject: RE: Visit

Mary:

Hope all is well. Following up on our call of last week hoping to see if the 15th of June would work for you?

Please let me know as I am excited to see the site and hear of the successes between you and Region 5.

Ken
Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Draves, Mary (M) [mailto:MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 1:15 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Deziel, Dennis (DR) <DRDeziel@dow.com>
Subject: Visit

Ken

Just checking in to see how you are doing on narrowing a date for a possible visit.

We will look forward to having you come see our site!

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone:
Mobile: **Ex. 6**
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves

Message

From: Purnell, Rhonda [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4A3AE0E3175A4B2C922D5ECFF3D0AA5B-RPURNELL]
Sent: 5/18/2017 7:08:08 PM
To: tommy.wells@dc.gov; shawn.garvin@state.de.us; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; Kathy Bishop [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [hreim@pa.gov]; Levy, Rachel (GOV [Rachel.Levy@governor.virginia.gov]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; 'Burdette, Gary C' [Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov]; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE [edna.ebanks@dc.gov]; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; saxe, jennie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c43a71c022c46829bb990105e48b681-Jpsaxe]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]
Subject: RE: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA (July 19th)

Hello All: We have a date for the State Secretary 's Meeting w/ EPA, July 19th, 2017. Please place a Hold on your principals calendar. We will be sending an invite out soon with the logistics and additional information. For now we want to have the date save on the calendar. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Region 3 Front Office POCs (Rhonda Purnell @ 215-814-2188 or Renee Searfoss at 215-814-2137).

Thank You, Rhonda
Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-2188
Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

From: Purnell, Rhonda
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 2:46 PM
To: 'Ebanks, Edna (DOEE' <edna.ebanks@dc.gov>; 'Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC)' <Vicki.Ward@state.de.us>; 'Kathy Bishop' <kathy.bishop@maryland.gov>; 'Reim, Heather' <hreim@pa.gov>; 'Levy, Rachel (GOV' <Rachel.Levy@governor.virginia.gov>; 'Franklin, Elsie (DEQ' <Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov>; 'Burdette, Gary C' <Gary.C.Burdette@wv.gov>
Cc: Searfoss, Renee <searfoss.renee@epa.gov>
Subject: Request for State Secretary Mtg w/ EPA

Hello, EPA Acting Regional Administrator, Cecil Rodrigues would like to request a Mid-Atlantic State Secretaries Meeting with EPA Region 3 and EPA HQ (Ken Wagner), I will attach his bio. This would be an all-day meeting in Philadelphia, PA (location – tbd). We are looking for dates in July timeframe. These are some available dates: July 17, 18, 19, and the week of July 24th (any day). Please let me know, which dates would work for your State Secretary or if should have any questions.

Thanks, Rhonda

Rhonda Purnell, Staff Assistant
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-2188
Purnell.rhonda@epa.gov

Message

From: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]
Sent: 5/16/2017 9:53:46 PM
To: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

Just checking back so my client can book his flight to DC. Thanks.

From: Smith, Robert L.
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 2:06:11 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

Can we meet Thursday afternoon?

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 1:48:40 PM
To: Smith, Robert L.
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

Wednesday does not work as I am in Annapolis for a Chesapeake Bay meeting. Thursday afternoon could work after 2pm? How long will you need?

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 15, 2017, at 1:43 PM, Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com> wrote:

> Thanks Mandy.
>
> Ken - nice to e-meet you. I represent PolyMet and we are building the NorthMet Copper and Nickel mine in MN. Might you be available to see us on Wednesday to discuss the project and some of the issues we're having with R5? Thanks.
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
> **Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 12:14:00 PM
> **To:** Wagner, Kenneth
> **Cc:** Smith, Robert L.
> **Subject:** R5 Issue
>
> Hi Ken,

I'm connecting you with my friend Rob Smith (cc'd) who is having some issues out in Region 5 with regards to a mine. I think you would be a good place to start. Let me know if you need help from my end (or Sarah's if it involves water).

Rob, as I mentioned, Ken is the Administrator's go-to person for all things involving in the Regional Offices.

Best,
Mandy

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****
This electronic mail transmission may contain confidential or privileged information. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by reply transmission and delete the message without copying or disclosing it.
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Message

From: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]
Sent: 5/15/2017 9:03:43 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

Thank you may we get 30 mins Thursday afternoon?

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 1:48:40 PM
To: Smith, Robert L.
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

Wednesday does not work as I am in Annapolis for a Chesapeake Bay meeting. Thursday afternoon could work after 2pm? How long will you need?

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 15, 2017, at 1:43 PM, Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com> wrote:

> Thanks Mandy.
>
> Ken - nice to e-meet you. I represent PolyMet and we are building the NorthMet Copper and Nickel mine in MN. Might you be available to see us on Wednesday to discuss the project and some of the issues we're having with R5? Thanks.
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
> **Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 12:14:00 PM
> **To:** Wagner, Kenneth
> **Cc:** Smith, Robert L.
> **Subject:** R5 Issue
>
> Hi Ken,
> I'm connecting you with my friend Rob Smith (cc'd) who is having some issues out in Region 5 with regards to a mine. I think you would be a good place to start. Let me know if you need help from my end (or Sarah's if it involves water).
>
> Rob, as I mentioned, Ken is the Administrator's go-to person for all things involving in the Regional Offices.
>
> Best,
> Mandy

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****

****
This electronic mail transmission may contain confidential or privileged information. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender by reply transmission and delete the message without copying or disclosing it.
****

Message

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski [mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: 4/25/2017 5:48:00 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: call with Jay Vroom

Hi, Ken,

I think you are back this week from a business trip? Jay asked me to reach out again to see about setting up a call, this week. Do you have some time this afternoon? Jay is available this afternoon (with the exception of a 30-minute call today at 4:00p). He's also free tomorrow between 2 and 3p.m., or Thursday between 11:00a and 2:00p.
MJ

Mary Jo Tomalewski
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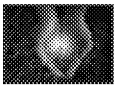
How can I serve you today?

Future Meetings
2017 Spring Regulator Conference – April 6-7, Arlington, VA
2017 Annual Meeting – September 22-27, Dana Point, CA
2018 Winter Board of Directors Meeting – March 5-7, Washington, DC
2018 Annual Meeting – September 21-26, The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island

Message

From: Barfield, Blake [Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com]
Sent: 4/5/2017 10:48:55 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Next week

Ken

Sorry to harass you on the scheduling front but wanted to see about any time to meet perhaps next Wednesday?

Thanks
Blake

--
Blake D. Barfield
Director, Government Affairs
The HollyFrontier Companies
Ex. 6

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Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 5/9/2017 1:46:26 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: RE: Invitation to Tour Dow Remediation Sites in Michigan

Ken sounds great. Please let me know what dates you are thinking and we will see how we can match up calendars.

Mary

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Sunday, May 07, 2017 11:06 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
Cc: Deziel, Dennis (DR) <DRDeziel@dow.com>
Subject: Re: Invitation to Tour Dow Remediation Sites in Michigan

Mary:

Thanks for reaching out. I, indeed, would love to tour the site. I reached out to Rich Gold on Thursday because I misplaced many of the business cards I received during the AROW meeting, so your invitation is timely. I will look at the date this week and, hopefully, confirm.

Thanks again for the invite.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 7, 2017, at 1:37 PM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

Message

From: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: 5/7/2017 6:36:46 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: Invitation to Tour Dow Remediation Sites in Michigan

Dear Mr. Wagner,

It was a pleasure meeting you at the environmental remediation meeting on April 27th with Administrator Pruitt. I was very impressed with the Administrator's level of engagement and commitment to finding meaningful solutions so that we can clean-up these sites as quickly and effectively as possible. Thank you for finding the time in your busy schedule to join the important discussion.

After the meeting, you mentioned that you would be in the Michigan area in early June, and if your schedule allowed, that you would be interested in touring some of our facilities and sites. I would like to formally extend an invite to you and your staff for June 9th, in Midland, Michigan. We could spend a few hours touring the Tittabawassee River site in Midland and then spend some time at The Dow Chemical Company Headquarters building so you can meet with a few of our senior leaders.

If you are interested, please let me know and we can build a more detailed agenda, based on the amount of time you may have, or if you have another date that works better. I look forward to hearing from you and to our visit.

Sincerely,

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone: Ex. 6
Mobile:
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves

Message

From: Jay Vroom [JVroom@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: 4/4/2017 7:28:55 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Mary Jo Tomalewski [mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org]
Subject: Meeting tomorrow at 9:30am at EPA with you/others
Attachments: Elin Miller Bio October 2016[2].pdf; Jay Vroom SHORT bio 01.17.17[1].pdf

Hi Kenneth,

Thanks for taking my call a few minutes ago. Delighted you are able to take a meeting with me and Elin Miller tomorrow (April 5) at 9:30 am at your office.

I've attached short biographical sketches for both Elin and me so you can review those in advance.

Thanks again and look forward to seeing you tomorrow.

Jay

Jay Vroom
President & CEO
CropLife America
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005

Ex. 6

Vroom@croplifeamerica.org
www.croplifeamerica.org

Elin Miller

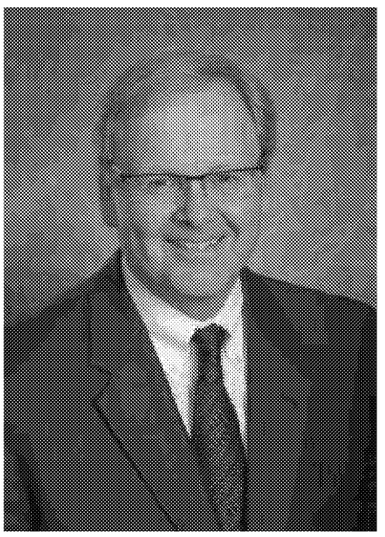
Elin D. Miller is principal of Elin Miller Consulting, LLC and works with her husband on their Hazelnut Farm in Umpqua, OR, where they recently began a wine grape venture. She serves as Vice Chair of the Vestaron Board, a crop protection corporation in Michigan. Elin also serves on the CNFA and CNFA Europe Boards, corporations active in international agricultural development. Locally, she has chaired the Board of NeighborWorks® Umpqua 2014-2016, a not-for-profit corporation with $80 million in assets and serves on Umpqua Bank's Regional Board. In May of 2011, she won her first race for public office, elected to the Umpqua Committee College Board of Trustees and served four years including Chair and Vice Chair. Elin was elected to the Marrone Bio Innovations Corporation board in 2011 and served as its Chair from 2013-2015. The National FFA (Future Farmers of America) Foundation Board elected Elin to serve as Chair in 2015. Previously, she chaired the National FFA Individual Giving Council 2012-2013.

From 2006-2009, Elin served as Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency, a Presidential Appointment, with jurisdiction over Alaska, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. She successfully led the 600 employee organization balancing the complex environmental challenges of the largest mines and Superfund sites in the world along with contentious issues of Oil and Gas Drilling in Alaska, Climate Change and precedent setting Clean Water Act decisions.

Elin served as President and CEO of Arysta Life Science North America/Australasia 2004-2006, a Crop Protection Company. From 1996 to 2004 she held various positions at the Dow Chemical Company including Global Vice President of Public Affairs, VP of Global Pest Management and VP of Asia Pacific. She also served as an Ex-Officio member of the Dow Board and on Dow AgroSciences Growth Board directing agriculture R&D priorities.

Miller's earlier government service occurred in the 90's as an appointee of California's Governor Wilson as Director of the Department of Conservation (Senate Confirmed) and Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, CalEPA. Miller's background also includes National Vice President of Future Farmers of America (FFA) and Executive Director for the Western Agricultural Chemicals Association. While in California, she was honored to receive the Outstanding Regulator and Outstanding Contribution to Agriculture Awards. Elin led a successful $12 million dollar campaign changing public sentiment defeating a significant ballot initiative in CA. She has been honored with various state and national awards including the Lea S. Hitchner Award, the highest award given by CropLife America. Miller was also named one of the "50 Most Powerful Women in PR" by PR WEEK. In 2016, she received the VIP Citation, the highest award given by FFA.

She was a Rhodes scholarship finalist, Outstanding Woman Graduate and Student Body VP when she received her bachelor's degree in agronomy and plant protection from the University of Arizona in 1982. Elin graduated from INSEAD's Advanced Management Program in France in 2000.



Jay Vroom has served as President and CEO of the trade association known as CropLife America (CLA) since 1989. CLA is the leading U.S. trade group for the crop protection industry in the U.S.

Vroom is a founding member of the CropLife Foundation, serving as chairman since its inception in 2001, and now serves as the Foundation's Vice-Chair, since 2015.

His sits of the Board of Directors for the Agricultural Retailers Association, Asmark, National Wheat Foundation, the National Association of Manufacturers Council of Manufacturing Associations, and the Soil Health Institute. He is also a member of the Farm Foundation Roundtable Steering Committee, and the North American Climate Smart Ag Alliance Steering Committee.

Vroom was a member of the youth organization, Future Farmers of America, and served as an elected state officer in Illinois. Today, he is a member of the FFA Foundation's Individual Giving Council and Board of Trustees.

Vroom co-chairs the Coalition for the Advancement of Precision Agriculture and the CEO Council.

He is a member of the Friends of the National Arboretum (FONA) FONA Council.

He graduated with honors from the College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Vroom was raised on a grain and livestock farm in north-central Illinois and continues to own the farming operation.

Message

From: Barfield, Blake [Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com]
Sent: 4/4/2017 6:14:43 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: EPA waiver letter
Attachments: 4-4-17 JB and SMC to EPA.PDF; ATT00001.txt

Ken -

FYI on the enclosed

Thanks
Blake

--
Blake D. Barfield
Director, Government Affairs
The HollyFrontier Companies
2828 N. Harwood, Suite 1300
Dallas, TX 75201
Ex. 6
blake.barfield@hollyfrontier.com

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GABRIELLE BATKIN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

April 4, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

We are writing to you about hardship exemptions for small refineries under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). We are troubled with your predecessor's rejection of the Secretary of Energy's recommendations in favor of hardship exemption petitions. Congress directed the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to consult with the Secretary on these petitions. As you review petitions for hardship exemptions from the 2016 Renewable Fuel Volume Obligations (RVOs), we ask that you give meaningful consideration to the Secretary's views.

Under the Clean Air Act, a small refinery may petition the Administrator for an exemption from its annual RVOs under the RFS on the basis of "disproportionate economic hardship." When evaluating a petition, Congress directed the Administrator to consult with the Secretary of Energy. Historically, the Secretary used a two-part test to determine whether a small refinery experiences disproportionate economic hardship. Specifically, a small refinery had to experience: "a high cost of compliance relative to the industry average disproportionate impacts and an effect sufficient to cause a significant impairment of the refinery operations viability."

In 2015, Congress included report language to accompany the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016." This language instructed the Secretary to recommend to the Administrator that EPA grant a 50 percent exemption to small refineries experiencing *either* a high cost of compliance relative to the industry average disproportionate impacts *or* an effect sufficient to cause a significant impairment of the refinery operations viability. Since its adoption, the Secretary has recommended that the Administrator grant petitions for a 50 percent exemption for a number of small refineries. However, we understand that Administrator McCarthy rejected these petitions.

During your confirmation hearing, you stated that "[i]t is not the job of the Administrator…to do anything other than administer the [RFS] program according to the intent of Congress." You rightly emphasized the importance of process, the rule of law, and listening to others. We request that you – in contrast to your predecessor – acknowledge the direction that Congress gave the Secretary with respect to petitions for hardship exemptions and give meaningful consideration to the Secretary's recommendations. This should apply to the 2016 RVOs as well as future RVOs.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your response.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Sincerely,

John Barrasso, M.D.
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on
Environment and Public Works

Shelley Moore Capito
Chair
U.S. Senate Subcommittee on
Clean Air and Nuclear Safety

Enclosure

provided for BER. The agreement provides $75,000,000 for the fourth year of the second five-year term of the three BioEnergy Research Centers. The Department is urged to give priority to optimizing the operation of BER user facilities.

Fusion Energy Sciences.—The agreement continues the new budget structure for fusion energy sciences and provides funding accordingly.

The agreement provides $214,755,000 for burning plasma science foundations; $41,021,000 for burning plasma science long pulse; and $67,224,000 for discovery plasma science, including $2,750,000 for high energy density science and discovery plasma science opportunities at NDCX–II in support of the mission of Fusion Energy Sciences.

The agreement provides not less than $71,000,000 for the National Spherical Torus Experiment, not less than $80,000,000 for DIII–D, and not less than $18,000,000 for Alcator C–Mod.

The agreement includes funding for the in-kind contributions and related support activities of ITER. In addition to the reporting language included in the bill, the Department shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than February 15, 2016, and again on August 15, 2016, a report on the status of the ITER project and the implementation of the Director General's Action Plan, including new budget projections, project schedule, cost overruns, delays, organizational structure changes, manufacturing deliveries, assembly, and installation.

High Energy Physics.—The agreement provides $26,000,000 for the Long Baseline Neutrino Facility (LBNF) project construction line. The agreement provides no funding for LBNF within Other Project Costs. It is expected that increased funding for LBNF will come from other Fermi National Laboratory funding within the High Energy Physics account. Within available funds, $16,300,000 is provided for DESI, $10,500,000 is provided for LUX ZEPLIN, and $46,800,000 is provided for the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope Camera. The agreement provides no further funding direction within the High Energy Physics account.

Nuclear Physics.—Within available funds, the Department is encouraged to fund optimal operations for the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider at Brookhaven National Laboratory. The agreement provides $100,000,000 for the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams. No further direction is provided for the Nuclear Physics account.

Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists.—The agreement does not include previous Senate direction for the Computational Sciences Graduate Fellowship program.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY—ENERGY

The agreement provides $291,000,000 for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy.

TITLE 17—INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

The agreement provides $42,000,000 for administrative expenses for the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program. This amount is offset by estimated revenues of $25,000,000, resulting in a net appropriation of $17,000,000.

The Department is directed to continue to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress quarterly reports on the status of the Cape Wind conditional commitment, including an update on ongoing litigation and the risks this litigation poses to the success of the project.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM

The agreement provides $6,000,000 for the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $130,971,000 for Departmental Administration.

Small Refinery Exemption.—Under section 211(o)(9)(B) of the Clean Air Act, a small refinery may petition the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator for an exemption from the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) on the basis that the refinery experiences a disproportionate economic hardship under the RFS. When evaluating a petition, the Administrator consults with the Secretary of Energy to determine whether disproportionate economic hardship exists. According to the Department's March 2011 Small Refinery Exemption Study, disproportionate economic hardship must encompass two broad components: a high cost of compliance relative to the industry average disproportionate impacts and an effect sufficient to cause a significant impairment of the refinery operations viability.

If the Secretary finds that either of these two components exists, the Secretary is directed to recommend to the EPA Administrator a 50 percent waiver of RFS requirements for the petitioner. The Secretary is also directed to seek small refinery comment before making changes to its scoring metrics for small refinery petitions for RFS waivers and to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress prior to making any final changes to scoring metrics.

The conference report accompanying the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010, addressed similar issues and directed the Secretary to redo an earlier study done to evaluate whether the RFS program imposes a disproportionate economic hardship on small refineries. In calling for the Secretary to redo the study, the conference report cited the lack of small refinery input into the earlier study, concerns about regional RFS compliance cost disparities, small refinery dependence on the purchase of renewable fuel credits (RINs), and increasing RIN costs. Since then, the dramatic rise in RIN prices has amplified RFS compliance and competitive disparities, especially where unique regional factors exist, including high diesel demand, no export access, and limited biodiesel infrastructure and production. In response to recent petitions, the Secretary determined that the RFS program would impose a disproportionate economic and structural impact on several small refineries. Despite this determination, the Secretary did not recommend, and EPA did not provide, any RFS relief because it determined the refineries were profitable enough to afford the cost of RFS compliance without substantially impacting their viability. The Secretary is reminded that the RFS program may impose a disproportionate economic hardship on a small refinery even if the refinery makes enough profit to cover the cost of complying with the program. Small refinery profitability does not justify a disproportionate regulatory burden where Congress has explicitly given EPA authority, in consultation with the Secretary, to reduce or eliminate this burden.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides $46,424,000 for the Office of the Inspector General.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $12,526,512,000 for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). In lieu of direction in the Senate report, the agreement includes language addressing the Consolidated Emergency Operations Center, which will contain the Energy Resilience and Operations Center, in an earlier section.

Budget Structure Changes.—The agreement provides funding for Weapons Activities consistent with the budget structure in the House report. The NNSA is specifically prohibited from requesting any further changes to the budget structure provided in this Act unless the NNSA has obtained agreement in advance from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Laboratory Directed Research and Development.—In light of the report of the Commission to Review the Effectiveness of the National Energy Laboratories, the Secretary is directed to provide a report on the impact of burdening Laboratory Directed Research and Development and provide recommendations on legislative changes to address the Commission's findings.

WEAPONS ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides $8,846,948,000 for Weapons Activities.

Life Extension Programs and Major Alterations.—The NNSA is directed to clearly account for all costs of any major multi-year stockpile refurbishment activity with a total cost greater than $1,000,000,000 and shall ensure a formal and comprehensive acquisition management plan is in place to manage such efforts. All reporting and other requirements required by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress for "Life Extension Programs" shall also apply to any major multi-year stockpile refurbishment activity with a total cost greater than $1,000,000,000.

Stockpile Production.—The NNSA is directed to conduct an assessment of the feasibility and costs of work leveling strategies that would reduce the impact of performing simultaneous major refurbishments in the 2020 to 2025 timeframe and to provide a report on its findings to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act. The report shall include a description of costs to accelerate dismantlements prior to 2020 and to extend production of the W88 Alt 370 by two years.

W80–4 Life Extension Program.—Not later than September 15, 2016, the NNSA shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report on the independent analysis of the alternatives selected by the NNSA for the W80–4 Life Extension Program as directed in the House report.

Strategic Materials.—The agreement provides $250,040,000 for Strategic Materials Sustainment to consolidate funding for activities needed to manage the NNSA's inventory of strategic materials, as directed in the House report. This amount includes funding for planning and other activities the NNSA determines are necessary to support the sustainment of strategic materials. The agreement does not include restrictions in the Senate report regarding Domestic Uranium Enrichment.

Advanced Radiography.—The agreement provides $45,700,000. The agreement does not include restrictions in the House report on the use of funds for new radiography capabilities at Ula. The NNSA is directed to provide an estimate of the cost to develop new radiography capabilities at Ula and detail the costs of any Major Items of Equipment in its budget request.

Inertial Confinement Fusion and High Yield.—The agreement provides $511,050,000. Within this amount, $329,000,000 shall be for the National Ignition Facility, $68,000,000 shall be for OMEGA, and $7,000,000 shall be for the Naval Research Laboratory.

Mathew P. Lapinski

Crossroads Strategies LLC

Ex. 6

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 6/7/2018 12:11:45 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

[megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]

Subject: June 13, 2018 Steering Committee Teleconference - CANCELLED

The June 13, 2018 Steering Committee call has been cancelled. Our next call will be held as scheduled on June 27th to begin preparation for our face to face meeting in Mississippi on July 31 and August 1.

Hotel Reservation Information for July 31 to August 1, 2018 Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting: .
Here is the reservation link (thank you Camille Covington and Chris Wells), the room block should be under RESTORE Steering Committee:
Book your group rate for Restore Steering Committee
If anyone needs to call the hotel they may do so by calling 228-864-4310.

Restore Steering Committee
Start date: 7/30/18
End date: 8/1/18
Last day to book: 7/16/18
Marriott hotel(s) offering your special group rate:
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront for 93.00 USD per night

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 5/30/2018 6:41:30 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: Decisions and Actions for May 30, 2018 Teleconference, and other information

Attachments: RAAMS_Status_5-25-2018.pdf; Steering Committee Decisions and Actions May 30 2018 .pdf

Council members:

Thank you for joining the Steering Committee call today. Attached are the decisions and actions from the call.

Please also find attached the latest update on the Application Status Update for the Council-Selected Restoration and Spill Impact Components and CPS FPL.

Hotel Reservation Information for July 31 to August 1, 2018 Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting: .
Here is the reservation link (thank you Camille Covington and Chris Wells), the room block should be under RESTORE Steering Committee:
Book your group rate for Restore Steering Committee
If anyone needs to call the hotel they may do so by calling 228-864-4310.

Restore Steering Committee
Start date: 7/30/18
End date: 8/1/18
Last day to book: 7/16/18
Marriott hotel(s) offering your special group rate:
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront for 93.00 USD per night

As a reminder, please hold the following dates in 2019 for Steering Committee meetings:

-
- January 29-30 (Louisiana)
-
-
- April 2-3 (Florida)

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

Council-Selected Restoration Component (Initial FPL)

Of the approximately 51 Category 1 applications for funding expected to be submitted for the 2015 FPL, to date a total of 46 applications have been initiated in RAAMS. Thirty (30) grant/IAA awards have been made, totaling $112,591,200.

LEGENDS

Figure 1: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

Figures 1 and 2:

Not Started in RAAMS (Member) – application in the development stage; application data entry in RAAMS has not been initiated.

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

IAA Approval (Member) – IAAs only; review and approval of award by federal Members.

Figure 1

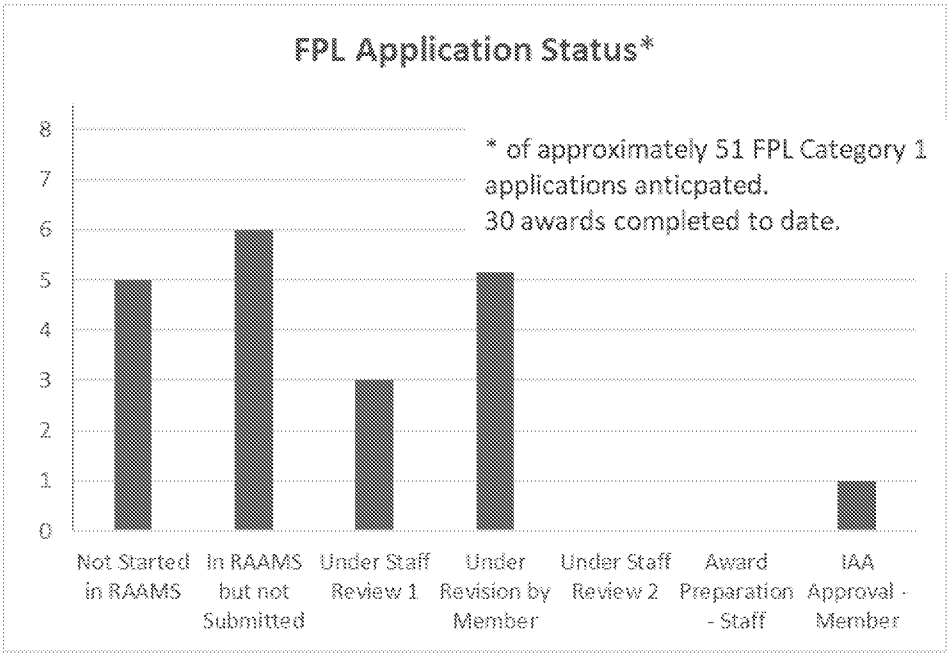
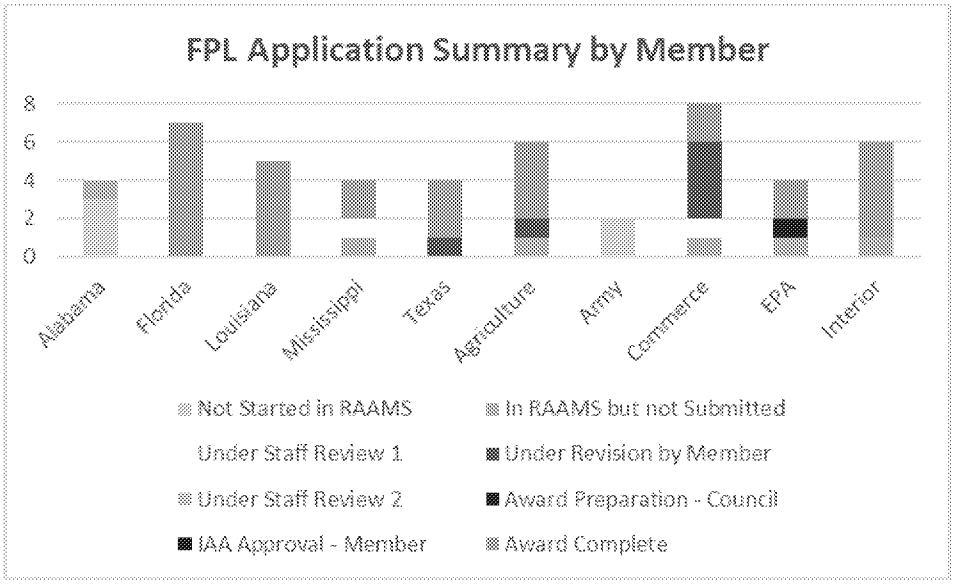


Figure 2



Commitment and Planning Support FPL (2017 CPS FPL)

Five Commitment and Planning Support grants have been awarded to the States of Florida, Alabama, Texas and Louisiana, and U.S. Coast Guard, for a total $10,358,656. The Interagency Agreement between the Council and the Coast Guard has been drafted and signatures are expected soon. Applications for other members are in various stages of completion.

Spill Impact Component

Three Planning State Expenditure Plans (PSEPs) have been approved, and three PSEP grants have been awarded to the Gulf Consortium and states of Mississippi and Texas. Two State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) have been submitted in RAAMS and approved by the Council Chair, the Louisiana SEP and the Mississippi SEP. The Mississippi SEP was amended to add additional funds and projects, with approval by the Chair on April 16, 2018. An amendment to the Louisiana SEP is in progress. In addition, the Gulf Consortium submitted a Stand-Up SEP, which was approved by the Chair on April 23, 2018, to prepare for implementation of the future Florida SEP. $44,295,859 in grants have been awarded to date under this component.

Table 1

Approved SEP	# Projects or Programs in Approved SEP	Anticipated Grant Awards	# Awarded
Louisiana	3	3	2
Mississippi	7	8	0
Florida Stand-Up	1	1	0

LEGEND

Figure 3: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

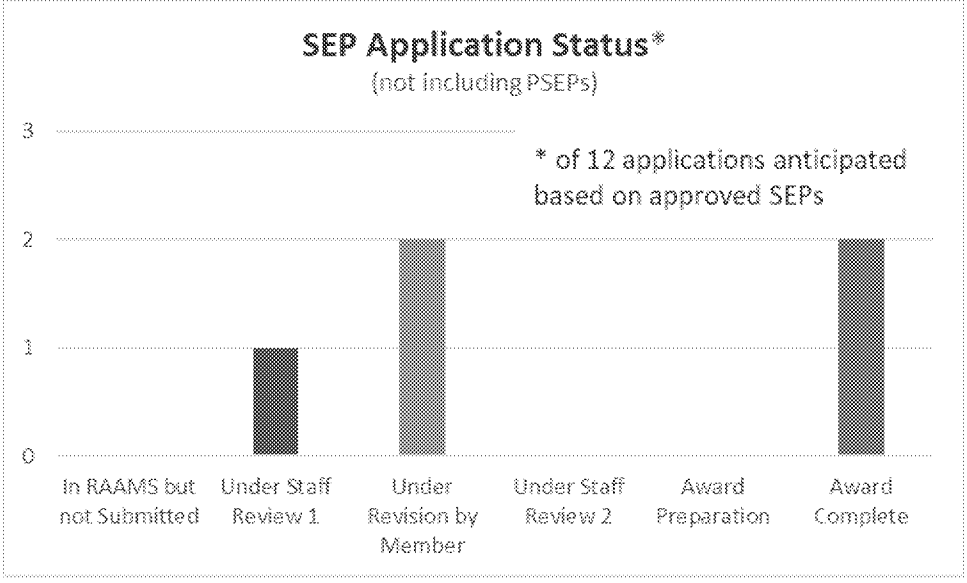
Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Figure 3



GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL
DECISIONS/ACTIONS
FROM STEERING COMMITTEE CALL
MAY 30, 2018

- **TOPIC: Follow-Up on Authorization vs. Appropriation Discussion**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: N/A

- **TOPIC: CPS FPL and Award Update**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Council staff will continue to make CPS awards a priority and keep the Steering Committee updated on progress of member awarding processes.

Next Steering Committee Meeting
June 13, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174198-00001

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 5/23/2018 6:15:03 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: May 30 Steering Committee Agenda and Other information

Attachments: Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_May_30.docx.pdf

Steering Committee Members:

Our next Steering Committee teleconference will be held on May 30, 2018 at 1 pm central/2pm east coast. The focus of the meeting will be a report on the Council staff legal review of the level of commitment the Council may make with settlement payments not yet in the Trust Fund. We have included the following attachment to this email:

-
- May 16 Steering Committee Call Agenda

Council Staff Job Announcement: The Council Staff is advertising to backfill a vacancy created with the departure of Alyssa Dausman. We are recruiting a GS12 Ecologist with promotion potential to GS13 from 05/18/2018 to 06/04/2018 under USAJobs announcement **18-GCERC-12-P** (all US Citizens here) and **18-GCERC-11** (federal status here).

Hotel Reservation Information for July 31 to August 1, 2018 Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting: .
Here is the reservation link (thank you Camille Covington and Chris Wells), the room block should be under RESTORE Steering Committee:
Book your group rate for Restore Steering Committee
If anyone needs to call the hotel they may do so by calling 228-864-4310.

Restore Steering Committee
Start date: 7/30/18
End date: 8/1/18
Last day to book: 7/16/18
Marriott hotel(s) offering your special group rate:
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront for 93.00 USD per night

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, May 30, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: Follow-Up on Authorization vs. Appropriation Discussion** (Mark Bisgeier)
Objective:
- Report on Council staff legal review of the level of commitment the Council may make with settlement payments not yet in the Trust Fund

Materials: n/a

III. **CPS FPL and Award Update** (Kristin Smith)
Objective:
- Provide update to the Steering Committee members on CPS applications received.

Materials: N/A

IV. **Other Business** (Buck Sutter)
- Hotel reservation guidance provided by the State of Mississippi for the next Face-to-Face Meeting (July 31 and August 1, 2018) can be found in the May 23, 2018 e-mail from Council Staff.
- Advertisement for GS12 (with promotion potential to GS13) for a program staff position opened May 18th and will close June 4, 2018.

V. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
June 13, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: Stephen Tatum [Stephen.Tatum@Tceq.Texas.Gov]
Sent: 5/21/2018 6:39:26 PM
To: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam ["Dennise Braeutigam"@domain.invalid]; Diane Mazuca ["Diane Mazuca"@domain.invalid]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov];

Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler ["Richard Seiler"@domain.invalid]; Robbie Kroger [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum ["Stephen Tatum"@domain.invalid]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker ["Toby Baker"@domain.invalid]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: Adios amigos

Council colleagues,

My time at TCEQ, and therefore on the RESTORE Council, has come to an end. I'm moving on to greener marshes (thank you) back in Fort Worth to practice law and be close to family, but I plan to stay involved in the restoration of the Gulf as much as possible. It has been a pleasure working with and getting to know all of you over the years. Y'all have an important job to do, one I believe may be one of the more unique, interesting, and rewarding things I ever do professionally.

Going forward you can reach my on my cell at [Ex. 6] or at s[Ex. 6] If you ever happen to pass through the DFW area, please give me a shout.

Good luck. We're all counting on you.

-Stephen

p.s.--In case you were wondering, [Ex. 6]

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 5/16/2018 6:49:36 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions May 16, 2018

Attachments: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions May 16 2018 .pdf

Council members:

Thank you for joining the Steering Committee call today. Attached are the decisions and actions from the call.

As a reminder, please hold the following dates in 2019 for Steering Committee meetings:

-
- January 29-30 (Louisiana)
-
-
- April 2-3 (Florida)

Environmental Compliance Workgroup Invitation to States:
During today's Steering Committee call, Council staff extended an invitation to the State members to join the Gulf Coast Interagency Environmental Restoration Working Group (GCIERWG). State participation is purely voluntary but is appreciated for your expertise and guidance. Following is additional information regarding this workgroup.

The GCIERWG currently includes representation from NOAA, EPA, FWS, USDA, USACE, DOJ, and Council Staff. The focus to date has been coordination and communication with respect to environmental/regulatory compliance for Gulf restoration activities funded by the RESTORE Council under the Council-Selected Restoration and Spill Impact components. Additionally, the intent is to further enhance coordination and communication across other major Gulf restoration funding streams (including RESTORE Bucket 1, NRDA, and NFWF) to help meet regulatory obligations efficiently and effectively and therefore assist in delivering restoration projects in a timely and coordinated manner. The GCIERWG strives to accomplish this by pulling technical and local knowledge together, prioritizing Gulf restoration work, sharing information on projects entering the regulatory arena, and attempting to coordinate reviews where possible.

The GCIERWG is developing a workplan which will serve as an informal, living document to help guide its activities. Currently, the draft workplan includes five major focal areas:

- Initiating (or continuing) at least five interagency regulatory clearinghouse pilot projects, one in each Gulf State;
- Developing new approaches to using limited CPS FPL funds to assist with preparation of submissions for the next full FPL;
- Exploring the feasibility of increased development of, and/or use of programmatic environmental compliance (EC) documents or tools;
- Confirming the continued federal agency member commitment to and participation in the workgroup; and
- Identifying potential opportunities for State participation and/or providing input to the workgroup.

We would kindly request that interested States offer a central point of contact from their State. This person should have regulatory experience and ability to reach out to other agencies within your State and across restoration funding streams to pull in expertise as needed. If any State is interested in exploring opportunities to participate in the GCIERWG, please contact Steve Giordano (NOAA) steve.giordano@noaa.gov and/or Heather Young (Council staff) heather.young@restorethegulf.gov who would be happy to talk with you.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL
DECISIONS/ACTIONS
FROM STEERING COMMITTEE CALL
MAY 16, 2018

- **TOPIC: CPS FPL and Award Update**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions:
  1) Council staff will continue to make CPS awards a priority.
  2) Steering Committee members who have not already done will provide a CPS activity Point of Contact to Buck Sutter.

- **TOPIC: Gulf Coast Interagency Environmental Restoration Working Group**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions:
  1) As part of the follow-up to today's call, Council staff will send additional information to the members regarding the environmental compliance workgroup.
  2) State Steering Committee members with interest in participating in the workgroup will provide a point of contact to Steve Giordano (NOAA, steve.giordano@noaa.gov) and Heather Young (Council staff, heather.young@restorethegulf.gov).

Next Steering Committee Meeting
May 30, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174342-00001

Message

From: Bode, Denise A (53804) [dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com]
Sent: 5/23/2018 4:22:46 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Re: Call
Attachments: image001.png

Perfect, your office number? D

Denise A. Bode
Partner
E dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>
T Ex. 6 | M Ex. 6 | F 202.347.1819
[/Users/denisebode/Library/Containers/com.microsoft.Outlook/Data/Library/Caches/Signatures/signature_1748885160]

my bio<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/dc/lawyer/denise-bode/> | our firm<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/> | vCard<http://www.michaelbest.com/People/Denise-Bode.vcf>

From: Kenneth Wagner <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 12:19 PM
To: Denise Bode <dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>
Subject: Re: Call

Sure...2:15pm?
Kenneth Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
Regional & State Affairs
Office of the Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20001

(202)564-1988 office
Ex. 6 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov<mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>

On May 23, 2018, at 11:12 AM, Bode, Denise A (53804) <dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>> wrote:
Ken, would you have a minute for a chat today? D

Denise A. Bode
Partner
E dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com><mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>
T Ex. 6 | M Ex. 6 | F 202.347.1819
[/Users/denisebode/Library/Containers/com.microsoft.Outlook/Data/Library/Caches/Signatures/signature_1756398501]

my bio<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/dc/lawyer/denise-bode/> | our firm<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/> | vCard<http://www.michaelbest.com/People/Denise-Bode.vcf>

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Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 5/9/2018 6:57:42 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

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Subject: May 16 Steering Committee Teleconference

Attachments: Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_May_16.pdf

Steering Committee Members:

Our next Steering Committee teleconference will be held on May 16 at 1 pm central/2pm east coast. The focus of the meeting will be on updating the Steering Committee on status of CPS application processing and an update on voluntary state participation on the Gulf Coast Interagency Restoration Working Group. The May 16 Steering Committee Call Agenda is attached this email.

Thank you.
Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, May 16, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: CPS FPL and Award Update** (Jean Cowan/Kristin Smith)
Objective:
- Provide update to the Steering Committee members on CPS applications received.

Materials: N/A

III. **TOPIC: Gulf Coast Interagency Restoration Working Group** (Heather Young/Steve Giordano)
Objective:
- Invitation to States to participate

Materials: N/A

IV. **Other Business**
- 2019 Steering Committee In Person Meetings: January 29 and 30, 2019 (Louisiana); April 2 and 3, 2019 (Florida)
- Please send Collaboration POC to buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov

V. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
May 30, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 5/8/2018 1:22:54 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: Unknown calendar invite

Please ignore an email you may have received this morning from twyly@balch.com with an updated invitation which reads:

Updated invitation: CC RESTORE Steeri...

View on Google Calendar

When Tue May 8, 2018 2pm – 3:30pm (EDT)

Where Conference Line [redacted] **Ex. 6**

This is NOT a valid invitation and we are looking into how this was sent. Apologies for any confusion.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
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New Orleans, LA 70130
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Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 6/21/2018 1:23:27 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

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Subject: Agenda and Support Materials for June 27th Steering Committee Teleconference

Attachments: RESTORE Council PEWG Workshop Draft.docx.pdf; Budget_Shortfalls_for_FPL_Activities_Options.pdf; Conflict of Interest.pdf; CPS Award Summaries.docx.pdf; NPRM to Amend Section 31 CFR 34.204(a) of Treasury's RESTORE Act Regulations Final 6-13-18.pdf; Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_June_27.pdf; Cassidy Amendment on Borrowing Authority for Restore Bucket 2.pdf

Please find attached the agenda for our June 27th Steering Committee Teleconference and the associate support documents. As you can see from the amount of materials, we will have a packed call leading up to our next face to face meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi on July 31 and August 1, 2018.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

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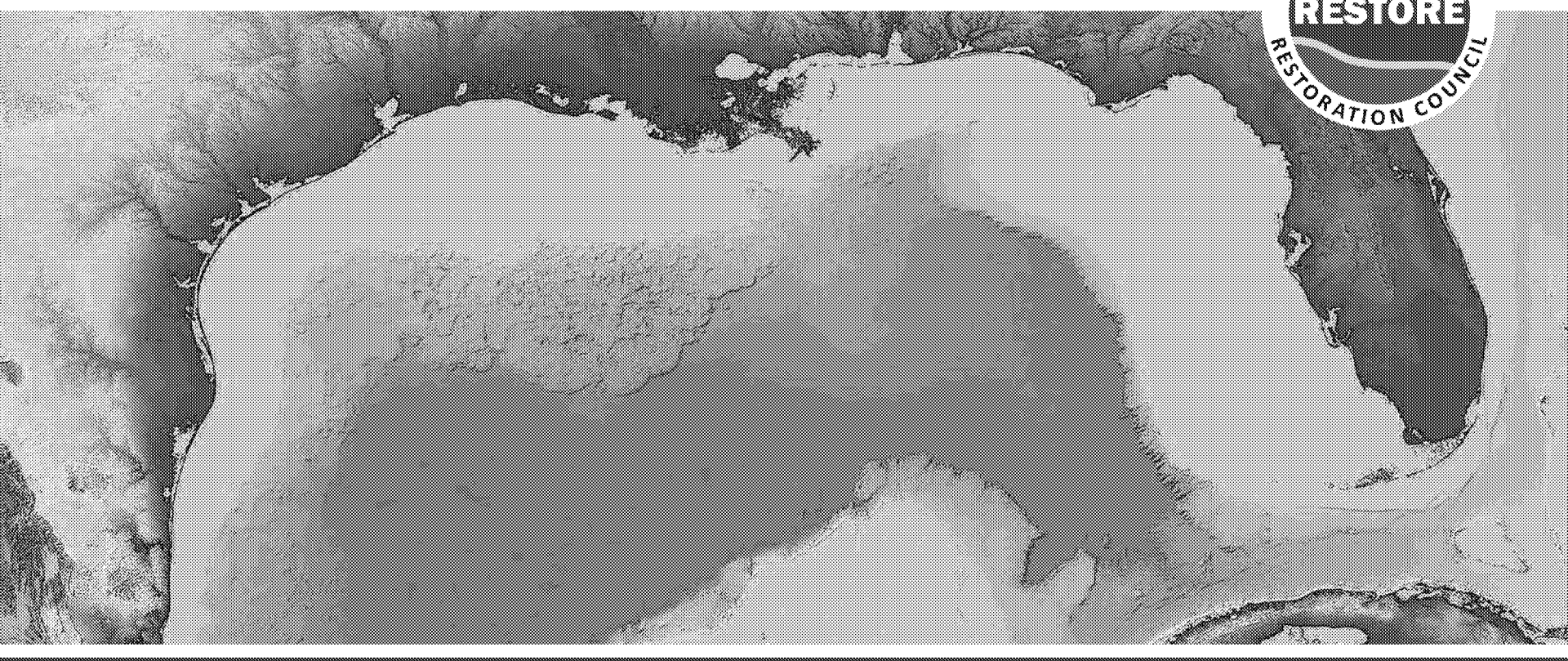

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL Budget Shortfalls: Process Options

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Budget Shortfalls

Issue: Council process needed for member requests for additional funds to cover FPL budget shortfalls

Goal of presentation

- Review process options
  - Including fiscal discipline
- Refine and/or narrow options for closer review
  - Particularly Step 1
- Prepare for in-depth discussion in MS

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Applying Fiscal Discipline

Before requesting additional funding

- Member should first consider addressing shortfall through other means:
  - Modifying the activity*
  - Seeking alternative funding sources
  - Rejecting bid and re-advertising

* Note: Some modifications would require FPL amendment via a Council vote.

Process Options: Step 1

Option 1: Member makes funding request directly to Steering Committee (SC)

Option 2: Council staff first reviews member request and makes recommendation to SC

Option 3: Member workgroup first reviews request and makes recommendation to SC

Process: Step 2

Step 2 - Potential Steering Committee Options

- Seek additional info from member
- Recommend approval to Council
  - After public notice (30 days)
- Recommend disapproval to Council
  - Could lead to scope change or deauthorization (public notice and Council vote)

Process: Step 3

Step 3 - Potential Council Options

- Approve funding request
- Disapprove funding request
- Consider at later date (e.g., subsequent FPL)

Timing Options

- **Option 1:** Requests are considered as they arise

- **Option 2:** Council holds periodic meetings (e.g., twice a year) where such funding requests are considered
  - Could also include Category 2 to 1 votes

Title: To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 to allow the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council to accept gifts and transfers and to borrow funds, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL.

(a) Gifts and Transfers to Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council.—Section 311(t)(2)(E) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(2)(E)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(iii) GIFTS AND TRANSFERS; SEPARATE FUND.—

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), the Council may accept, hold, administer, and use for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work and operations of the Council—

"(aa) gifts, donations, and bequests from any individual or entity; and

"(bb) transfers from Federal and State agencies of funds, goods, services, and personal and real property.

"(II) TREATMENT.—Any funds accepted by the Council or transferred to the Council under subclause (I) shall—

"(aa) remain available until expended;

"(bb) be deposited in a separate fund in the Treasury; and

"(cc) be disbursed on order by the Council.".

(b) Borrowing Authority.—Section 1602 of the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (33 U.S.C. 1321 note; Public Law 112–141) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(g) Borrowing Authority.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—To aid and facilitate the purposes of this subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle, including the restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and the economy of the Gulf region, and subject to the terms and conditions of this subsection, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (referred to in this subsection as the 'Council') may borrow funds from the Treasury.

"(2) REPAYMENT.—If the Council borrows funds under paragraph (1), the Treasury shall be reimbursed, without interest, from funds deposited in the Trust Fund for the purpose of carrying out this subtitle immediately after those funds are deposited in the Trust Fund.

"(3) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT.—The total amount of funds borrowed under this

subsection may not exceed the aggregate amounts paid or payable into the Trust Fund for use under section 311(t)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(2)) for fiscal years 2019 through 2028.

"(4) DISBURSEMENT.—The Secretary of the Treasury may disburse funds borrowed under this subsection for any purpose authorized under section 311(t)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(2)), as if the borrowed funds were available in the Trust Fund for that purpose.

"(5) FIRST LIEN.—No funds may be borrowed under paragraph (1) unless the borrowed funds are considered to be senior debt.".

Topic: Conflict of Interest (Ben Scaggs, Mark Bisgeier)

Conflict of Interest Language for Steering Committee Consideration:

In previous iterations of Council membership we requested and received a statement from each Council member (or a representative authorized on behalf of the member) certifying that the member had no personal conflict of interest with respect to Council projects -- e.g., land holdings or other interests that could affect or be affected by any project.

We would like to update these certifications for the new members, with a statement from each member (i.e., the principal) to the effect that:

"This confirms that I have no personal conflict of interest in connection with any RESTORE Council project, program or activity set forth in or arising out of (a) Category 1 or Category 2 of the Council's current Funded Priority List (FPL), (b) the current Commitment and Planning Support FPL, or (c) with respect to a State member, that member's State Expenditure Plan or (if any) Planning State Expenditure Plan."

These certifications could be in the form of an email from the member (or authorized representative) confirming the foregoing.

DRAFT: CPS Collaboration Summaries

Steering Committee Member: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships that will result in a comprehensive long-term approach to addressing restoration needs in coastal Alabama, with a specific emphasis on identifying "best fit," collaborative projects for consideration for the Council-Selected Restoration Component. These efforts will contextualize proposals within the broader framework of restoration efforts in coastal Alabama, potentially leveraging restoration efforts across funding streams, where appropriate, while also leveraging technical expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council. Activities will also increase public engagement and transparency in the decision-making process and utilize existing partnerships, including but not limited to the Management Conference of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP).

Mechanism for Implementation:

1. A stepwise approach to conducting planning and collaboration activities to meet the near-term need to develop strong proposals for future FPLs while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success while allowing for the flexibility needed as planning process proceeds.
2. Convene a "Coastal Alabama Restoration Summit" in the fall of 2018 to review current restoration work and solicit input from the public regarding future restoration priorities for Bucket 2.
    a. The restoration summit will also provide updates for NFWF, Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (AGCRC), and NRDA activities,
    b. Increasing understanding of these processes and the potential types of projects that could be funded through and potentially across the various funding sources.
3. Development of "Alabama's Bucket 2 Project Development Strategy" in the context of work currently on going, including:
    a. Coordination between the MBNEP and the Alabama Nature Conservancy (TNC) to develop a Habitat Restoration Plan (HRP) to identify potential restoration projects located in priority habitats that could be expected to succeed based on proximate stressors and ongoing activities to reduce those stressors.
    b. MBNEP finalizing Watershed Management Plans (WMPs) in priority watersheds as well as the anticipated 5-year update of the MBNEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).
4. Attend and/or host up to ten {10) focus group and/or collaboration meetings with potential Federal and State project partners and technical experts. The strategy document will be utilized as part of these focus group efforts.
5. With support from the MBNEP Management Conference, the State will conduct planning and collaboration to develop conceptual, pre-submission project/program ideas for future FPLs.

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. Design an evaluation structure and process to support efforts to establish potential indicators/measures of Bucket 2 project/program impacts;
2. Develop a framework for project and program level adaptive management recommendations;
3. Consider potential mechanisms to support learning and subsequent transfer of knowledge gained (and lessons learned) to future project design and implementation. To the extent

possible, this work will consider similar approaches developed to track NRDA project/program success in Alabama.

Steering Committee Member: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships, in consultation with the public that will result in a comprehensive long-term vision for its coastal habitats, communities, and economy to support more effective submissions for Council-Selected Restoration Component funding. Specifically, this work will contextualize the proposals for Bucket 2 funding within the broader vision for Florida, leveraging not only restoration dollars across funding streams but also expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council. Activities will also increase public engagement and transparency in the decision-making process.

Mechanism for Implementation: State of Florida will take a long-term approach toward building and sustaining restoration partnerships, including expanding investment in public engagement and best available science endeavors. Specific activities include:

1. A stepwise approach to conducting planning and collaboration activities will be taken over the 5-year period of this award to meet the near-term need to develop the strongest proposals as possible for the next FPL while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success, allowing for flexibility as needed as the planning process proceeds.
2. Workplans will be developed with activities that contribute to achieving input from and buy-in of the public, stakeholders, and experts to support the long-term vision for coastal Florida that incorporates existing relevant regional plans, using the best available science, and includes goals and, to the extent possible, quantifiable objectives.
    a. Cultivation of new/reaffirmation of current restoration funding partners to leverage Bucket 2 funds to their greatest benefit in contributing to the long-term vision for Florida;
    b. Enter into technical and funding partnerships for projects development and implementation; and
    c. Development of a monitoring and evaluation approach for adapting the long-term vision and restoration priorities over time based upon new information
3. Collaboration activities will be focused on
    a. identifying those project/program concepts (including technical and funding partners) for which proposals will be developed for consideration in the next FPL, and then
    b. Initiating development of those proposals in conjunction with those partners.
    c. With support from a contractor, the State will conduct planning and collaboration to develop conceptual, presubmission project/program ideas for the next FPL These activities will include stakeholder and public engagement as part of the planning needed to place proposals within a broader context of long-term ecological goals and leveraging with other relevant funding streams. Contractor support may also include participation in the RESTORE Council Monitoring and Assessment Work Group (CMAWG).

Success Evaluation Methods: The State of Florida anticipates utilizing the following methods:

1. Developing a decision-support tool by adding evaluation criteria that are directly related to Council-Selected Restoration Component planning and adaptive management.
2. Procuring a contractor to conduct periodic evaluations of overall Bucket 2 project/program impact at scales of the watersheds within the state in order to develop and implement adaptive management strategies.
3. Complete an inventory or relevant data, reports, plans, and models and conducting an analysis of critical information gaps. An outcome of this work would be to develop specific tasks and strategies related to evaluation and adaptive management within the State.

Steering Committee Member: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Purpose: Planning and collaboration with local, State, Federal, and other leaders and experts to achieve commitments of the Comprehensive Plan by meeting and coordinating with technical points of contact (including state and federal), other funding entities, and academics across the Gulf of Mexico utilizing BAS to highlight the location and severity of known or emerging stressors both in Louisiana and Gulf-wide. This information will be synthesized to inform Louisiana's position on future FPL investments intended to mitigate those stressors or restore impacted resources, leverage funding from other sources, identify measures/metrics/indicators for success of actions in Gulf priority watersheds, and inform adaptive management for future FPLs.

Mechanism for Implementation:

1. CPRA anticipates working with the Water Institute of the Gulf.
2. Engagement, meetings, and discussions with relevant technical partners across the Gulf, monthly webinars or in person meetings with the RESTORE Council Staff, and compiling the information from the collaborative process into a digestible format to inform future FPL investments and long-term planning maximizing co-benefits across funding streams.
3. Through Council staff engagement, Council staff may be able to identify opportunities to utilize the information for future proposal evaluation based on BAS or to support other staff activities which in turn support the Council.
4. Through regular meetings with the Council Staff Science Advisor, as well as through CPRA's POC on CMAWG, as these proposed engagement activities on stressors moves forward, strategic points of connection with CMAWG may be identified and coordinated on.
5. Development of concepts that could be pursued for future FPL funding through discussions and meetings will be both deliberative and opportunistic, based upon participation in regional, state, or national meetings with relevant partners and stakeholders.

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. The Water Institute of the Gulf will meet and coordinate with technical points of contact (both state and federal), other funding entities, and academics across the Gulf of Mexico utilizing BAS to highlight the location and severity of known or emerging stressors.
2. Information will be compiled from the collaborative process into a digestible format to inform future FPL investments and long-term planning maximizing co-benefits across funding streams.
3. The synthesized information will be used to inform the State of Louisiana's position on future FPL investments and proposals the State wants to prioritize which best support projects intended to mitigate those stressors or restore impacted resources, leverage funding from other sources, identify measures/metrics/indicators for success of actions in Gulf priority watersheds, and inform adaptive management for future FPLs.
4. Development of concepts that could be pursued for future FPL funding and how projects and programs in watersheds and estuaries facing similar stress could be aligned to leverage other investments to increase ecological services. For example, meetings with the Centers of Excellences (COEs) and other funders will provide opportunities for leveraging of investments based on BAS.

Steering Committee Member: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Purpose: Identify and develop new restoration partnerships and maintain existing partnerships, in consultation with the public, which will result in a comprehensive long-term vision for its coastal habitats, communities, and economy by leveraging not only restoration dollars across funding streams but also expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council.

Mechanism for Implementation: Mississippi will take a long-term, step-wise approach toward building and sustaining restoration partnerships, including investments in public engagement and best available science endeavors. Activities will build upon existing partnerships and collaboration pathways to maximize restoration efforts and outcomes, and to develop the strongest proposals as possible for the next FPL while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success.

Activities in year 1 (2018) will be focused on identifying those project/program concepts (including technical and funding partners) for which proposals will be developed for consideration in the next FPL, and then initiating development of those proposals in conjunction with those partners. The State of Mississippi will conduct planning and collaboration to develop conceptual, pre-submission project/program ideas for the next FPL. These activities may include stakeholder and public engagement as part of the planning needed to place proposals within a broader context of long-term ecological goals and leveraging with other relevant funding streams. MDEQ will also participate in any Council-wide workgroups needed to support development of FPL 3/10-Year Strategy.

Activities in year 2 (2019) will be focused on finalizing and submitting proposals. In addition to continuing all collaboration activities needed to maintain the foundation built in year 1, CPS activities in the remainder of 2019 and early 2020 will focus on participating in Council-level activities to develop and finalize the next FPL 3/10-Year Funding Strategy. Activities in year 2 (2019) will be further focused on finalizing and submitting proposals. In addition to continuing all collaboration activities needed to maintain the foundation built in year 1, CPS activities in the remainder of 2019 and early 2020 will focus on participating in Council-level activities to develop and finalize the next FPL 3/10-Year Funding Strategy. Activities in years 3-5 (2020-2022) will build upon those outlined for years 1-2. Upon finalization of FPL 3/10-Year Strategy in 2020, the State of Mississippi will turn its attention to finalizing the awards for projects and initiating planning for the FPL 3/10-Year Strategy.

Success Evaluation Methods: The State of Mississippi will continue investments in its monitoring and adaptive management tools by adding evaluation criteria that are directly related to Council-Selected Restoration Component (Bucket 2) planning and adaptive management. As part of this effort, the State of Mississippi will conduct periodic evaluations of overall Bucket 2 project/program impact at scales of the watersheds within Mississippi in order to develop and implement adaptive management strategies. Further, the State of Mississippi will interact with the Council Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup to aid in the development of procedures, standards, and plans that could be used to inform any FPL related projects, proposals, and/or activities. An outcome of this work will be the inclusion of monitoring and adaptive management information in the respective developed FPL proposals.

Steering Committee Member: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Purpose: Work in coordination with a team of Texas coastal experts, elected officials, representatives for Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the four other Gulf states, federal entities and the public, using the best available science, in meeting the requirements of the RESTORE Act Council-Selected Restoration Component and the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan update in 2016.

Mechanism for Implementation: The State will hire a contractor (Harte Institute) to:

1. Identify and enhance partnerships through the consultation with technical coastal experts, elected officials, Deepwater Horizon funding partners, federal entities and the public along the Texas and Gulf coast.
2. Build on existing plans already developed for the Texas coastal areas to identify priorities, reaffirm or cultivate new restoration funding partners and contribute to the long-term vision for addressing coastal habitats and vitalize the Texas coastal economy.
    a. First year activities will focus on identifying priorities, partners and pre-submission program/project ideas that are within the broad vision for Texas and Gulf coast areas.
    b. Include workshops/meetings with technical coastal experts to present a summary of plans, partnerships and priorities that have been implemented and to introduce any missing Bucket 2 objective area plans.
3. Work with local elected officials and the public regarding the identification of priorities and to introduce the thought process for large-scale partnerships and leveraged funding for future FPLs to approach the Deepwater Horizon (NRDA and NFWF) programs to identify similar priorities, and restoration needs on the Texas and Gulf coast.
4. Year two will include best available science endeavors with on-going engagement with technical experts and Gulf state partners to identify additional activities for the developing of the 10-year funding strategy (longterm vision). Proposed work in year two will also include discussions on evaluation and adaptive management tools

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. TCEQ and its contractor, with the input of the technical coastal experts, local elected officials and the public, will develop decision-support tools and evaluation criteria that support Council-Selected Restoration Component planning requirements.
2. Development of adaptive management strategies for incorporation into FPLs will also be completed.
3. Activities that will be conducted in year one of the CPS award include completing an inventory of reports, relevant data, plans, and models and conducting analyses to identify information gaps.

Steering Committee Member: Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard

Purpose: Strengthen Gulf of Mexico restoration by determining the need/ability to incorporate spill resiliency and spill response readiness into selected RESTORE restoration activities.

Mechanism for Implementation: Collaborative meetings with the restoration and response offices within each of the Council member agencies, as well as Council members, will be held to determine the need/ability to integrate spill resilience into restoration planning both conceptually and in the design and development of FPL projects.

1. Coast Guard will lead an interagency developed process to develop a proposal to assess the risk of spills in areas where Bucket 2 funded and/or proposed restoration projects are located
2. Use an iterative process to develop a Risk Matrix which could be used by Council members to facilitate right-sizing contingency planning relative to risk.
    a. Identify existing processes and tools for assessing threat of spills, vulnerability of resources, and risk measures.
    b. The risk scoring matrix will be used to evaluate proposed restoration project locations to allow for the appropriate level of planning to be incorporated into the relevant FPL project proposal
3. An interagency team will write a proposal to fund development of a matrix to establish contingency planning targets based on risk level.
4. Public engagement is anticipated to occur through public collaboration meetings in each state and through regular updates and discussions at standing response community public meetings and conferences.

Success Evaluation Methods:

1. Identification of available threat assessment tools and vulnerability assessment tools, including inventory of relevant data, reports, plans, and models and conducting an analysis of critical information gaps.
2. Design a risk assessment matrix to categorize restored areas according to their risk of impact from acute pollution events. For areas categorized as high risk, recommendations will be made for modifications in response strategies to be incorporated into future FPL proposals and/or recommendations for project design modifications to improve resiliency.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

JUN 13 2018

ACTION MEMORANDUM FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY RYAN D. BRADY

FROM: David A. Lebryk, Fiscal Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Amend Section 31 CFR 34.204(a) of Treasury's Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act or Act) Regulations

This proposed Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) will reduce the regulatory burden of eligible Gulf Coast States, coastal political subdivisions, and coastal zone parishes (recipients) by providing greater flexibility in the application of the statutory three percent administrative cost cap under the Act's Direct Component, Comprehensive Plan Component, and Spill Impact Component. Specifically, this proposed revision provides a recipient the option to apply the three percent cap, within each component, on either an aggregate basis or on a grant-by-grant basis. It ensures that the aggregate funds for administrative costs a recipient receives under each component will not exceed the statutory three percent limit before the program ends.

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve the NPRM for publication in the *Federal Register*.

_____ **Approve** _____ Disapprove _____ Let's Discuss

BACKGROUND

The RESTORE Act provides that a recipient may not use more than three percent of the amounts it receives for administrative costs to carry out RESTORE Act grant projects. 33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(1)(B)(iii)(I). This limitation applies to the Direct Component, Comprehensive Plan Component, and Spill Impact Component. Treasury's implementing regulations apply the three percent administrative cost cap on a grant-by-grant basis. However, the Act does not specify how the statutory three percent limit on administrative costs is to be applied.

As eligible recipients have begun to develop their grant programs, they have expressed a need for more flexibility on how to apply the statutory limit on administrative costs. Recipients have realized that actual administrative costs on some projects will exceed the three percent cap, but that on many other projects, administrative costs will be less than three percent of the grant amount. This NPRM proposes the option to apply the three percent cap, within each component, on either an aggregate basis or on a grant-by-grant basis. Treasury believes that the amendment proposed in this NPRM would reduce the regulatory burden for recipients and would afford them greater flexibility, while maintaining compliance with the statutory limitation.

OMB has determined that this NPRM is a significant regulatory action, but not economically significant.

FINAL DOCUMENT

There will be a 30-day public comment period. Treasury may amend the proposed rule based on the comments.

We do not expect any congressional or media interest in this NPRM. If needed, we will brief the Secretary and Deputy Secretary on next steps after the public comment period concludes.

ATTACHMENT

1. RESTORE Act Notice of Proposed Rulemaking amending 31 CFR Part 34

FINAL DOCUMENT

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174531-00002

Clearance Sheet

Subject: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to amend section 31 CFR 34.204(a) of Treasury's Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act or Act) regulations

Drafted: OGC, Office of General Counsel –Michelle Branigan, 202-622-0451, Michelle.Branigan@treasury.gov

Approved: OFAS, Fiscal Assistant Secretary – David A. Lebryk (5/11/18)

Cleared:

OFAS, Deputy Asst. Secretary, Fiscal Operations & Policy – Kristie Conrath (5/9/18)
OFAS, Senior Advisor – Matthew Garber (5/9/18)
OFAS, Office of Grants and Asset Management – Director – Ted Kowalsky (5/9/18)
OFAS, Office of Gulf Coast Restoration – Program Director – Laurie McGilvray (5/7/18)
OGC, Assistant General Counsel (Banking and Finance) – Steven Laughton (5/4/18)
OGC, Senior Counsel for Regulatory Affairs – Heidi Cohen (5/16/18)
OGC, General Counsel – Brent McIntosh (6/12/18)
Executive Secretary Office – Mary Sobczak (6/5/18), Ryan Brady (6/3/18)

FYI:

Legislative Affairs – Francisco Riojas and Brady Howell
Public Affairs – Molly Meiners
Domestic Finance – Craig Phillips

FINAL DOCUMENT

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174531-00003

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

31 CFR Part 34

RIN 1505-AC55

Regulations for the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund

AGENCY: Office of the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury (Treasury) proposes to amend its rules to revise the method by which the statutory three percent limitation on administrative costs (referred to throughout this notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) as the "three percent administrative cost cap") is applied under the Direct Component, Comprehensive Plan Component, and Spill Impact Component under the Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act or Act). This proposed amendment will help ensure that the Gulf Coast states and localities have the necessary funding to efficiently and effectively oversee and manage projects and programs for ecological and economic restoration of the Gulf Coast Region while ensuring compliance with the statutory three percent administrative cost cap. It does not change the definition of "administrative costs" or the indirect cost reimbursement calculation on an individual federal grant using the negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) or de minimis rate.

DATES: Written comments on this NPRM must be received on or before: [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]

ADDRESSES: Treasury invites comments on the topic addressed in this NPRM. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission of Comments: Interested persons may submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at *http://www.regulations.gov.* Electronic submission of comments allows the commenter maximum time to prepare and submit a comment, ensures timely receipt, and enables Treasury to make them available to the public. Comments submitted electronically through the *http://www.regulations.gov* website can be viewed by other commenters and interested members of the public.

Mail: Send to Department of the Treasury, Attention: Laurie McGilvray, Office of Gulf Coast Restoration, Office of the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Room 2112; 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20220.

In general, Treasury will post all comments to *http://www.regulations.gov* without change, including any business or personal information provided, such as names, addresses, email addresses, or telephone numbers. All comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, will be part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Office of Gulf Coast Restoration at *restoreact@treasury.gov,* or Laurie McGilvray at 202-622-7340.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The RESTORE Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(t) and note) makes funds available for the ecological and economic restoration of the Gulf Coast Region, and certain programs

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with respect to the Gulf of Mexico, through a trust fund in the Treasury of the United States known as the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (trust fund). The trust fund holds 80 percent of the administrative and civil penalties paid under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act after July 6, 2012 in connection with the *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill.

Treasury administers two of the five components established by the Act, the Direct Component and Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program. The Act also established an independent Federal entity, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council), to administer two components of the Act, the Comprehensive Plan Component and the Spill Impact Component. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) administers one component, the NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program. This NPRM only affects grants under the Direct Component, Comprehensive Plan Component, and Spill Impact Component of the Act, which are collectively referred to throughout the NPRM as the three "components."

On December 14, 2015, Treasury promulgated a final rule on the RESTORE Act, 80 FR 77239, which became effective on February 12, 2016. The final rule contains two relevant limitations on the amount of grant funds that may be used for administrative costs.

First, the final rule subjects the grants to government-wide cost principles. Treasury's final rule defines "administrative costs" as "indirect costs for administration" and provides that such "[c]osts must comply with administrative requirements and cost principles in applicable federal laws and policies on grants." 31 CFR 34.2, 34.200(a)(1).

Treasury's final rule excludes "indirect costs that are identified specifically with, or readily assignable to, facilities" from its definition of "administrative costs."

Indirect cost principles are contained in the Office of Management and Budget's "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" in 2 CFR Part 200, which Treasury has adopted. 2 CFR 1000.10. Indirect costs are defined in 2 CFR 200.56 and are allowable subject to Subpart E of 2 CFR Part 200 and Appendix VII.

Under Subpart E, a grant recipient's negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) with its cognizant agency determines the allowable indirect cost rate for the recipient's grants, taking into account the unique circumstances and cost structure of the recipient. The NICRA, or a de minimis rate if elected, must be used across all of the recipient's federal grants.[1] 2 CFR 200.414(c)(1). In accordance with the 2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Guidance, Appendix VII – State and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposals, these allowable indirect costs are computed on each individual Federal award.

The second limitation for RESTORE awards on the amount of grant funds that can be used for administrative costs under the three components is a three percent administrative cost cap. The Act provides that "[o]f the amounts received by a Gulf Coast State . . ., not more than 3 percent may be used for administrative costs . . . ." 33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(1)(B)(iii)(I). The Act does not specify the method by which this three percent administrative cost cap is to be applied. Treasury's final rule, however, provides

[1] Subpart E provides that when a recipient has never had a NICRA and receives $35 million or less in direct federal funding, a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC) may be used to calculate its allowable indirect costs in lieu of establishing a NICRA. 2 CFR 200.414(f), 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII(D)(1)(b).

that the three percent administrative cost cap is to be applied on a grant-by-grant basis: "The three percent limit is applied to the total amount of funds received by a recipient under each grant." 31 CFR 34.204(a). In other words, under the current regulation, the administrative costs associated with each particular grant may not exceed three percent of the total amount of that grant.

Thus, under the current regulation, allowable administrative costs for a particular grant, (i.e., the indirect costs for administration) are limited to three percent of total funds received under that particular grant even in cases where a recipient's NICRA (or its de minimis rate) allows more.

For example, if a recipient with a NICRA with a direct labor base were to contract out the labor on a project, the indirect costs under its NICRA may be much lower than three percent of the total amount of the grant. In contrast, if the bulk of the labor is performed in-house, the indirect costs will typically be much greater than three percent of the total amount of the grant.

To address this issue, Treasury proposes to provide a recipient the option to apply the three percent administrative cost cap, within each component, on either a grant-by-grant basis or on an aggregate basis. More specifically, this proposed revision provides that the three percent administrative cost cap may be applied by component to a Gulf Coast State, coastal political subdivision, or coastal zone parish's trust fund allocation, i.e., an aggregate of 1) all grants received by it under one component, and 2) the amount in the trust fund for the same component that is allocated to, but not yet received by it. As used in this NPRM, the phrase "allocated to, but not yet received under that component by a Gulf Coast State, coastal political subdivision, or coastal zone parish"

refers only to funds presently in the trust fund and not to future deposits into the trust fund[2], and includes the following amounts with respect to each component: (1) with respect to the Direct Component, amounts made available in equal shares for the Gulf Coast States in accordance with 31 CFR 34.302; (2) with respect to the Comprehensive Plan Component, the estimated aggregate cost of all projects included in all approved Funded Priorities Lists; and (3) with respect to the Spill Impact Component, amounts allocated to the Gulf Coast States in accordance with 31 CFR 34.502 and 40 CFR 1800.500.

The Treasury regulations allocate precise sums to specific entities based on criteria in the Act, which allows the flexibility to administer the administrative cost cap on an aggregate basis. Permitting recipients to allocate administrative costs by component from their "pool" in the trust fund toward the indirect costs in their grants will enable them to recover the maximum amount of indirect costs allowed under the Act and to more efficiently and effectively oversee and manage projects and programs. Under this methodology, if a recipient's allowable indirect costs for administration for one grant are less than three percent of the total amount of that grant, the difference would be available to cover allowable indirect costs for administration exceeding three percent on other grants.

The two methods for applying the three percent administrative cost cap are illustrated by the examples below.

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[2] BP Exploration & Production Inc. began making annual civil penalty payments in April 2017, and is expected to continue to make annual payments through mid-2031 pursuant to a consent decree entered on April 4, 2016 under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), of which 80 percent of the total will be deposited into the trust fund and invested. The annual payments into the trust fund through 2031 are expected to total $4.4 billion. In 2032, BP will make a final payment in the form of penalty interest.

Example 1 – Grant-by-Grant Method

A recipient receives a Direct Component planning assistance grant totaling $216,494. The grant consists of $210,000 for direct costs and, under the three percent cap, $6,494 for indirect costs.

Example 2 – Aggregate Method

As in the first example, a recipient with a NICRA receives a Direct Component planning assistance grant which includes $210,000 for direct costs. Under the aggregate method, its grant may also include $56,000 for indirect costs under its NICRA, for a grant totaling $266,000. The recipient has a total administrative cost pool of $2,600,000, based on three percent of its gross trust fund allocation for the Direct Component. The recipient has received indirect costs for administration totaling $112,000 for two prior grants, leaving a net amount of $2,488,000 available in its administrative cost pool. Therefore, the recipient may use $56,000 for indirect costs in this grant award because the funds are available in the pool.

At least annually, Treasury will post publicly the amounts available in the administrative cost "pool" by component, simultaneously with its updates to the trust fund allocations. At no time, however, may the total amount of administrative costs of a Gulf Coast State, coastal political subdivision, or coastal zone parish exceed three percent of the aggregate of (1) all grants received by it under one of the three components, and (2) the amount in the trust fund for the same component that is allocated to, but not yet received by such Gulf Coast State, coastal political subdivision, or coastal zone parish. Also, at no time would a recipient be able to recover more in indirect costs under an individual award than it would receive under its NICRA or its de minimis rate.

Treasury invites public comments on all aspects of this proposed amendment for 30 days, and anticipates publishing a final rule on this revision soon after the 30 day public comment period. In particular, Treasury solicits comments from eligible entities on the following: (1) Is the aggregate method an attractive option and if so, describe the benefits; (2) How would you manage and track administrative indirect costs under each method; (3) Is there an additional burden associated with managing the administrative indirect cost cap using the aggregate method?

II. This Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

For the reasons described above, Treasury proposes amending the method by which the statutory three percent administrative cost cap is applied under 31 CFR 34.204(a). Conceptually, the proposed revision allows each recipient to establish a "pool" of funds for administrative costs under each component if it so chooses. Within each component, a recipient may budget these funds among its grants, consistent with the definition of administrative costs at 31 CFR 34.2 and Subpart E. Treasury believes that this NPRM will help ensure that recipients have the necessary funding to efficiently and effectively oversee and manage projects and programs while ensuring compliance with the statutory three percent administrative cost cap and a recipient's NICRA or de minimis rate under Subpart E.

To clarify that recipients are no longer required to apply the three percent administrative cost cap on a grant-by-grant basis, Treasury proposes deleting "in a grant" from the first sentence of § 34.204(a). Treasury proposes replacing the second sentence in existing § 34.204(a), which currently requires the three percent administrative cost cap to be applied on a grant-by-grant basis, with language permitting the three percent

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administrative cost cap to be applied on either a grant-by-grant basis or on an aggregated basis within each component. For the latter method, this NPRM states that amounts used for administrative costs may not at any time exceed three percent of the aggregate of: 1) the amounts received under a component by a recipient, beginning with the first grant through the most recent grant, and 2) the amounts in the trust fund that are allocated to, but not yet received under such component, by a Gulf Coast State, coastal political subdivision, or coastal zone parish under § 34.103, consistent with the definition of administrative costs in § 34.2. This proposed revision helps ensure that the recipient will not exceed the statutory three percent administrative cost cap before the termination of the trust fund. Please note the NPRM does not amend the definition of administrative costs in § 34.2.

Treasury also proposes adding "recipient and" before "subrecipient" in the last sentence of § 34.204(a) to clarify that Federal grant law and policies apply to recipient costs as well as to subrecipient costs.

Treasury will conduct a retrospective analysis of this proposed revision no later than seven years after the date it becomes effective. This review will consider whether the revision ensures that the Gulf Coast states, coastal political subdivisions, and coastal zone parishes have the necessary funding to efficiently and effectively oversee and manage projects and programs for ecological and economic restoration of the Gulf Coast Region while ensuring compliance with the statutory three percent administrative cost cap, and whether it helps them to administer RESTORE grant projects effectively and efficiently.

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III. Procedural Requirements

A. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) generally requires agencies to prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements under the Administrative Procedures Act or any other statute, unless the agency certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Six of the 20 Louisiana parishes and six of the 23 Florida counties eligible to receive grants under the RESTORE Act have fewer than 50,000 residents. (2010 U.S. Census) and thus qualify as small governmental jurisdictions under the Regulatory Flexibility Act. (5 U.S.C. 601(5)). Treasury anticipates that this proposed revision will have no significant economic impact on these small entities because all recipients have the option to continue applying the three percent administrative cost cap on a grant-by-grant basis. Accordingly, Treasury certifies that the amendment to this regulation will not have a significant impact upon a substantial number of small entities, and no regulatory flexibility analysis is required.

B. Regulatory Planning and Review (Executive Orders 12866 and 13563)

The amendment to the regulation is a significant regulatory action as defined in Executive Order 12866, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563.

C. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

The affected program for Treasury is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program under 21.015, Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States. The affected programs

for the Council are listed under 87.051, and 87.052, for its Comprehensive Plan and Spill Impact Components, respectively.

List of Subjects in 31 CFR Part 34

Coastal zone, Fisheries, Grant Programs, Grants administration, Intergovernmental relations, Marine resources, Natural resources, Oil pollution, Research, Science and technology, Trusts, Wildlife.

For the reasons set forth herein, the Department of the Treasury proposes to amend 31 CFR Part 34 to read as follows:

Part 34 – RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS SUSTAINABILITY, TOURIST OPPORTUNITIES, AND REVIVED ECONOMIES OF THE GULF COAST STATES

1. The authority citation continues to read as follows:

   Authority: 31 U.S.C. 301; 31 U.S.C. 321; 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.

2. Amend §34.204 by revising paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§34.204 Limitations on administrative costs and administrative expenses.

(a)(1) Of the amounts received by a Gulf Coast State, coastal political subdivision, or coastal zone parish from Treasury under the Direct Component, or from the Council under the Comprehensive Plan Component or Spill Impact Component, not more than three percent may be used for administrative costs. The three percent limit on administrative costs may be applied to the total amount of funds received by a recipient under each of the three Components either on a grant-by-grant basis or on an aggregate basis. For the latter method, amounts used for administrative costs under each of the three Components may not at any time exceed three percent of the aggregate of: (1) the amounts received under a Component by a recipient, beginning with the first grant through the most recent grant, and (2) the amounts in the Trust Fund that are allocated to, but not yet received under such Component by a Gulf Coast State, coastal political subdivision, or coastal zone parish under § 34.103, consistent with the definition of administrative costs in § 34.2. The three percent limit does not apply to the administrative costs of subrecipients. All recipient and subrecipient costs are subject to the cost principles in Federal laws and policies on grants.

(2) Treasury will conduct a retrospective analysis of this provision no later than seven years after the date it becomes effective. This review will consider whether the revision ensures that the Gulf Coast states, coastal political subdivisions, and coastal zone parishes have the necessary funding to efficiently and effectively oversee and manage projects and programs for ecological and economic restoration of the Gulf Coast Region while ensuring compliance with the statutory three percent administrative cost cap, and whether it helps them to administer RESTORE grant projects effectively and efficiently.

Public Engagement Workgroup Workshop
RESTORE Council Office
500 Poydras St.
New Orleans, LA
July 10, 2018
8:00 am- 4:30 pm

8:00am – 8:10am **Welcome and Introductions**

8:10am – 8:15am **Overview of Agenda and Desired Outcomes**

8:15am- 9:15am **Council's Commitment to "Engagement, Inclusion, and Transparency" and "Maintaining and Enhancing Public Engagement and Transparency"** (Keala Hughes)

Objectives:

- Discuss the 2016 Council commitments
- Discuss the Council's current status vs the public perception of Council's commitments

Materials:

- Comprehensive Plan 2016 Update: Restoring the Gulf Coast's Ecosystem and Economy (p 25 Commitment to Engagement, Inclusion and Transparency)

9:15am – 10:45am **Public Engagement Tools- Council Tools vs Member Tools**
(Keala Hughes)

Objectives:

- Brief overview of Council PE Tools
- Discussion of Council Member Tools
- PE WG recommendations for using tools to collaborate to meet Council commitments

Materials:

- RESTORE Public Engagement Tools PPT
- Council Member Tools Spreadsheet

10:45am – 12:00pm **Funded Priorities Overview** (Jean Cowan & Keala Hughes)

Objectives:

- Discuss the process for the 2015 FPL and how the 2020 FPL has been revised to incorporate those Council's commitments to public engagement, inclusion and transparency.
- Discuss the timeline, workflow and milestones for 2020 FPL

and general agenda items that may be part of upcoming Steering Committee meetings

Materials:

- 2015 FPL Process
- 2020 FPL Process, Timeline
- Draft 2018-19 Steering Committee meeting timeline

12:00pm – 12:15pm **Break**

12:15pm **Working Lunch**

12:15pm – 1:15pm **Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support (CPS) Overview** (Jean Cowan)

Objectives:

- Overview of the CPS, allowable activities and reporting
- Review and discuss Council Member work plan guidelines and reporting elements
- Discuss and draft Council recommendations for public facing CPS template

Materials:

- Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support
- CPS work plan Guidelines
- Council Member CPS Summaries
- PE WG collaborate on Public CPS Activities SOPs and Template for Council recommendation

1:15pm – 2:30pm **Public Engagement Workgroup Path Forward and Deliverables** (Keala Hughes)

Objectives:

- Outline the responsibilities and the primary/secondary skill sets of PE workgroup members
- Discuss workload and proposed timelines
- Frequency of calls
- Path forward for project pages, awarded project rollouts, and planning of collaboration and public meetings

Materials:

- N/A

2:30pm – 2:45pm **Break**

2:45pm – 4:15pm **2020 FPL Gantt Chart and Milestones** (Jean and All)

Objectives:

- Discussion of Gantt Chart and additional PE WG milestones

Materials:

- 2020 FPL Gantt Chart

4:15pm – 4:30pm **Wrap- up** (All)

Objectives:

- Review Decisions and Action items

Adjourn

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, June 27, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: Next Steering Committee Draft Agenda** (Ben Scaggs, Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Review major components of the next face to face Steering Committee meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi, July 31 and August 1. Will include discussion of draft collaboration report out template.
- Location: Port of Gulfport Marine Research Center
- Topics
  - Member collaboration report out (30 minutes per member)
  - Field Trip: Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (Gulfport, MS)
  - FPL Budget Shortfall Process Options
  - FPL 3: Schedule and Status
  - PE Workgroup - getting buy in from Council members
  - Grant and IAA updates

Materials: None

III. **TOPIC: CPS Transparency** (Ben Scaggs, Keala Hughes, Jean Cowan)
Objective:
- Discuss the current Council Member CPS summaries available and options for public facing information

Materials: CPS Award Summaries (pdf)

IV. **TOPIC: Public Engagement Workgroup Report Out** (Keala Hughes)
Objective:
- Discuss the draft July 10th PE Workgroup Agenda
- Discuss the purpose of post SC meetings

Materials:
- July 10, 2018 PE WG Workshop Agenda (pdf)

V. **TOPIC: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Amend Section 31 CFR 34.204(a) of Treasury's RESTORE Act Regulations** (Mark Bisgeier, Ben Scaggs)
Objective:
- Initiate discussion of Treasury's proposed rule to reduce the regulatory burden of eligible Gulf Coast States, coastal political subdivisions, and coastal zone parishes (recipients) by providing greater flexibility in the application of the statutory three percent administrative cost cap under the Act's Direct Component, Comprehensive Plan Component, and Spill Impact Component.

Materials: NPRM to Amend Section 31 CFR 34.204(a) of Treasury's RESTORE Act Regulations Final 6-13-18 (pdf)

VI. **TOPIC: Conflict of Interest** (Ben Scaggs, Mark Bisgeier)

Objective:

- Discuss an update of the conflict of interest certifications for the new members, with an updated statement from each member.

Materials: Conflict of Interest (pdf)

VII. **TOPIC: Follow-Up on FPL Budget Shortfall Process Options** (John Ettinger)

Objectives:

- Review issue.
- Prepare for in-depth discussion at face-to-face Steering Committee meeting.

Materials: FPL Budget Shortfalls - Policy Options (slides).

VIII. **TOPIC: Records Management** (Ben Scaggs and Dave Gilliland)

Objective:

- Discussion of RESTORE Council needs for Records Management System, including systems used by members.

Materials: *N/A*

IX. **Other Business**

- Situational Awareness: Cassidy Amendment (pdf)

X. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
July 11, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 5/24/2018 12:59:49 PM
To: Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]
CC: Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ambrose, Barbara J CTR (US) [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chabot, Helen K CIV (US) [helen.chabot@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Doremus, Paul N SES (US) [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gange, Melanie L CIV (US) [melanie.gange@noaa.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Hershey, Christopher L CIV (US) [christopher.l.hershey@uscg.mil]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Selberg, Carrie D CIV (US) [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]

Subject: Re: [Non-DoD Source] May 30 Steering Committee Agenda and Other information

Thanks Gib. We made a commitment at the last in person meeting to try to tee the relook at this issue as quickly as possible which is why we wanted Mark to report out next week. I do think it will end up being a conversation that may span multiple meetings. On the next call Mark will go over his findings. We'll then take the conversation forward based on Steering Committee guidance.

On Thu, May 24, 2018 at 6:15 AM Owen, Gib A CIV USARMY HQDA ASA CW (US) <gib.a.owen.civ@mail.mil> wrote:

> Ben,
>
> If we are going to have a meaningful conversation regarding the staffs review of the legal commitments the Council may make with settlement payments not yet in the Trust Fund we need to see the material before the call. Based upon a review of that material we will be able to determine if I need additional staff, such as my counsel on the call and we can be prepared to discuss the matter.
>
> Thanks
>
> Gib
>
> Gib Owen
>
> Water Resources Policy & Legislation
>
> Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Pentagon

Washington DC

gib.a.owen.civ@mail.mil

703 695 4641 - Office

Ex. 6 - Cell

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From: Council Staff [mailto:staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 2:15 PM
To: trina vielhauer <Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us>; Alice Perry <aperry@mdeq.ms.gov>; Ames, Leslie A <Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us>; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov; Andree DuVarney <andree.duvarney@wdc.usda.gov>; Andrew Muench <andrew.muench@treasury.gov>; Ambrose, Barbara J CTR (US) <barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov>; Ben Scaggs <ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov>; Bethany Kraft <Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com>; Beverly O'Hara <Ohara.Beverly@epa.gov>; Bjorn Johnson <bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov>; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) <bgist@cce.ms>; Bowie, John <Bowie.John@epa.gov>; Bradley Ennis <bennis@balch.com>; Bridget Zachary <bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov>; Brie Bernik <brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov>; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC <amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov>; Buck Sutter <buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov>; Camille Covington <camille@ccellc.us>; Campbell, Ann <Campbell.Ann@epa.gov>; Selberg, Carrie D CIV (US) <carrie.selberg@noaa.gov>; Chang, Patrick <Chang.Patrick@epa.gov>; Charles Sutcliffe <Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov>; Chip Kline <Chip.Kline@la.gov>; Chris Barnes <Chris.Barnes@la.gov>; Chris Blankenship <Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov>; Chris Wells <cwells@mdeq.ms.gov>; Hershey, Christopher L CIV (US) <christopher.l.hershey@uscg.mil>; Clare Cragan <clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov>; Conzelmann, Craig <conzelmannc@usgs.gov>; Debbie Devore <debbie_devore@fws.gov>; Debora Mcclain <debora_mcclain@fws.gov>; Denise Stafford <denise.stafford@la.gov>; Dennise Braeutigam <dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov>; Diane Mazuca <diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov>; Drew Bartlett <Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us>; Enger Kinchen <Enger.Kinchen@la.gov>; Felicia Burks <burks.felicia@epa.gov>; Fischer, Michelle <fischerm@usgs.gov>; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall <galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov>; Gareth Leonard <Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com>; Gary Fremerman <gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov>; Gary Rikard <grikard@mdeq.ms.gov>; Owen, Gib A CIV USARMY HQDA ASA CW (US) <gib.a.owen.civ@mail.mil>; Greg Steyer <steyerg@usgs.gov>; Hank Burch <hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov>; Heather Young <heather.young@restorethegulf.gov>; Chabot, Helen K CIV (US) <helen.chabot@noaa.gov>; Herschel Vinyard <vinyardgulf@foley.com>; Homer Wilkes <homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov>; James Chapman <james_chapman@fws.gov>; Jamie Lipsey <jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov>; Janice Lansing <janice.lansing@la.gov>; Jean Cowan <jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov>; Jeremy Roseboom <jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov>; Jessica Henkel <jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov>; Jill S. Bailey <jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov>; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov>; John Ettinger <john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov>; Johnny Bradberry <Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov>; Joshua Easton <Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov>; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes <keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov>; Kelly Swindle <kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov>; Kenneth Wagner <Wagner.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Kevin Reynolds <kevin_reynolds@fws.gov>; kim smith <ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov>; Kristin Smith - Federal <kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov>; Latonia Cheatam-Strickland <Cheatham-Strickland.Latonia@epa.gov>; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) <laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov>; Leonard Jordan <leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov>; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC <Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov>; Loren Minutoli <loren.minutoli@myfwc.com>; Magruder, DeMara <Magruder.Demara@epa.gov>; Mark Bisgeier <mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov>; Mark Defley <mark.defley@ms.usda.gov>; Mary Josie Blanchard <maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov>; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) <Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov>; Mary Smith <mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov>; Mary Walker <Walker.Mary@epa.gov>; Matt Mumfrey <matt.mumfrey@la.gov>; Mcgill, Thomas <Mcgill.Thomas@epa.gov>; Megan Terrell <megan.terrell2@la.gov>; Gange, Melanie L CIV (US) <melanie.gange@noaa.gov>; Melanie Green <mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov>; Michael Ellis

<Michael.Ellis@la.gov>; Miller, Clay <Miller.Clay@epa.gov>; Morgan Crutcher <Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov>; Morgan, Eliska <Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov>; Nanciann Regalado <nanciann_regalado@fws.gov>; Nancy Magee <nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov>; Noah Valenstein <Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov>; Paige Johnson <paige@tmhcpas.com>; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov; Doremus, Paul N SES (US) <paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov>; Phil Coram <phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us>; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) <Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov>; Rachel Horne <Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us>; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler <richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov>; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) <rkroger@cce.ms>; Robertson, Lisa <Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us>; Ron Howard <ron.howard@ms.usda.gov>; Giordano, Steven D CIV (US) <steve.giordano@noaa.gov>; Steve Sigler <Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov>; Susan Rees <susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil>; Tabatha Baum <tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov>; Ted Kowalsky <ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov>; Tishia Boldene <tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov>; Toby Baker <Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov>; Vanessa uko <vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov>; Vida Carver <Vida.Carver@la.gov>; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) <William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] May 30 Steering Committee Agenda and Other information

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Steering Committee Members:

Our next Steering Committee teleconference will be held on May 30, 2018 at 1 pm central/2pm east coast. The focus of the meeting will be a report on the Council staff legal review of the level of commitment the Council may make with settlement payments not yet in the Trust Fund. We have included the following attachment to this email:

- May 16 Steering Committee Call Agenda

Council Staff Job Announcement: The Council Staff is advertising to backfill a vacancy created with the departure of Alyssa Dausman. We are recruiting a GS12 Ecologist with promotion potential to GS13 from 05/18/2018 to 06/04/2018 under USAJobs announcement **18-GCERC-12-P** (all US Citizens here < Caution-https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/500032200 >) and **18-GCERC-11** (federal status here < Caution-https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/500033000 >).

Hotel Reservation Information for July 31 to August 1, 2018 Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting: .
Here is the reservation link (thank you Camille Covington and Chris Wells), the room block should be under RESTORE Steering Committee:
Book your group rate for Restore Steering Committee < Caution-http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-

travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=Restore%20Steering%20Committee%5Egptcy%60RCSRCSA%7CRCSRCSB%7CRCARCSC%7CRCARCSD%6093.00%60USD%60false%603%607/30/18%608/1/18%607/16/18&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes >
If anyone needs to call the hotel they may do so by calling 228-864-4310.

Restore Steering Committee
Start date: 7/30/18
End date: 8/1/18
Last day to book: 7/16/18
Marriott hotel(s) offering your special group rate:
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront for 93.00 USD per night

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

staff@restorethegulf.gov < Caution-mailto:staff@restorethegulf.gov >

500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130

Caution-www.restorethegulf.gov < Caution-http://www.restorethegulf.gov >

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 4/25/2018 8:53:38 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas

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Subject: April 24-25, 2018, Steering Committee Call - Decisions and Actions

Attachments: April 2018 Steering Committee Decisions and Actions.pdf

Steering Committee members,

Thank you very much for a productive meeting. And a special thanks for Florida for the excellent site visit. Attached are the decisions and actions from the meeting.

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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 24-25, 2018
Decisions and Actions

TOPIC: Collaboration in Practice-Path to FPL 3

Decision(s)

- N/A

Action(s)

- Council members remain committed to engaging in the collaborative process to develop FPL 3.
- Council staff will continue to develop agendas for upcoming Steering Committee meetings that:
  - Review Comp Plan Goals and Objectives,
  - Advance tasks needed to meet all milestones toward FPL 3/Funding Strategy,
  - Incorporate discussions of desired outcomes (e.g., watershed/restoration type),
  - Ensure that lessons learned, including efficiencies from FPL 1 and other work (e.g., Council Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup), are incorporated into FPL 3 projects development and that work is accomplished as quickly as possible.
- Council staff will develop science review process update options for Steering Committee review no later than November 2018.
- Members remain committed to meeting the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update public engagement commitments as part of FPL 3 process.

TOPIC: Member Update on FPL 1 Project Progress

Decision(s)

- N/A

Action(s)

- Members will continue to provide updates on projects and programs at subsequent Steering Committee meetings to keep Council up to date on progress.
- Members will share experiences that could enhance future efficiency and success. This will include lessons regarding FPL 1 land acquisition activities in Texas, as well as other restoration programs that have relevant lessons (e.g., CWPPRA).

TOPIC: Authorization vs. Appropriation

Decision(s)

- N/A

Action(s)

- Council staff will revisit with the Department of Justice and Treasury on what level of commitment the Council may make with any funds not yet in the Trust Fund, and will research and report back to the Steering Committee no later than May 30th.

TOPIC: Funding-Related Issue

Decision(s)

- Steering Committee asked Council staff to develop draft policy options for their consideration in addressing budget shortfalls.

Action(s)

- Council staff will develop draft options for Council consideration of budget shortfalls in FPL projects and programs. The options will consider ways to ensure fiscal discipline and will include an after-action review to optimize the process of addressing budget shortfalls.
- Council staff will present proposed options on an upcoming Steering Committee call. The Steering Committee can discuss the matter in greater detail no later than August 1, 2018.

TOPIC: Update on RAAMS Replacement

Decision(s)

- Council staff is directed to begin Fit Gap Analysis with GrantsSolutions.

Action(s)

- Council staff will enter into an interagency agreement with HHS to conduct Fit Gap Analysis.

TOPIC: 508 Compliance and Council's Document Format Requirements

Decision(s)

- N/A

Action(s)

- Council staff will coordinate with NOAA to see if they have approaches to 508 compliance that could be used by the Council.

TOPIC: May 2, 2018, Steering Committee Call

Decision(s)

- The May 2, 2018, Steering Committee call is cancelled. The next call will be on May 16, 2018.

Action(s)

- Council staff will delete the calendar invitation for the May 2 call.

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 4/18/2018 6:48:56 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas

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Subject: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions - April 18, 2018

Attachments: Decisions and Actions from April 18, 2018, Steering Committee Call .pdf

Council members,

Thanks for participating in the call today, attached is the record of Decisions and Actions. Per our discussion today, we may make minor changes to the second day of the agenda for the upcoming face-to-face meeting, depending on how much progress we make on day one. Please note we will be sending additional read-ahead materials to you this Friday.

Thanks again. We look forward to seeing you in Florida.

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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL
DECISIONS/ACTIONS
FROM STEERING COMMITTEE CALL
APRIL 18, 2018

- **TOPIC: April 24/25, 2018, Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Additional materials related to the grant system acquisition will be provided no later than COB Friday, April 18, 2018.

- **TOPIC: Update on CPS Applications**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: N/A

Next Steering Committee Meeting: April 24/25, 2018, Pensacola, FL

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174823-00001

Message

From: jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 4/30/2018 3:23:17 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: May 2, 2018 Steering Committee Call and Orders of Business

Attachments: RAAMS_Status_4-30-2018.pdf

Steering Committee Members:

As agreed to during our Steering Committee meeting last week, this week's teleconference will be cancelled. In lieu of the call, there three orders of business that require your attention:

-
- Collaboration POC:
-
    -
    -
    - Please send Buck Sutter (buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov) the name of the person that you are designating as your "Collaboration POC" by this **Friday, May 4th**.
    -
    -
    - This person would be the primary point of contact for Council staff on CPS award activities, and therefore should be familiar with all activities that your organization is funding via these awards.
-
-
- Doodle Poll for early 2019 Steering Committee Meetings
-
    -
    -
    - Please follow this link to fill out your availability by this **Friday, May 4th**: https://doodle.com/poll/a4yvet95tnf66m73.
    -
    -
    - REMINDER! Please provide one response per member.
-
-
- The deadline for submission of CPS applications is **COB today**.

- As of the release of this email, six applications have been submitted.
- Please reach out if you have any final questions prior to submitting.
  - For content-related questions please contact Kristin Smith (kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov or 504-444-3558).
  - For RAAMS-related questions please contact the RAAMS Help Desk (raams_techsupport@restorethegulf.gov or 504-444-2540).

As a reminder, Louisiana submitted an amendment to its SEP on April 19 for Chair approval. This proposed amendment is entitled the "CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program Selection Amendment." The SEP amendment, attached, was originally sent to all members on April 20, 2018. Pursuant to the Council's SEP Guidelines, members have until May 9, 2018, to submit comments to the Chair for consideration. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the SEP amendment and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines. Please provide any comments you might have to John Ettinger at john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov. If you have any questions, please contact John at (504) 444-3522.

As a follow-up to the project status presentation at last week's meeting, an updated RAAMS application status report is attached.

Thank you,

Council Staff
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www.restorethegulf.gov

Council-Selected Restoration Component (Initial FPL)

Of the approximately 51 Category 1 applications for funding expected to be submitted for the 2015 FPL, to date a total of 43 applications have been initiated in RAAMS. Thirty (30) grant/IAA awards have been made, totaling $112,591,200.

LEGENDS

Figure 1: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

Figures 1 and 2:

Not Started in RAAMS (Member) – application in the development stage; application data entry in RAAMS has not been initiated.

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

IAA Approval (Member) – IAAs only; review and approval of award by federal Members.

Figure 1

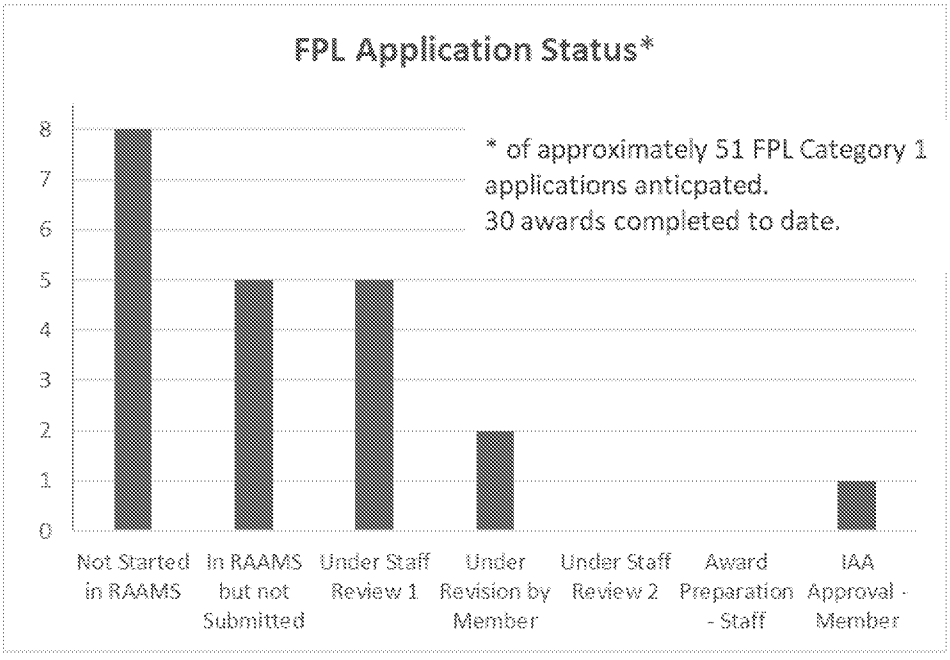
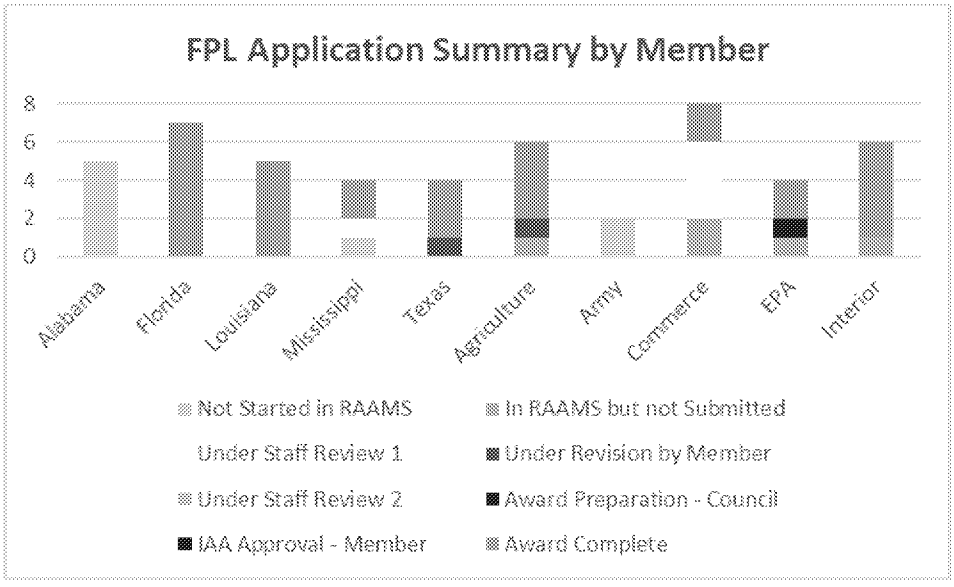


Figure 2



Commitment and Planning Support FPL (2017 CPS FPL)

The first Commitment and Planning Support grant was awarded to the State of Florida on April 18, 2018, in the amount of $2,093,880. Applications for other members are in various stages of completion.

Spill Impact Component

Three Planning State Expenditure Plans (PSEPs) have been approved, and three PSEP grants have been awarded to the Gulf Consortium and states of Mississippi and Texas. Two State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) have been submitted in RAAMS and approved by the Council Chair, the Louisiana SEP and the Mississippi SEP. The Mississippi SEP was amended to add additional funds and projects, with approval by the Chair on April 16, 2018. An amendment to the Louisiana SEP is in progress. In addition, the Gulf Consortium submitted a Stand-Up SEP, which was approved by the Chair on April 23, 2018, to prepare for implementation of the future Florida SEP. $44,295,859 has been awarded to date under this component.

LEGEND

Figure 3: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

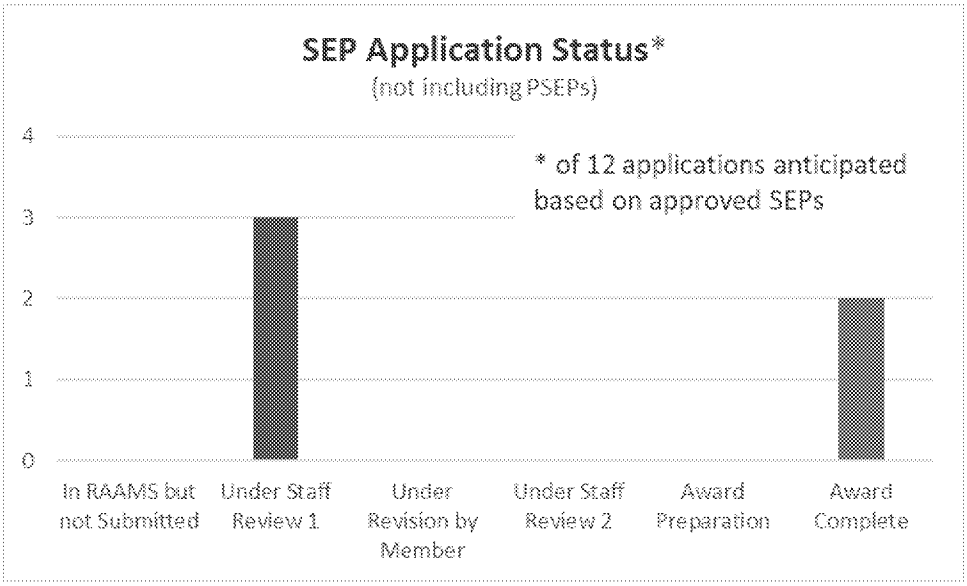
Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Table 1

Approved SEP	# Projects or Programs in Approved SEP	Anticipated Grant Awards	# Awarded
Louisiana	3	3	2
Mississippi	7	8	0
Florida Stand-Up	1	1	0

Figure 3



Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 4/4/2018 6:45:01 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: Decisions and Actions from April 4, 2018, Steering Committee Call

Attachments: Decisions and Actions April 4, 2018, Steering Committee Call.pdf

Council members,

Attached are the decisions and actions from the April 4, 2018, Steering Committee call. In preparation for the April 24-25 face-to-face meeting, please e-mail Buck Sutter with the names of the people from your organization who plan to attend. These names will be provided to the security personnel at the EPA facility in which the meeting will be held.

Thank you.

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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL
DECISIONS/ACTIONS
FROM STEERING COMMITTEE CALL
APRIL 04, 2018

- **TOPIC: April 24 and 25, 2018 Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: Meeting package with final agenda and presentations will be mailed out by COB April 11, 2018.

- **TOPIC: Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meetings through end of 2018**
  Decision: Scheduled Meetings:
    - July 31-August 1 2018 in Mississippi
    - September 11-12 2018 in Alabama
    - November 27-28 2018 in Texas

  Actions: Additional Meetings to be Scheduled:
    - Late January 2019 in Louisiana
    - March 2019 in Florida

- **TOPIC: CPS FPL and Award Update**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions: N/A

- **TOPIC: Communication Issues**
  Decision: N/A
  Actions:
    - Steering Committee members will reach back within their agencies to determine whether to add PE workgroup member as point of contact on the Council Member page of the website. (https://restorethegulf.gov/people/council-members)

Next Steering Committee Meeting: April 18, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174881-00001

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 4/10/2018 7:47:46 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: April 18, 2018 Steering Committee Call - Agenda and Materials

Attachments: Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Apr_18.pdf; April 24_25, 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Agenda.pdf; April 24_25, 2018 Steering Committee Slides - Master.pdf; RAAMS_Status_4-10-2018.pdf

Steering Committee Members:

Our next Steering Committee teleconference will be held on April 18 at 1 pm central/2pm east coast. Our focus will be the upcoming April 24 and 25 face-to-face meeting in Pensacola, FL. We have included the following attachments to this email:

- April 18 Steering Committee Call Agenda
- April 24-25 Steering Committee Face-to-Face Meeting Agenda
- April 24-25 Steering Committee Master Slides
- RAAMS Application Status Report

Please note the "Master Slides" attachment contains those presentations that are currently available. Additional materials will be provided at the meeting.

Also, if you have not already done so, please provide Buck Sutter with the names of your staff who will be attending the face-to-face meeting. This information is needed to facilitate smooth entry into the EPA Gulf Breeze Lab facility.

Thank you.

Council Staff
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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 24-25, 2018
EPA Gulf Breeze Laboratory
Gulf Breeze, Florida

Tuesday, April 24 Agenda

9:00am – 9:10am	**Welcome and Introductions** (Chair, Co-Chair, All)
9:10am – 9:15am	**Overview of Agenda and Desired Outcomes** (Buck Sutter)
9:15am – 10:30am	**Collaboration in Practice-Path to FPL 3** (Ben Scaggs, Jean Cowan, Buck Sutter) ***Subtopic***: FPL and 10-Year Funding Strategy, Potential Content, Funding, Workflow and Timing *Objectives:* • Discuss more specific details regarding workflow, timeline, and major milestones • Discuss schedule and general agenda items that may be part of upcoming Steering Committee meetings *Materials:* • FPL 3 and Funding Strategy Updating Workflow and Timeline (page 1 of read-ahead materials) • FPL 3 and Funding Strategy Path Forward (page 8 of read-ahead materials)
10:30am – 10:45am	**Break**

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174891-00001

10:45am – 12:45pm **Collaboration in Practice-Path to FPL 3 Continued** (John Ettinger, Heather Young, Jessica Henkel, Keala Hughes)

Subtopic: Commitments from the Comprehensive Plan: Updating the Submission Guidelines, Environmental Compliance, Science Review Processes, Education and Transparency

Objectives:

- FPL 3 process: Council update of submission guidelines (background, process and timing)
- Science Review Discussion
- Review FPL environmental compliance requirements; discussion of collaboration and environmental compliance efficiency
- Discuss meeting Council's commitment to education and transparency

Materials:

- FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update (page 12 of read-ahead materials)
- FPL Environmental Compliance Review (page 19 of read-ahead materials)
- Education and Transparency (page 25 of read-ahead materials)

12:45pm – 2:00pm **LUNCH: On your own**

2:00pm – 5:00pm **Florida Field Trip**

Adjourn for the day

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174891-00002

Wednesday, April 25 Agenda

8:30am – 8:40am **Review Decisions/Actions from Day One** (Chair, Co-Chair)

8:40am – 8:45am **Agenda Review** (Buck Sutter)

8:45am – 10:15am **Collaboration in Practice-Path to FPL 3** (Ben Scaggs, Jean Cowan, Keala Hughes)
Subtopic: Getting to FPL3 through member collaboration efforts

Objectives:
- Provide summary outputs from Council staff member-by-member discussions, including role of PE staff and workgroup elements
- Discuss potential CPS Year-4 evaluation process
- Council Collaboration Tool Update

Materials:
- Summary Outputs of member-by-member discussions (to be provided at meeting)
- Commitment and Planning Support (CPS) Year-4 Evaluation Process (pp 42 of read-ahead materials)
- Collaboration Tool Overview (to be provided at meeting)

10:15am - 10:30am **Break**

10:30am – 11:15am **Update on RAAMS Replacement** (Josh Easton)
Objectives:
- Overview of the need of the RAAMS replacement
- Discuss recommendation of the RAAMS Task Force

Materials:
- Presentation Analysis of Alternatives (to be provided at meeting)

11:15am – 11:45am **Authorization vs Appropriation** (Louisiana)
Objectives:
- Continue discussion of Council authorization of projects in advance of Trust Fund funding availability

Materials:
- N/A

11:45am – 12:00pm **Funding-Related Issue** (John Ettinger, Mark Bisgeier, Mary Pleffner)

Objectives:

- Initiate discussion of how the Council would address potential budget shortfalls on FPL projects/programs

Materials:

- Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls Overview (page 46 of read-ahead materials)

12:00pm – 1:30pm **LUNCH: On your own**

1:30pm – 2:00pm **508 Compliance and Council's Document Format Requirements** (Keala Hughes, Mark Bisgeier)

Objectives:

- Discuss impacts of final federal requirements that all documents posted on Council website be 508 Compliant

Materials:

- 508 Compliance Overview (to be provided at meeting)

2:00pm – 3:00pm **Member Update on FPL 1 Project Progress** (All)

Objectives:

- Update Steering Committee on FPL Application and Award Status (Kristin Smith)
- Member Updates on FPL 1 Project Progress (10 minutes per member)

Materials:

- RAAMS Application Status Report (to be provided at meeting)
- Member materials (to be provided at meeting)

3:00pm – 3:15pm **Break**

3:15pm – 4:30pm **Continue Member Updates on FPL 1** (All)

Objectives:

- Member Updates on FPL 1 Project Progress, continued (10 minutes per member)

Materials:

- Member materials (to be provided at meeting)

4:30pm – 5:00pm **Wrap-up**

Adjourn

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 24-25, 2018
EPA Gulf Breeze Laboratory
Gulf Breeze, Florida

April 24/25, 2018, Steering Committee Meeting
Agenda and Presentation Materials
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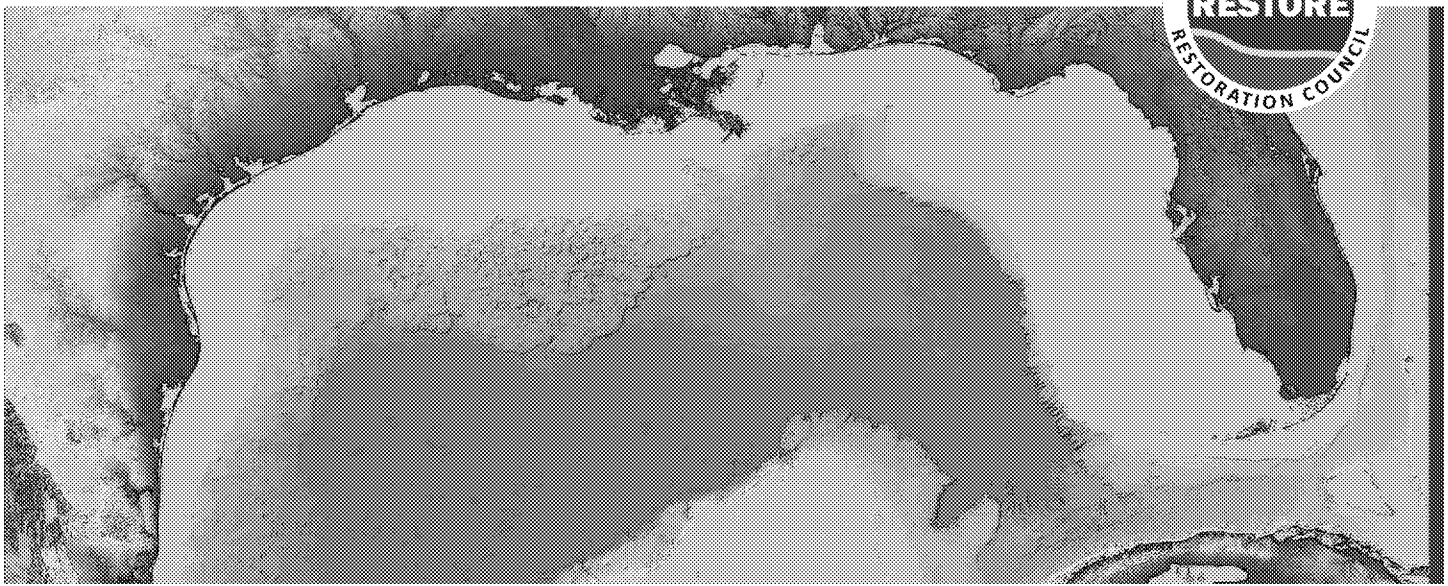
FPL3 and Funding Strategy Path Forward	8
FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update	12
FPL Environmental Compliance Review	19
Education and Transparency	25
CPS Year-4 Evaluation Process	42
Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls Overview	46



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL 3 and 10-Year Funding Strategy
Updating Workflow and Timing

April 2018 Steering Committee Meeting

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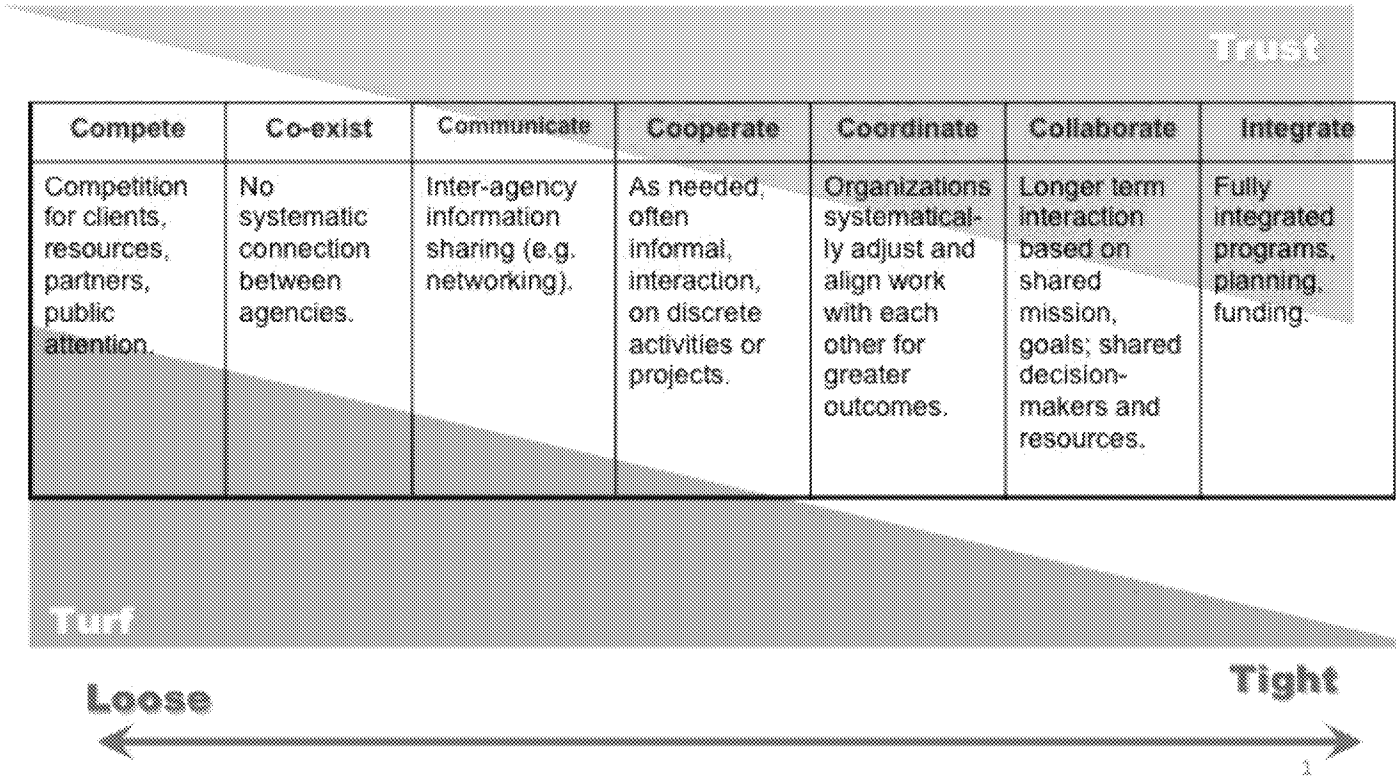
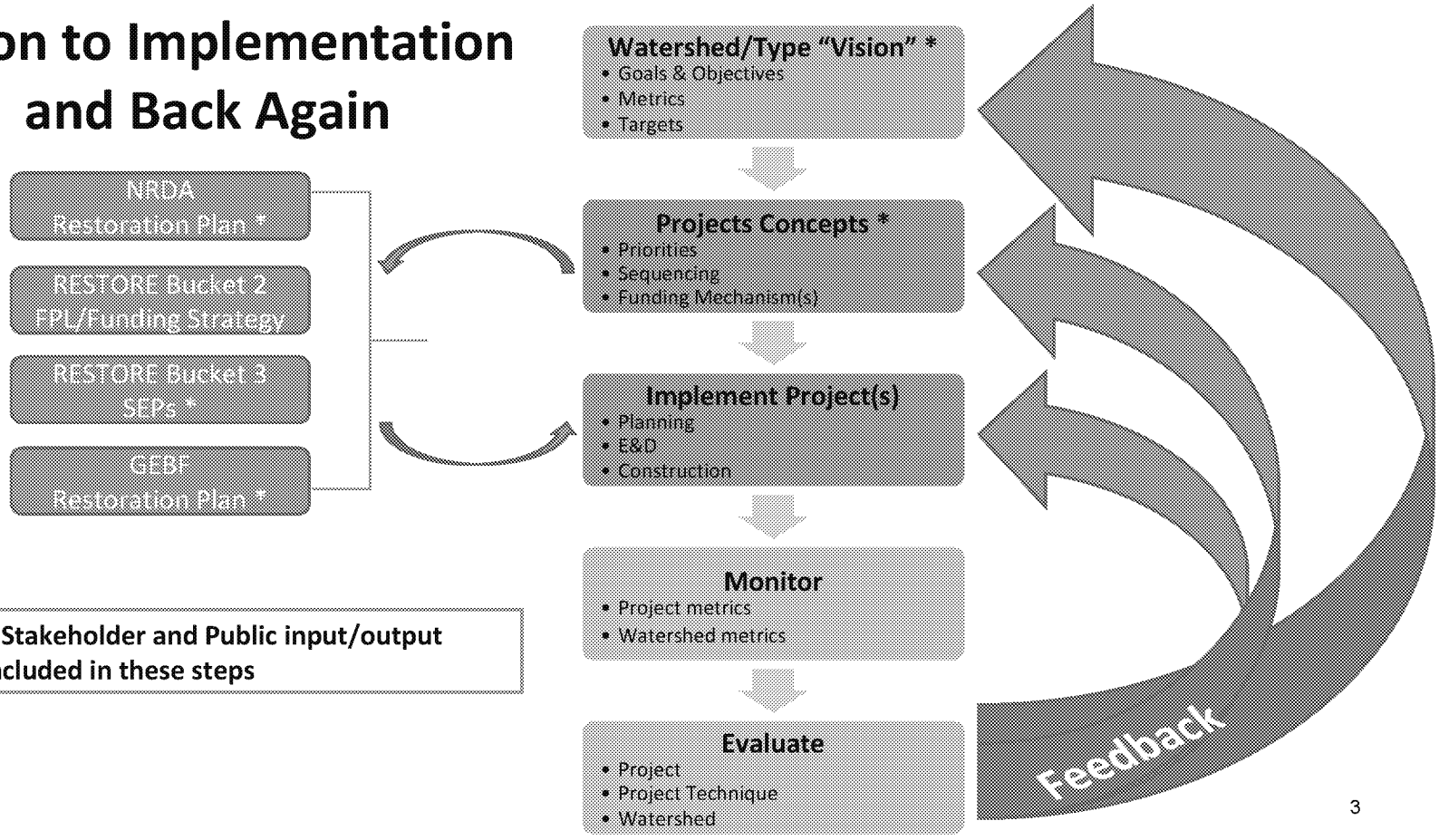
The Collaboration Continuum



http://www.collaborationforimpact.com/collaborative-approaches/ca-subpage-2/

Collaboration: Vision to Implementation and Back Again



*** Stakeholder and Public input/output included in these steps**

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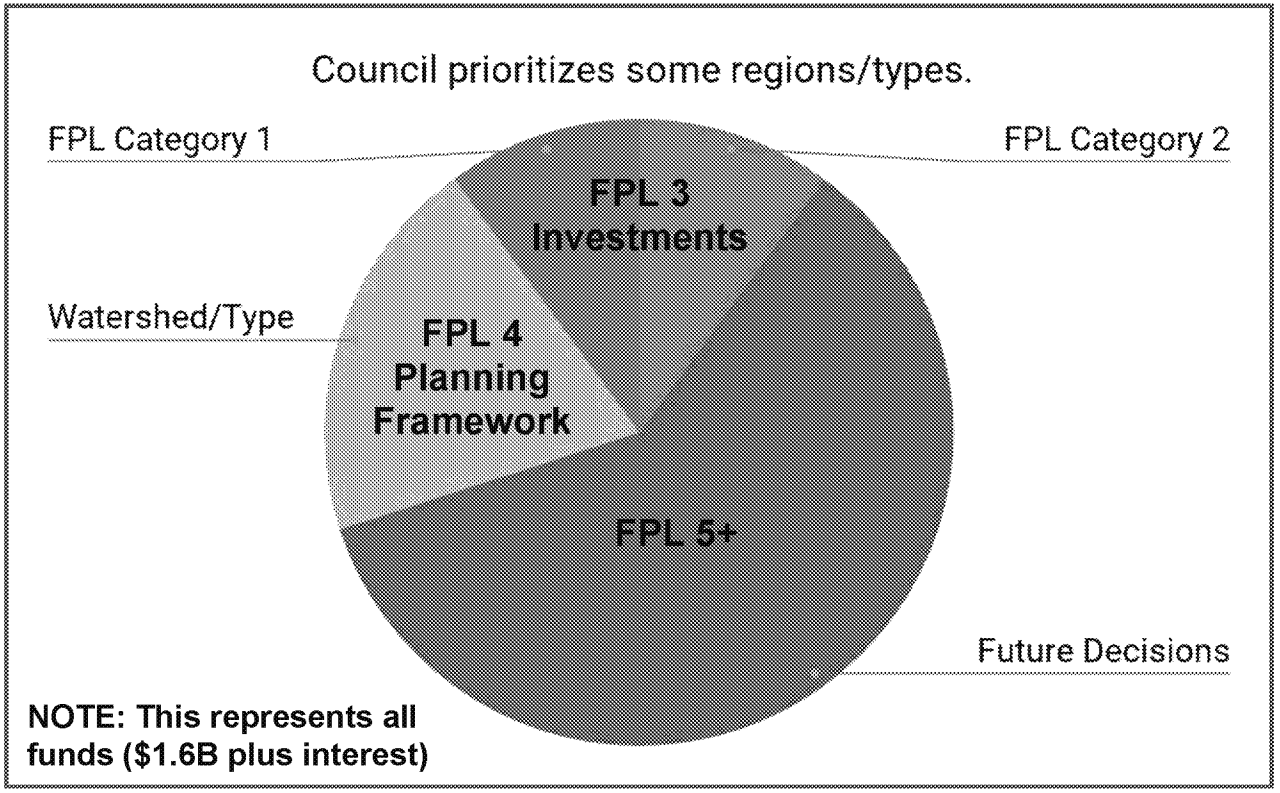
FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy



Examples of Planning Framework Options:
Framework 1: Focus on key watersheds/estuaries
Framework 2: Focus on key resources (e.g., oysters, wetlands)
Framework 3: Mix of frameworks 1 and 2

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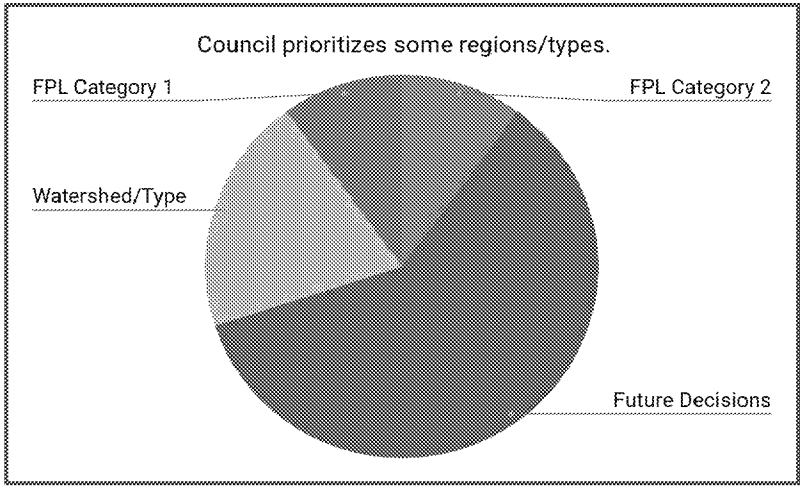
Filling FPL 3/Funding Strategy Information Gap



Issue:

- Priority watersheds/restoration types (i.e. "Planning Framework") have not been identified for **FPL 3**

Solution:

- Member-led Collaboration meetings provide foundation for development of the Council's FPL3 "Planning Framework"

Purpose:

- Signal Council's FPL3 priorities to the public, stakeholders, potential funding partners
- Seek Public feedback prior to proceeding with proposals development

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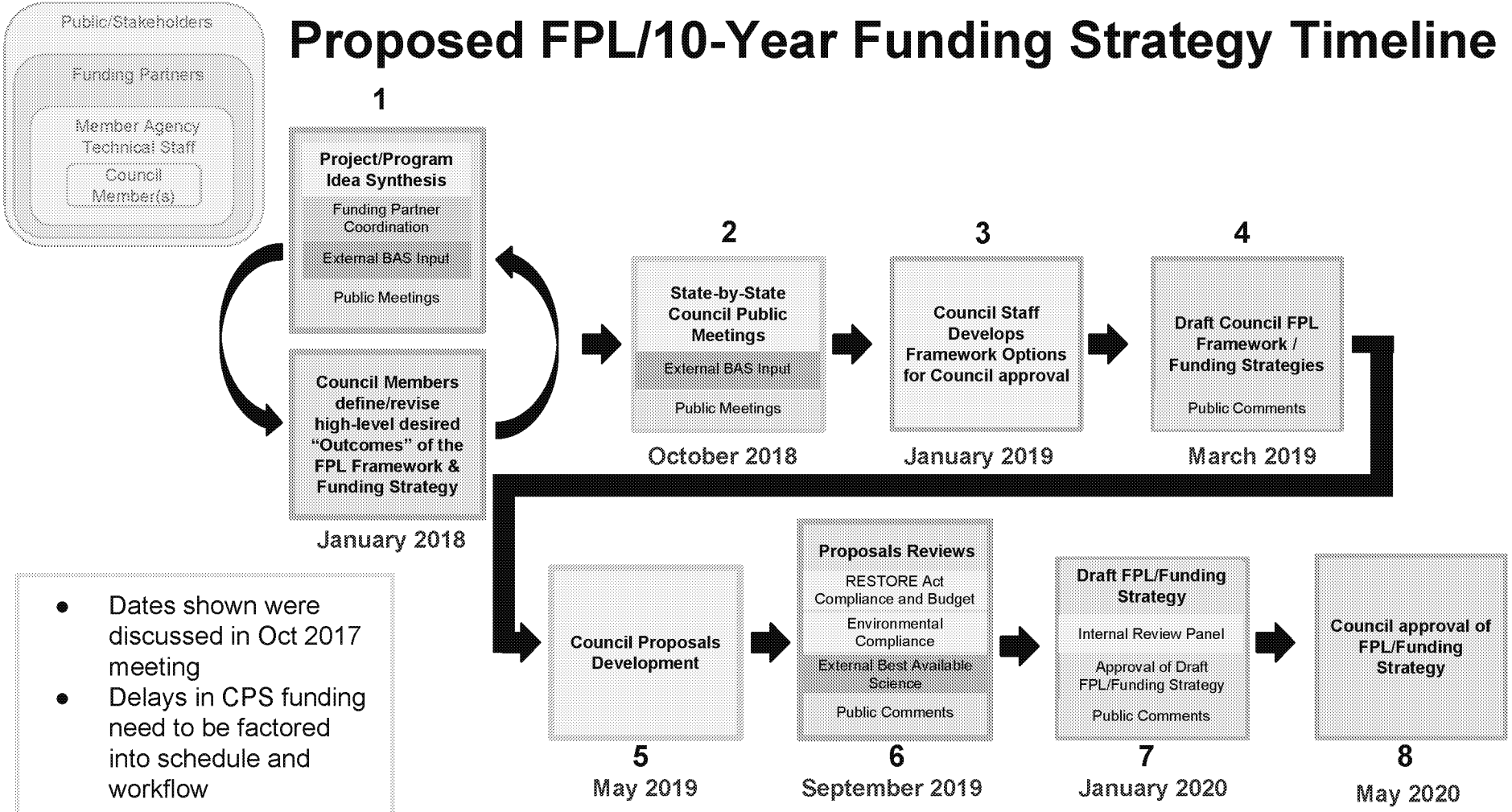
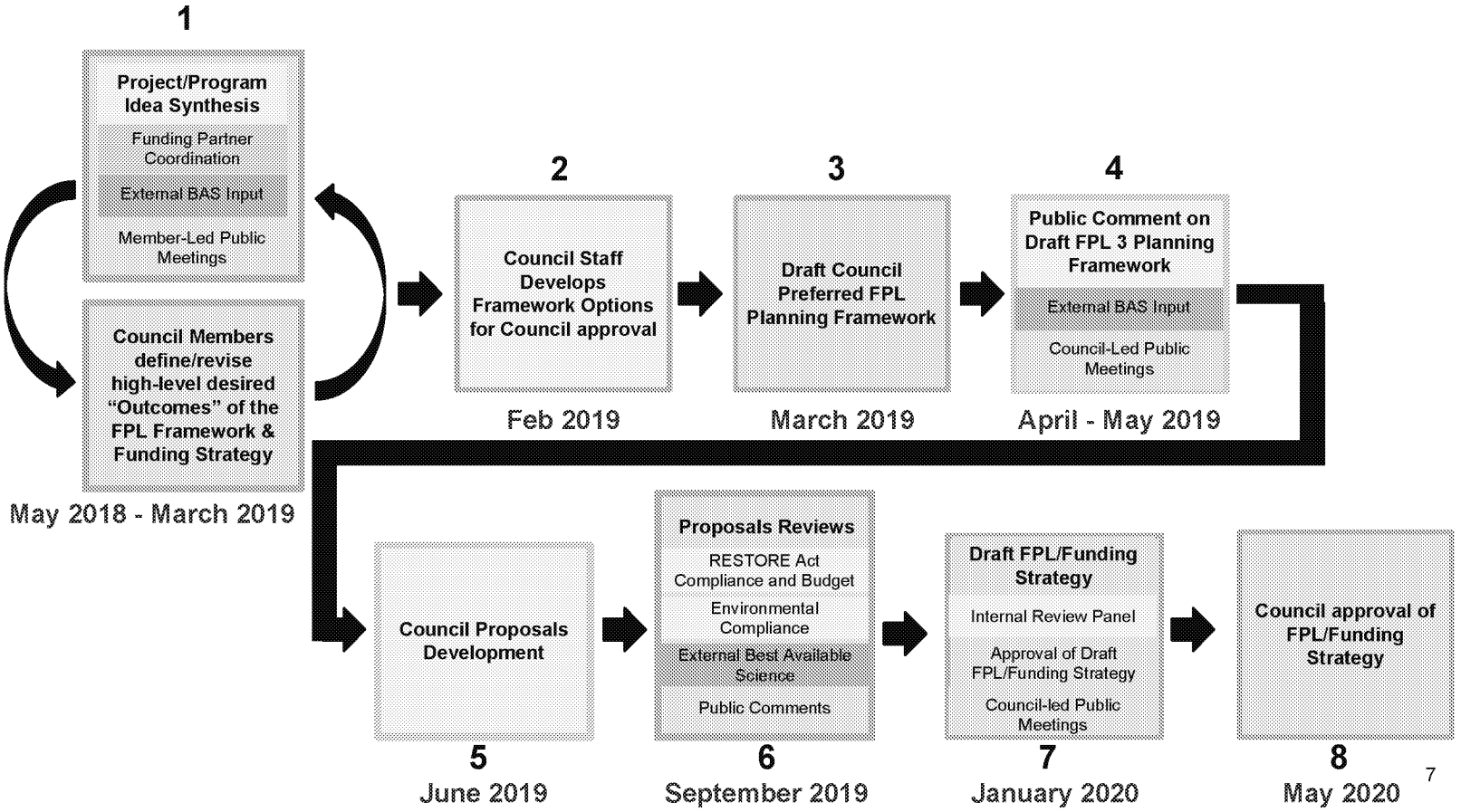
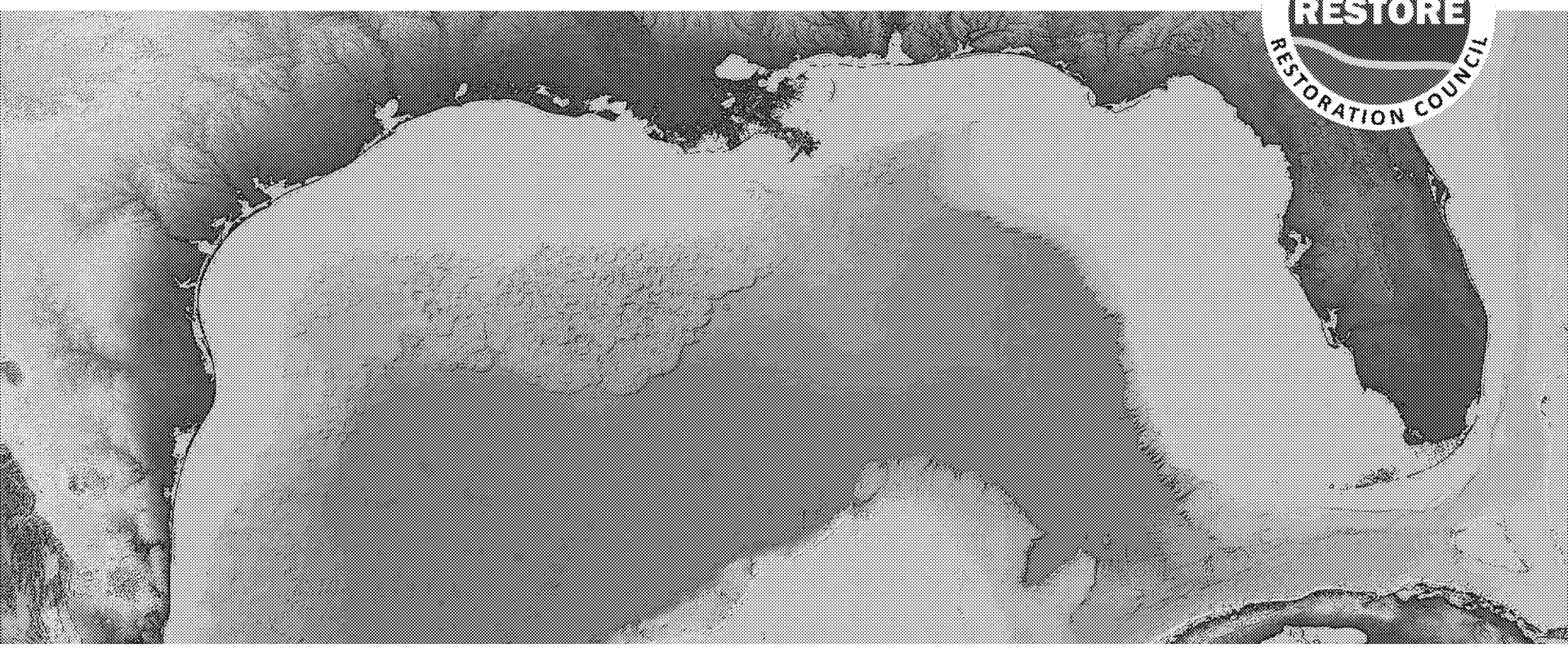
Proposed FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy Timeline



- Dates shown were discussed in Oct 2017 meeting
- Delays in CPS funding need to be factored into schedule and workflow

Revised Proposed FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy Timeline





Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL 3 / Funding Strategy Path Forward

April 2018 Steering Committee Meeting

Gulf Breeze, FL

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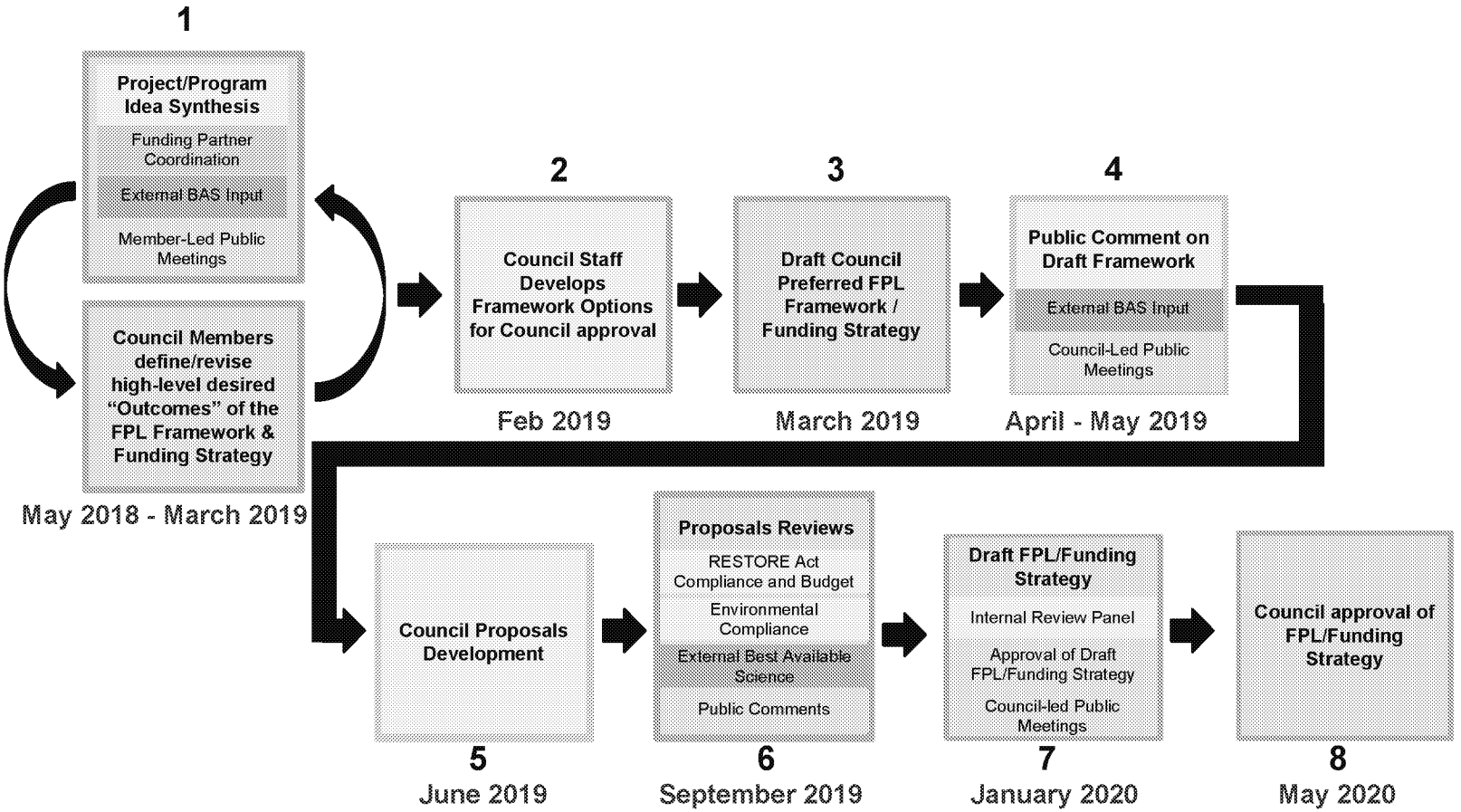
FPL3/Funding Strategy Workflow & Timeline



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FPL3/Funding Strategy Path Forward

Tasks to Support Achievement of Milestones:

- **Member-led collaboration activities** (*Spring 2018 - Spring 2019*)
  - Technical/Funding Partners/Stakeholder/Public/Funding meetings and workshops to develop concepts
  - Steering Committee Meetings to report out/discuss member-by-member progress

- **Increasing Public Transparency** (*Spring 2018 - …*)
  - On-going Public Engagement Workgroup coordination
  - RESTORE Education Opportunities

- **Submissions & reviews updates** (*Spring 2018 - Spring 2019*)
  - Submission guidelines
  - Proposals submission platform (i.e. RAAMS replacement)
  - Science review process
  - Submissions review process

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Steering Committee Meetings & Milestones

Mississippi

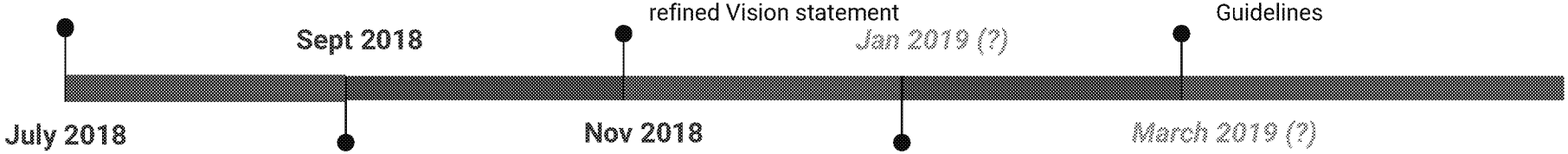
- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Discuss Public Webinar - FPL3 process

Texas

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Science review updates
- Council "Outcomes"/ refined Vision statement

Florida

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Approve draft FPL 3 Planning Framework
- Public Meetings Presentation
- Discuss draft Submission Guidelines



Alabama

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Update on RESTORE education opportunities

Louisiana

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- FPL 3 Planning Framework Options
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Council-led Public Meetings Logistics

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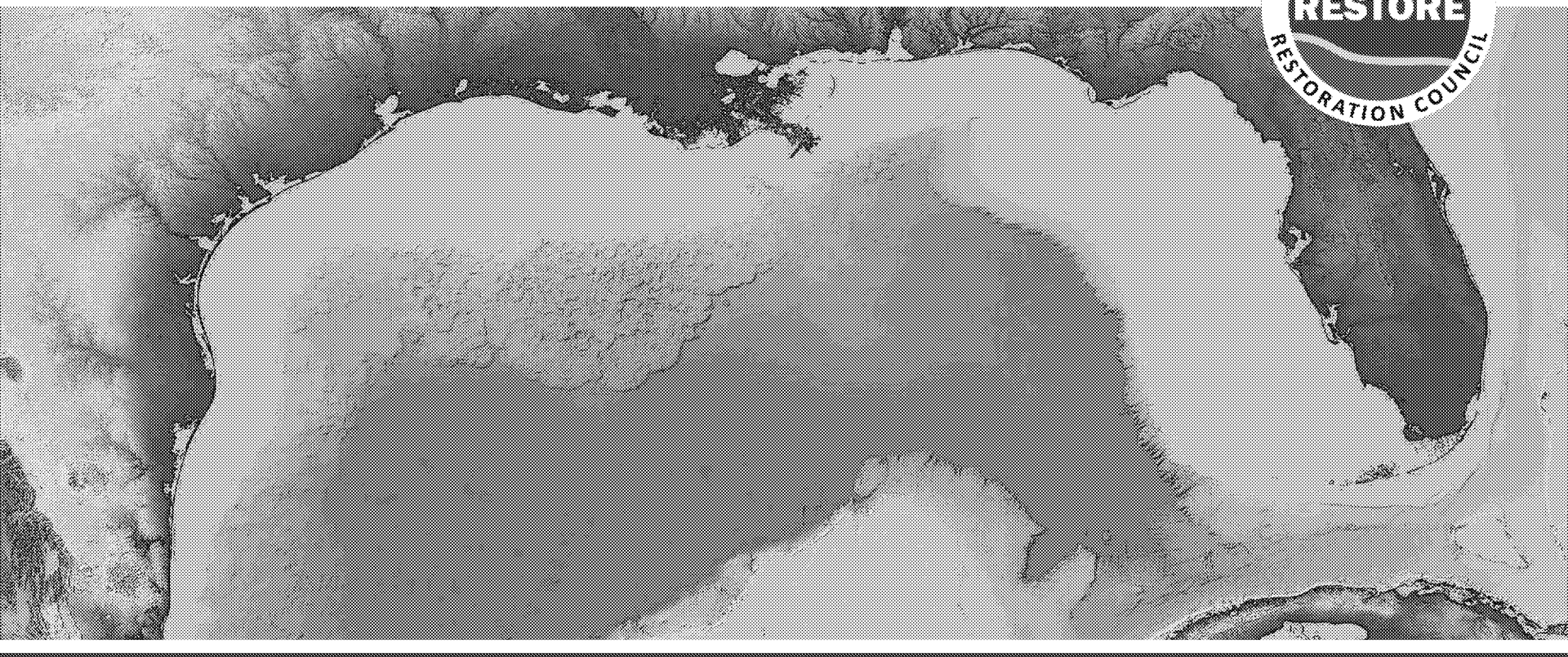

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL3 Submission Process & Collaboration

- **FPL3 process is built on collaboration**
  - Can improve both the efficiency of the FPL submission development and review process

- **Update of FPL submission guidelines and review process will incorporate:**
  - Lessons learned from Initial FPL and
  - Developments from FPL3 collaboration process
    - e.g., collaboration may lead to fewer, more integrated submissions, which in turn could facilitate submission review process

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FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process

FPL Submission Guidelines - Guide members in the development of FPL submissions by describing:

- Eligible activities
- Submission evaluation criteria
- Contents of submission packages
- Other info/requirements for effective submissions

FPL Submission Review Process - Describes how submissions will be reviewed by Council:

- Consistency with Act, Comp Plan, including other Council priorities (e.g., FPL framework)
- Best Available Science review
- Environmental compliance "readiness" review

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Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update

Purpose of Updates:

- Enhance efficiency and effectiveness of FPL process
- Incorporate lessons learned from Initial FPL
  - e.g., FPL funding categories, budgets, milestones…
- Address the Comprehensive Plan Update commitments
  - e.g., Collaboration, BAS, public engagement…
  - Incorporate future CMAWG monitoring and data management recommendations
  - Incorporate future PE Workgroup recommendations
- Account for BP settlement and future funding

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FPL3 Submission Guidelines Update

Proposed Path Forward:

- Council staff drafts submission guidelines and review process updates
- Members review updates
  - Council staff addresses member comments
- Steering Committee approves updates
- Final submission guidelines and review process updates posted on Council website

Proposed Completion Target: Spring 2019

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Science Review Process Update

2016 Comp Plan Update Science Commitments:

- Updating the science review process questions
- Continued use of external reviewers for future FPL reviews
- Exploring the use of one or more science review panels

FPL Science Review Process Update

Proposed Path Forward:

- Council staff evaluate science review processes used by other restoration programs
- Members review approaches provided by Council staff
  - Council staff addresses member comments
- Steering Committee approves science review process update
- Final science review process updates posted on Council website

Proposed Completion Target: Early 2019

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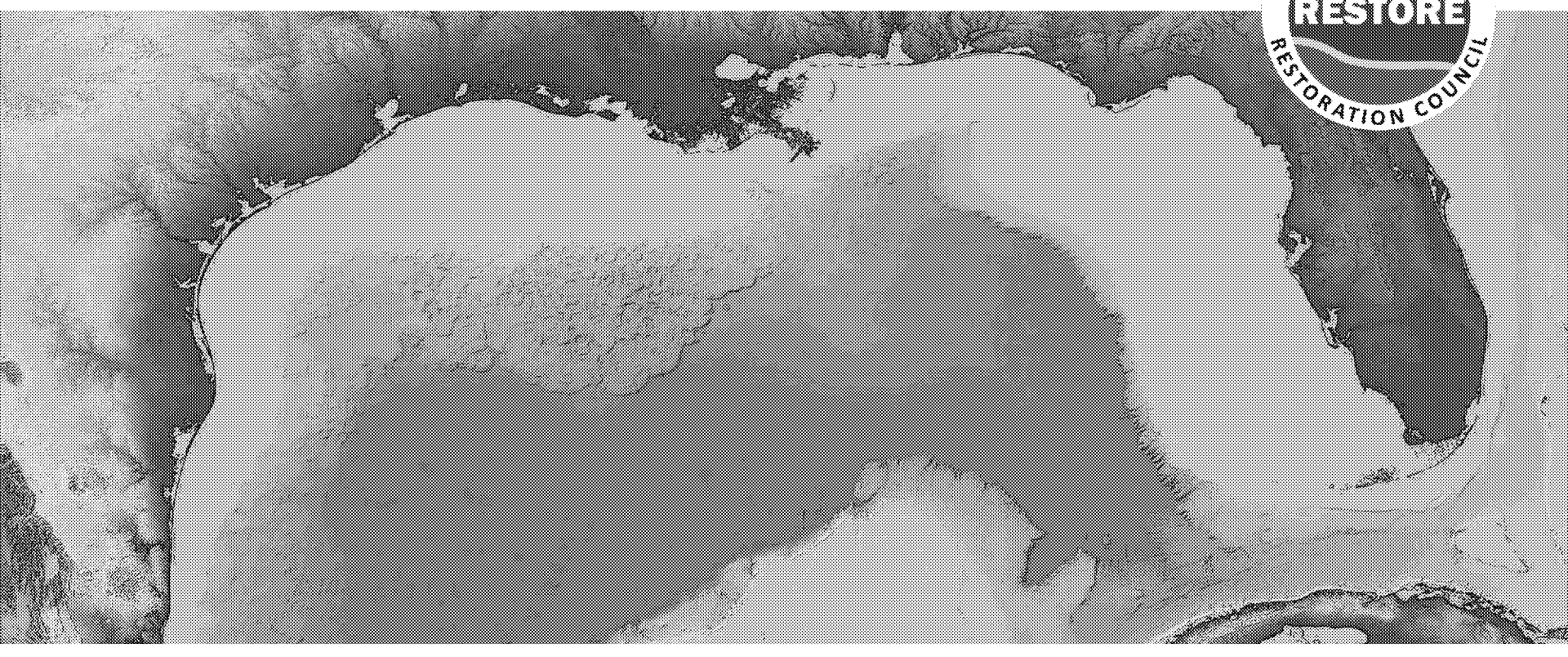


Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL 3 Environmental Compliance Review

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Environmental Compliance

Objectives:

- Review laws applicable to Bucket 2 funding approval
- Discuss opportunities for collaboration and efficiency in advance of FPL 3

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Environmental Compliance: Background

- **FPL funding approval is a federal action**

- **Applicable laws (at funding approval stage):**
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA)
  - Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA)
  - National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FCWA)

- **Apply to FPL implementation activities with environmental impacts**
  - …as opposed to planning only

- **Other laws may apply at grant and/or implementation stage**
  - Often it is most efficient to address laws concurrently

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Environmental Compliance: Background (cont.)

- **FPL submissions for implementation funds must include:**
  - NEPA documentation
  - Demonstration of compliance with other applicable laws (e.g., ESA, NHPA, MSA…)

- **To approve implementation funding:**
  - Council could adopt NEPA documentation (or use member Categorical Exclusion)
  - Ensure compliance with other applicable laws

- **Implementation activities not ready for funding approval can be placed in FPL Category 2**

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Environmental Compliance: Examples

- **Example 1: FPL submission with existing Clean Water Act Section 404 permit**
  - As appropriate, Council could:
    - Adopt associated NEPA documentation, and
    - Include award condition requiring compliance with permit conditions (e.g., ESA, MSA, NHPA…)

- **Example 2: FPL submission for habitat conservation activity**
  - As appropriate, Council could:
    - Use member NEPA Categorical Exclusion (CE), and
    - Coordinate with members to ensure compliance with other potentially applicable laws

- **Example 3: FPL submission for planning only**
  - Council would use its planning CE

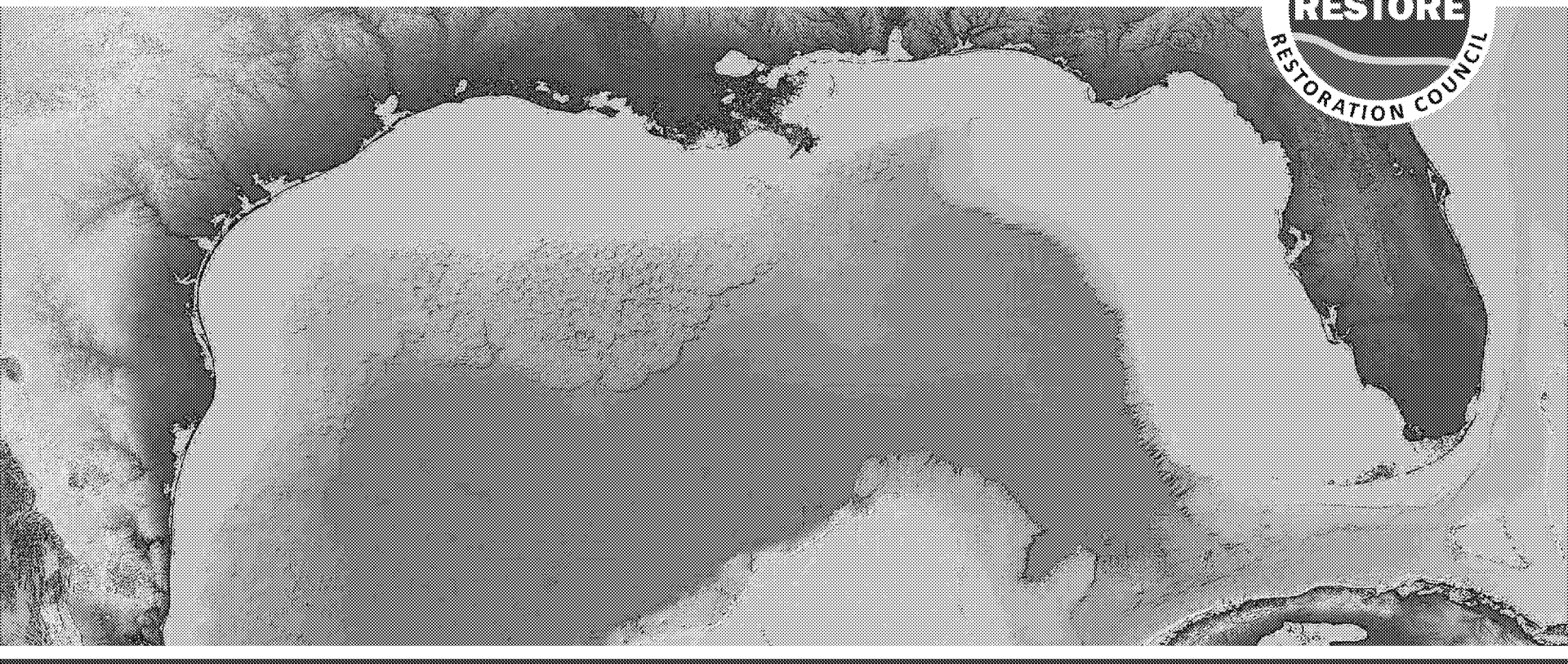
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL3 Environmental Compliance: Collaboration

- **Collaboration can improve FPL submissions and increase environmental compliance efficiency**
  - Incorporate interagency feedback and technical guidance at earliest opportunity
  - Determine if existing NEPA documentation, general permits, or consultations are applicable
    - e.g., existing member CE, PEIS, or NWP…
  - Determine what additional compliance needs must be met prior to submission
  - Leverage expertise of regulatory agencies
  - Ensure planning proposals have sufficient budget for future regulatory needs
- **CPS can be used for presubmission environmental compliance coordination**

Please contact with Council staff with any questions.

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval



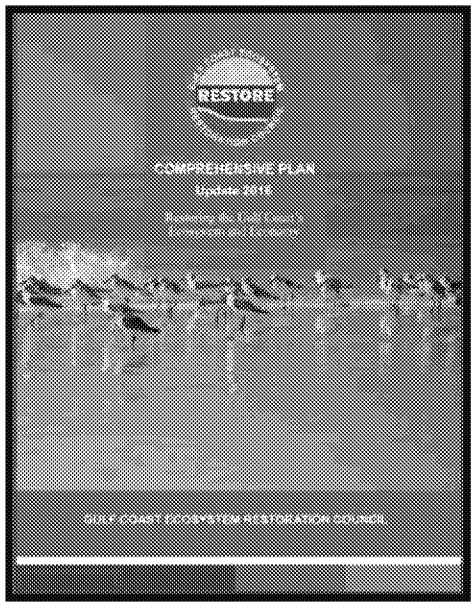
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Education and Transparency

April 24, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174892-00027

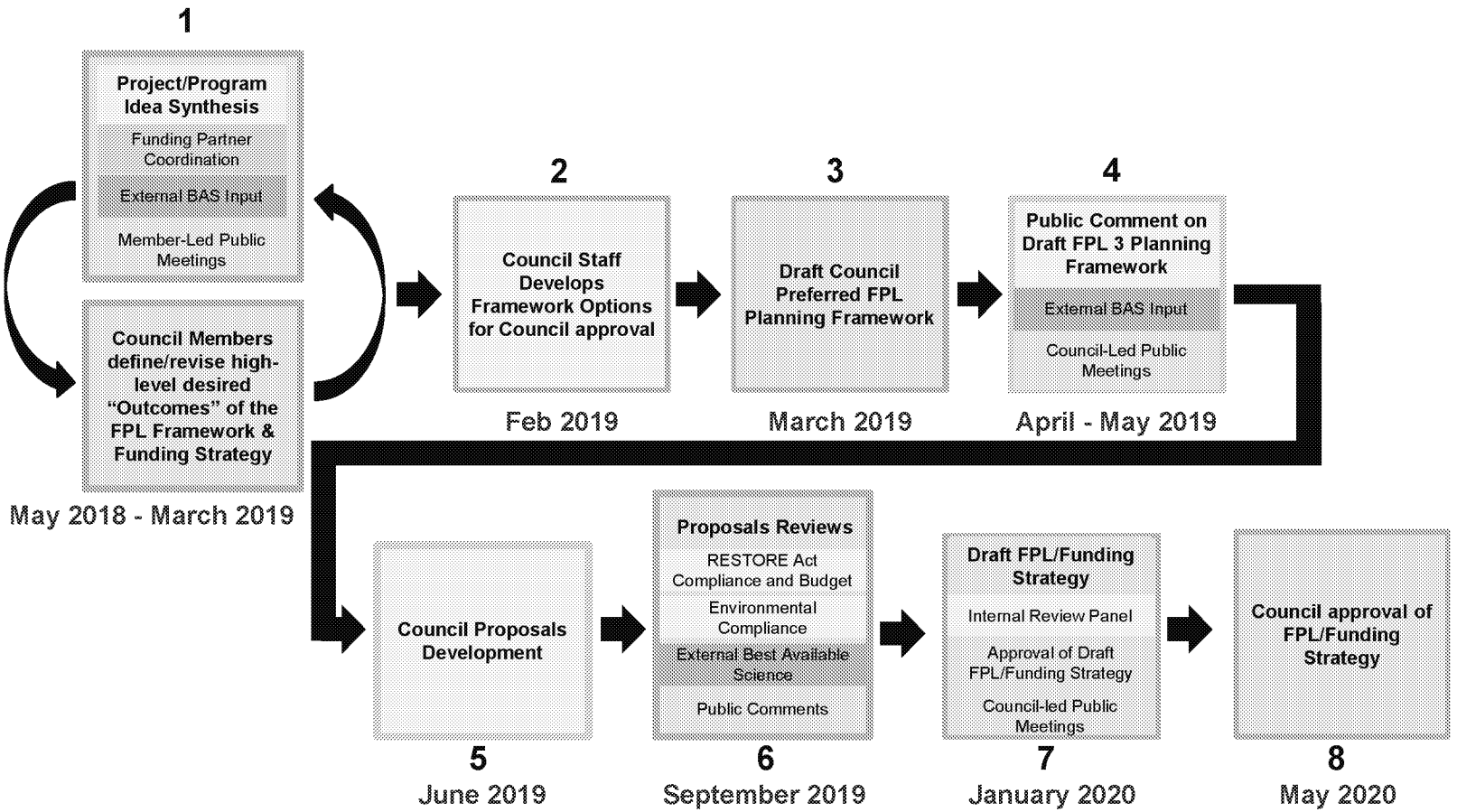
Comprehensive Plan Update



Commitment to Engagement, Inclusion, and Transparency

- Committed to setting and maintaining the highest standard for public engagement and transparency
- Seek broad participation and input from the diverse stakeholders who live, work, and play in the Gulf Coast region
- Support engagement with all stakeholders, including under-represented communities and federally-recognized Tribes
- Continue offering public engagement opportunities & ensure public participation
- Refine process for considering public input

Revised Proposed FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy Timeline



Public Engagement Roles & Responsibilities

- Educating stakeholders
- Coordinating with PE Workgroup
- Identifying outreach opportunities
  - ❑ Meetings/Conferences
  - ❑ Webinars
- Public Engagement Casework

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174892-00030

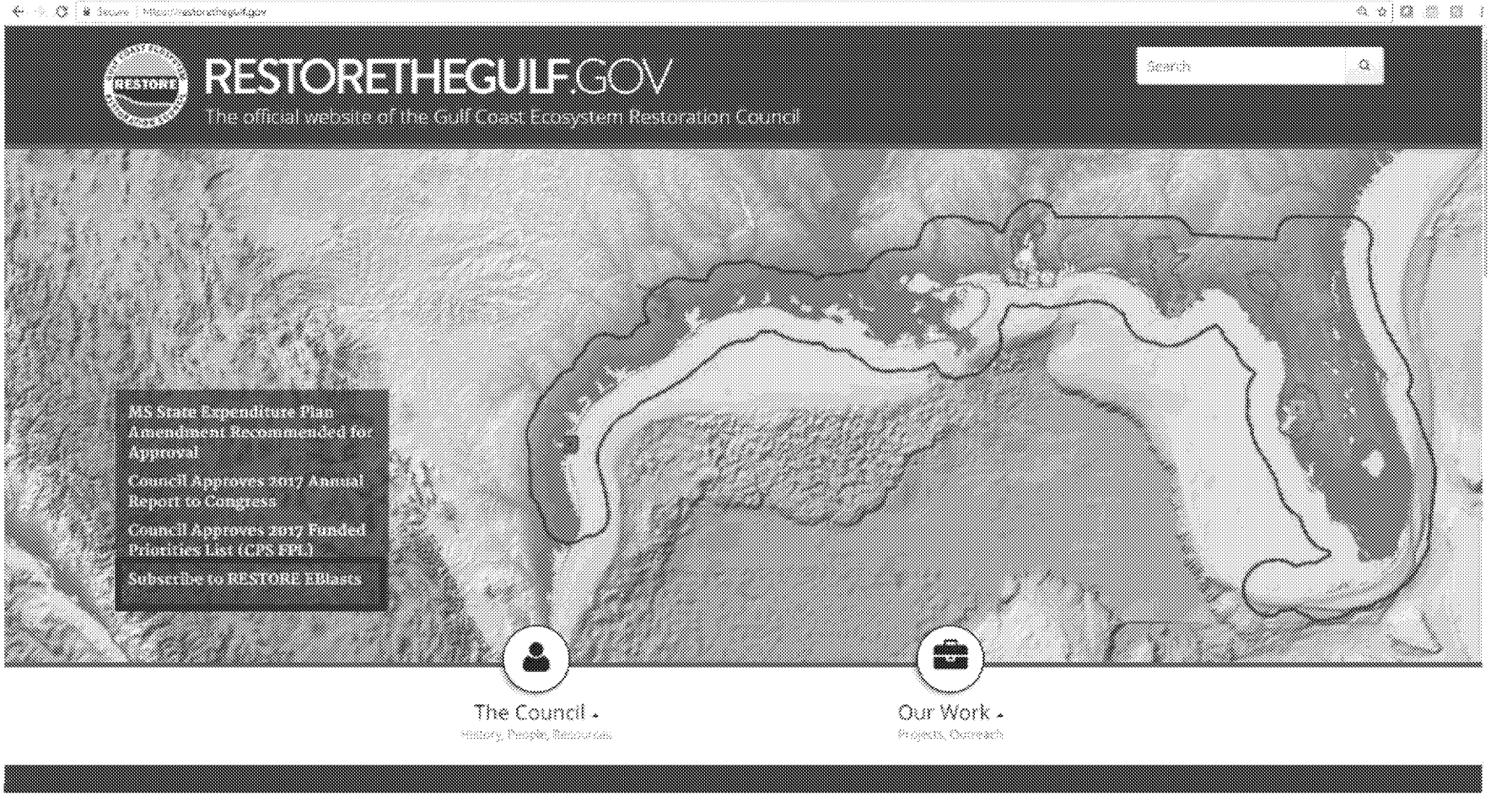
Stakeholders

- Develops cooperative relationships with stakeholders
  - ❑ Internal Stakeholders
    - Council Members/Steering Committee & Staff
    - Council Staff
  - ❑ External Stakeholders
    - Congressional Members/Staff
    - Federally recognized Tribes
    - Intergovernmental
    - Non Governmental Organizations
    - Media
    - General Public (including but not limited to limited English proficient and underserved/underrepresented communities)

Effective Public Engagement

- Builds trust and improves communication between stakeholders and decision makers
- Creates new opportunities for transparency and stakeholders involvement in problem solving and decision making
  - ❑ Builds common understanding
  - ❑ Helps stakeholders weigh a variety of perspectives and listen to each other's views
  - ❑ Manages differences and establishes path forward on tough issues

RESTORE eBlasts Subscription



Press - Media Releases	Press releases/media advisories from the RESTORE Council Members and other related Gulf restoration efforts.
Gulf-wide	Gulf-wide updates from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida on projects awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts.
Texas	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Texas.**
Louisiana	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Louisiana.**
Mississippi	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Mississippi.**
Alabama	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Alabama.**
Florida	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Florida.**
Tribal	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with **Federally Recognized Tribal lands.**
Public Meetings or Public Comment Periods	Notification of public meetings or public comment periods from the RESTORE Council Members and other related Gulf restoration efforts.

RESTORE eBlasts

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Hale Boggs Federal Building
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.RestoreTheGulf.gov

The State of Florida has completed the construction phase of the Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration project funded by the RESTORE Council. This $4.7 million project is the first completed implementation phase of a project funded from the Council-Selected Restoration Component's Initial Funded Priorities List. Approximately 85,000 cubic yards of lime rock material was taken by barge and placed in the bay waters on an estimated 317-acre area in Franklin County. This has provided a new base that larval oysters may naturally settle on and grow in size to maturity. Newly settled oyster larvae are referred to as oyster spat. This effort complements other oyster restoration projects within Apalachicola Bay, an area with nationally and regionally significant oyster reefs which have suffered from degradation. Oysters improve water quality through filtering out excess sediment and pollutants. Oyster beds provide habitat that sustains fish and other bay organisms.

Florida's Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will monitor the project by measuring the colonization and growth of oysters in the restored area over the next two years.

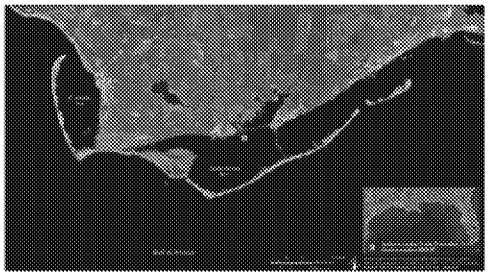
For more information on this project, contact Rachel Horne deepwaterhorizon@dep.state.fl.us.

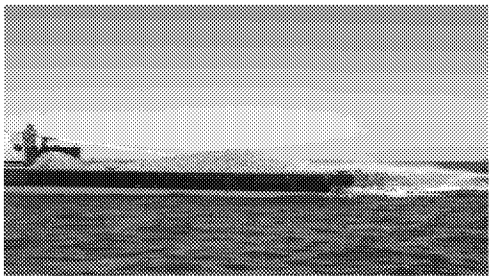
We look forward to connecting with you!

Tweet

Click here to Unsubscribe.

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)





Project Abstract
The State of Florida has completed the construction phase of the Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration project funded by the RESTORE Council. This $4.7 million project is the first completed implementation phase of a project funded from the Council-Selected Restoration Component's Initial Funded Priorities List. Approximately 95,000 cubic yards of lime rock material was taken by barge and placed in the bay waters on an estimated 317-acre area in Franklin County. This has provided a new base that larval oysters may naturally settle on and grow in size to maturity. Newly settled oyster larvae are referred to as oyster spat. This effort complements other oyster restoration projects within Apalachicola Bay, an area with nationally and regionally significant oyster reefs which have suffered from degradation. Oysters improve water quality through filtering out excess sediment and pollutants. Oyster beds provide habitat that sustains fish and other bay organisms.
Florida's Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will monitor the project by measuring the colonization and growth of oysters in the restored area over the next two years.

Contact
Rachel Horne email: deepwaterhorizon@dep.state.fl.us

Budget
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0039

Project Start Date
4/1/2017

Project End Date
7/1/2020

Award Amount
$4,680,000.00

Organization
Florida Department of Environmental Protection;

Watershed
Apalachicola Bay Watershed

Congressional Districts
FL-2

State(s)
Florida

Project Phase
Implementation

Project ID
EGID 39

Go to full gallery

Last Date Refreshed
02/27/2018

Public Engagement Tools

Current

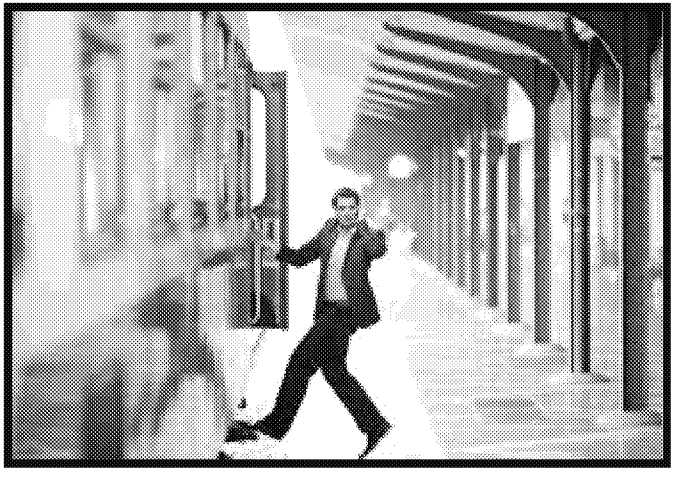
- RESTORE eBlasts
- Products (Fact Sheets, FAQs, Talking Points)
- Project Pages
- Social Media
- Webinars
- Website

Future

- RESTORE Education Opportunities

Questions from the Public

How do I get money for lost wages?



Who is on the RESTORE Council?

Where do I submit my project/program?

When will the next FPL be released?

What is RESTORE?

What is an "FPL"?

I have health issues related to oil spill clean up…

How is RESTORE different from NRDA?

Understanding RESTORE

How do I get money for lost wages?

Who is on the RESTORE Council?

Where do I submit my project/program?

How is RESTORE different from NRDA?

When will the next FPL be released?

RESTORE 900 (Remedial)

RESTORE 100

RESTORE 200

RESTORE 300

RESTORE 400

RESTORE Education Opportunities

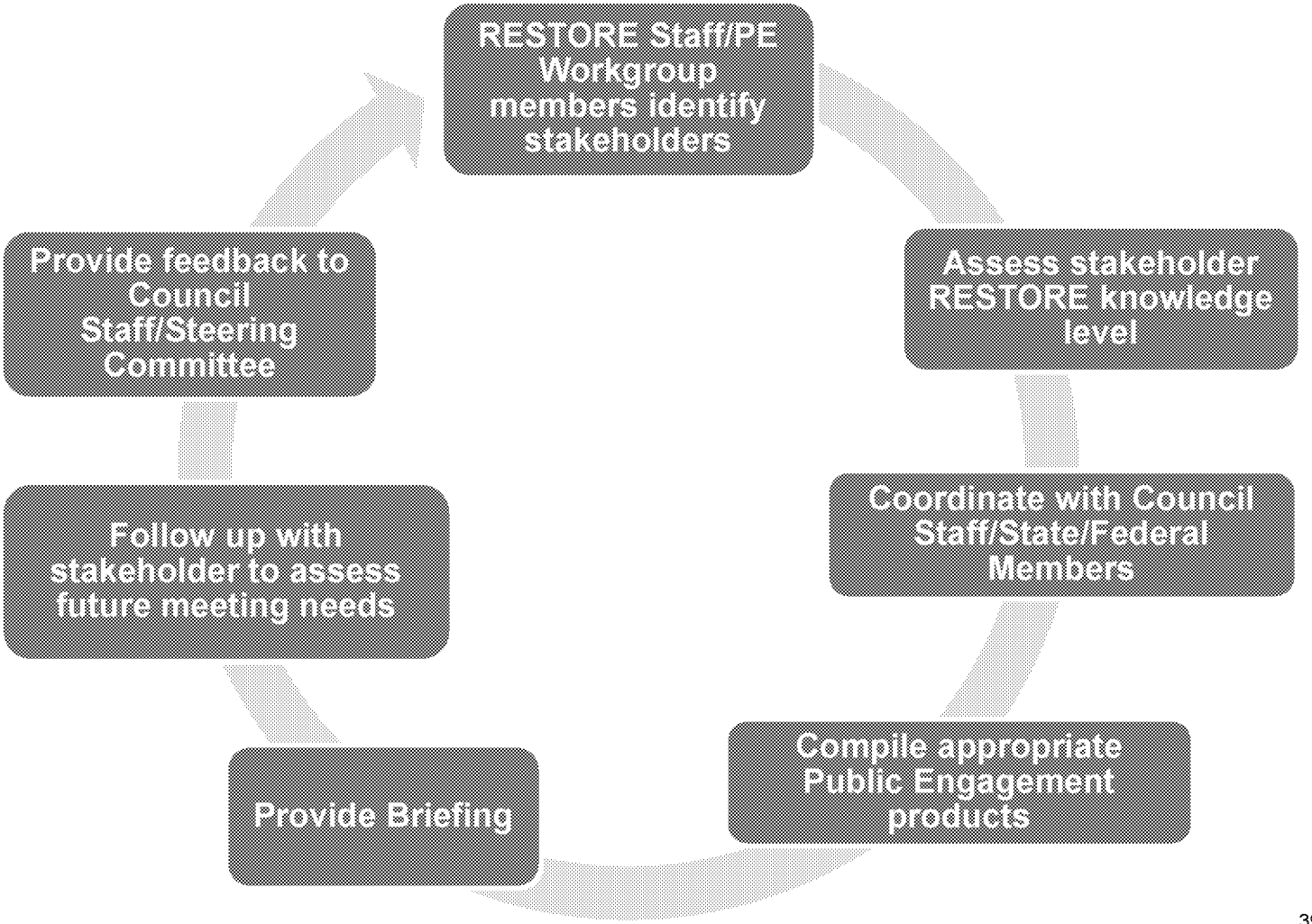
Who
- RESTORE staff
- Public Engagement Workgroup members
- Council Member representatives (as needed)

What
- A series of 30 minute to 1 hour informal small group meetings

How
- Advertised on RESTORE website/eBlasts
- Pre-approved RESTORE/NRDA/NWFW products

Where
- Previously scheduled meetings
- Faith based/Houses of worship
- Community centers
- Fairs/Festivals
- Restoration effort meetings
- Other partner identified venues

RESTORE Education Opportunities



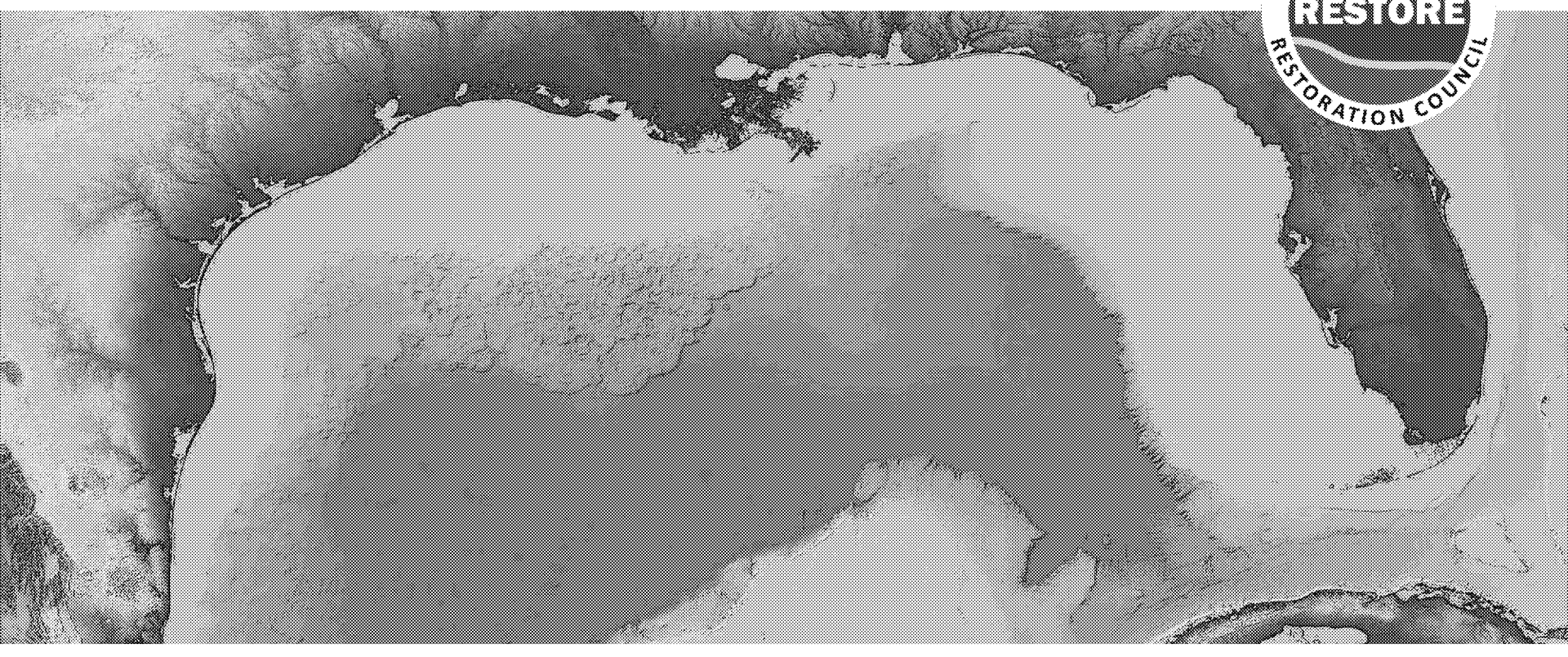
Expected Results

- Supporting engagement with all stakeholders
- Increasing diversity of participants
- Increasing public engagement opportunities
- Ensuring public participation

Council PE Workgroup Members

- Serve as POC for transparency of member activities
  - ❑ Project Page content/update
  - ❑ Develop member project award roll out
  - ❑ Public Meeting announcements
  - ❑ Member collaboration activities
  - ❑ CPS activities
- Participate in developing coordinated Council message
  - ❑ Enhance public knowledge of ongoing Council restoration activities/efforts
  - ❑ Communicate FPL/10 year funding strategy
  - ❑ RESTORE Council DWH 10 Anniversary strategy

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174892-00043



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Commitment and Planning Support (CPS)
Year 4 Evaluation Process

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

CPS FPL Year 4 Evaluation - Purpose

Per the CPS FPL, at Year-4, review the effectiveness of CPS Funds in:

- Supporting Council members in meeting the Comprehensive Plan commitments
- Identifying future investments that maximize achievement of Gulf-wide restoration goals
- Considering whether extending planning and support efforts beyond the five-year period is needed to continue to meet the Comprehensive Plan commitments.

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Recommended Approach

- Use both qualitative and quantitative information to evaluate effectiveness
- Initiate evaluation at the beginning of Year 4, thereby evaluating the first 3 years of activities
- Evaluation would inform:
  - CPS FPL renewal determination
  - Whether revisions to parameters (e.g., funding amounts, allowable activities) are warranted
  - Any necessary revisions to commitments in the 2021 Comprehensive Plan update

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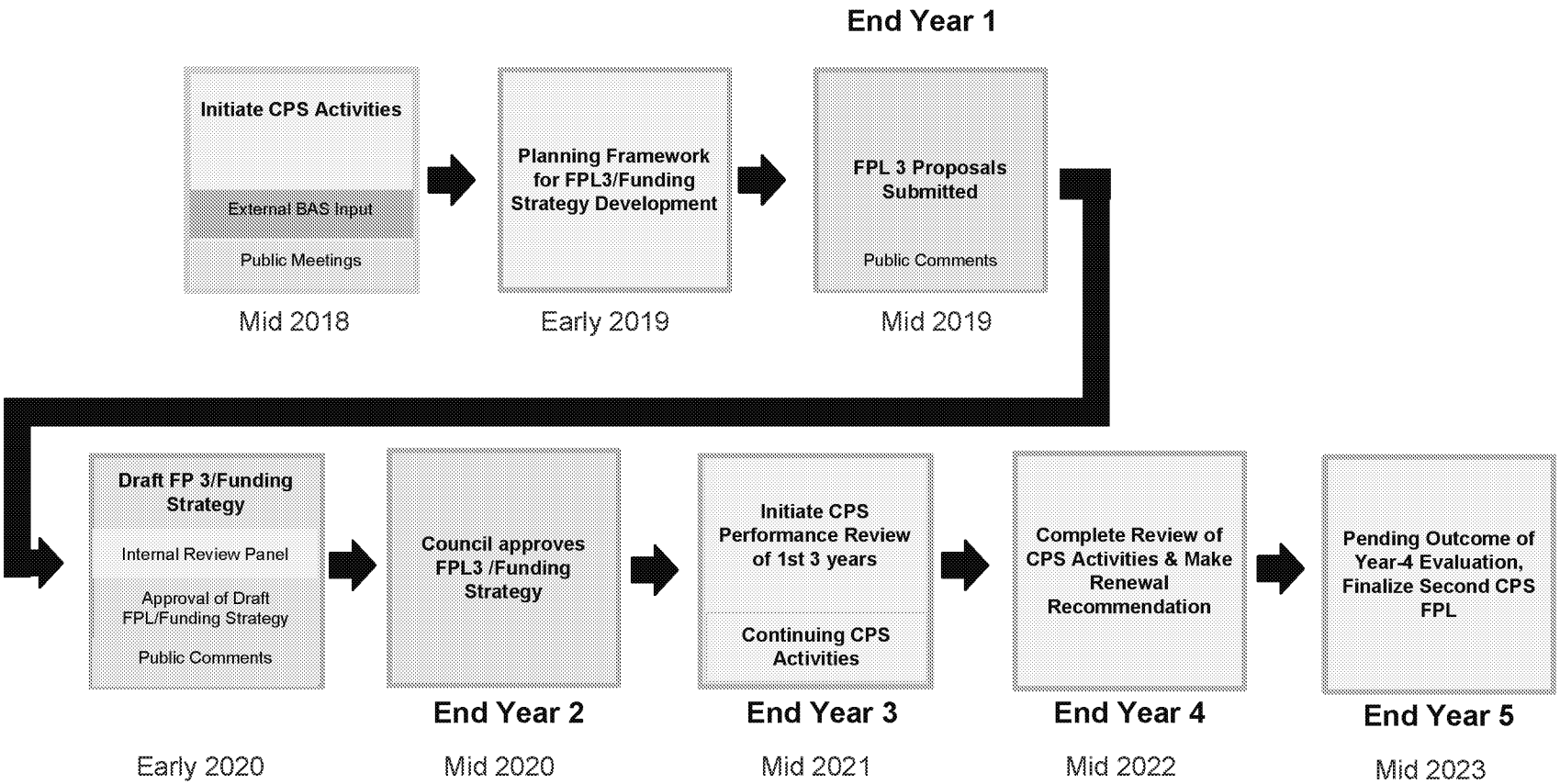
CPS Evaluation Timeline



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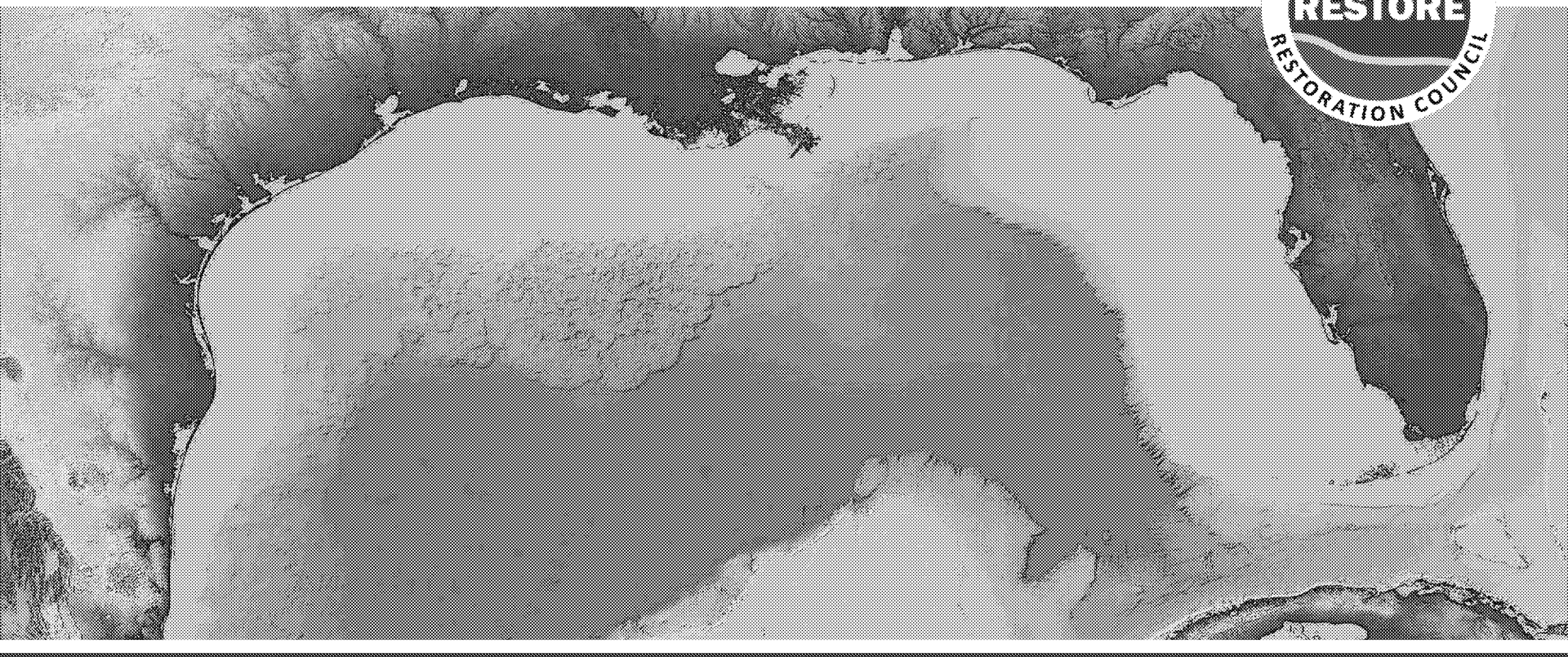

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls: Overview

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls

- **Goal of presentation:**
  - Heads up to members regarding issue
  - Initial feedback/thoughts from members

- **Issue:** Members might request additional funds to cover budget shortfalls for approved FPL activities (pre- or post-award)
  - Due to unanticipated costs (materials, labor…)
  - Not uncommon in programs such as this
  - Council process needed for addressing such requests

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Potential Outcomes

- Amend FPL to increase funding to meet budget shortfall
- Determine alternative way to continue within approved budget (e.g., downsize project, alternative funding source(s) to cover shortfall)
- Deauthorize project and/or move it to consideration for funding in a subsequent FPL (could include termination of award)

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Policy and Process Elements

- **Council policy and process for potential budget shortfalls would need to address:**
  - Role of sponsor, Council staff and other members in reviewing matter and making recommendations to Council
  - Timing for considering such requests (e.g., ad hoc versus periodic Council meetings)
  - Budget considerations (e.g., funds for potential increases limited in some way)

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Council-Selected Restoration Component

Of the approximately 52 Category 1 applications for funding expected to be submitted for the 2015 FPL, to date a total of 42 applications have been initiated in RAAMS. Twenty-eight (28) grant/IAA awards have been made, totaling $101,973,633.

LEGENDS

Figure 1: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

Figures 1 and 2:

Not Started in RAAMS (Member) – application in the development stage; application data entry in RAAMS has not been initiated.

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete & submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

IAA Approval (Member) – IAAs only; review and approval of award by federal Members.

Figure 1

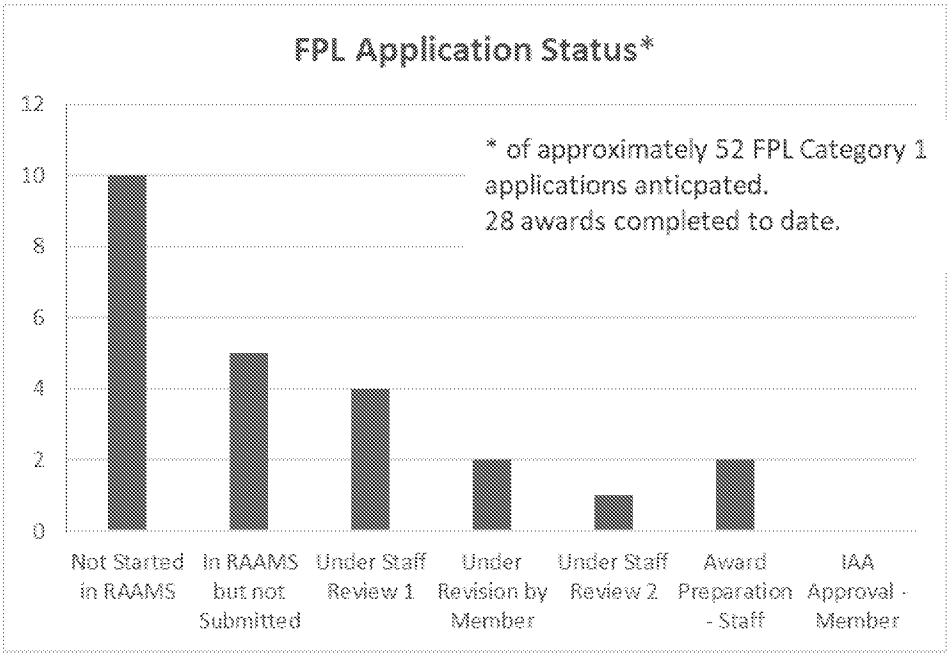
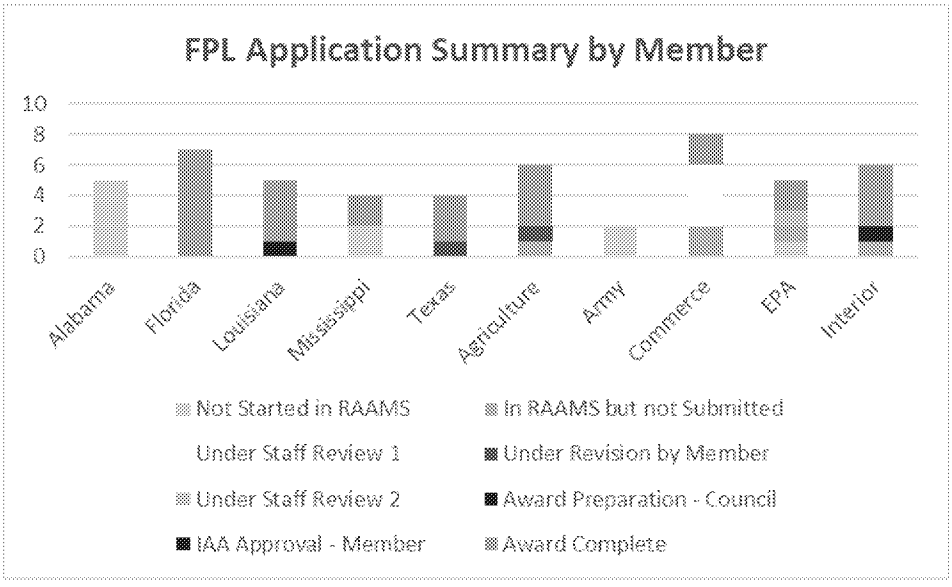


Figure 2



Spill Impact Component

Three Planning State Expenditure Plans (PSEPs) have been approved, and three PSEP grants have been awarded to the Gulf Consortium and states of Mississippi and Texas. Two State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) have been submitted in RAAMS and approved by the Council Chair, the Louisiana SEP and the Mississippi SEP. The first SEP project application was awarded on 8/31/2017 to the State of Louisiana for CPRA's Adaptive Management Program. $25,775,645 has been awarded to date under this component.

LEGEND

Figure 3: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete & submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

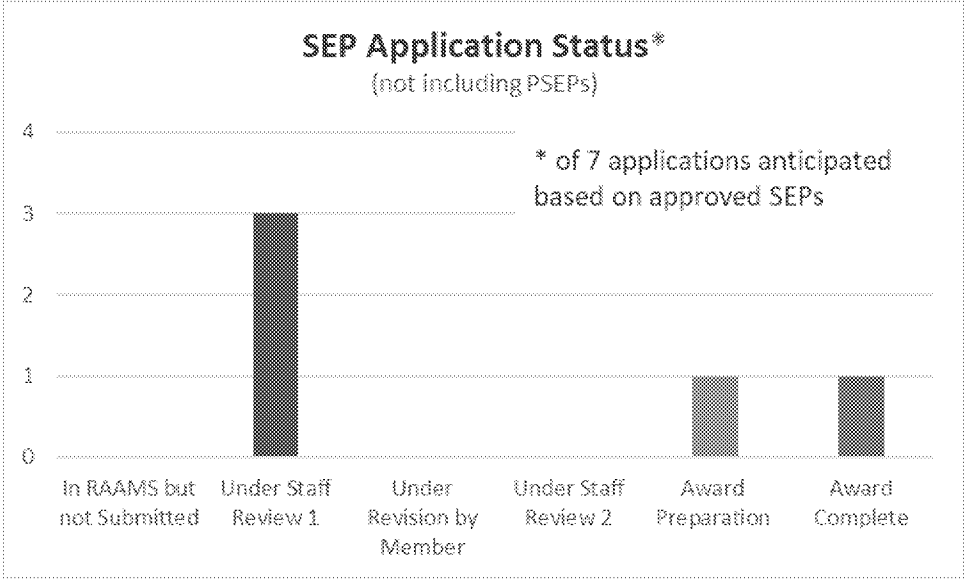
Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Table 1

Approved SEP	# Projects or Programs in Approved SEP	Anticipated Grant Awards	# Awarded
Louisiana	3	3	1
Mississippi	3	4	0

Figure 3



GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, April 18, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EDT - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EDT

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: April 24 and 25, 2018 Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting** (Ben Scaggs/Buck Sutter)
Objective: Discuss agenda for face to face meeting in Pensacola, Florida scheduled for the week of April 24 and 25, 2018, with a half-day visit to a local restoration site and day and half business meeting.

Materials: April 24-25 Face-to-Face Agenda

III. **TOPIC: Update on CPS Applications** (Jean Cowan/Kristin Smith)
Objective: Update the Steering Committee on the status of the CPS applications

Materials: N/A

IV. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
April 24 and 25, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 4/20/2018 3:52:02 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: LA SEP Amendment and Read-Ahead Materials for Steering Committee Meeting

Attachments: (SEP) RESTORE-Parish-Matching-Project-Selection-Amendment.pdf; (1) April 24_25, 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Agenda.pdf; (2) April 24_25, 2018 Steering Committee Slides - Master.pdf; (3) Grant System - Task Force Recommendation.pdf; (4) Grant System - Analysis of Alternatives_04_20_FINAL.pdf; (5) Grant System - Requirements Comparison FINAL.xlsx; (6) Projects Concepts Database_SC_Update_20180425.pdf

Council Members:

Louisiana submitted an amendment to its SEP on April 19 for Chair approval pursuant to the RESTORE Act. This proposed amendment is entitled the "CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program Selection Amendment." The statutory 60-day review period for this amendment begins today, April 20, 2018. A decision by the Chair is required by June 18, 2018.

The LA SEP amendment is attached for your review. Pursuant to the Council's SEP Guidelines, all members have until May 9, 2018, to submit comments to the Chair for consideration. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the SEP amendment and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines. Please provide any comments you might have to John Ettinger at john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov. If you have any questions, please contact John at Ex. 6

In addition, attached are the read-ahead materials for the upcoming face-to-face Steering Committee meeting. These materials include:

(1) Agenda for April 24/25, 2018, Steering Committee meeting.
(2) Master slide document (previously sent to you on April 10, 2018).
(3) Grant System Task Force recommendations.
(4) Grant System analysis of alternatives
(5) Grant System requirements comparison
(6) Projects Concepts Database slides (for the Collaboration Tool Overview agenda item).

Per our conversation on the April 18 Steering Committee call, we may make minor changes to the second day of the agenda for the upcoming face-to-face meeting, depending on how much progress we make on day one.

We look forward to seeing you in Gulf Breeze next week. Have a great weekend.

Thank you.

Council Staff
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500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 24-25, 2018
EPA Gulf Breeze Laboratory
Gulf Breeze, Florida

Tuesday, April 24 Agenda

9:00am – 9:10am	**Welcome and Introductions** (Chair, Co-Chair, All)
9:10am – 9:15am	**Overview of Agenda and Desired Outcomes** (Buck Sutter)
9:15am – 10:30am	**Collaboration in Practice-Path to FPL 3** (Ben Scaggs, Jean Cowan, Buck Sutter) ***Subtopic***: FPL and 10-Year Funding Strategy, Potential Content, Funding, Workflow and Timing *Objectives:* • Discuss more specific details regarding workflow, timeline, and major milestones • Discuss schedule and general agenda items that may be part of upcoming Steering Committee meetings *Materials:* • FPL 3 and Funding Strategy Updating Workflow and Timeline (page 1 of read-ahead materials) • FPL 3 and Funding Strategy Path Forward (page 8 of read-ahead materials)
10:30am – 10:45am	**Break**

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174970-00001

10:45am – 12:45pm **Collaboration in Practice-Path to FPL 3 Continued** (John Ettinger, Heather Young, Jessica Henkel, Keala Hughes)

Subtopic: Commitments from the Comprehensive Plan: Updating the Submission Guidelines, Environmental Compliance, Science Review Processes, Education and Transparency

Objectives:

- FPL 3 process: Council update of submission guidelines (background, process and timing)
- Science Review Discussion
- Review FPL environmental compliance requirements; discussion of collaboration and environmental compliance efficiency
- Discuss meeting Council's commitment to education and transparency

Materials:

- FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update (page 12 of read-ahead materials)
- FPL Environmental Compliance Review (page 19 of read-ahead materials)
- Education and Transparency (page 25 of read-ahead materials)

12:45pm – 2:00pm **LUNCH: On your own**

2:00pm – 5:00pm **Florida Field Trip**

Adjourn for the day

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174970-00002

Wednesday, April 25 Agenda

8:30am – 8:40am **Review Decisions/Actions from Day One** (Chair, Co-Chair)

8:40am – 8:45am **Agenda Review** (Buck Sutter)

8:45am – 10:15am **Collaboration in Practice-Path to FPL 3** (Ben Scaggs, Jean Cowan, Keala Hughes)
Subtopic: Getting to FPL3 through member collaboration efforts

Objectives:
- Provide summary outputs from Council staff member-by-member discussions, including role of PE staff and workgroup elements
- Discuss potential CPS Year-4 evaluation process
- Council Collaboration Tool Update

Materials:
- Summary Outputs of member-by-member discussions (to be provided at meeting)
- Commitment and Planning Support (CPS) Year-4 Evaluation Process (pp 42 of read-ahead materials)
- Collaboration Tool Overview (to be provided at meeting)

10:15am - 10:30am **Break**

10:30am – 11:15am **Update on RAAMS Replacement** (Josh Easton)
Objectives:
- Overview of the need of the RAAMS replacement
- Discuss recommendation of the RAAMS Task Force

Materials:
- Presentation Analysis of Alternatives (to be provided at meeting)

11:15am – 11:45am **Authorization vs Appropriation** (Louisiana)
Objectives:
- Continue discussion of Council authorization of projects in advance of Trust Fund funding availability

Materials:
- N/A

11:45am – 12:00pm **Funding-Related Issue** (John Ettinger, Mark Bisgeier, Mary Pleffner)

Objectives:

- Initiate discussion of how the Council would address potential budget shortfalls on FPL projects/programs

Materials:

- Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls Overview (page 46 of read-ahead materials)

12:00pm – 1:30pm **LUNCH: On your own**

1:30pm – 2:00pm **508 Compliance and Council's Document Format Requirements** (Keala Hughes, Mark Bisgeier)

Objectives:

- Discuss impacts of final federal requirements that all documents posted on Council website be 508 Compliant

Materials:

- 508 Compliance Overview (to be provided at meeting)

2:00pm – 3:00pm **Member Update on FPL 1 Project Progress** (All)

Objectives:

- Update Steering Committee on FPL Application and Award Status (Kristin Smith)
- Member Updates on FPL 1 Project Progress (10 minutes per member)

Materials:

- RAAMS Application Status Report (to be provided at meeting)
- Member materials (to be provided at meeting)

3:00pm – 3:15pm **Break**

3:15pm – 4:30pm **Continue Member Updates on FPL 1** (All)

Objectives:

- Member Updates on FPL 1 Project Progress, continued (10 minutes per member)

Materials:

- Member materials (to be provided at meeting)

4:30pm – 5:00pm **Wrap-up**

Adjourn

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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 24-25, 2018
EPA Gulf Breeze Laboratory
Gulf Breeze, Florida

April 24/25, 2018, Steering Committee Meeting
Agenda and Presentation Materials
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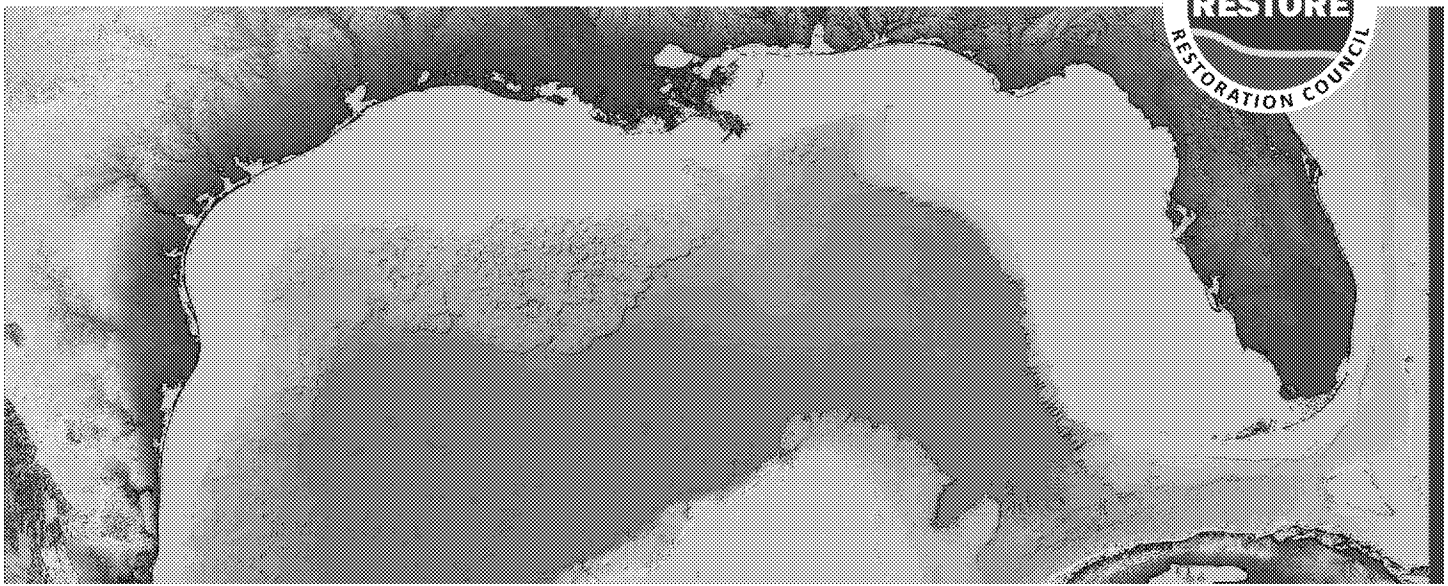
FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update	12
FPL Environmental Compliance Review	19
Education and Transparency	25
CPS Year-4 Evaluation Process	42
Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls Overview	46



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL 3 and 10-Year Funding Strategy
Updating Workflow and Timing

April 2018 Steering Committee Meeting

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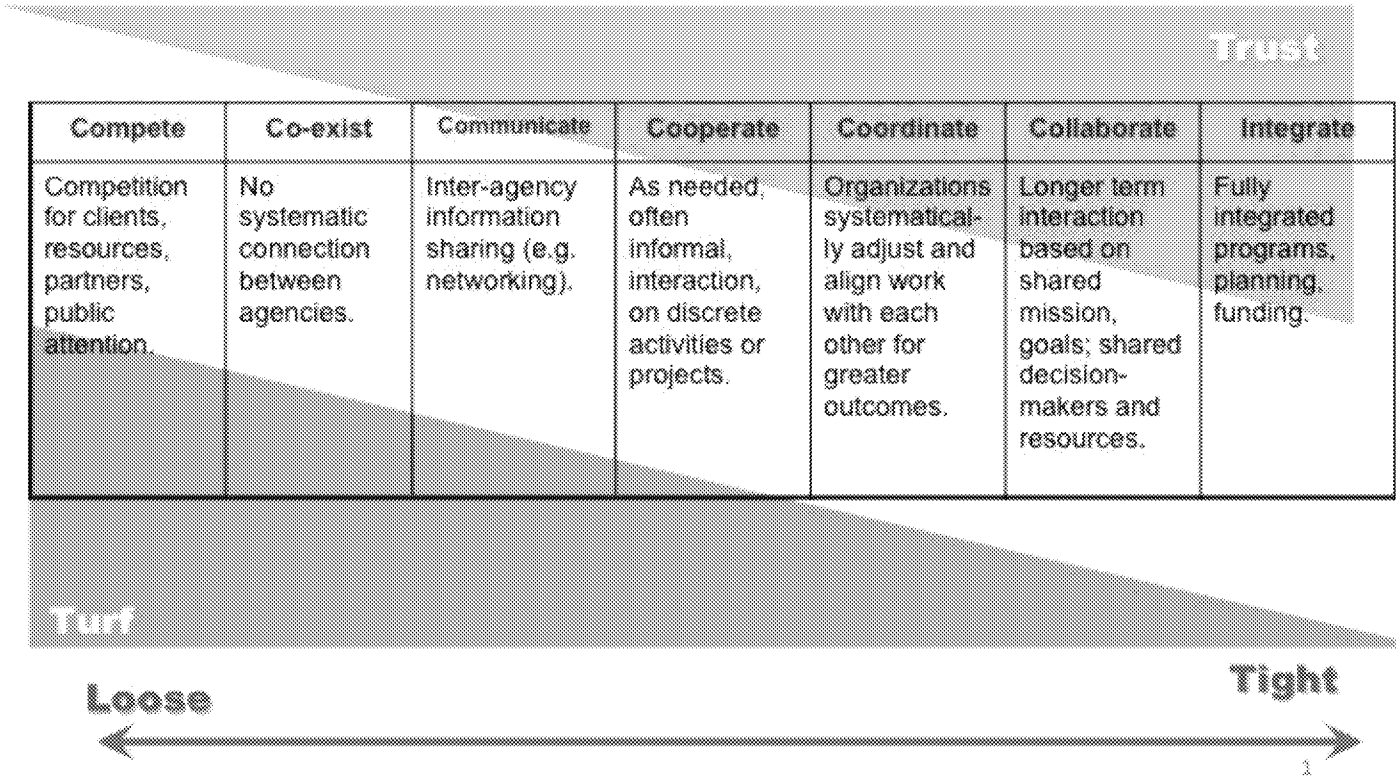
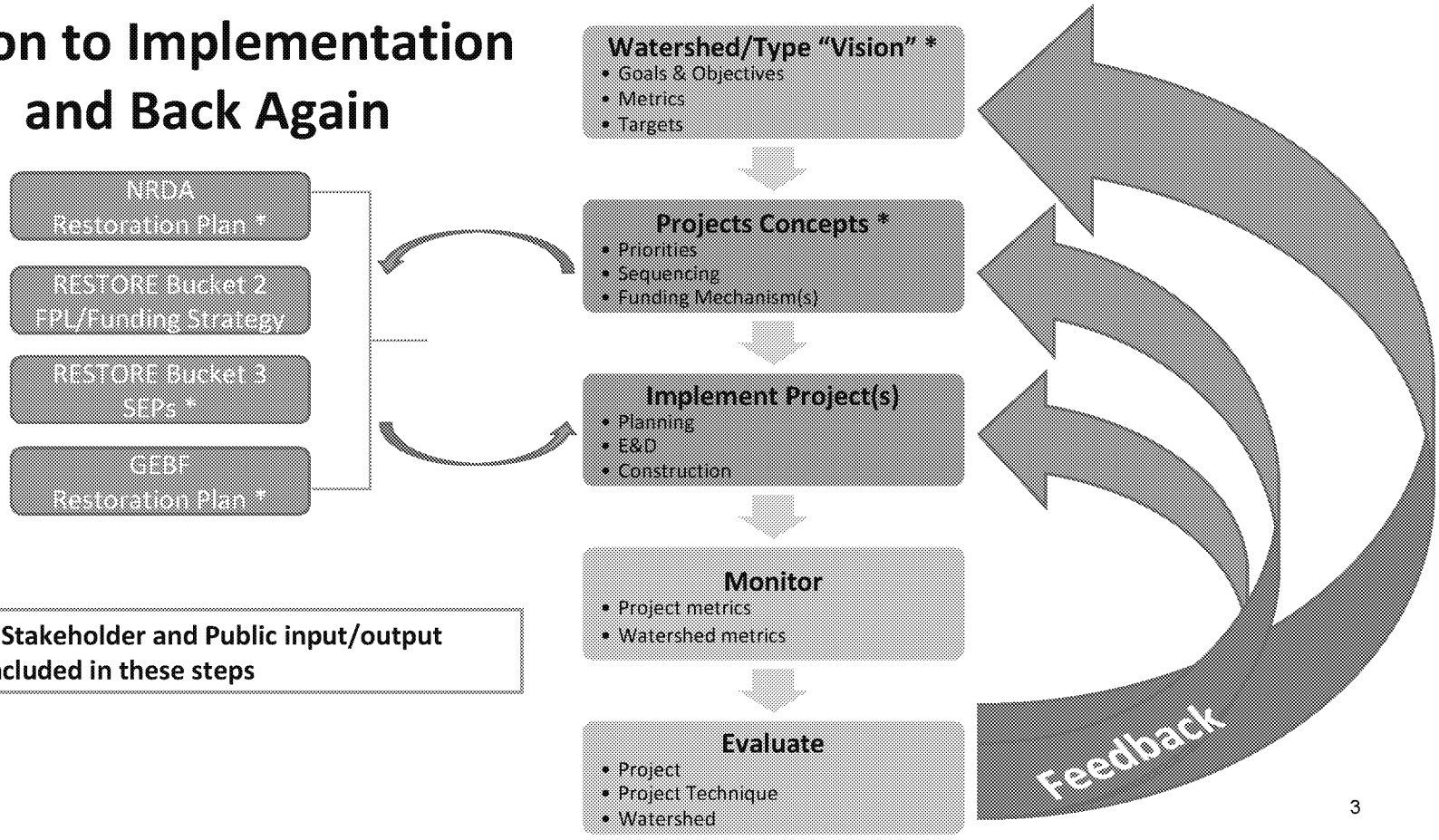
The Collaboration Continuum



http://www.collaborationforimpact.com/collaborative-approaches/ca-subpage-2/

Collaboration: Vision to Implementation and Back Again



*** Stakeholder and Public input/output included in these steps**

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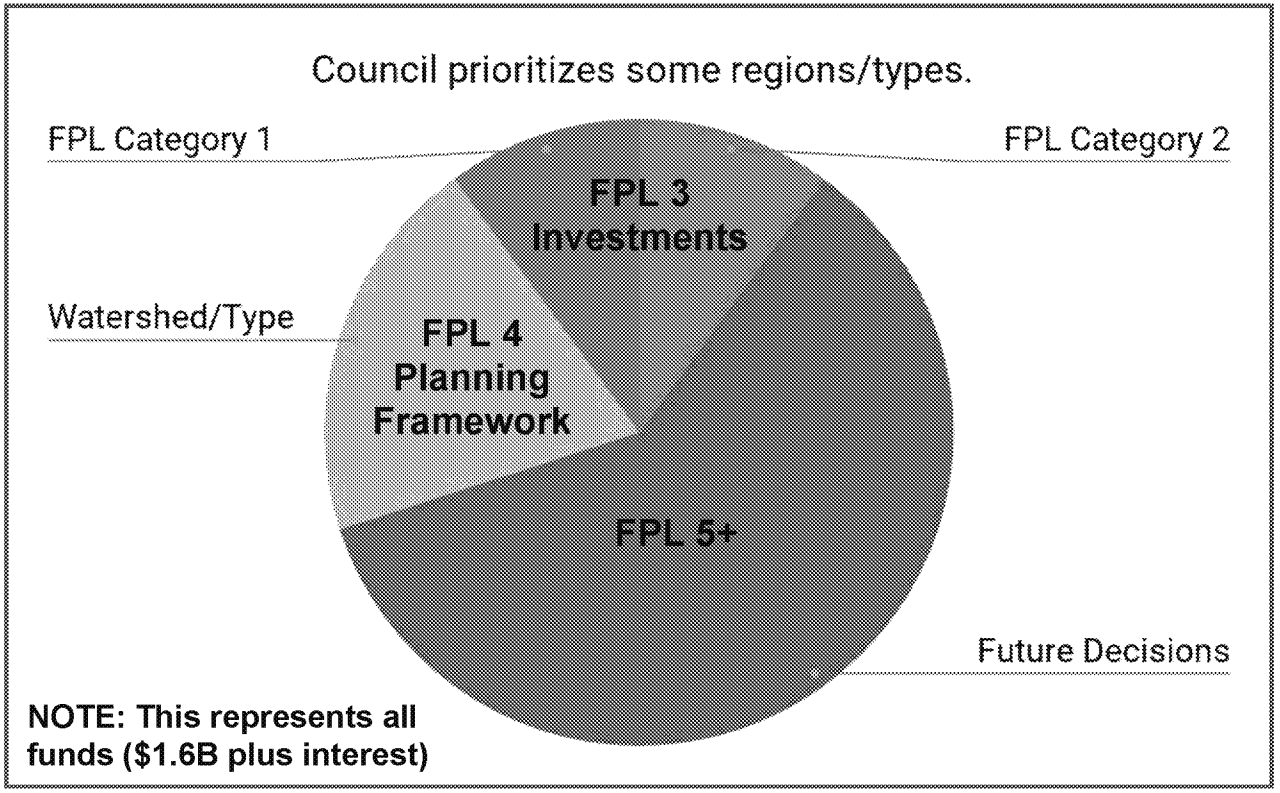
FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy



Examples of Planning Framework Options:
Framework 1: Focus on key watersheds/estuaries
Framework 2: Focus on key resources (e.g., oysters, wetlands)
Framework 3: Mix of frameworks 1 and 2

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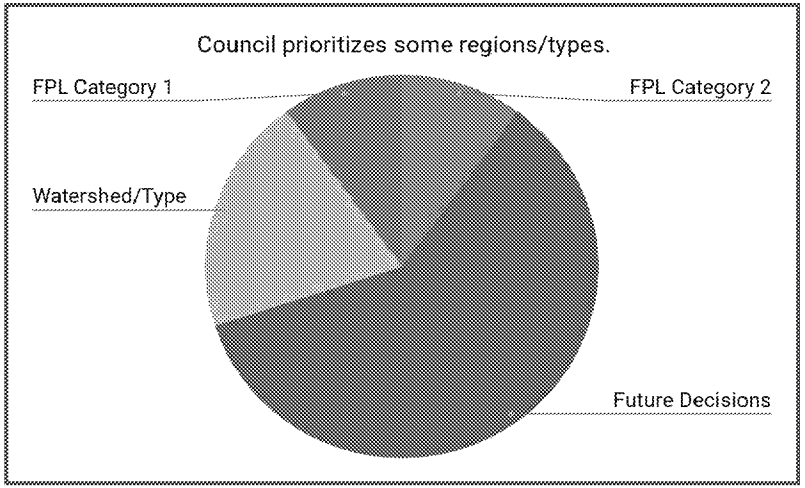
Filling FPL 3/Funding Strategy Information Gap



Issue:

- Priority watersheds/restoration types (i.e. "Planning Framework") have not been identified for **FPL 3**

Solution:

- Member-led Collaboration meetings provide foundation for development of the Council's FPL3 "Planning Framework"

Purpose:

- Signal Council's FPL3 priorities to the public, stakeholders, potential funding partners
- Seek Public feedback prior to proceeding with proposals development

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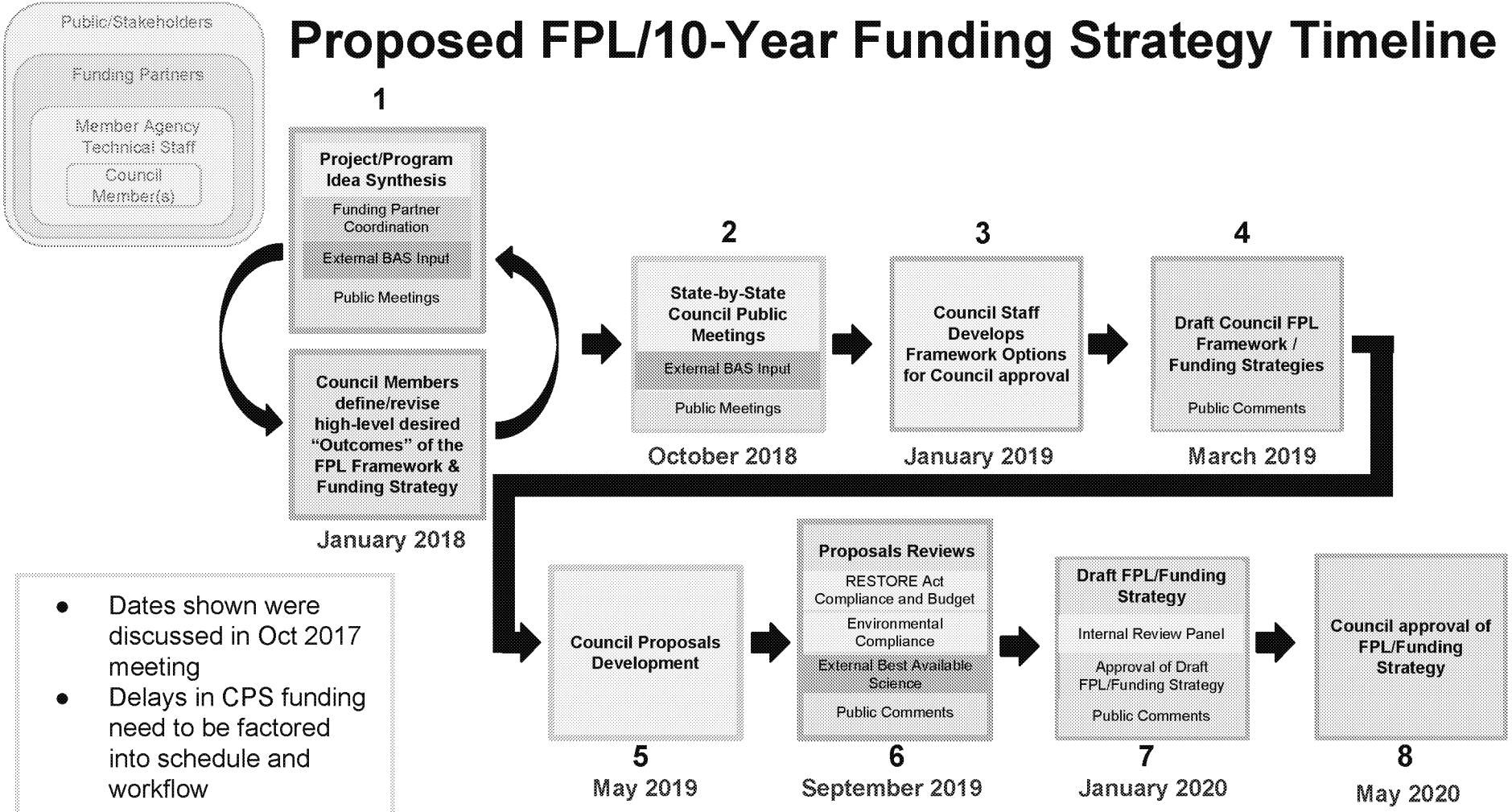
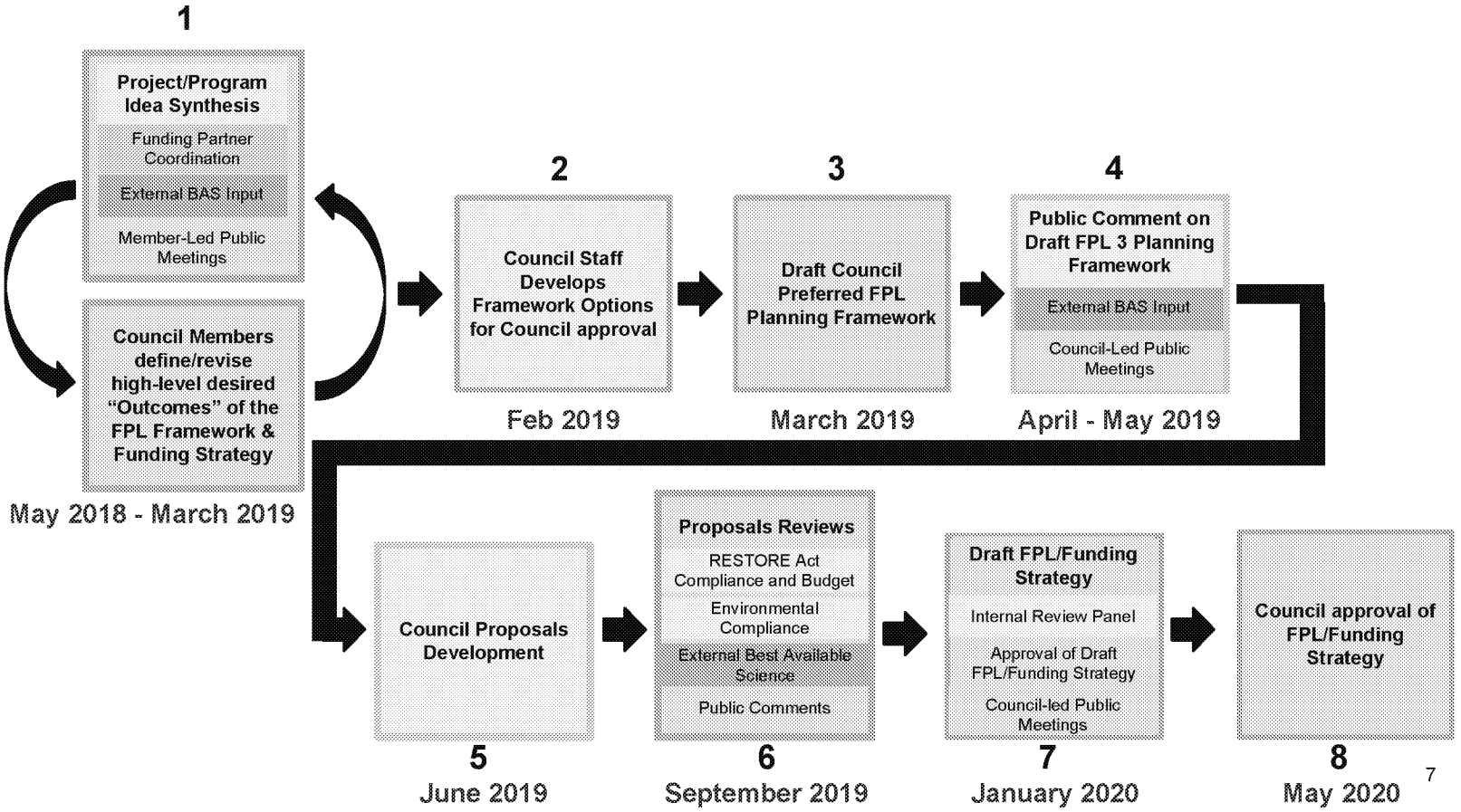
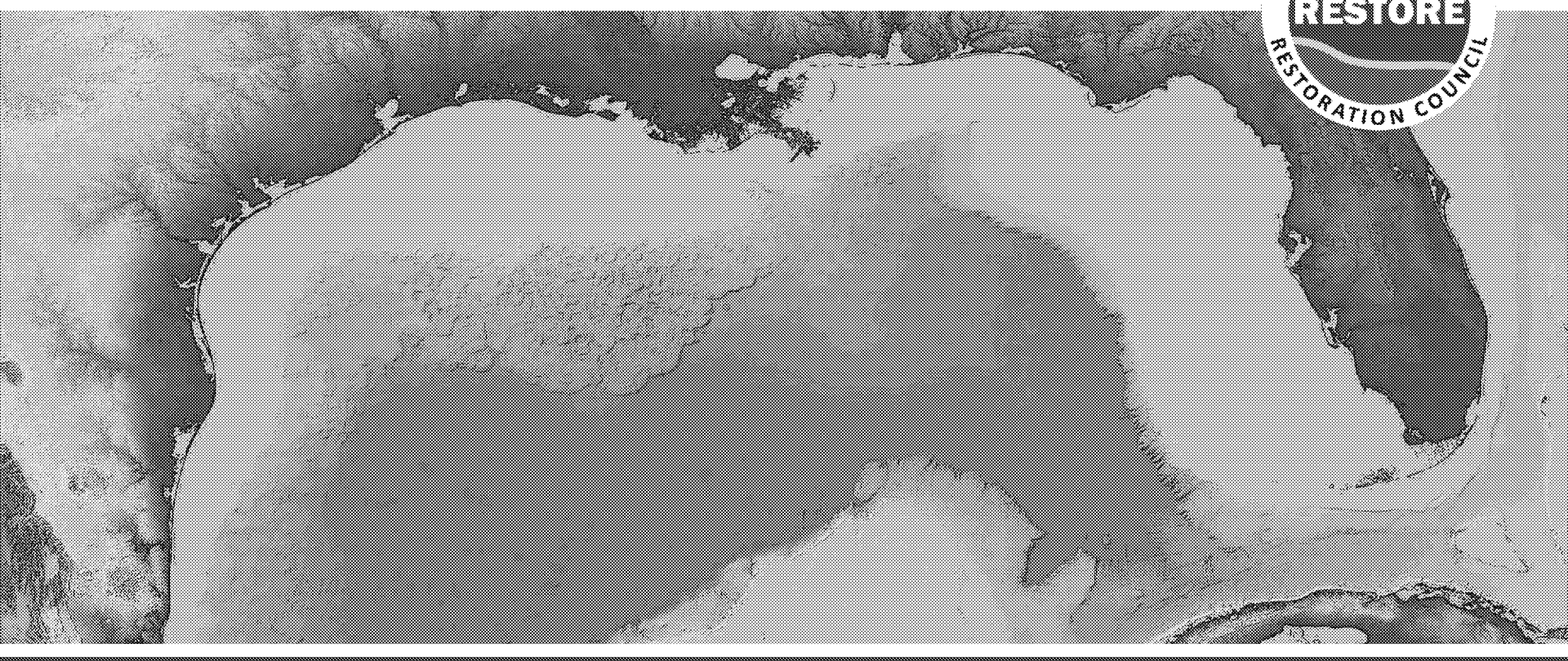
Proposed FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy Timeline



- Dates shown were discussed in Oct 2017 meeting
- Delays in CPS funding need to be factored into schedule and workflow

Revised Proposed FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy Timeline





Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL 3 / Funding Strategy Path Forward

April 2018 Steering Committee Meeting

Gulf Breeze, FL

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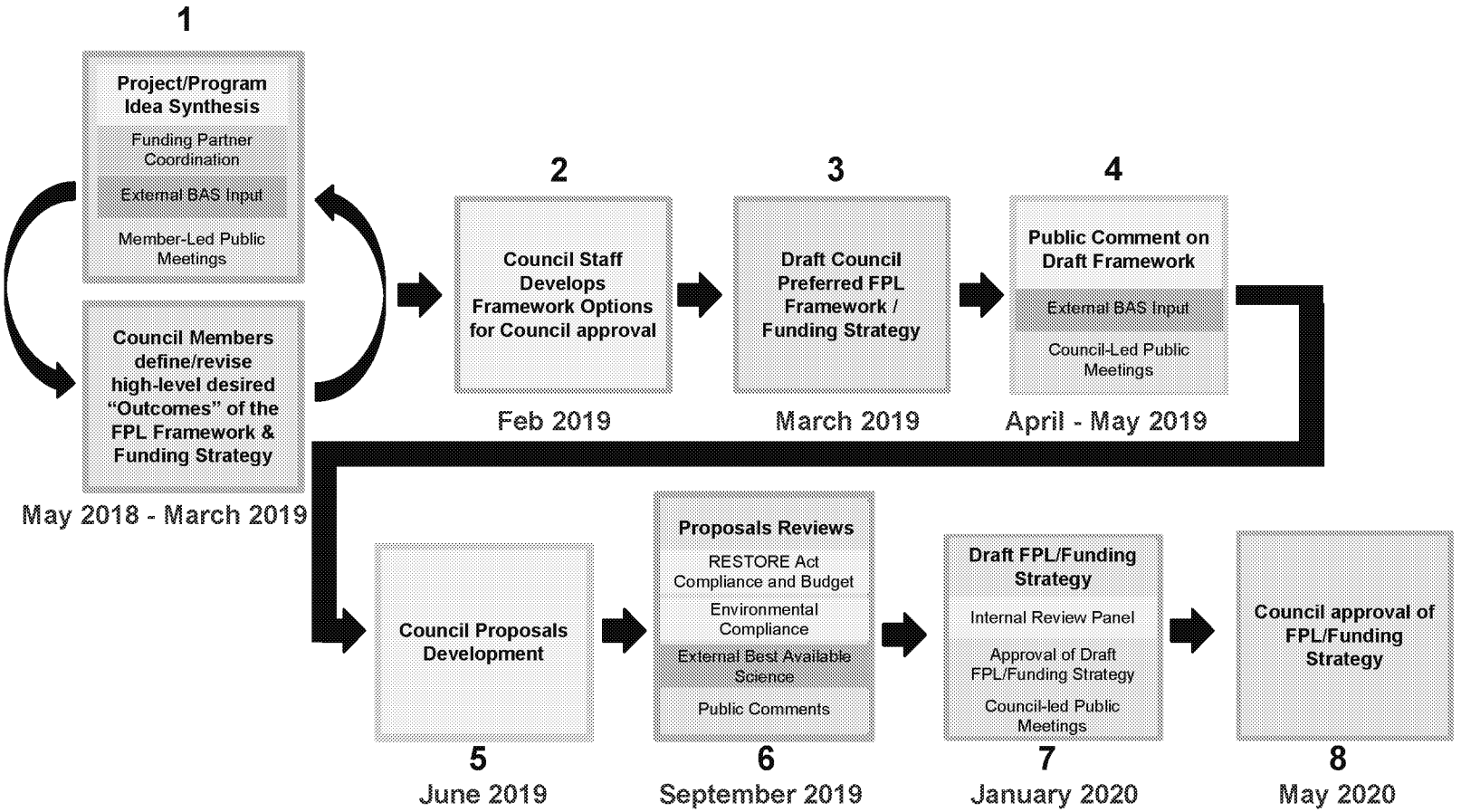
FPL3/Funding Strategy Workflow & Timeline



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FPL3/Funding Strategy Path Forward

Tasks to Support Achievement of Milestones:

- **Member-led collaboration activities** (*Spring 2018 - Spring 2019*)
  - Technical/Funding Partners/Stakeholder/Public/Funding meetings and workshops to develop concepts
  - Steering Committee Meetings to report out/discuss member-by-member progress

- **Increasing Public Transparency** (*Spring 2018 - …*)
  - On-going Public Engagement Workgroup coordination
  - RESTORE Education Opportunities

- **Submissions & reviews updates** (*Spring 2018 - Spring 2019*)
  - Submission guidelines
  - Proposals submission platform (i.e. RAAMS replacement)
  - Science review process
  - Submissions review process

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Steering Committee Meetings & Milestones

Mississippi

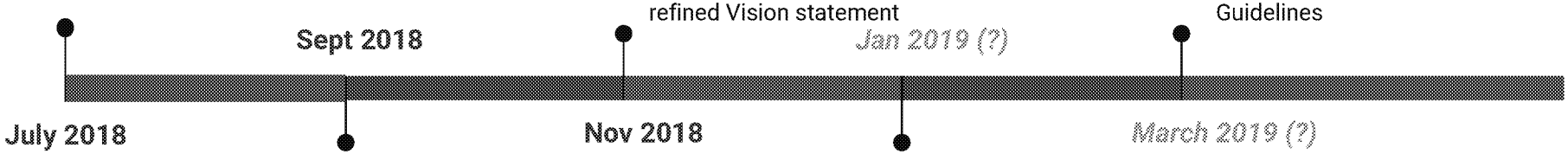
- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Discuss Public Webinar - FPL3 process

Texas

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Science review updates
- Council "Outcomes"/ refined Vision statement

Florida

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Approve draft FPL 3 Planning Framework
- Public Meetings Presentation
- Discuss draft Submission Guidelines



Alabama

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Update on RESTORE education opportunities

Louisiana

- Member collaboration activities
- Restoration concepts
- FPL 3 Planning Framework Options
- Influence on revisions to Submission Guidelines
- Council-led Public Meetings Logistics

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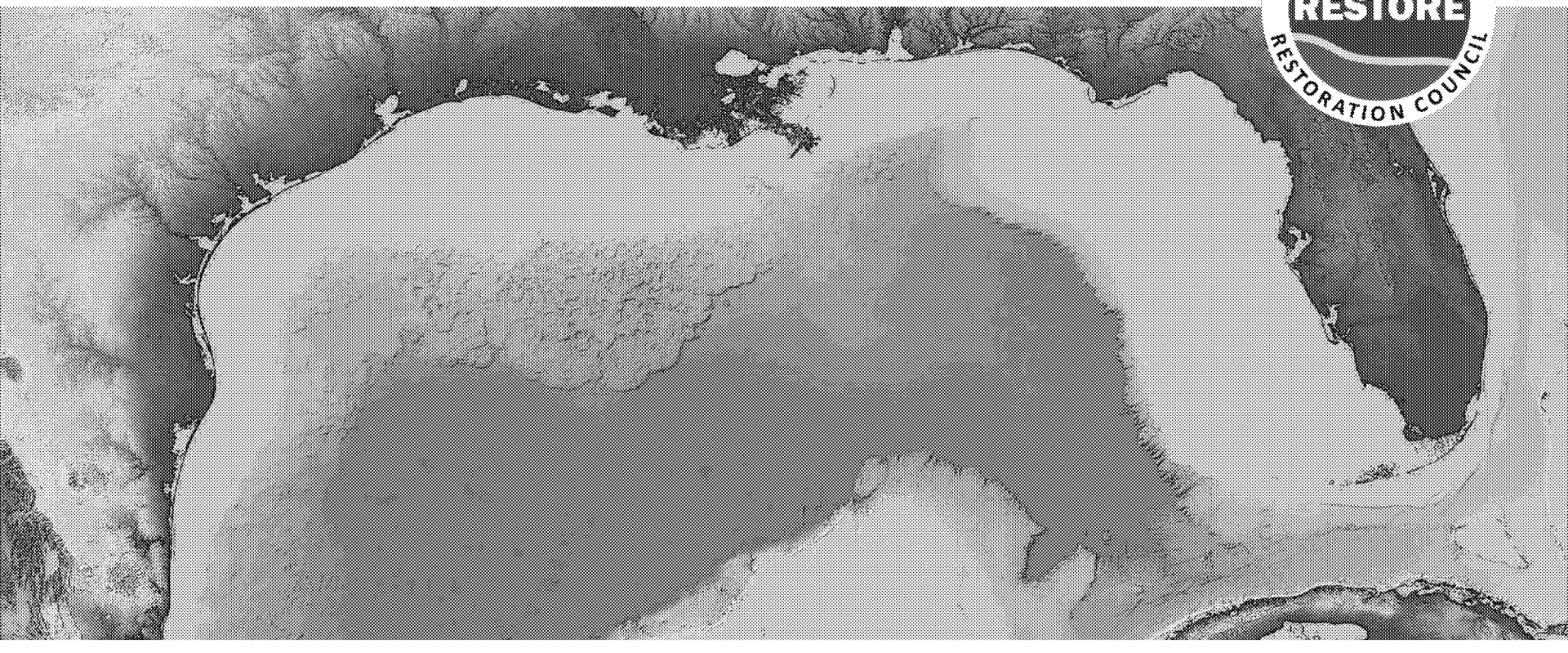

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL3 Submission Process & Collaboration

- **FPL3 process is built on collaboration**
  - Can improve both the efficiency of the FPL submission development and review process

- **Update of FPL submission guidelines and review process will incorporate:**
  - Lessons learned from Initial FPL and
  - Developments from FPL3 collaboration process
    - e.g., collaboration may lead to fewer, more integrated submissions, which in turn could facilitate submission review process

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FPL3 Submission Guidelines and Review Process

FPL Submission Guidelines - Guide members in the development of FPL submissions by describing:

- Eligible activities
- Submission evaluation criteria
- Contents of submission packages
- Other info/requirements for effective submissions

FPL Submission Review Process - Describes how submissions will be reviewed by Council:

- Consistency with Act, Comp Plan, including other Council priorities (e.g., FPL framework)
- Best Available Science review
- Environmental compliance "readiness" review

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Submission Guidelines and Review Process Update

Purpose of Updates:

- Enhance efficiency and effectiveness of FPL process
- Incorporate lessons learned from Initial FPL
  - e.g., FPL funding categories, budgets, milestones…
- Address the Comprehensive Plan Update commitments
  - e.g., Collaboration, BAS, public engagement…
  - Incorporate future CMAWG monitoring and data management recommendations
  - Incorporate future PE Workgroup recommendations
- Account for BP settlement and future funding

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FPL3 Submission Guidelines Update

Proposed Path Forward:

- Council staff drafts submission guidelines and review process updates
- Members review updates
  - Council staff addresses member comments
- Steering Committee approves updates
- Final submission guidelines and review process updates posted on Council website

Proposed Completion Target: Spring 2019

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FPL Science Review Process Update

2016 Comp Plan Update Science Commitments:

- Updating the science review process questions
- Continued use of external reviewers for future FPL reviews
- Exploring the use of one or more science review panels

FPL Science Review Process Update

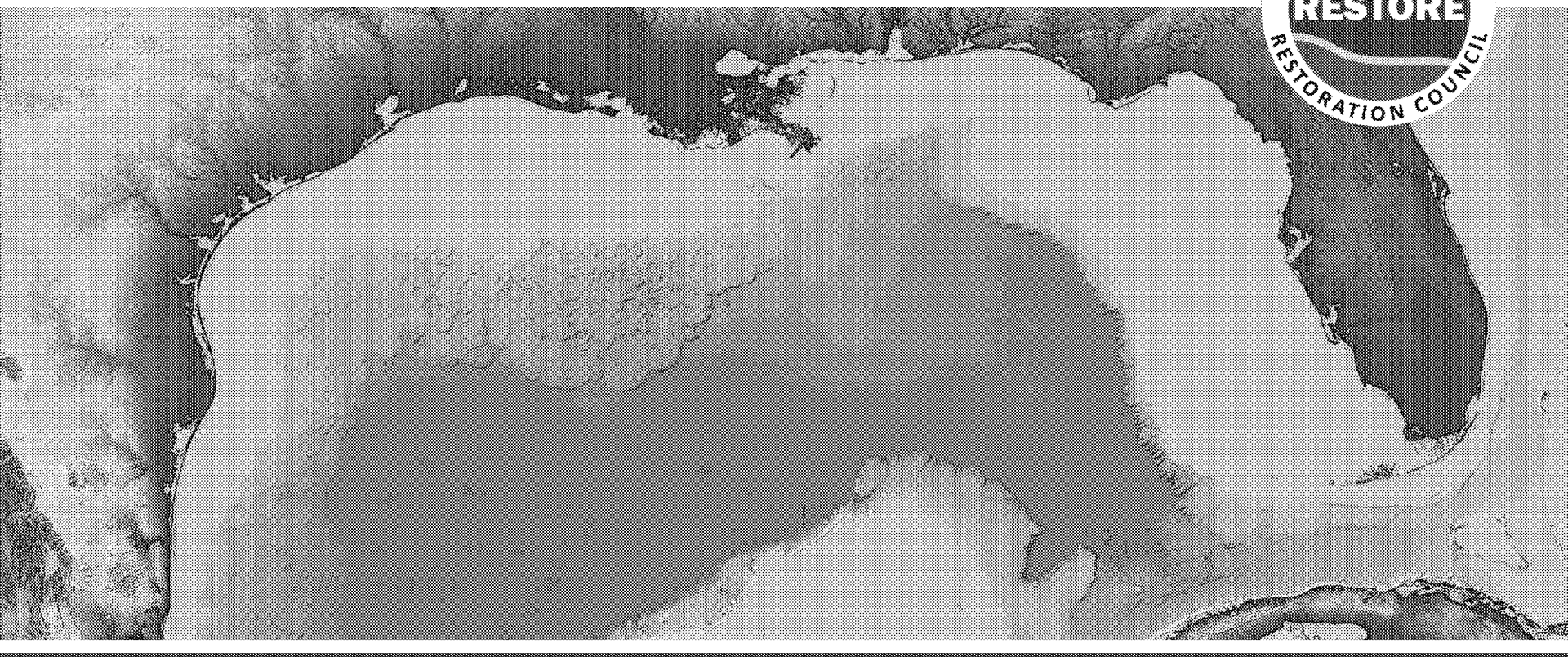
Proposed Path Forward:

- Council staff evaluate science review processes used by other restoration programs
- Members review approaches provided by Council staff
  - Council staff addresses member comments
- Steering Committee approves science review process update
- Final science review process updates posted on Council website

Proposed Completion Target: Early 2019

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174971-00020



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL 3 Environmental Compliance Review

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Environmental Compliance

Objectives:

- Review laws applicable to Bucket 2 funding approval
- Discuss opportunities for collaboration and efficiency in advance of FPL 3

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FPL Environmental Compliance: Background

- **FPL funding approval is a federal action**

- **Applicable laws (at funding approval stage):**
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA)
  - Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA)
  - National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FCWA)

- **Apply to FPL implementation activities with environmental impacts**
  - …as opposed to planning only

- **Other laws may apply at grant and/or implementation stage**
  - Often it is most efficient to address laws concurrently

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FPL Environmental Compliance: Background (cont.)

- **FPL submissions for implementation funds must include:**
  - NEPA documentation
  - Demonstration of compliance with other applicable laws (e.g., ESA, NHPA, MSA…)

- **To approve implementation funding:**
  - Council could adopt NEPA documentation (or use member Categorical Exclusion)
  - Ensure compliance with other applicable laws

- **Implementation activities not ready for funding approval can be placed in FPL Category 2**

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FPL Environmental Compliance: Examples

- **Example 1: FPL submission with existing Clean Water Act Section 404 permit**
  - As appropriate, Council could:
    - Adopt associated NEPA documentation, and
    - Include award condition requiring compliance with permit conditions (e.g., ESA, MSA, NHPA…)

- **Example 2: FPL submission for habitat conservation activity**
  - As appropriate, Council could:
    - Use member NEPA Categorical Exclusion (CE), and
    - Coordinate with members to ensure compliance with other potentially applicable laws

- **Example 3: FPL submission for planning only**
  - Council would use its planning CE

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FPL3 Environmental Compliance: Collaboration

- **Collaboration can improve FPL submissions and increase environmental compliance efficiency**
  - Incorporate interagency feedback and technical guidance at earliest opportunity
  - Determine if existing NEPA documentation, general permits, or consultations are applicable
    - e.g., existing member CE, PEIS, or NWP…
  - Determine what additional compliance needs must be met prior to submission
  - Leverage expertise of regulatory agencies
  - Ensure planning proposals have sufficient budget for future regulatory needs
- **CPS can be used for presubmission environmental compliance coordination**

Please contact with Council staff with any questions.

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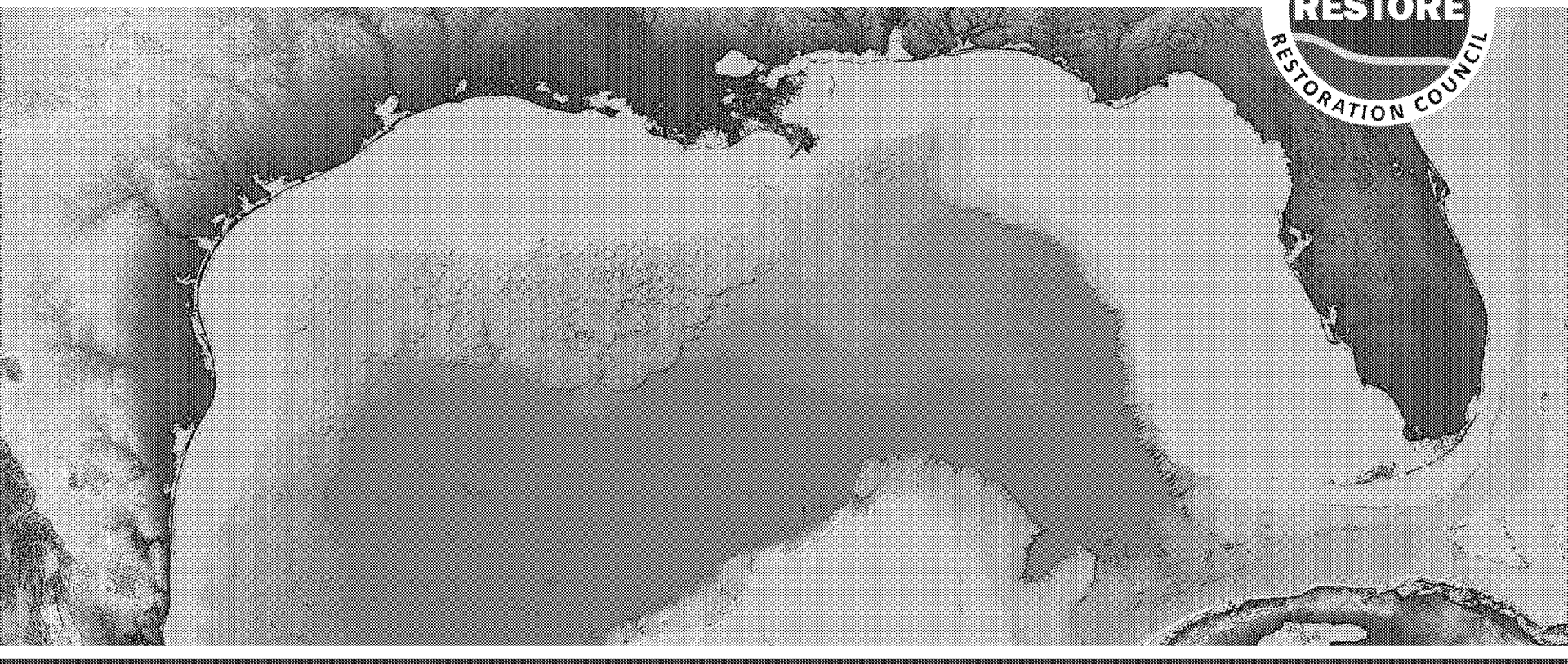


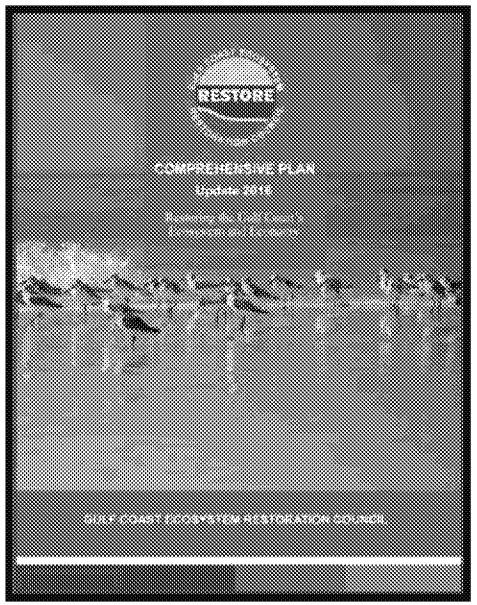
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Education and Transparency

April 24, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174971-00027

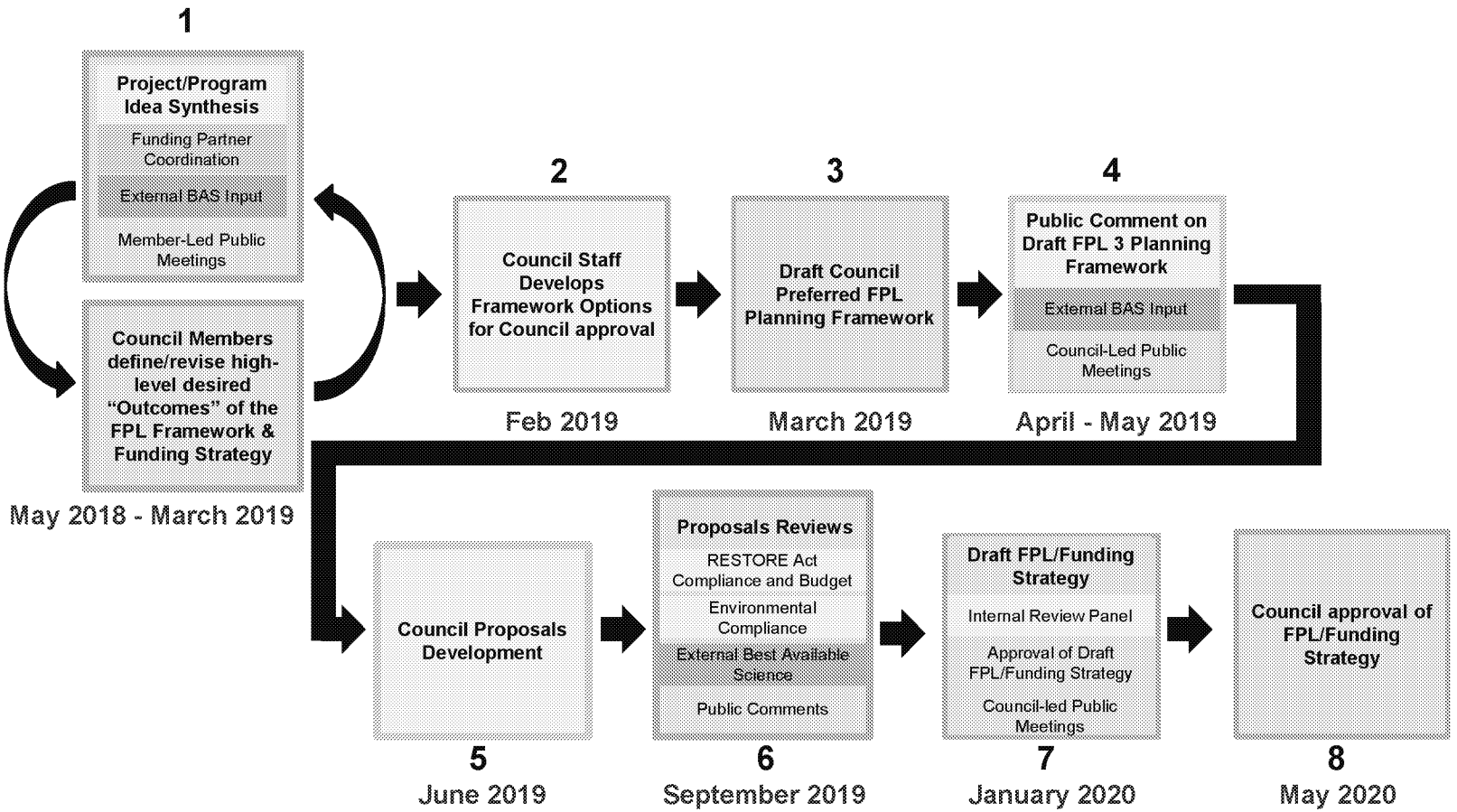
Comprehensive Plan Update



Commitment to Engagement, Inclusion, and Transparency

- Committed to setting and maintaining the highest standard for public engagement and transparency
- Seek broad participation and input from the diverse stakeholders who live, work, and play in the Gulf Coast region
- Support engagement with all stakeholders, including under-represented communities and federally-recognized Tribes
- Continue offering public engagement opportunities & ensure public participation
- Refine process for considering public input

Revised Proposed FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy Timeline



Public Engagement Roles & Responsibilities

- Educating stakeholders
- Coordinating with PE Workgroup
- Identifying outreach opportunities
  - ❑ Meetings/Conferences
  - ❑ Webinars
- Public Engagement Casework

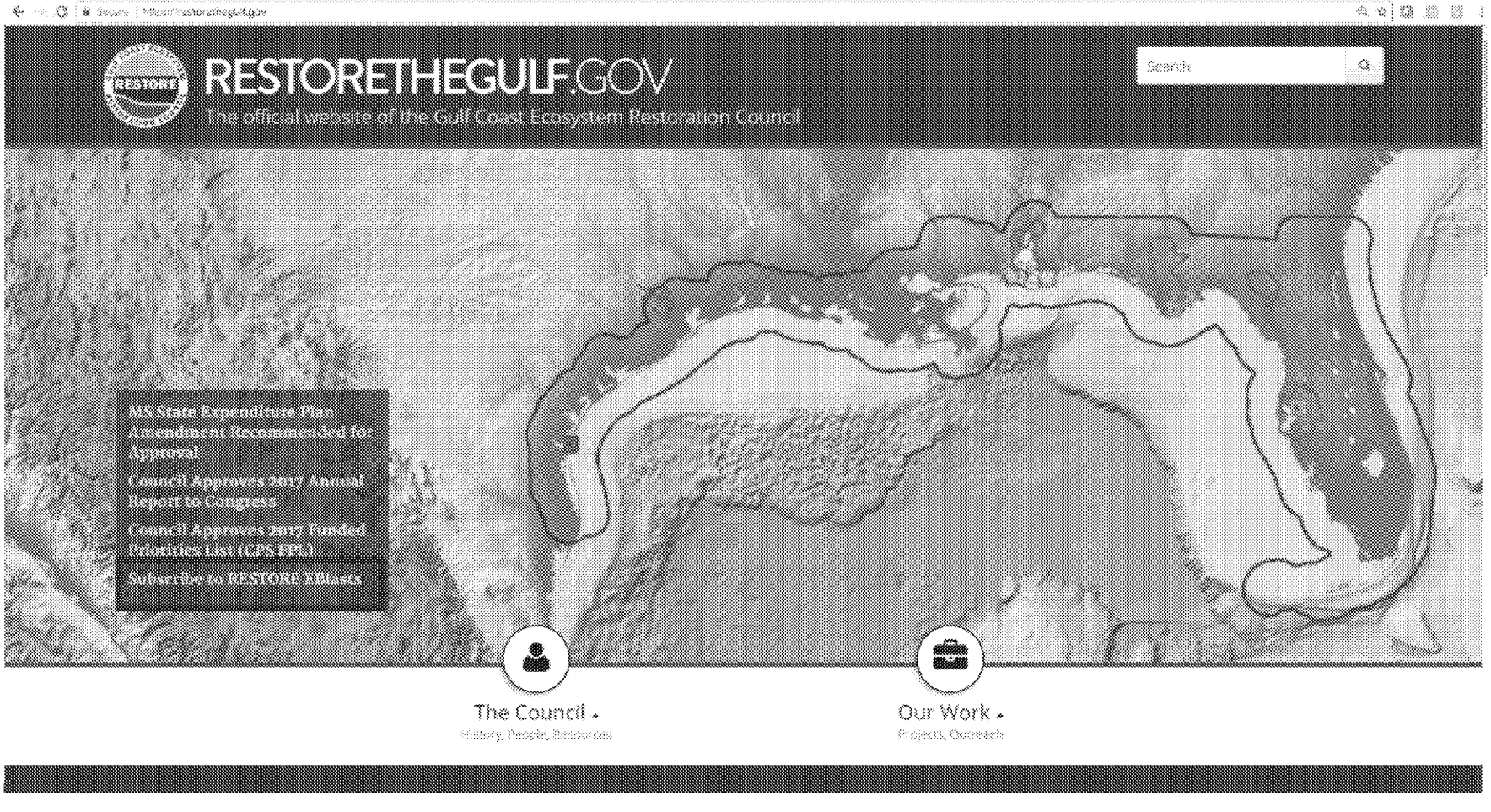
Stakeholders

- Develops cooperative relationships with stakeholders
  - ❑ Internal Stakeholders
    - Council Members/Steering Committee & Staff
    - Council Staff
  - ❑ External Stakeholders
    - Congressional Members/Staff
    - Federally recognized Tribes
    - Intergovernmental
    - Non Governmental Organizations
    - Media
    - General Public (including but not limited to limited English proficient and underserved/underrepresented communities)

Effective Public Engagement

- Builds trust and improves communication between stakeholders and decision makers
- Creates new opportunities for transparency and stakeholders involvement in problem solving and decision making
  - ❑ Builds common understanding
  - ❑ Helps stakeholders weigh a variety of perspectives and listen to each other's views
  - ❑ Manages differences and establishes path forward on tough issues

RESTORE eBlasts Subscription



Press - Media Releases	Press releases/media advisories from the RESTORE Council Members and other related Gulf restoration efforts.
Gulf-wide	Gulf-wide updates from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida on projects awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts.
Texas	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Texas.**
Louisiana	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Louisiana.**
Mississippi	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Mississippi.**
Alabama	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Alabama.**
Florida	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Florida.**
Tribal	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with **Federally Recognized Tribal lands.**
Public Meetings or Public Comment Periods	Notification of public meetings or public comment periods from the RESTORE Council Members and other related Gulf restoration efforts.

RESTORE eBlasts

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Hale Boggs Federal Building
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.RestoreTheGulf.gov

The State of Florida has completed the construction phase of the Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration project funded by the RESTORE Council. This $4.7 million project is the first completed implementation phase of a project funded from the Council-Selected Restoration Component's Initial Funded Priorities List. Approximately 85,000 cubic yards of lime rock material was taken by barge and placed in the bay waters on an estimated 317-acre area in Franklin County. This has provided a new base that larval oysters may naturally settle on and grow in size to maturity. Newly settled oyster larvae are referred to as oyster spat. This effort complements other oyster restoration projects within Apalachicola Bay, an area with nationally and regionally significant oyster reefs which have suffered from degradation. Oysters improve water quality through filtering out excess sediment and pollutants. Oyster beds provide habitat that sustains fish and other bay organisms.

Florida's Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will monitor the project by measuring the colonization and growth of oysters in the restored area over the next two years.

For more information on this project, contact Rachel Horne deepwaterhorizon@dep.state.fl.us.

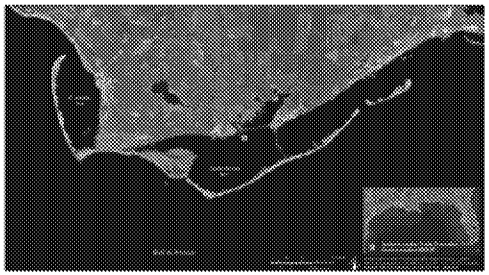
We look forward to connecting with you!

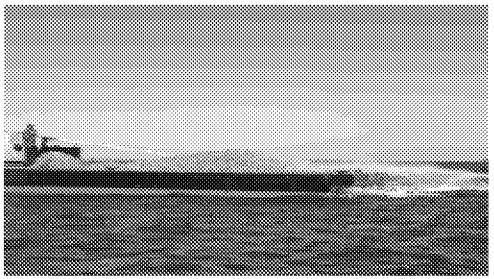
Tweet

Click here to Unsubscribe.

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)

FPL #3I





Project Abstract
The State of Florida has completed the construction phase of the Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration project funded by the RESTORE Council. This $4.7 million project is the first completed implementation phase of a project funded from the Council-Selected Restoration Component's Initial Funded Priorities List. Approximately 95,000 cubic yards of lime rock material was taken by barge and placed in the bay waters on an estimated 317-acre area in Franklin County. This has provided a new base that larval oysters may naturally settle on and grow in size to maturity. Newly settled oyster larvae are referred to as oyster spat. This effort complements other oyster restoration projects within Apalachicola Bay, an area with nationally and regionally significant oyster reefs which have suffered from degradation. Oysters improve water quality through filtering out excess sediment and pollutants. Oyster beds provide habitat that sustains fish and other bay organisms.
Florida's Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will monitor the project by measuring the colonization and growth of oysters in the restored area over the next two years.

Contact
Rachel Horne email: deepwaterhorizon@dep.state.fl.us

Budget
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0039

Project Start Date
4/1/2017

Project End Date
7/1/2020

Award Amount
$4,680,000.00

Organization
Florida Department of Environmental Protection;

Watershed
Apalachicola Bay Watershed

Congressional Districts
FL-2

State(s)
Florida

Project Phase
Implementation

Project ID
EGID 39

Go to full gallery

Last Date Refreshed
02/27/2018

Public Engagement Tools

Current

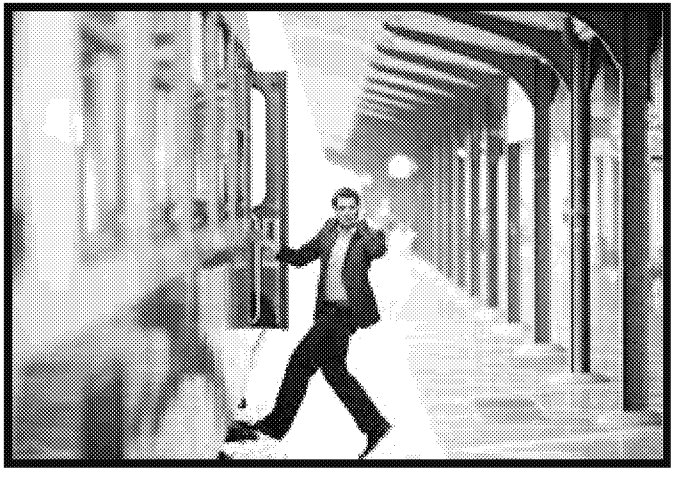
- RESTORE eBlasts
- Products (Fact Sheets, FAQs, Talking Points)
- Project Pages
- Social Media
- Webinars
- Website

Future

- RESTORE Education Opportunities

Questions from the Public

How do I get money for lost wages?



Who is on the RESTORE Council?

Where do I submit my project/program?

When will the next FPL be released?

What is RESTORE?

What is an "FPL"?

I have health issues related to oil spill clean up…

How is RESTORE different from NRDA?

Understanding RESTORE

How do I get money for lost wages?

Who is on the RESTORE Council?

Where do I submit my project/program?

How is RESTORE different from NRDA?

When will the next FPL be released?

RESTORE 900 (Remedial)

RESTORE 100

RESTORE 200

RESTORE 300

RESTORE 400

RESTORE Education Opportunities

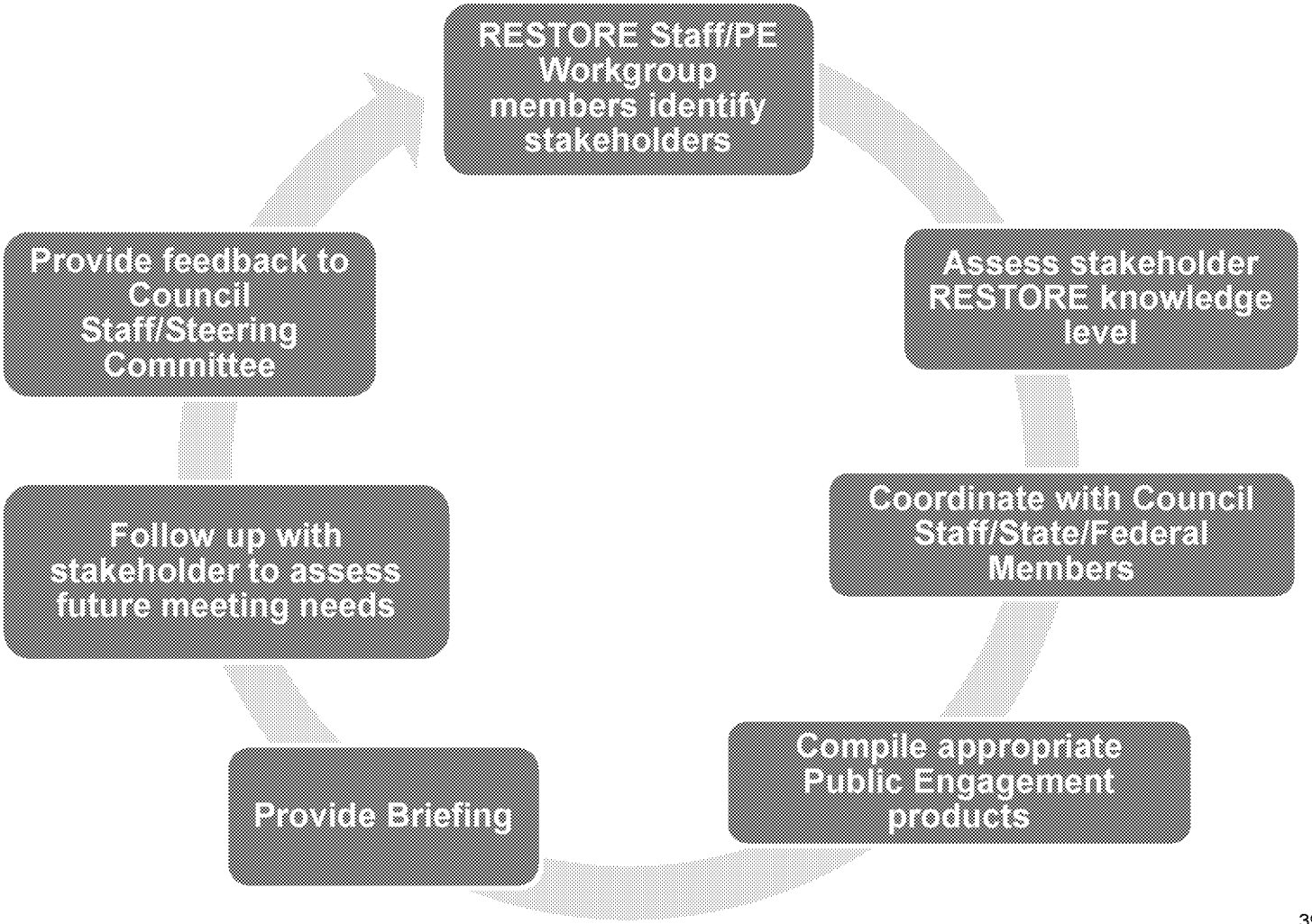
Who
- RESTORE staff
- Public Engagement Workgroup members
- Council Member representatives (as needed)

What
- A series of 30 minute to 1 hour informal small group meetings

How
- Advertised on RESTORE website/eBlasts
- Pre-approved RESTORE/NRDA/NWFW products

Where
- Previously scheduled meetings
- Faith based/Houses of worship
- Community centers
- Fairs/Festivals
- Restoration effort meetings
- Other partner identified venues

RESTORE Education Opportunities



Expected Results

- Supporting engagement with all stakeholders
- Increasing diversity of participants
- Increasing public engagement opportunities
- Ensuring public participation

Council PE Workgroup Members

- Serve as POC for transparency of member activities
  - ❑ Project Page content/update
  - ❑ Develop member project award roll out
  - ❑ Public Meeting announcements
  - ❑ Member collaboration activities
  - ❑ CPS activities
- Participate in developing coordinated Council message
  - ❑ Enhance public knowledge of ongoing Council restoration activities/efforts
  - ❑ Communicate FPL/10 year funding strategy
  - ❑ RESTORE Council DWH 10 Anniversary strategy

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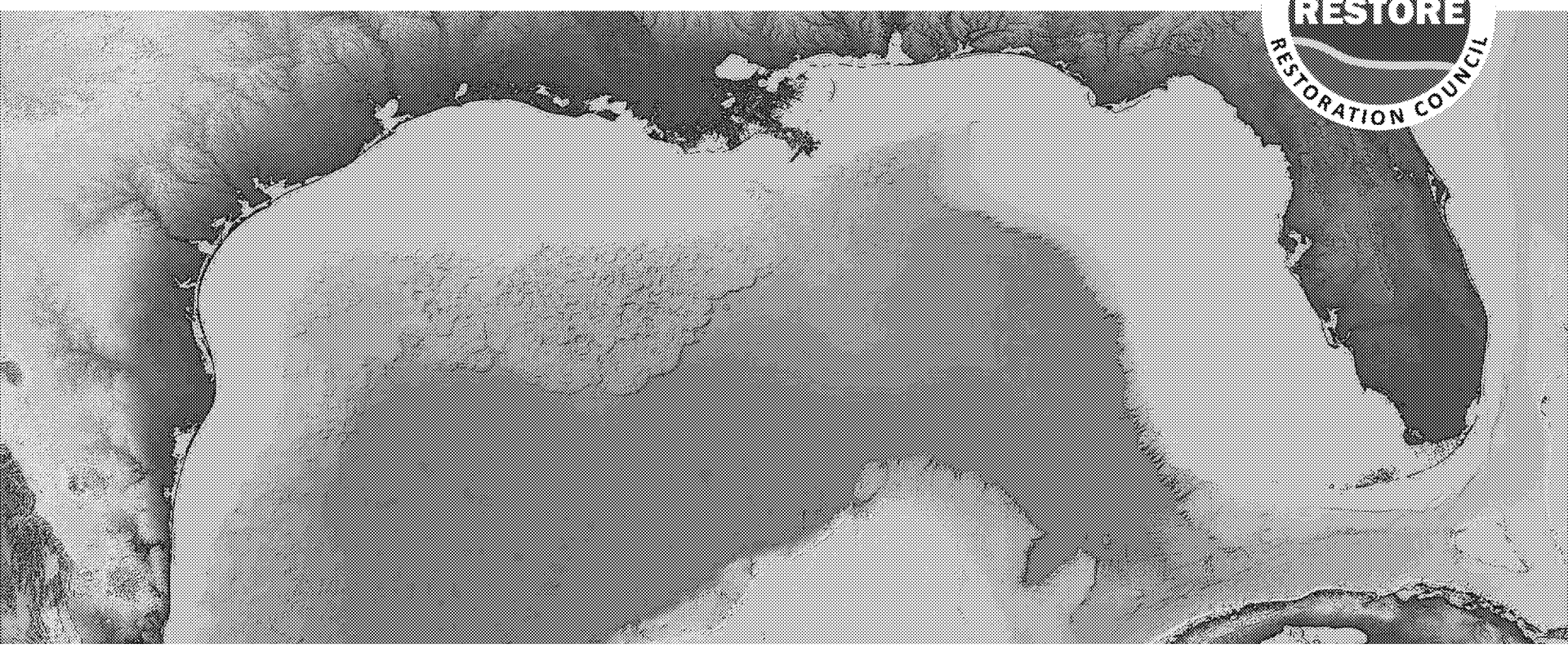

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Commitment and Planning Support (CPS)
Year 4 Evaluation Process

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

CPS FPL Year 4 Evaluation - Purpose

Per the CPS FPL, at Year-4, review the effectiveness of CPS Funds in:

- Supporting Council members in meeting the Comprehensive Plan commitments
- Identifying future investments that maximize achievement of Gulf-wide restoration goals
- Considering whether extending planning and support efforts beyond the five-year period is needed to continue to meet the Comprehensive Plan commitments.

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Recommended Approach

- Use both qualitative and quantitative information to evaluate effectiveness
- Initiate evaluation at the beginning of Year 4, thereby evaluating the first 3 years of activities
- Evaluation would inform:
  - CPS FPL renewal determination
  - Whether revisions to parameters (e.g., funding amounts, allowable activities) are warranted
  - Any necessary revisions to commitments in the 2021 Comprehensive Plan update

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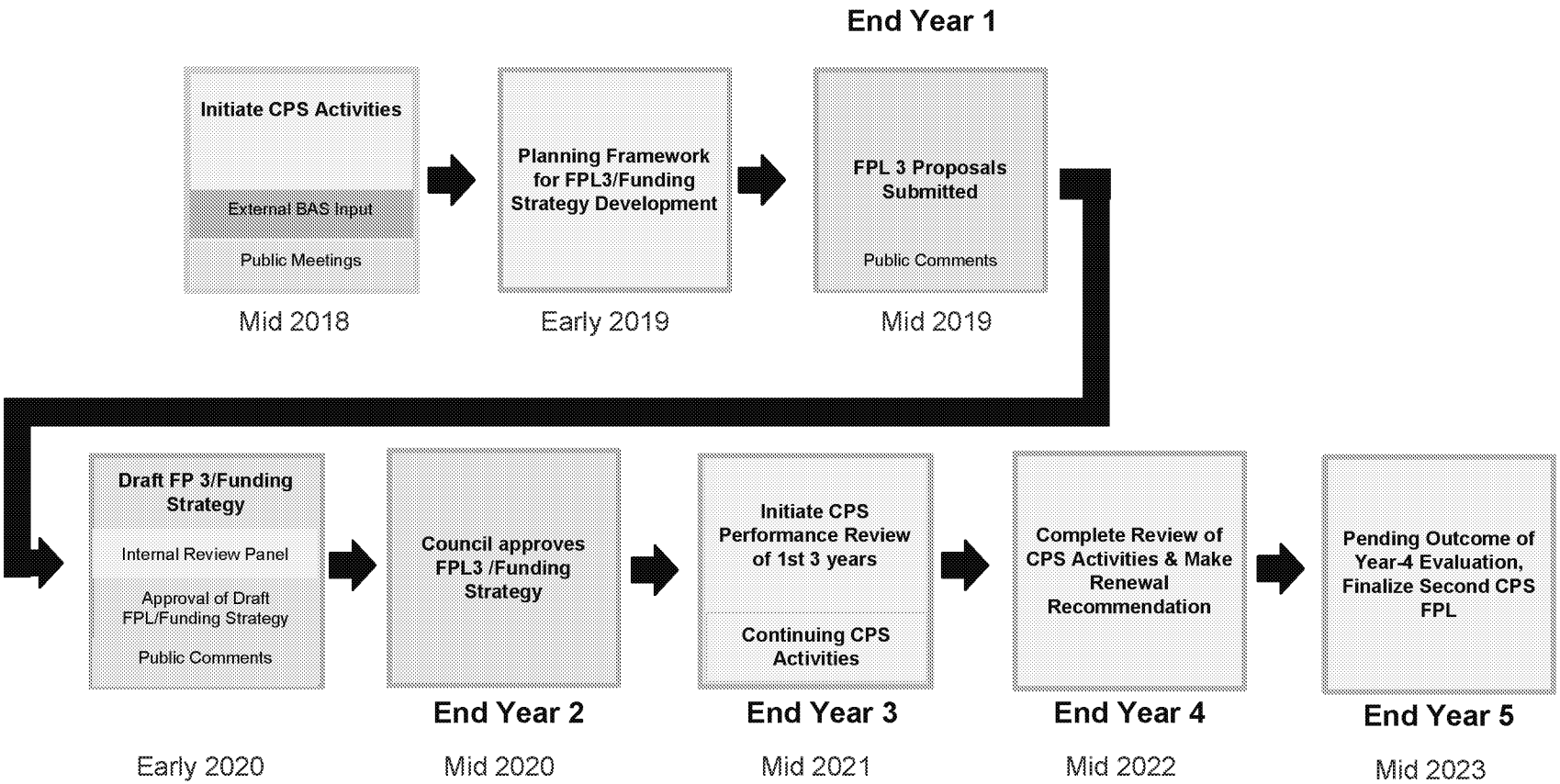
CPS Evaluation Timeline



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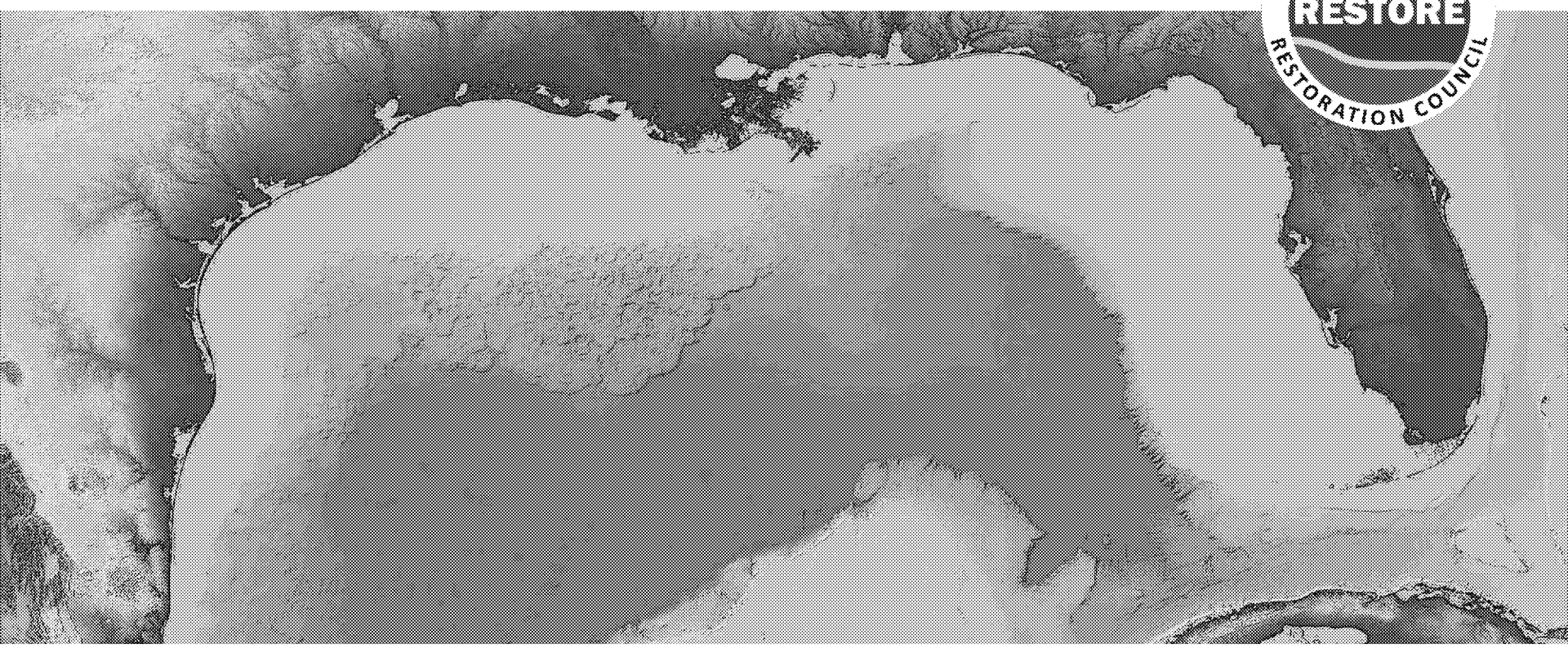

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls: Overview

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Potential FPL Budget Shortfalls

- **Goal of presentation:**
  - Heads up to members regarding issue
  - Initial feedback/thoughts from members

- **Issue:** Members might request additional funds to cover budget shortfalls for approved FPL activities (pre- or post-award)
  - Due to unanticipated costs (materials, labor…)
  - Not uncommon in programs such as this
  - Council process needed for addressing such requests

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Potential Outcomes

- Amend FPL to increase funding to meet budget shortfall
- Determine alternative way to continue within approved budget (e.g., downsize project, alternative funding source(s) to cover shortfall)
- Deauthorize project and/or move it to consideration for funding in a subsequent FPL (could include termination of award)

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Policy and Process Elements

- **Council policy and process for potential budget shortfalls would need to address:**
  - Role of sponsor, Council staff and other members in reviewing matter and making recommendations to Council
  - Timing for considering such requests (e.g., ad hoc versus periodic Council meetings)
  - Budget considerations (e.g., funds for potential increases limited in some way)

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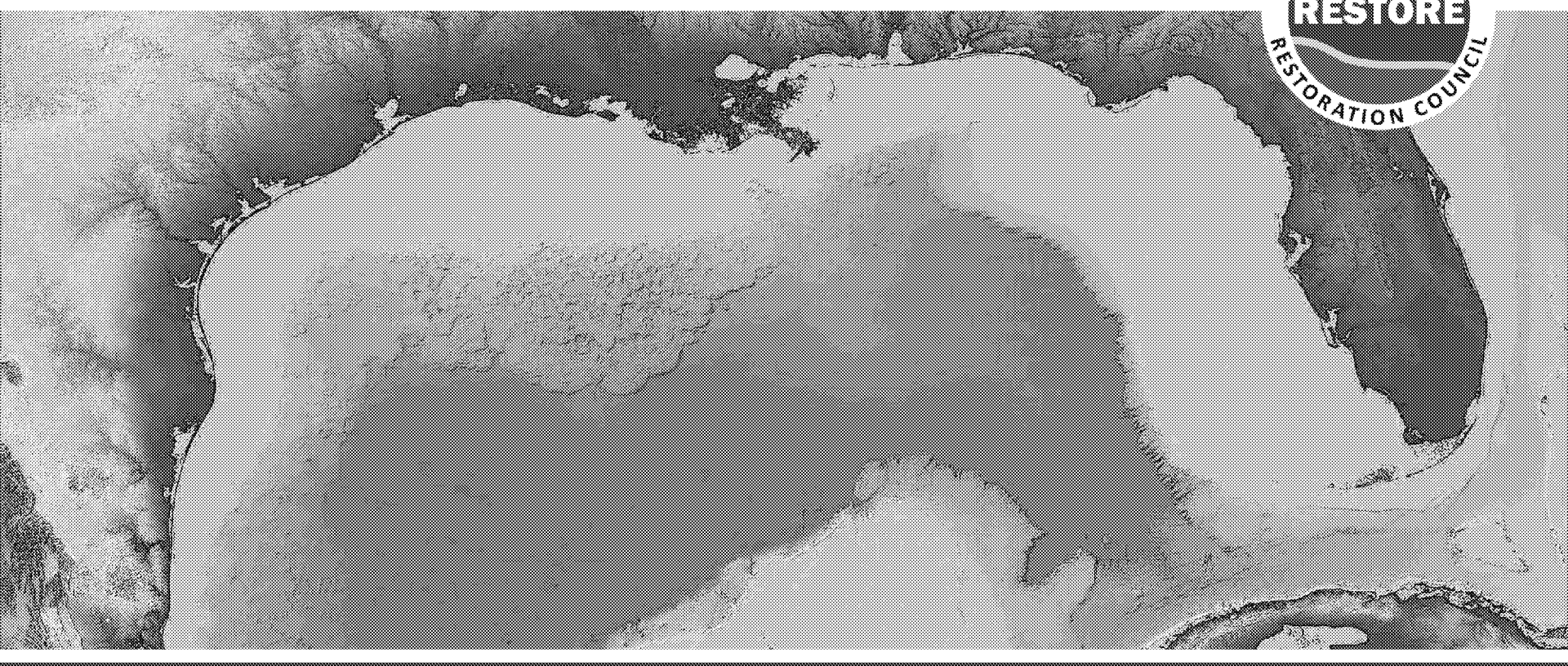


Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Grants System Acquisition Recommendation
Steering Committee Meeting
April 25, 2018

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

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product –

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

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product –

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

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174972-00004

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

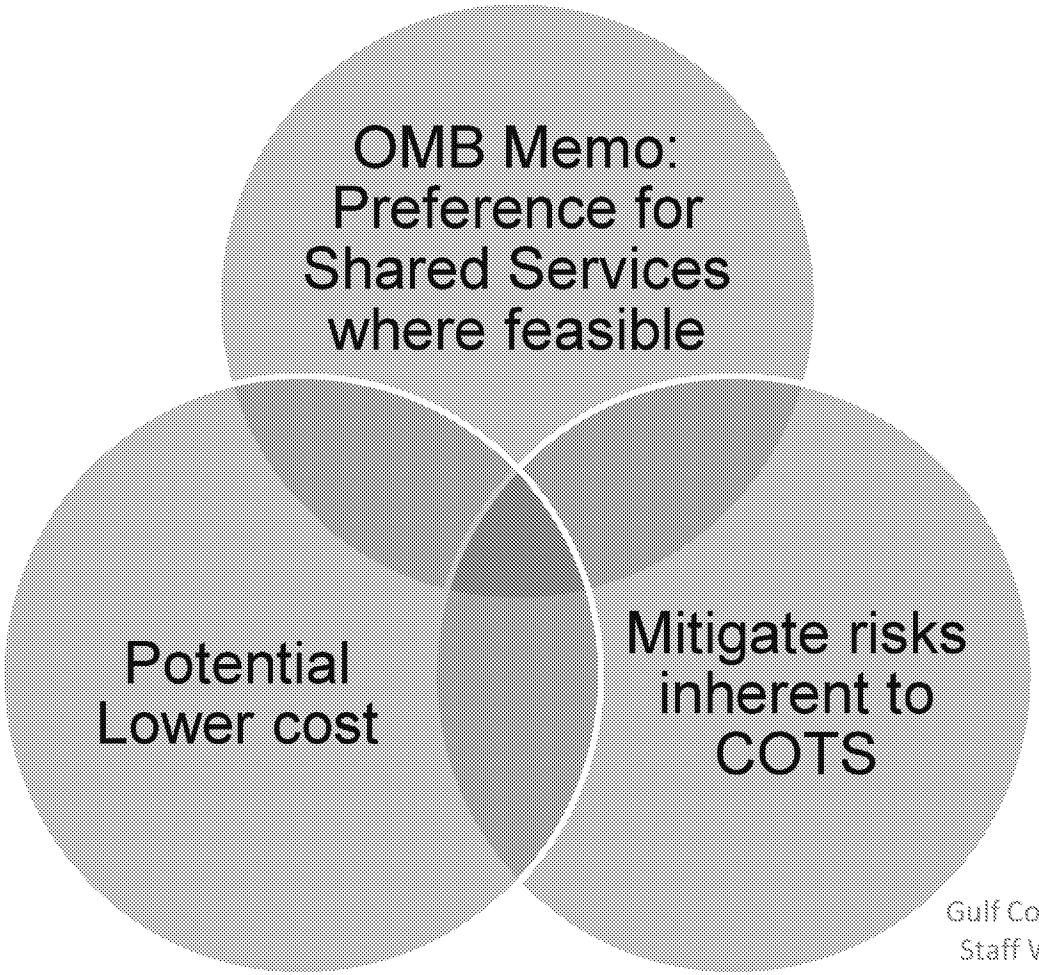
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product –

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

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Federal Shared Services



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

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**

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

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

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Schedule Comparison – No Customization

GrantSolutions

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

ezFedgrants

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

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Other Considerations

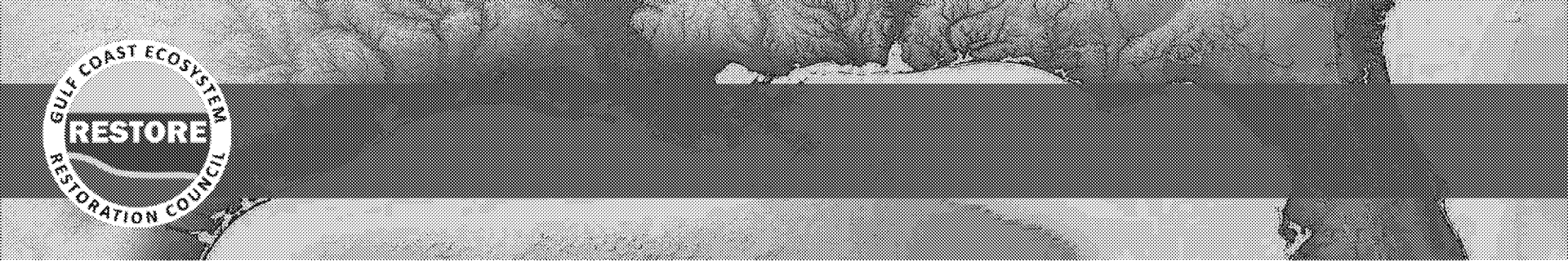
- **GrantSolutions Diverse Ecology** – over 20 federal agency clients; evolution of many functions and features; built in resiliency because of the "constituencies"
- **GrantSolutions Affinities and Efficiencies** – Treasury OGCR uses GS for Bucket 1; EPA is likely to transition to GS – familiarity will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

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

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

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval



Questions?

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (GCERC)

Grants System Acquisition

Analysis of Alternatives

April 20, 2018

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Management of grants is central to the work of the RESTORE Council. The RESTORE Act established a Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund to receive 80 percent of the civil and administrative Clean Water Act penalties resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. A portion of those funds will be managed by the Council as federal assistance to support the restoration goals of the Comprehensive Plan. To achieve those goals the Council requires a robust grants management tool to facilitate performance of assistance objectives and to ensure compliance with federal assistance regulations.

The Council's current grants management system – the Restoration Application and Award Management System (RAAMS) – is built on a platform that will soon be terminated by the commercial vendor that owns it. The exact timeframe for termination is uncertain, but service would not continue beyond the remaining two option years the Council has on the contract. It is imperative to quickly identify a replacement for the grants management system and to initiate the work of implementing and transitioning to that system.

This Analysis of Alternatives, and the recommendation contained herein, is the work of the Council System Acquisition Task Force (Task Force). The Task Force was stood up by the Steering Committee for the purpose of investigating and recommending a replacement grants management system. The Task Force includes staff level representatives from state and federal Council members and members of the Council professional staff. The Task Force utilized publicly available documentation, subject matter experts at other federal agencies, targeted interviews and system demonstrations to gather information and conduct this analysis.

After careful consideration of the baseline requirements and desired features of a Council grants management system and evaluating available alternatives for functionality, cost, and comparative risk, the Task Force recommends that the Steering Committee select GrantSolutions. GrantSolutions is a federal shared service owned and operated by the Department of Health and Human Services and is available to the Council by way of an Interagency Agreement. It is the consensus opinion of the Task Force that GrantSolutions offers the best combination of functionality and cost and will mitigate the most risk to this central line of Council business.

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174973-00002

REVISION SUMMARY

Version	Updated by:	Date	Changes Made
1.0	Joshua Easton	15-March-2018	Initial Draft
1.1	Joshua Easton	9-April-2018	Revision
1.2	Joshua Easton	17-April-2018	Revision
1.3	Jeremy Roseboom	18-April-2018	Revision
1.4	Joshua Easton	20-April-2018	FINAL

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174973-00003

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Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00174973-00004

INTRODUCTION AND JUSTIFICATION

PURPOSE

This document is an analysis and business case for the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's (the "Council") to select a replacement grants management system. The ultimate purpose is to provide the Council Steering Committee with a recommendation for procurement.

BACKGROUND AND RESTORE ACT ALIGNMENT

The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act) established the RESTORE Council.[1] The RESTORE Act dedicates 80 percent of all administrative and civil penalties related to the Deepwater Horizon spill to a Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund) and outlines a structure by which the funds can be utilized to restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast region.[2] The Council has oversight of the expenditure of 60 percent of the funds made available from the Trust Fund.[3] Those funds are managed as grants and interagency agreements to eligible recipients.

In 2014, the Council selected EasyGrants™[4] as an electronic grants management system to support the federal assistance objectives of the RESTORE Act. Working with the vendor and other contractual support, the Council developed the Restoration Assistance and Award Management System (RAAMS) on the EasyGrants platform. Applicants to and recipients of Council programs are required to utilize RAAMS for grant and interagency agreement applications, and to perform grant or agreement administrative tasks. Council applicants and recipients use RAAMS to:

- Submit Proposals[5]
- Submit Applications
- Accept a Grant or IAA
- Request Revisions and Amendments
- Submit Reports
- Submit Supporting Documentation

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[1] RESTORE Act; Subtitle F of Public Law 112-14133, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)(C)(i).
[2] RESTORE Act; Subtitle F of Public Law 112-141, Sec. 1602(b).
[3] 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)A and (t)(3)(A)(i).
[4] Altum, Inc. 1801 Robert Fulton Drive, Suite 450, Reston, VA 20191.
[5] Planned for submission of next round of the Restore Council Comprehensive Plan Component, Funded Priorities List.

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- Close-Out Awards

On September 25, 2017, the Council received notice from Altum that Altum would be sun-setting the Easygrants platform on which RAAMS is built. The Council must now identify a replacement grants management system that ideally will support all of the general functions identified above in the most efficient manner feasible, while facilitating compliance with applicable law and enabling the Council to carry out its responsibility of oversight for these federal funds.

SELECTION METHODOLOGY

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

Building on the Council's previous efforts to select, deploy, and configure RAAMS, as well as the analysis and the recommendations of the Council's Grants 360 Working Group, the acquisition effort has focused on reviewing and revising solution requirements, investigating alternative solutions, and developing a recommendation for acquisition to achieve the following objectives:

- **Enhance and simplify** the assistance lifecycle experience for all participants, including grant managers, recipients, and sub-recipients.
- **Improve compliance** by reducing the burden to implement changing regulations and statutes (e.g., 2 CFR 200, DATA Act, GREAT ACT, etc.), improving the ability to address existing findings and recommendations, and improving financial auditing capabilities.
- **Improve timeliness and accountability of funding** to support recipients and the public by providing visibility into authoritative data and integration with enterprise financial systems.
- **Streamline and improve business performance** by improving business processes, work flows, analysis, reporting, and performance monitoring, and by providing accurate and timely data to stakeholders to support decision-making.
- **Migration of processes and data** from RAAMS to include maintaining current grant files and associated data.

PROCUREMENT TASK FORCE

The RESTORE Act designates the heads of six federal agencies and the Governors of five Gulf Coast States as Council members and vests the appointment of Council members in the President.[6] The Act also provides that the State members of the Council (State members) "select" one of the federal members to serve as Chair and vests

[6] 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)(C)(ii)

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appointment of the Chair in the President.[7] The Council has established a Steering Committee, pursuant to the Council's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), with the authority to establish committees or working groups to carry out the work of the Council.[8]

The Council System Acquisition Task Force (Task Force) is one such working group, established for the purpose of conducting the analysis of alternatives for a replacement grant system. The Task Force provides this report to the Steering Committee, under the advisement of the Council Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The Task Force Members are supported by Task Force Core Staff, who are individuals from the Council Staff. The Task Force consists of representatives from state and federal Council members, and program, grant, and administrative Council Staff. The Task Force is facilitated by Core Council Staff.

The Task Force held regular meetings, conducted working sessions, reviewed content, and decided on next steps or recommendations. The Task Force operates on consensus. A scribe kept notes for each meeting.

APPROACH OF THE TASK FORCE

In order to efficiently and effectively manage federal awards, federal assistance programs must comply with various statutes, regulations and policy, and must interface with a variety of financial management systems. The Task Force developed a prioritized list of functional requirements and features, conducted an analysis of alternatives for fulfilling those requirements, and now recommends a preferred alternative on the basis of costs, benefits, and risk.

When considering alternative solutions, the Task Force has taken into account recent changes to the federal assistance domain, such as the focus on improved financial and performance management, emphasized in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Grants Guidance[9], and the requirements to make information on federal expenditures more easily accessible and transparent found in the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act).[10] The Task Force has also considered the findings of the 360 Working Group, which was stood up by the Steering Committee in 2017 to review the Council's grant systems, procedures and policies.

The Task Force utilized a number of techniques and resources to carry out the search.

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[7] 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)(C)(iv)
[8] RESTORE Council Standard Operating Procedures 2.4.2 (1)(a).
[9] 2 C.F.R. 200
[10] The DATA Act, Pub.L.113-101.

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These included:

- A review of prior acquisition history for similar or identical requirements.
- Utilizing knowledgeable individuals in other federal agencies and industry.
- A review of recent market research to meet similar or identical requirements.
- Participation in interactive, on-line communications with federal shared service owners.
- On-site visits with federal shared service providers and clients of those providers.

SUMMARY OF INITIAL INVESTIGATION

FIRST STEPS

The Task Force initially focused on understanding the original baseline requirements that informed the decision to acquire RAAMS and updating those requirements from the experience of Council grant operations. The Task Force then utilized a publicly available industry report[11] that provided an overview and comparison of a large number of commercial off the shelf (COTS) grants systems. The analysis in that report compared with the baseline requirements provided an efficient means for the Task Force to narrow its consideration to a small number of systems for further consideration. The Task Force also reached out to three other federal agencies that had in the recent past transitioned to or were currently in transition to a federal shared service, to learn from their experiences.[12]

In January 2018, a subset of the Task Force then arranged for in person meetings in DC with the representatives of two federal shared services and one COTS system. However, the short lapse in federal funding required that the team reschedule the meetings, and in the attempt to reschedule, the COTS system owners were non-responsive and the Task Force did not continue to gather information for COTS systems. In February 2018, the Task Force subgroup traveled to DC and had in-depth meetings with the owners of the shared services and a federal agency client of each service.[13]

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[11] *A Consumers Guide to Grants Management Systems,* Andrei, K., Bernard, C. *et al,* May 2017.
[12] Conference calls with EDA (October 24, 2017), EPA (February 5, 2018) and Denali Commission (March 1, 2018).
[13] The Task Force met with representatives of USDA OCFO (owners of ezFedGrants), USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program - Agricultural Marketing Service (client of ezFedGrants), HHS (owner of GrantSolutions), and Treasury OGCR (client of GrantSolutions) February 20-22, 2018.

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ELIMINATION OF COTS OPTIONS

After the meetings in Washington, D.C., the Task Force considered a number of factors, including elements of risk that would be associated with a COTS option. Those considerations included:

- The potential risk that another commercial vendor could make a business decision that it would no longer support the system.
- A COTS system, as opposed to a federal shared service, would shift the cost of compliance with future grant regulations solely to the Council.
- A federal shared service would provide shared resources such as help desk and training that would be the sole responsibility of the Council with a COTS system.
- Ultimately the Council will itself sunset. This is a somewhat unique scenario, but it is assumed that handing off the Council's grants data to a Department level agency will be better facilitated if it ultimately resides on a federal shared service.

Additionally, the OMB Memorandum M-13-08, *Improving Financial Systems through Shared Services,* which directs federal agencies to move from agency-specific financial systems to federal shared service providers (FSSPs), consolidate financial management systems, and use existing FSSP operations and maintenance teams to support systems and infrastructures.[14] Pursuant to this directive, and for the reasons identified above regarding the potential risks and the measures the Council can take to mitigate those risks, the Task Force has opted to only continue consideration of federal shared services for the RAAMS replacement.

MOVING FORWARD WITH THE FINAL ANALYSIS

On March 22 and April 5, 2018, the Task Force arranged for webinar demonstrations of the two federal shared services. The Task Force also requested that each system owner provide a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) estimate of the implementation and operating costs. At the conclusion of the respective demonstrations, the Task Force reached consensus that there was sufficient information to provide the Steering Committee with analysis and a recommendation.

[14] OMB, M-13-08, "Improving Financial Systems Through Shared Services," March 25, 2013.

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ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

No-Action alternative
If the Council does not select a replacement system, Council Members and Staff will be required to submit and review grant applications and reports transmitted by email or post. Procedures would have to be developed for maintaining records and transmitting information, and these procedures would consume many more staff hours than are currently available for managing the grants, by both recipients and the Council.

Non-Viable Alternatives –Mitigating Risk
One of the key issues in the selection of a grant system replacement is the long-term viability of the system. As the Council's own experience demonstrates, there is significant risk that a COTS vendor could make a business decision to end support for a grants management software solution. It *is* possible that a federal shared service would terminate a federal shared grant management service for political or budgetary reasons, however that risk would be significantly mitigated by the diversity and volume of federal agency clients that would advocate their interest in preserving it. For that reason, the Task Force chose to not expend continued effort exploring COTS options beyond the initial investigation. This decision is reinforced by the aforementioned OMB guidance to federal agencies to select federal shared services when feasible and requirements can be met.

Federal Shared Services

ezFedGrants
ezFedGrants is an online USDA grants and agreements management system that facilitates management of USDA grants and agreements, including creating applications, digitally signing agreement documents, submitting claims, preparing progress reports, and reviewing historical grant/agreement information. ezFedGrants is part of the USDA's Financial Shared Service offering. It is integrated with the USDA's core accounting system, and, for certain Agencies/Offices, interacts with other financial systems, such as ASAP. ezFedGrants is the USDA's OMB Circular A-123 system of record for processing Federal financial assistance transactions, supports the USDA's mission, and helps to ensure compliance with Federal requirements for grants and accounting.

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GrantSolutions

The GrantSolutions Grants Management Module (GMM) is a web-based comprehensive grants management system provided by the Grants Center of Excellence (COE). The system is available to all Federal grant-making agencies as part of the Grants Management Line of Business (GMLoB) initiative. It services all types of grants (service, training, demonstration, social research, and cooperative agreements) across all grant categories (discretionary, formula, block, and entitlement).

GrantSolutions products and services provide comprehensive, flexible, cost-effective solutions for both Grantors and Recipients. These solutions support the sharing of common grant and program management processes over a broad range of programs while incorporating the unique needs of each grant program.

CONSIDERATION OF REQUIREMENTS AND FEATURES

The Task Force identified 38 baseline requirements and features that it would use in evaluating the various systems under consideration. These elements were grouped into four categories depending on their necessity and impact: Baseline, Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3.

Category	Description	Weighting
Baseline	Requirements to facilitate current business processes and meet Federal System requirements.	5
Tier 1	Requirements needed to collect grant process metrics and grant data for Federal Reporting.	3
Tier 2	Requirements to connect with external systems and reporting capabilities.	2
Tier 3	Requirements that further enable efficient processing of grants applications.	1

In addition, a weighting factor was added to each category based on the Council's current business process and how critical the requirements are to ensure grants can be issued and managed.

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For each element, the systems were given a status of *Meets*, *Somewhat Meets*, or *Does Not Meet*. *Meets* was assigned a point value of 10, *Somewhat meets* was assigned a point Value of 5 and *Does not Meet* was assigned point value of 0. The weighting factor was then multiplied by the score in each category for an overall score.

Both ezFedGrants and GrantSolutions were then assessed using this tool following the conclusion of on-site visits and subsequent web demos and scored.

System	Baseline (5)	Tier 1 (3)	Tier 2 (2)	Tier 3 (1)	Total
GrantSolutions	525	75	100	50	760
ezFedGrants	500	30	120	40	690

Using this scoring model, GrantSolutions earned a score of 760; ezFedGrants earned a score of 690. It should be noted that in addition to the scoring other factors were also considered as detailed in subsequent sections.

COMPARISON OF COSTS

Cost of RAAMS

For the purpose of comparing the alternatives, it is useful to first consider the baseline costs of RAAMS. The EasyGrants platform (which was configured as RAAMS for the Council) was procured March 3, 2015. RAAMS was first online and available for use in its initial configuration in December 2015.

Capitalized Costs (Acquisition and Initial Implementation)	
NTIS/Altum Contracts (Initial Configuration and all Enhancements)	$789,867.86
VMSI Implementation support	$297,000.00
Startup Total	**$1,086,867.86**
Annual Operating Costs (beginning December 2015)	
Altum licensing and basic service	$56,276.20
VMSI support - help desk, administration, configuration, maintenance, testing[15]	$307,019.92
USGS hosting	$209,150.00
Annual Operating Costs	**$572,446.12**

[15] As RAAMS has matured, VMSI support has evolved to address additional Restore Council needs not directly related to RAAMS including providing reporting, managing the Council's responsibilities for USAspending, developing SOPs and other necessary documentation, etc.

Cost of GrantSolutions

GrantSolutions provided a ROM Estimate of Costs for preparation of this analysis. The costs may increase/decrease based upon requirements during implementation.

Capitalized Costs (Acquisition and Initial Implementation)	
Fit-Gap analysis	$89,575
Initial Implementation	$253,000 - $320,000
Startup Total	**$409,575**
Expected Operating Costs	
Operations and Maintenance	**$365,725**

Cost of eZFedGrants

USDA OCFO also provided a ROM Estimate of Costs for ezFedGrants, for purposes of this analysis. The costs may increase/decrease based upon requirements during implementation.

Capitalized Costs (Acquisition and Initial Implementation)	
Pre-Discovery/Fit-Gap analysis	$48,000
Initial Implementation	$498,355
Startup Total	**$498,355**
Expected Operating Costs	
Operations and Maintenance	**$28,500**

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Summary Comparison of Costs

Costs	RAAMS	ezFedGrants	GrantSolutions
Total Implementation	$1,086,867.86	$546,395	$409,575
Annual Operating Costs	$572,446.12	$28,500	$365,725

While both federal shared services appear to offer savings over RAAMS, there are a number of unknowns in these cost estimates. For example, the ROM estimates are for basic services and do not include Council program configurations or enhancements. Any enhancements would add to the implementation and potentially the annual operating costs. Unfortunately, the Council cannot determine those specific costs until after the conclusion of the fit gap analysis.

While cost is an important consideration, it is the consensus of the Task Force that other issues bear even greater weight.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Implementation Schedule

The Council has three more option years on its agreement to continue servicing RAAMS. However, the Task Force does not have significant confidence that vendor will continue the level of service the Council expects and needs as time goes on. The vendor is sun-setting the entire system, not just the contract with the Council, so there is no long-term value proposition for Altum to invest funds in servicing the system and their clients. The Task Force advises a rapid transition to a new service.

Timelines for implementation are dependent on the fit gap analysis process for each service. During this fit gap process a program manager will be assigned to the Council to build out a comprehensive timeline. Additionally, for either fit gap analysis, Council Staff will need to be available for a series of comprehensive meetings over a number of weeks so that the system owners can learn the Council's workflows, processes, and data configurations in RAAMS.

The ezFedGrants service would first involve a 2-3 month timeframe for procurement. This would be followed by a one-month engagement for the fit gap analysis and then 4-6 months for implementation. However, the ezFedGrants team has informed the Task Force that the USDA budget for new releases in ezFedGrants has been set for FY18 and FY19. This means that USDA could not initiate implementation of an ezFedGrants service for the Council until FY20 without the approval of the USDA Deputy Secretary. To facilitate

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implementation in FY19, the Council leadership would have to engage USDA at the highest levels to request the budget plan be altered to include a release of the Restore ezFedGrants service.

The GrantSolutions fit gap analysis would take approximately 2.5 months and could commence shortly after May 15, 2018. Additionally, the GrantSolutions team has built their ROM for implementation based on an aggressive "go live" date of January 2019. This would require that all implementation activities would be completed in approximately 5 months from August through December 2018.

System Ecology

GrantSolutions has a much wider group of diverse federal agencies as clients. As such GrantSolutions has developed solutions for numerous and varied programmatic requirements. GrantSolutions is receptive to customizations within the grants process and appear able to accommodate a wide range of requests.

ezFedGrants currently has only USDA customers and is focused on how USDA performs the grants management processes. These processes may not include agency specific requirements that are necessary for Council business processes. The Task Force noted that customizations to the software to facilitate agency grant requirements have to be approved through a ezFedGrants configuration control board and are only implemented if the customization benefits all customers of the system.

Both services actively work to ensure all general Federal grant regulations and requirements, such as USAspending or the GREAT Act addressed within the service.

Affinities and Efficiencies and Discussion of Risk

GrantSolutions is the service that the U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Gulf Coast Restoration (OGCR) uses to administer the RESTORE Act Direct Component grants. Several of the recipient staff and offices that are involved in the administration of the Direct Component grants will also be managing awards from the Council under the Comprehensive Plan Program and Spill Impact Component Program. The familiarity of staff with the user interface and functions of Grant Solutions will provide efficiencies for the Council grant managers to transition to a GrantSolutions based system.

With regard to the relative overall risk of each service, the Task Force has several concerns that weigh heavily in its recommendation:

- The relative "newness" of ezFedGrants creates unknowns and uncertainties. The Council would be the first non-USDA client on the ezFedGrants platform. EzFedGrants is a new system that only recently gained the capability for applicant/recipient access. Grant Solutions is a much more mature platform with a proven track record of serving agencies outside HHS.

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- The robustness of the GrantSolutions system ecology is a strength that mitigates risk. The Council's experience of being "stranded" on a platform that is sun-setting significantly influences the Task Force's consideration of this risk. It is the Task Force's credible consumption the expansive client base and related interests of GrantSolutions will ensure that GrantSolutions is less likely to sunset, or if it does, there will be strength in numbers for implementing a transition.
- The limitation that the FY18 and FY19 USDA budget for new releases in ezFedGrants does not, and will not, include the Council without intervention from leadership is another serious risk consideration. Should the Task Force select ezFedGrants, the Council must be willing to accept the risk that leadership advocacy could be unsuccessful, in which case the Council would bear the additional risk of not transitioning to a new grant system until 4-6 months into FY20. That is a significant risk given the uncertainty surrounding Altum's continued effective support of RAAMS.

RECOMMENDATION

This recommendation is based upon the best information currently available to the Task Force. The recommendation takes into consideration the high-level requirements of the Council's grant management business, it compares the capabilities of the two federal shared services, considers the cost of each service, and evaluates the overall risk.

Based on all of these considerations the Task Force recommends the Council procure GrantSolutions.

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Appendix A: Requirements and Features Scoring Sheet

	Requirements/Features	Grant Solutions	*Notes		EZFedGrants	Scoring and Weighting - The Baseline Requirements are weighted highest (Meets = 50, Somewhat Meets = 25, Does Not Meet=0); The Tier 1-4 Features have diminishing proportional weights (e.g. Teir 1 Meets= 25, Somewhat Meets=15, Does Not Meet=0, etc.)		
						*Notes	GS Score	EZFG Score
Baseline Requirements	Available in GCERCH?	Meets			Meets		50	50
	FISMA Accredited (Moderate, ATO, etc.)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	DATA Act Compliant (Collects All FABS Attributes)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Supports Full Grants Management Life Cycle (Application, Award, Financial Reporting, Performance Reporting, Amendments, and Close-Out)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Supports Both Grants and IAAs	Somewhat Meets	Additional info is needed on this subject		Does Not Meet	The system owners plan on meeting this requirement during 2018	25	0
	Basic Drawdown and Compliance Reporting	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Configurability (Custom Data Elements and Workflows)	Somewhat Meets	All custom elements must be routed through the Grants Solutions team (and at additional cost)		Somewhat Meets	Limited customization is available to the client agency. Other elements must be routed through the EZFedGrants Team	25	25
	System of Record for Documentation	Meets			Meets		50	50
	SF 425 Data Elements and Required Award Attributes, Including Object Class Category Budgets	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Automated System Email Capability	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Internal Controls (Workgroups, Permissions, Task Assignments, etc.)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Multiple Reviewer Capability	Somewhat Meets	More info is needed; multiple review functionality is available, but may have limited structural options		Somewhat Meets	More info is needed; multiple review functionality is available, but may have limited structural options	25	25

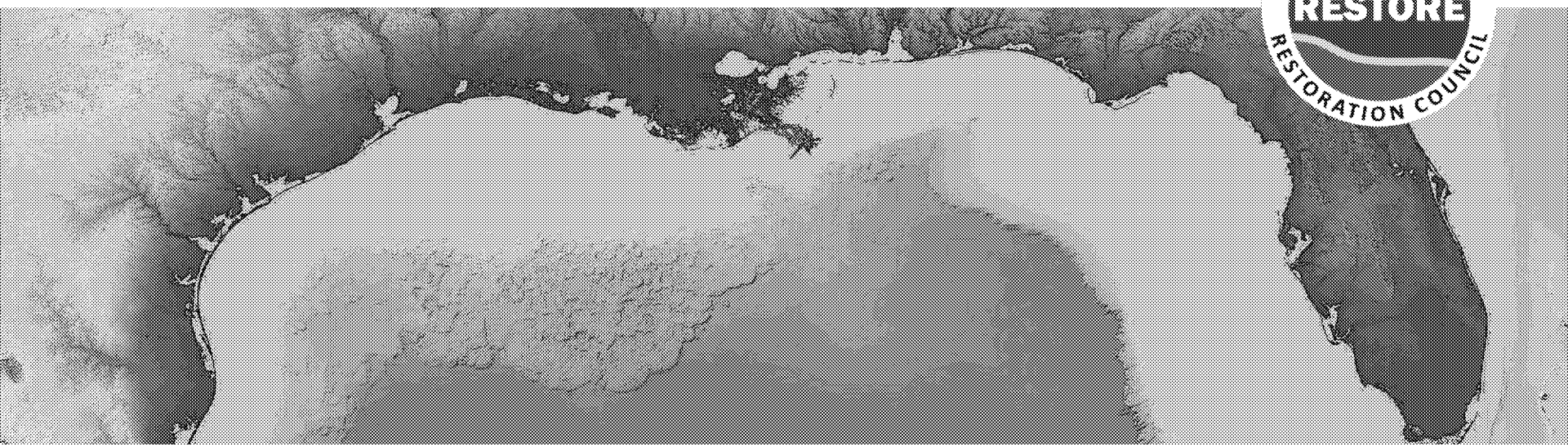
	Requirements/Features	Grant Solutions	*Notes		EZFedGrants	Scoring and Weighting - The Baseline Requirements are weighted highest (Meets =50, Somewhat Meets = 25, Does Not Meet=0); The Tier 1-4 Features have diminishing proportional weights (e.g. Teir 1 Meets= 25, Somewhat Meets=15, Does Not Meet=0; etc.)		
						*Notes	GS Score	EZFG Score
Tier 1	GREAT Act Strategy/Implementation	Somewhat Meets	GREAT Act Data standards have not yet been determined. However, as a shared service provider, the system owners will be required to adhere to those standards, and have demonstrated past ability to meet similar requirements (e.g., DATA Act)		Somewhat Meets	GREAT Act Data standards have not yet been determined. However, as a shared service provider, the system owners will be required to adhere to those standards, and have demonstrated past ability to meet similar requirements (e.g., DATA Act)	15	15
	Testing Environment	Somewhat Meets	The Testing Evironment is currently only available to organizations with active development and testing		Does Not Meet	A testing environment is planned with a projected 2018 rollout	15	0
	Milestones Capability	Somewhat Meets	OGCR is using a custom form to capture structured milestone and metrics data. However, this data is not currentrly being reported on, and does not carry forward through the life of the award.		Does Not Meet	Any milestones are collected via upload	15	0
	Metrics Capability	Somewhat Meets	OGCR is using a custom form to capture structured milestone and metrics data. However, this data is not currentrly being reported on, and does not carry forward through the life of the award.		Does Not Meet	Any metrics are collected via upload	15	0
	Payment Requests for High-Risk Grantees	Somewhat Meets	At-will tasks for various actions can be configured within the system.		Somewhat Meets	Some ability exists for payments. However, it is unknown if that functionality can co-exist with our usage of ASAP as a Payment tool.	15	15

	Requirements/Features	Grant Solutions	*Notes		EZFedGrants	Scoring and Weighting - The Baseline Requirements are weighted highest (Meets = 50, Somewhat Meets = 25, Does Not Meet=0); The Tier 1-4 Features have diminishing proportional weights (e.g. Teir 1 Meets= 25, Somewhat Meets=15, Does Not Meet=0, etc.)		
						*Notes	GS Score	EZFG Score
Tier 2	**ASAP Integration**	Somewhat Meets	No Payment data is being pulled into the system from ASAP; but Denali Commission with GrantSolutiuons is working to create this functionality; Restore staff are participating		Meets	Payment data is pulled into the system from ASAP	10	20
	ARC and Oracle Integration	Does Not Meet	Plans to meet; this item is in progress and being funded by the Denali Commission.		Does Not Meet	No planned functionality at present.	0	0
	Document Creation (Awards, Amendments, etc.)	Meets	Automated; awards and amendments are not customizable without additional build-out		Meets	Automated; awards and amendments are not customizable without additional build-out	20	20
	Accepts Pre-Applications and Proposals	Does Not Meet	Does not have the ability to accept proposals that might dramatically change as part of Council decisions		Does Not Meet	Does not have the ability to accept proposals that might dramatically change as part of Council decisions	0	0
	Advanced Reporting (via Integrated Capabilities or Extensions)	Meets	Moderately advanced reporting capability is bundled with the system		Meets	Moderately advanced reporting capability is bundled with the system	20	20
	Upfront Cost	Unknown			Unknown		0	
	Operating Cost	Unknown			Unknown		0	0
	Multi-Term Budget Capability	Meets			Meets		20	20
	Automated Reminders	Meets	Both have configurable email reminders based on actions		Meets	Both have configurable email reminders based on actions	20	20
	Multi-Project Program Grant Tracking	Somewhat Meets	Project documentation can be uploaded and attached		Somewhat Meets	Project documentation can be uploaded and attached	10	10
	Versioned Data	Somewhat Meets	More info is needed on this attribute		Somewhat Meets	More info is needed on this attribute; does appear to have some functionality on this attribute	10	10
	Post-Award Monitoring Data (Site Visit Results, etc.)	Does Not Meet	All site visit results are handled via uploads		Does Not Meet	All site visit results are handled via uploads	0	0

	Requirements/Features	Grant Solutions	*Notes		EZFedGrants	Scoring and Weighting - The Baseline Requirements are weighted highest (Meets = 50, Somewhat Meets = 25, Does Not Meet=0); The Tier 1-4 Features have diminishing proportional weights (e.g. Teir 1 Meets= 25, Somewhat Meets=15, Does Not Meet=0; etc.)		
						*Notes	GS Score	EZFG Score
Tier 3	Leveraged Funding Data Collection and Tracking	Does Not Meet	Can upload attachments as an alternative		Does Not Meet	Can upload attachments as an alternative	0	0
	GIS Capability	Does Not Meet	System does not allow zip files		Somewhat Meets	Zip files can be uploaded	0	5
	Land Acquisition Data Types and Tracking	Somewhat Meets	Limited previews of this functionality were shown. The full features of this capability are unknown.		Does Not Meet	No tracking mechanism exists	5	0
	Electronic Signatures	Meets			Meets		10	10
	Equipment Tracking	Somewhat Meets	Limited previews of this functionality were shown. The full features of this capability are unknown.		Does Not Meet	No tracking mechanism exists	5	0
	Special Award Condition Management and Tracking	Meets	SACs can be managed in the system and appended to an award as needed		Meets	SACs can be managed in the system and appended to an award as needed	10	10
	Environmental Compliance Tracking	Somewhat Meets	OGCR is using a custom, structured form to capture this data.		Does Not Meet	Can upload attachments	5	0
	BAS Science Review Process	Somewhat Meets	Potential for multiple reviewer set-up - how this would integrate with internal review process is unclear		Somewhat Meets	Potential for multiple reviewer set-up - how this would integrate with internal review process is unclear	5	5
	FABS Report Generation (Automated Post-Processing of FABS-Compliant Reports)	Meets	The system is able to generate FABS-compliant reports		Meets	The system is able to generate FABS-compliant reports	10	10
	TOTAL SCORES						760.00	690.00

Requirements/Features		Grant Solutions	*Notes		EZFedGrants	**Scoring and Weighting** - The Baseline Requirements are weighted highest (Meets = 50, Somewhat Meets = 25, Does Not Meet=0); The Tier 1-4 Features have diminishing proportional weights (e.g. Teir 1 Meets= 25, Somewhat Meets=15, Does Not Meet=0; etc.)		
						*Notes	GS Score	EZFG Score
Baseline Requirements	Available to GCERC?	Meets			Meets		50	50
	FISMA Accredited (FEDRAMP, ATO, etc.)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	DATA Act Compliant (Collects All FABS Attributes)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Supports Full Grants Management Life Cycle (Application, Award, Financial Reporting, Performance Reporting, Amendments, and Close-Out)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Supports Both Grants and IAAs	Somewhat Meets	Additional info is needed on this subject		Does Not Meet	The system owners plan on meeting this requirement during 2018	25	0
	Basic Integrated and Configurable Reporting	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Configurability (Custom Data Elements and Workflows)'	Somewhat Meets	All custom elements must be routed through the Grants Solutions team (and at additional cost)		Somewhat Meets	Limited customization is available to the client agency. Other elements must be routed through the EZFedGrants Team	25	25
	System of Record for Documentation	Meets			Meets		50	50
	SF 424 Data Elements and Required Award Attributes, Including Object-Class Category Budgets	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Automated System E-mail Capability	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Internal Controls (Workgroups, Permissions, Task Assignments, etc.)	Meets			Meets		50	50
	Multiple Reviewer Capability	Somewhat Meets	More info is needed; multiple review functionality is available, but may have limited structural options		Somewhat Meets	More info is needed; multiple review functionality is available, but may have limited structural options	25	25
Tier 1	GREAT Act Strategy/Implementation	Somewhat Meets	GREAT Act Data standards have not yet been determined. However, as a shared service provider, the system owners will be required to adhere to those standards, and have demonstrated past ability to meet similar requirements (e.g., DATA Act)		Somewhat Meets	GREAT Act Data standards have not yet been determined. However, as a shared service provider, the system owners will be required to adhere to those standards, and have demonstrated past ability to meet similar requirements (e.g., DATA Act)	15	15
	Testing Environment	Somewhat Meets	The Testing Evironment is currently only available to organizations with active development and testing		Does Not Meet	A testing environment is planned with a projected 2018 rollout	15	0
	Milestones Capability	Somewhat Meets	OGCR is using a custom form to capture structured milestone and metrics data. However, this data is not currentrly being reported on, and does not carry forward through the life of the award.		Does Not Meet	Any milestones are collected via upload	15	0
	Metrics Capability	Somewhat Meets	OGCR is using a custom form to capture structured milestone and metrics data. However, this data is not currentrly being reported on, and does not carry forward through the life of the award.		Does Not Meet	Any metrics are collected via upload	15	0
	Payment Requests for High-Risk Grantees	Somewhat Meets	At-will tasks for various actions can be configured within the system.		Somewhat Meets	Some ability exists for payments. However, it is unknown if that functionality can co-exist with our usage of ASAP as a Payment tool.	15	15
Tier 2	ASAP Integration	Somewhat Meets	No Payment data is being pulled into the system from ASAP; but Denali Commission with GrantSolutiuons is working to create this functionality; Restore staff are participating		Meets	Payment data is pulled into the system from ASAP	10	20
	ARC and Oracle Integration	Does Not Meet	Plans to meet; this item is in progress and being funded by the Denali Commission.		Does Not Meet	No planned functionality at present.	0	0
	Document Creation (Awards, Amendments, etc.)	Meets	Automated; awards and amendments are not customizable without additional build-out		Meets	Automated; awards and amendments are not customizable without additional build-out	20	20
	Accepts Pre-Applications and Proposals	Does Not Meet	Does not have the ability to accept proposals that might dramatically change as part of Council decisions		Does Not Meet	Does not have the ability to accept proposals that might dramatically change as part of Council decisions	0	0
	Advanced Reporting (via Integrated Capabilities or Extensions)	Meets	Moderately advanced reporting capability is bundled with the system		Meets	Moderately advanced reporting capability is bundled with the system	20	20
	Upfront Cost	Unknown			Unknown		0	
	Operating Cost	Unknown			Unknown		0	0
	Multi-Term Budget Capability	Meets			Meets		20	20
	Automated Reminders	Meets	Both have configurable email reminders based on actions		Meets	Both have configurable email reminders based on actions	20	20
	Multi-Project Program Grant Tracking	Somewhat Meets	Project documentation can be uploaded and attached		Somewhat Meets	Project documentation can be uploaded and attached	10	10
	Versioned Data	Somewhat Meets	More info is needed on this attribute		Somewhat Meets	More info is needed on this attribute; does appear to have some functionality on this attribute	10	10
	Post-Award Monitoring Data (Site Visit Results, etc.)	Does Not Meet	All site visit results are handled via uploads		Does Not Meet	All site visit results are handled via uploads	0	0
Tier 3	Leveraged Funding Data Collection and Tracking	Does Not Meet	Can upload attachments as an alternative		Does Not Meet	Can upload attachments as an alternative	0	0
	GIS Capability	Does Not Meet	System does not allow zip files		Somewhat Meets	Zip files can be uploaded	0	5
	Land Acquisition Data Types and Tracking	Somewhat Meets	Limited previews of this functionality were shown. The full features of this capability are unknown.		Does Not Meet	No tracking mechanism exists	5	0
	Electronic Signatures	Meets			Meets		10	10
	Equipment Tracking	Somewhat Meets	Limited previews of this functionality were shown. The full features of this capability are unknown.		Does Not Meet	No tracking mechanism exists	5	0
	Special Award Condition Management and Tracking	Meets	SACs can be managed in the system and appended to an award as needed		Meets	SACs can be managed in the system and appended to an award as needed	10	10
	Environmental Compliance Tracking	Somewhat Meets	OGCR is using a custom, structured form to capture this data.		Does Not Meet	Can upload attachments	5	0
	BAS Science Review Process	Somewhat Meets	Potential for multiple reviewer set-up - how this would integrate with internal review process is unclear		Somewhat Meets	Potential for multiple reviewer set-up - how this would integrate with internal review process is unclear	5	5

	FABS Report Generation (Automated Post-Processing of FABS-Compliant Reports)	Meets	The system is able to generate FABS-compliant reports		Meets	The system is able to generate FABS-compliant reports	10	10
			TOTAL SCORES				**760.00**	**690.00**



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Path to FPL 3: Projects Concepts Database

April 2018 Steering Committee Meeting

Gulf Breeze, FL

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Collaboration in Practice - Projects Concepts Database

Projects Concepts Database/Collaboration Tool

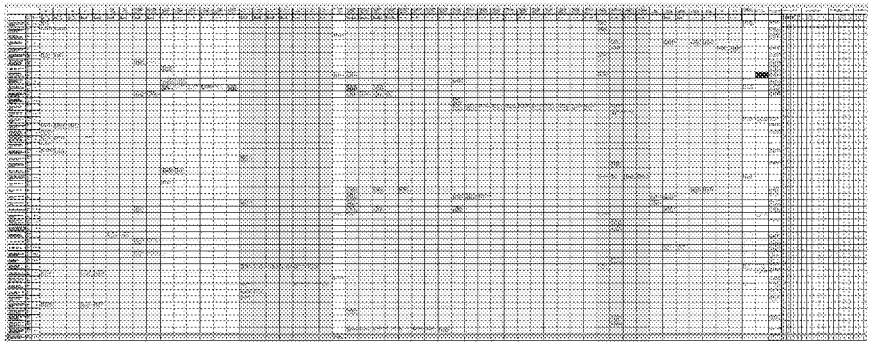
- Funding for Tool creation approved as part of FY18 budget
- ***Internal*** platform for developing FPL ideas (information not pushed to public platform until Council members approve)

Value/Benefits

- Lessons learned from FPL 1
- Visual tool - aids in FPL Development
  - See areas of shared interest
  - Possibly advance project status by sharing EC knowledge/documents
  - May capitalize leveraging opportunities
- Compiles information needed for proposals & applications

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Projects Concepts Database - FPL 1 Lesson Learned



- This figure is just a piece of the spreadsheet developed for FPL 1
- Late in the process, the spreadsheet was abandoned in favor of a database/mapping tool

FPL 1 Lesson Learned:

- Information generated for proposals needs to be in a database with mapping capability to be most useful in FPL development
- Using a database from the start facilitates carrying information through from concept to award, streamlining projects funding

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Projects Concepts Database

Database *can* capture (as much or little of the information that is available or that members wish to share):

- Project name and description
- Sponsor/Co-sponsor(s)
- Location (some can be auto populated - State, watershed, county/parish)
- Cost
- Leveraging (funds, type, status, source, description)
- Benefit/Metric/Science support Information
- Stakeholder engagement

All linked to spatial information for your project ideas

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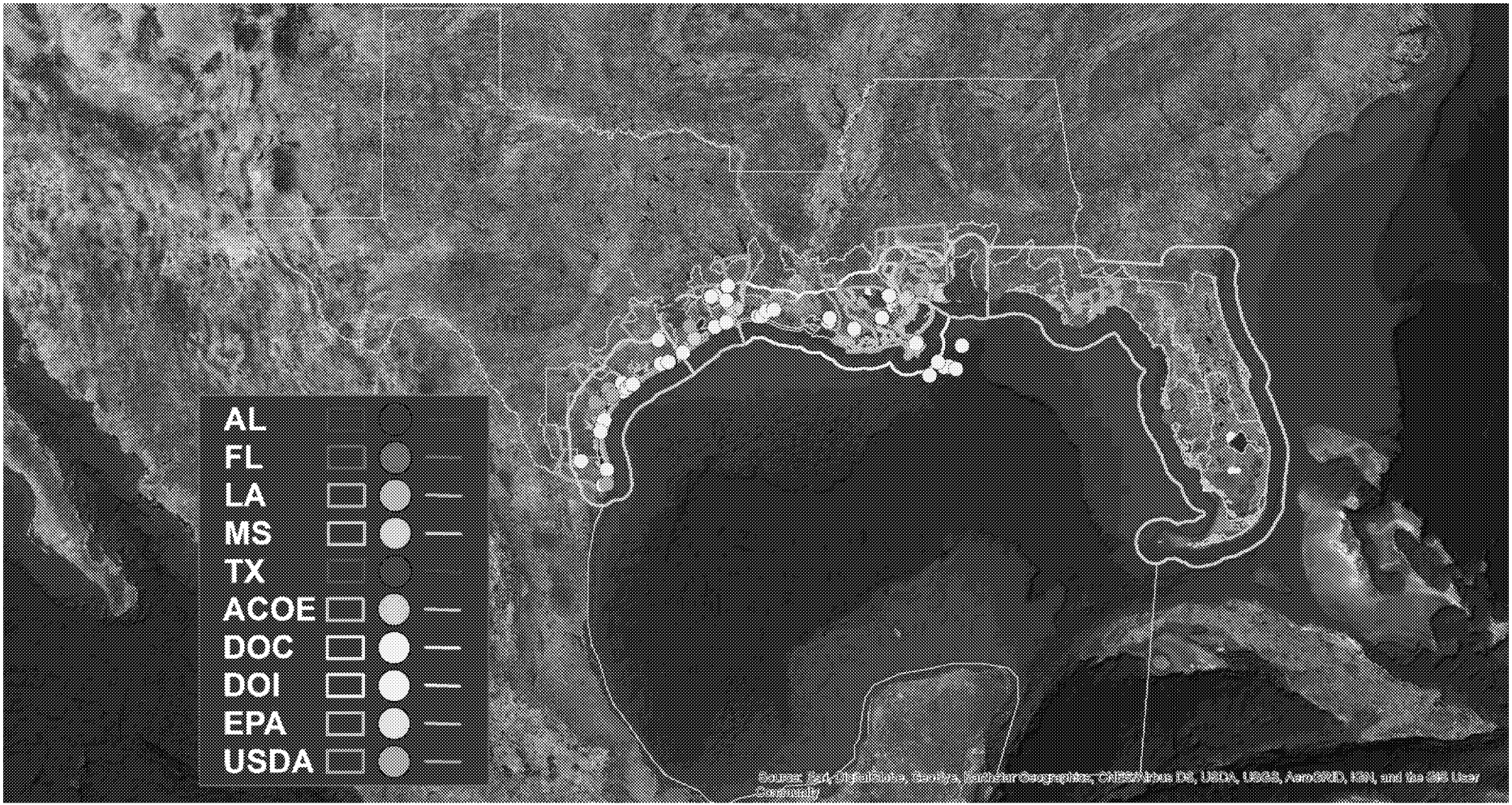
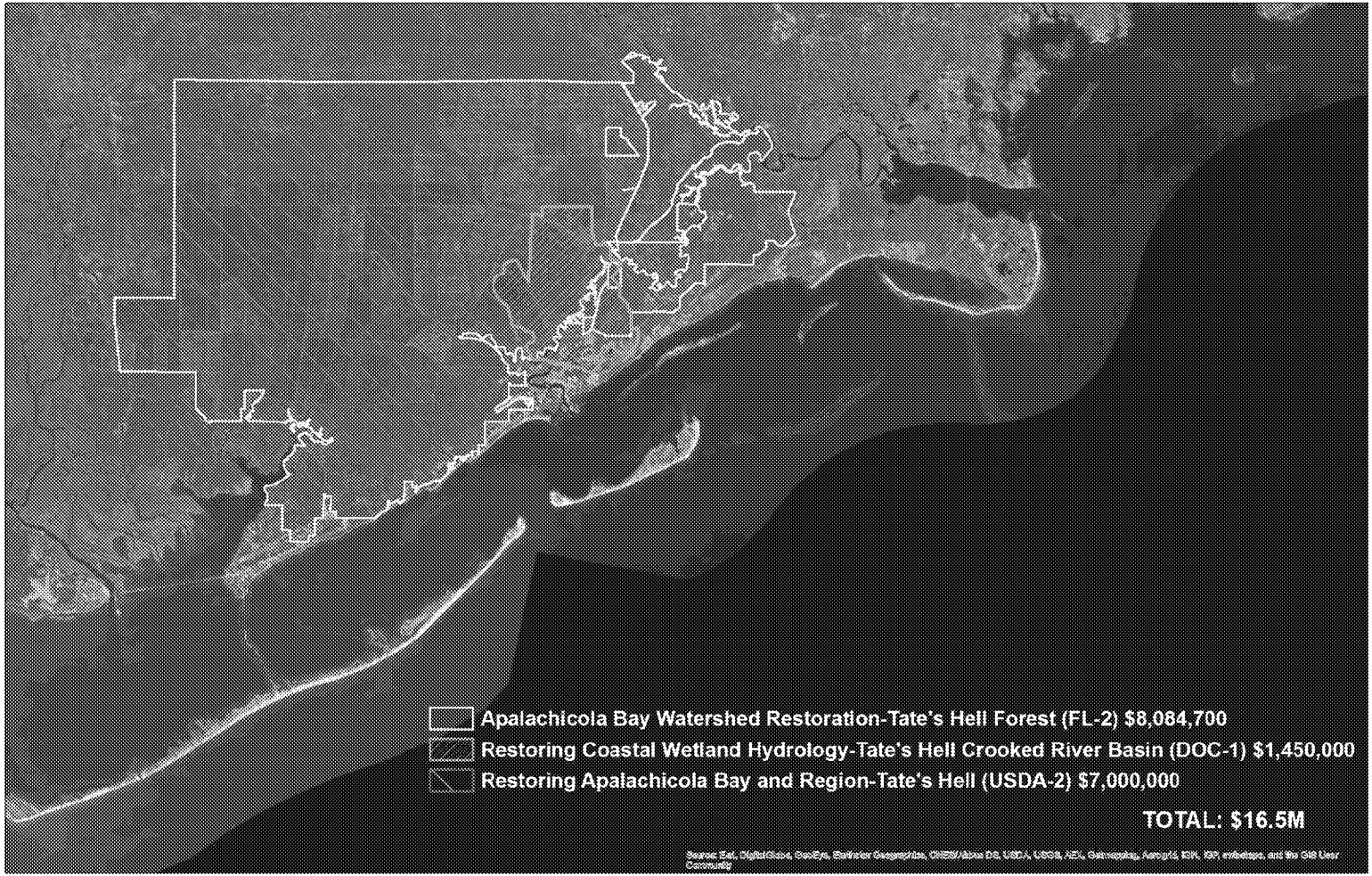

AL
FL
LA
MS
TX
ACOE
DOC
DOI
EPA
USDA
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community


Apalachicola Bay Watershed Restoration-Tate's Hell Forest (FL-2) $8,084,700
Restoring Coastal Wetland Hydrology-Tate's Hell Crooked River Basin (DOC-1) $1,450,000
Restoring Apalachicola Bay and Region-Tate's Hell (USDA-2) $7,000,000
TOTAL: $16.5M

Projects Concepts Database - Path to FPL3

What's Next?

- Database tool being completed
- Restoration concepts to be identified by members
- Members work with Council staff (Michelle Fischer) to enter information into database
  - Promotes consistent and clean data entry
  - Feeds the Internal Web Mapping application (similar to FPL 1)
  - Allows staff to export project information for you

Bottom Line:

- This tool will help manage our work and visualize products
- By participating in collaboration, you can save time during proposal, FPL development, and application processes

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program Selection Amendment to The State of Louisiana's First Amended RESTORE Plan

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Executive Summary

The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 ("RESTORE Act") requires the State of Louisiana, through the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority ("CPRA"), to publish (i) a Multiyear Implementation Plan detailing its plan to expend funds under the Direct Component of the RESTORE Act, subject to review by the U.S. Department of Treasury ("Treasury"); and (ii) a State Expenditure Plan detailing its plan to expend funds under the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act, subject to approval by the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council ("RESTORE Council"). Because the activities eligible for funding under the Direct Component and Spill Impact Component are nearly identical, and the requirements for both the Multiyear Implementation Plan and the State Expenditure Plan are similar, the State of Louisiana has elected to combine these two plans into a single document entitled the State of Louisiana's RESTORE Plan ("RESTORE Plan" or the "Plan"), which is subject to amendment when new projects and programs are added.

The State's initial RESTORE Plan was approved by the CPRA Board for submission to Treasury on July 15, 2015 for expenditure of then-available Direct Component funds from the 2013 Transocean Deepwater Inc. ("Transocean") settlement.[1] On September 21, 2015, Treasury formally notified the State that Louisiana was the first state to have a Plan accepted by Treasury for expenditure of Direct Component funds. On April 4, 2016, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana entered a final consent decree among the United States, the five Gulf Coast States and BP in MDL No. 2179 (United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana) ("Consent Decree") in which BP agreed to pay $5.5 billion plus interest under the Clean Water Act for its role in the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Eighty percent of these funds, or approximately $4.4 billion, will be deposited into the RESTORE Trust Fund in fifteen annual installments beginning no later than one year after entry of the Consent Decree on April 4, 2017, and ending by April 4, 2031, with a penalty interest payment being deposited in 2032. Entry of the BP Consent Decree also triggered the effective date of the Spill Impact Allocation Final Rule at 40 C.F.R. Part 1800, which allocates 34.59% of the total Spill Impact Component funds to the State of Louisiana.

On January 18, 2017, the CPRA Board approved the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan, which updated and amended the 2015 RESTORE Plan to describe how it intended to use both the then-available and estimated anticipated funds under the Direct Component, as well as the currently available and estimated anticipated funds from the Spill Impact Component, for a total of approximately $811.9 million over a 15 year period ending in 2031. The State's First Amended RESTORE Plan contained the same projects and programs as the 2015 State RESTORE Plan, but increased the funding for those projects and programs, including increasing the amount available for

[1] The State's initial RESTORE Plan identified two projects and two programs for funding under the State's then-available Direct Component funds: the Houma Navigation Canal Lock Complex ($16 million), the Calcasieu Ship Channel Salinity Control Measures ($16 million), Adaptive Management ($2.4 million) and the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program (up to $3.9 million).

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the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program up to $100 million.[2] In March of 2018, CPRA announced that both Treasury and the RESTORE Council had approved the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan.

This CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program Selection Amendment to the State of Louisiana's First Amended RESTORE Plan (the "RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment") proposes to update and amend the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan to identify those projects selected for funding under the first iteration of the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program. As described herein, CPRA intends to allocate a total of up to $100 million, over a 15 year period, from the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act for project and program matching opportunities for eligible parishes (i.e. those identified in 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(1)(D)(i)(II)) to conduct one or more eligible activities as defined by the RESTORE Act (i.e. those identified in 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(3)(B)(i) and 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(1)(B)). In order to structure this program in the most effective and efficient way possible, between 2015 and 2017, CPRA engaged in extensive outreach with the parishes to solicit feedback on the program and opened an initial $20 million project solicitation on July 3, 2017, in accordance with the terms of the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan. Accordingly, the projects selected for funding in this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment include a total of approximately $20 million from the Spill Impact Component, in addition to CPRA's costs of approximately $1,284,842, including direct personnel and other project management and oversight costs and administrative costs, in identified expenditures as follows:

Parish	Project	Estimated Project Funding Need	Estimated Spill Impact Funding Request
Cameron	Construction of Rockefeller Shoreline Stabilization Project	$6,671,531	$6,848,575
Lafourche	Engineering and Design of Grand Bayou Freshwater Reintroduction Project	$412,722	$599,386
St. Bernard	Construction of Lake Lery Marsh Creation Project	$2,781,000	$2,997,843
St. Charles	Construction of Paradis Canal Gate	$2,540,724	$2,827,150
Tangipahoa	Engineering and Design and Construction of Manchac Landbridge Shoreline Protection Project	$3,000,000	$3,179,265
Vermilion	Engineering and Design and Construction of Freshwater Bayou Canal Shoreline Protection Project	$4,594,023	$4,832,623
TOTAL		$20,000,000	$21,284,842

[2] The State's First Amended RESTORE Plan identified the following projects and programs for funding over the duration of the 15-year BP payout: The Calcasieu Ship Channel Salinity Control Measures (~$260.4 million from the Direct Component); The Houma Navigation Canal Lock Complex (~$366 million from the Spill Impact Component); Adaptive Management (~$60.9 million from the Spill Impact Component); The CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program (up to ~$100 million from the Spill Impact Component) ; and Contingency Funds (~$24.6 million from the Spill Impact Component). *Please see* the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan for additional information about the projects and programs included in that plan.

Public Participation Statement

This RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment to the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan was published and made available for public review and comment for a minimum of forty five (45) days, from February 21, 2018 – April 9, 2018, in a manner calculated to obtain broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, Indian tribes, and non-profit organizations in accordance with 31 C.F.R. 34.503(b)(4) and 34.503(g), and was adopted after consideration of all meaningful input from the public. Information summarizing the public input received during the public comment period is available in Appendix D-7.

As additional projects and programs, such as projects proposed under the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program, are proposed under the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan, or as allocations among projects and programs may be updated over time, the Plan will be amended. Amendments to the Plan will undergo the same procedure for public comment as outlined above.

Best Available Science[3]

Under 31 C.F.R. §34.503(d), each activity designed to protect or restore natural resources proposed for funding under the Spill Impact Component must be based on best available science. Under 31 C.F.R. 34.2, "best available science" is defined as "science that 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." Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan is required by law to be updated every five years in order to take into account the best available science and the ever-changing conditions on the ground. The Coastal Master Plan, on which the First Amended RESTORE Plan is based, is guided by a mission which is comprehensive in scope and based on a broad range of objectives, principles, decision drivers, metrics and constraints. (Coastal Master Plan pp. 44-63). This mission represents the result of a broad-based collaboration among local, state and national stakeholders and uses cutting edge technical analysis to "think big and evaluate the needs of the entire coast". (*Id.* at 45). Each of the projects selected for funding under the parish matching program, as identified in this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment, is consistent with the goals and objectives of the State's Coastal Master Plan. Additionally, each project was selected based on specific selection criteria listed in the First Amended RESTORE Plan that is designed to help CPRA prioritize proposed activities for matching funds and to assess the ability of the parishes to implement the proposed projects. As such, each of the projects selected for funding is based on the best available science.

[3] Please *also see* the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan for additional information about the process for prioritizing and selecting projects for the plan.

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State Certification of RESTORE Act Compliance, Conflicts of Interest and Financial Integrity

In accordance with the Section 5.2.2 of the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, the State of Louisiana hereby certifies that all projects, programs, and activities included in this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment are eligible activities as defined by the RESTORE Act and meet the requirements listed in Sections 4.1 and 4.1.1 of the SEP Guidelines. Additionally, the process used to verify that the projects, programs, and activities meet these requirements is described in Sections II, V and VI of the State's First Amended Plan, as well as this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment. The State of Louisiana further certifies that issues crossing Gulf State boundaries have been evaluated to ensure that a comprehensive, collaborative ecological and economic recovery is furthered by this amendment. Likewise, the State hereby certifies that: (i) this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment complies with the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, (ii) all activities in this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf Coast, and (iii) all activities will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region in accordance with the requirements of 31 C.F.R. §§ 34.503(b)(5) and 34.203. The State also certifies that, pursuant to Section 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines and in accordance with 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(3)(B)(ii)(I) and 31 C.F.R. § 34.503(f), no more than 25 percent of funding under the Spill Impact Component will be used to pay for infrastructure projects. Additionally, in accordance with 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(III), the State of Louisiana certifies that this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment takes into consideration the current Comprehensive Plan adopted by the RESTORE Council and is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Plan.

All conflicts of interest and financial integrity provisions provided for in Section VIII of the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan will also apply to this RESTORE Parish Matching Amendment.

The following are the project selections CPRA is adding as an amendment to the Parish Matching Program included in the State of Louisiana's First Amended RESTORE Plan.

The following information is proposed to replace the information pertaining to the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program on pages 25-26 and at Appendix D of the State's First Amended RESTORE Plan.

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CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program – Spill Impact Component (see also Appendix D):

- Need: The CPRA recognizes (i) the importance of parish-state partnerships in working together to achieve comprehensive integrated coastal protection as identified in Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan, as well as (ii) the fact that because Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan is a resource-limited approach to coastal restoration and protection, it is not possible to include every beneficial project in the Coastal Master Plan.
- Purpose: This CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program is designed to help coastal parishes who will receive RESTORE funds under the Direct Component prioritize Coastal Master Plan projects with those funds, while also recognizing and responding to the needs of parishes to implement projects that may not be specifically contained in the Coastal Master Plan but are nevertheless consistent[4] with the Coastal Master Plan and are included in Parish RESTORE Act Multiyear Implementation Plans. *See* La. R.S. 49:214.1 *et seq.*[5] This approach will allow the CPRA to connect large scale projects with strategic local projects in a way that can maximize efficiencies and the impact of RESTORE Act funds in accordance with La. R.S. 49:214.5.4(G).
- Objective: The CPRA intends to allocate a total of up to $100 million, over a 15 year period, from the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act for project and program matching opportunities for eligible parishes (i.e. those identified in 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(1)(D)(i)(II)) to conduct one or more eligible activities as defined by the RESTORE Act (i.e. those identified in 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(B)(i)).
- Funds Requested: The total funds that will be requested for the matching program are estimated to be up to approximately $100 million from the Spill Impact Component over a 15 year period, with an initial solicitation in the summer of 2017 of up to $20 million for parish matching projects. This RESTORE Plan will be updated and amended, as approved by the CPRA Board, as projects proposed under the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program are selected for funding. Any projects selected for funding under the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program as an amendment to this Plan will be subject to a forty five (45) day public comment period before their selection is finalized by CPRA. Funds will be formally requested from the RESTORE Council through the grant process after specific matching projects have been solicited, identified, publicly reviewed and selected and the amendment to this Plan including those specific projects has been approved by the RESTORE Council.
- Projected Start and Completion Dates: The projected start and completion dates will be determined based on the projects or programs selected.

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[4] To be considered consistent with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, the proposed project must strive to achieve one or more of the Coastal Master Plan's objectives and must not detrimentally affect, significantly diminish or otherwise conflict with integrated coastal protection projects or the benefits of projects intended to protect, conserve or enhance coastal areas. This consistency determination will be made by CPRA on a case by case basis and at the sole discretion of CPRA.

[5] This program is also included in the 2017 Coastal Master Plan at p. 130, and in the 2018 Annual Plan at p. 46.

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Cameron Parish – Westward Expansion of the CWPRRA Rockefeller Refuge Shoreline Stabilization Project – Spill Impact Component (see also Appendix D-1):

- Need: This project is listed in the 2017 Coastal Master Plan as project 004.SP.05a and as part of the Parish Matching Program in the 2019 Annual Plan. The Cameron Parish shoreline along the southern boundary of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge (Rockefeller) has been experiencing a documented high rate of shoreline erosion. The originally deeded 86,000 acres of Rockefeller Refuge has been reduced to about 76,000 acres by coastal erosion. Historical estimates of long-term shoreline retreat range from 30 to 40 feet per year. Short-term events, such as Tropical Storm Frances in 1998, have caused more than 50 feet of erosion over the course of a few days. Rockefeller more recently completed a coastline survey and discovered an alarming beach erosion rate of 233.5 feet during a 278 day span from September 17, 2015 to June 21, 2016 which equates to an erosion rate of 306 feet per year for that time period (without any tropical systems of record).
- Purpose: The main purpose of the project is to provide shoreline protection along the southern boundary of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge (Rockefeller). Through previous efforts, CPRA teamed with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to implement the Rockefeller Gulf Shoreline Stabilization Project (ME-18). The project intent is to halt erosion along an approximately 15,000 foot portion of the Refuge west of Joseph Harbor Bayou (Joseph Harbor) with this project in particular estimated to protect an estimated 6,000 linear feet of shoreline. The project is funded and authorized in accordance with the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) (16 U.S.C.A., Section 3951-3956). The construction phase is set to begin shortly. The proposed RESTORE project will build on the efforts of the CWPPRA project.
- Objectives: There are two phases to this project. Phase 1 consists of completion of engineering and design, including land rights, baseline data and monitoring plan development, and project administration. It is worth noting that the State of Louisiana's Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is the only landowner from whom it is necessary to obtain land rights and there are no private landowners involved in the construction of this project. Phase 2 consists of construction. With the requested funds, it is estimated that approximately 6,000 linear feet of shoreline will be protected. As such, for purposes of Section 4.1.1 of the RESTORE Council's State Expenditure Guidelines ("SEP Guidelines"), the primary eligible activity of the project is to provide restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region (Eligible Activity (1)).

  This project will contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf by protecting an area that is experiencing one of the highest rates of shoreline erosion in coastal Louisiana.

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This project will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region as defined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.2 because it is located in Cameron Parish which is in the coastal zone defined under section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 that border the Gulf of Mexico. (*See* Appendix D-6 for map for the approximate boundaries of the project influence area).

For the purposes of the RESTORE Act and Section 4.2.2 of the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, this project is not considered an infrastructure project. CPRA is providing funding for engineering and design, as well as construction of this project. It is estimated that 10% of the total requested funds will be used for planning purposes and 90% will fund construction activities. Funding of post-construction activities, including without limitation, monitoring and operations and maintenance will be the responsibility of the Parish. It will be required that the engineer overseeing the design and construction of the project certify that the project is built to specification and the invoices are accurate. This process will allow CPRA to monitor and measure the success of this project.

Consistency with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, as defined under the terms of the Parish Matching Program, was required for a project to be considered for the Parish Matching Program. Each project was also evaluated based on specific selection criteria to ensure that projects were selected under this program based on the best available science. As such, this project was selected based on the best available science for the Parish Matching Program.

- Funds Requested: The estimated cost of this project is $8,671,531. This estimate is based on recent bid information from the similar CWPPRA project. Cameron Parish Police Jury has pledged $2,000,000, including a portion of their RESTORE Act Direct Component funds. CPRA is requesting an estimated $6,671,531 in Spill Impact Component funding to complete the funding needs of this project. CPRA will also request an estimated $177,044 from the Spill Impact Component to cover costs incurred by CPRA to complete this project. In total, CPRA will request an estimated $6,848,575 in Spill Impact Component funding for this project. Including the CPRA costs, the project is estimated to cost $8,848,575.

  Currently, the Parish funds are pending. The requested RESTORE dollars will not be used as a non-federal match.
- High level milestones:
  1. Completion of land rights
  2. Baseline data and monitoring plan development
  3. Advertisement for Bids
  4. Award construction contract
  5. Issue Substantial Completion
- Measures of Success:
  1. Completion of engineering and design phase

2. Awarding construction contract
3. Construction mobilization
4. Issuing Substantial Completion

- Measures of Ecosystem Benefits:
  1. Erosion control – linear feet of shoreline restored
- Estimated Start and Completion Dates:
  Project dates assume a start date of November 2018:
  Engineering and design start: December 2018
  Advertisement for Bids: February 2019
  Completion of Construction: April 2020

The project-specific information provided above will be provided to the RESTORE Council using the project information templates available on the Council's website, including the Project Narrative Template and Milestones Template.

Lafourche Parish – Grand Bayou Freshwater Reintroduction Project – Spill Impact Component (see also Appendix D-2):

- Need: This project is listed in the 2017 Coastal Master Plan as the Grand Bayou Hydrologic Restoration project (03a.HR.100) and as part of the Parish Matching Program in the 2019 Annual Plan. Due to altered hydrology in the area, the Terrebonne Basin in Lafourche Parish is experiencing land loss along with high rates of subsidence, which are estimated to be between 2.1 and 3.5 feet per century. Without restoration, this region will continue to see the breakup of marshes and the conversion of low salinity marshes to brackish and saline marsh. More than 16,000 acres of marsh have been lost in this area since 1949.
- Purpose: The main purpose of the project is to continue and complete engineering and design of a project that will ultimately increase the flow of fresh water down Grand Bayou Canal from the GIWW. Lafourche Parish has requested and received $79,870 in RESTORE Direct Component funding to begin engineering and design. The requested Spill Impact Component funds will allow for continuation and completion of the engineering and design. Construction of the designed project would help to lower salinities and add nutrients to the wetlands south of the GIWW along the east and west banks of Grand Bayou Canal. As such, for the purposes of Section 4.1.1 of the RESTORE Council's State Expenditure Guidelines ("SEP Guidelines"), the primary eligible activity of the project is to provide restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region (Eligible Activity (1)). This project also aims to protect ecologically important species by creating or improving habitat for rare species, species of concern, and threatened and endangered species; and provide storm surge reduction.

  Ultimately, the construction of this project will:

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- Increase the flow of fresh water from the GIWW into Grand Bayou Canal from approximately 600 cfs to 1,600 cfs;
- Redirect much of the freshwater from Grand Bayou Canal into the marshes east and west of Grand Bayou Canal;
- Create approximately 112 acres of fresh marsh and nourish an additional estimated 14 acres of intermediate marsh west of Grand Bayou near Hwy 24.

- Objectives: This project consists of preliminary engineering and design, hydrologic modeling, and engineering and design, culminating with a complete bid package.

  This project will contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf by increasing freshwater flow to help sustain marsh in an area that is experiencing one of the highest rates of land loss in Louisiana.

  This project will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region as defined in 31 C.F.R. 34.2 because it is located in Lafourche Parish which is in the coastal zone defined under section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 that border the Gulf of Mexico. (*See* Appendix D-2 for map for the approximate boundaries of the project influence area).

  For the purposes of the RESTORE Act and Section 4.2.2 of the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, this project is not considered an infrastructure project. CPRA is providing funding for engineering and design of this project. It is estimated that 100% of the total requested funds will be used for planning purposes. It will be required that the engineer overseeing the design of the project certify that the invoices are accurate and that the work is being performed to standard. This process will allow CPRA to monitor and measure the success of this project.

  Consistency with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, as defined under the terms of the Parish Matching Program, was required for a project to be considered for the Parish Matching Program. Each project was also evaluated based on specific selection criteria to ensure that projects were selected under this program based on the best available science. As such, this project was selected based on the best available science for the Parish Matching Program.
- Funds Requested: The estimated cost of the project is $687,869. Lafourche Parish has requested and received $79,870 and pledged $195,277 of their RESTORE Act Direct Component funds toward the completion of this project (for a total Parish contribution of $275,147). CPRA is requesting an estimated $412,722 in Spill Impact Component funding to complete the funding needs of this project. CPRA will also request an estimated $186,664 from the Spill Impact Component to cover costs incurred by CPRA to complete this project. In total, CPRA will request an estimated $599,386 in Spill Impact Component funding for this project. Including the CPRA costs, the project is estimated to cost $874,533.

Currently, the Parish funds are pending. The requested RESTORE dollars will not be used as a non-federal match.

- High level milestones:
  1. Data Gap Analysis
  2. Data Collection
  3. Permitting
  4. Design
  5. Completion of design report
- Measures of Success:
  1. Completion of engineering and design phase
- Estimated Start and Completion Dates:
  Project dates assume a start date of November 2018:
  Engineering and design start: November 2018
  Permitting: May 2019 - January 2020
  Ready to Bid: February 2020

The project-specific information provided above will be provided to the RESTORE Council using the project information templates available on the Council's website, including the Project Narrative Template and Milestones Template.

St. Bernard Parish – Lake Lery Marsh Creation Project – Spill Impact Component (see also Appendix D-3):

- Need: This project is consistent with the goals and objectives of the 2017 Coastal Master Plan and is contained in the 2019 Annual Plan as part of the Parish Matching Program. The project is needed to avoid ongoing deterioration of area marsh and increased exposure of the adjacent ridge to open water. Saltwater intrusion, erosion, and subsidence have had a devastating impact on the wetlands surrounding Delacroix over the past century. Much of the shoreline along Lake Lery and the adjacent wetlands has rapidly degraded in recent years due to tropical weather events (2004, 2005, 2008, and 2012) and the *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill (2010). Wind-induced waves in the lake have accelerated the damage, converting healthy marsh to open water and exposing the historic ridge along Bayou Terre aux Boeufs to wave energy. The ridge and marshes along Bayou Terre aux Boeufs function as a storm surge barrier for residents and businesses outside of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System. The ridge also supports fish and wildlife habitat near Delacroix, one of the most historic fishing communities in Louisiana.
- Purpose: The main purpose of the project is to build upon previously expended funds under the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) by constructing the designed 39 acre marsh creation project. The restoration of marshlands is important in an area where the natural ecosystem has become severely damaged. The Lake Lery Marsh Creation Project will use dredged material

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from Lake Lery to restore adjacent marsh. St. Bernard Parish Government's CIAP grant award has already funded the engineering, design, and permitting of the project, leaving only the construction phase yet to be completed. This project is part of an ongoing phased approach to restore and protect the Lake Lery area.

This project will contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf by helping prevent ongoing deterioration of healthy marsh into open water surrounding one of the most historic fishing communities in Louisiana.

- Objectives: This project consists of constructing approximately 39 acres of marsh. Specific project objectives include: (1) restoring natural ecosystems, fisheries, and marine and wildlife habitat; and (2) mitigating damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources in the Delacroix community, which is located in the heart of the Gulf Coast region. As such, for purposes of Section 4.1.1 of the RESTORE Council's State Expenditure Guidelines ("SEP Guidelines"), the primary eligible activity of the project is to provide restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region (Eligible Activity (1)).

  This project will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region as defined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.2 because it is located in St. Bernard Parish which is in the coastal zone defined under section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 that border the Gulf of Mexico. (*See* Appendix D-3 for map for the approximate boundaries of the project influence area).

  For the purposes of the RESTORE Act and Section 4.2.2 of the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, this project is not considered an infrastructure project. CPRA is providing funding for construction of this project. It is estimated that 100% of the total requested funds will be used for construction activities. Funding of post-construction activities, including without limitation, monitoring and operations and maintenance, will be the responsibility of the Parish. It will be required that the engineer overseeing the construction of the project certify that the project is built to specification and the invoices are accurate. This process will allow CPRA to monitor and measure the success of this project.

  Consistency with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, as defined under the terms of the Parish Matching Program, was required for a project to be considered for the Parish Matching Program. Each project was also evaluated based on specific selection criteria to ensure that projects were selected under this program based on the best available science. As such, this project was selected based on the best available science for the Parish Matching Program.
- Funds Requested: The estimated cost of the project is $3,081,000. This estimate is based on probable construction costs from the designed project. St. Bernard Parish Government has

pledged $300,000 of their RESTORE Act Direct Component funds. CPRA is requesting an estimated $2,781,000 in Spill Impact Component to complete the funding needs of this project. CPRA will also request an estimated $216,844 from the Spill Impact Component to cover costs incurred by CPRA to complete this project. In total, CPRA will request an estimated $2,997,844 in Spill Impact Component funding for this project. Including the CPRA costs, the project is estimated to cost $3,297,844.

The Parish Direct Component funds have been approved by Treasury. The requested RESTORE dollars will not be used as a non-federal match.

- High level milestones:
  1. Advertisement of bids
  2. Construction
  3. Project completion
- Measures of Success:
  1. Awarding construction contract
  2. Construction mobilization
  3. Issuing Substantial Completion
- Measures of Success of Ecosystem Benefits:
  1. Wetland restoration – acres restored
- Estimated Start and Completion Dates:
  Project dates assume a start date of November 2018:
  Advertisement for Bids: November 2018
  Construction begin: February 2019
  Completion of Construction: December 2019

The project-specific information provided above will be provided to the RESTORE Council using the project information templates available on the Council's website, including the Project Narrative Template and Milestones Template.

St. Charles Parish – Paradis Canal Gate – Spill Impact Component (see also Appendix D-4):

- Need: This project is contained in the 2017 Coastal Master Plan as part of 002.HP.06 and in the 2019 Annual Plan as part of the Parish Matching Program. The west bank of St. Charles Parish (west side of the Mississippi River) is outside of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) and unprotected from storm surges associated with both hurricanes and high tide conditions. Existing levee projects adjacent to this area have the potential to act as a funnel, thereby increasing the storm surge elevations in the project area. As part of the St. Charles Parish West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee and the larger, regional project, the Upper Barataria Risk Reduction System, this proposed project is needed to

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help prevent backwater flooding within the Paradis Canal during heavy rain events and high tides.

- Purpose: The main purpose of the project is to provide flood protection for the residents, businesses, and industries of the west bank of St. Charles Parish. This flood protection serves to protect the sustainability of the coastal landscape, communities, and economic future of the area. It will also improve the Parish's resiliency during storm recovery. A secondary benefit is protecting habitats in the Paradis Swamp. Research has shown major flooding can negatively affect coastal habitats resulting in loss of wildlife and biodiversity, destruction of habitats, and decreases in available food in the ecosystem creating long-term impacts for surviving wildlife. Additionally, inundation from waters with higher salinity from storm surges could result in damage to native vegetation.
- Objectives: Construction of the Paradis Canal Gate to prevent backwater flooding through the Paradis Canal opening in the West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee (WBHPL) project. Design has been completed to 70% to date. As part of the overall levee system, it is necessary to install the proposed Paradis Canal Gate located on the border of Paradis and Boutte, because without it the system is vulnerable to water rushing through leaving the possibility of the area to be inundated with high levels of water leading to flooding and potential economic losses. As such, for purposes of Section 4.1.1 of the RESTORE Council's State Expenditure Guidelines ("SEP Guidelines"), the primary eligible activity of the project is to provide coastal flood protection (Eligible Activity (7)). Construction of the Paradis Canal Gate is planned as part of Phase I of the four-phase WBHPL project. The WBHPL is a 33-mile earthen levee alignment that begins with the Sunset Levee on the western flank in Des Allemands and extends to the Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion West Guide Levee to the east in Luling. The WBHPL includes the proposed Paradis Canal Gate, which is necessary to address both the interior drainage and the resulting encapsulated wetlands ecosystem.

Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast (2017 Master Plan) identifies communities that are susceptible to future flooding if no action is taken to protect them. Assuming a medium environmental scenario in the next 25 years, the town of Paradis is one of 10 communities considered to be "particularly vulnerable". For the same scenario in 50 years, Paradis is one of 11 communities that could be "dramatically changed". The Paradis Canal Gate is proposed to prevent devastating floods from making these predictions become a reality. Permits have been received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Accordingly, this project will contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf by protecting one of Louisiana's most vulnerable coastal communities.

This project will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region as defined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.2 because it is located in the Terrebonne Basin which is in the coastal zone defined under section 304 of the

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 that border the Gulf of Mexico. (*See* Appendix D-5 for map for the approximate boundaries of the project influence area).

For the purposes of the RESTORE Act and Section 4.2.2 of the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, this project is considered an infrastructure project. CPRA is providing funding for construction of this project. It is estimated that 100% of these requested funds will go toward implementation. Funding of post-construction activities, including without limitation, monitoring and operations and maintenance, will be the responsibility of the Parish. It will be required that the engineer overseeing the construction of the project certify that the project is built to specification and the invoices are accurate. This process will allow CPRA to monitor and measure the success of this project.

Consistency with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, as defined under the terms of the Parish Matching Program, was required for a project to be considered for the Parish Matching Program. Each project was also evaluated based on specific selection criteria to ensure that projects were selected under this program based on the best available science. As such, this project was selected based on the best available science for the Parish Matching Program.

- Funds Requested: The engineering and design for the project (currently 70% completed) will be completed in July of 2018 using funds other than those being requested within this proposed Parish Matching Amendment. The estimated construction cost of the project is $5,081,448. This estimate is based on 70% design engineer's estimate of probable cost. St. Charles Parish will provide $390,284 through their RESTORE Act Direct Component funds, as well as $2,150,440 through a local dedicated millage for construction of this project. CPRA is requesting an estimated $2,540,724 in Spill Impact Component funding to complete the construction funding needs of this project. CPRA will also request an estimated $286,426 from the Spill Impact Component to cover costs incurred by CPRA to complete the construction of this project. In total, CPRA will request an estimated $2,827,150 in Spill Impact Component funding for the construction of this project. Including the CPRA costs, the project is estimated to cost $5,367,874.

  Currently, the Parish funds are pending. The requested RESTORE dollars will not be used as a non-federal match.
- High level milestones:
  1. Advertisement for Bids
  2. Award construction contract
  3. Issue Notice to Proceed
  4. Issue Substantial Completion
- Measures of Success:
  1. Awarding construction contract

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2. Construction mobilization
3. Issuing Substantial Completion

- Estimated Start and Completion Dates:
  Project dates assume a start date of November 2018:
  Advertisement for Bids: December 2018
  Substantial Completion of Construction: October 2020

The project-specific information provided above will be provided to the RESTORE Council using the project information templates available on the Council's website, including the Project Narrative Template and Milestones Template.

Tangipahoa Parish – Manchac Landbridge (Rock Breakwater) Shoreline Protection Project – Spill Impact Component (see also Appendix D-5):

- Need: This project is listed in the 2017 Coastal Master Plan as Manchac Landbridge Shoreline Protection project (001.SP.01) and is contained in the 2019 Annual Plan as part of the Parish Matching Program. Tangipahoa Parish has lost approximately 55 acres of shoreline since 1989, increasing the vulnerability of the wetlands north of Pass Manchac. The Manchac Landbridge Shoreline Protection project, consisting of approximately 5,348 linear feet of rock breakwater, will strengthen the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline and decrease vulnerability of the wetlands north of Pass Manchac. It is estimated that this project will prevent the otherwise inevitable degradation of an estimated 250+ acres of marshland.
- Purpose: The main purpose of the project is to continue efforts of the CIAP program with the construction of the designed Manchac Landbridge (Rock Breakwater) Shoreline Protection project on the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline southwest of the Tangipahoa River and east of Pass Manchac. This project will preserve shoreline integrity and reduce wetland degradation from wave erosion along the shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain, benefitting surrounding shoreline habitat. As such, for purposes of Section 4.1.1 of the RESTORE Council's State Expenditure Guidelines ("SEP Guidelines"), the primary eligible activity of the project is to provide for the restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region (Eligible Activity (1)).
- Objectives: This project consists of updating engineering and design for the Manchac Landbridge Shoreline Protection project and construction of approximately 5,348 linear feet of rock breakwater along the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline.

  This project will contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf by preventing shoreline erosion and reducing wetland degradation along the shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain.

  This project will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region as defined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.2 because it is located in Tangipahoa Parish which is in the coastal zone defined under section 304 of the

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Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 that border the Gulf of Mexico. (*See* Appendix D-4 for map for the approximate boundaries of the project influence area).

For the purposes of the RESTORE Act and Section 4.2.2 of the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, this project is not considered an infrastructure project. CPRA is providing funding for engineering and design, as well as construction of this project. It is estimated that 10% of the total requested funds will be used for planning purposes and 90% will fund construction activities. Funding of post-construction activities, including without limitation, monitoring and operations and maintenance, will be the responsibility of the Parish. It will be required that the engineer overseeing the design and construction of the project certify that the project is built to specification and the invoices are accurate. This process will allow CPRA to monitor and measure the success of this project.

Consistency with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, as defined under the terms of the Parish Matching Program, was required for a project to be considered for the Parish Matching Program. Each project was also evaluated based on specific selection criteria to ensure that projects were selected under this program based on the best available science. As such, this project was selected based on the best available science for the Parish Matching Program.

- Funds Requested: The estimated cost of the project is $3,491,871. Tangipahoa Parish has pledged $491,871 of their RESTORE Act Direct Component funds toward the completion of this project. CPRA is requesting an estimated $3,000,000 in Spill Impact Component funding to complete the funding needs of this project. CPRA will also request an estimated $179,266 from the Spill Impact Component to cover costs incurred by CPRA to complete this project. In total, CPRA will request an estimated $3,179,266 in Spill Impact Component funding for this project. Including the CPRA costs, the project is estimated to cost $3,671,137.

  Currently, the Parish funds are pending. The requested RESTORE dollars will not be used as a non-federal match.
- High level milestones:
  1. Environmental Review
  2. Preparation of construction plans and specifications
  3. Construction
- Measures of Success:
  1. Completion of environmental review
  2. Awarding construction contract
  3. Construction mobilization
  4. Project completion
- Measures of Success for Ecosystem Benefits:
  1. Erosion control –linear feet restored

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- Estimated Start and Completion Dates:
  Project dates assume a start date of March 2018:
  Environmental review: March 2018
  Preparation of construction plans and specifications: May – July 2018
  Completion of bid: July – November 2018
  Construction: January 2019 – January 2020
  Project completion: February 2020

The project-specific information provided above will be provided to the RESTORE Council using the project information templates available on the Council's website, including the Project Narrative Template and Milestones Template.

Vermilion Parish – The Freshwater Bayou Canal Shoreline Protection Project – Spill Impact Component (see also Appendix D-6):

- Need: The Freshwater Bayou Canal Shoreline Protection Project is included in the State's 2017 Coastal Master Plan as the Freshwater Bayou Canal Shoreline Protection Project (004.SP.03) and is listed under the Restoration Projects for years 1-10. This project is also contained in the 2019 Annual Plan as part of the Parish Matching Program. The Freshwater Bayou (FWB) was authorized in 1960 for the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers to provide a navigational channel from the GIWW at Mile Marker 161, west of Harvey Lock, south approximately 23 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. During the late 1950's and early 1960's, navigational canals were constructed to facilitate access from the Gulf of Mexico for development of the offshore oil and gas industry. FWB's original authorized channel dimensions were 125' wide to -12' Mean Low Gulf (MLG) datum. The average channel width of FWB upon completion of the original construction was approximately 173'. Currently, the average channel width is over 600' and continuing to expand unabated in the unprotected areas. FWB is still used as a navigation channel for providing access to the Gulf of Mexico for large oil and gas offshore supply and commercial fishing vessels. These vessels are capable of creating large wakes (greater than 4') which are the main cause of erosion along FWB, particularly along the unprotected shoreline areas.
- Purpose: The main purpose of the project is to provide shoreline protection by constructing approximately 10,600-linear feet of foreshore rock dike along the eastern bank of Freshwater Bayou Canal to prevent further deterioration of shoreline areas and existing adjacent marsh. This will benefit the wetlands and ecosystems surrounding FWB by preventing further shoreline erosion and tidal scour, and reducing saltwater intrusion. The proposed foreshore rock dike is a concept that has been utilized throughout Coastal Louisiana as a method of preventing further erosion, particularly along navigation channels, and it has been proven to be effective at preventing further erosion in those areas. Examples of the benefits provided by shoreline protection are evident by previous projects constructed along FWB, which have prevented further erosion of the banks and further degradation of the interior marshes. The experience and behavior of the previous projects will also assist in developing and constructing the most

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cost effective and beneficial design. This project will connect to an existing shoreline protection project and provide protection for the proposed Cole's Bayou Marsh Restoration Project (TV-63) which is expected to begin construction within the next 1-2 years.

- Objectives: This project consists of design, permitting, bidding, and construction of a foreshore rock dike to stabilize and protect the FWB. As referenced above, this concept has been proven to be effective at preventing further erosion, as evident by previous projects constructed along FWB. As such, for purposes of Section 4.1.1 of the RESTORE Council's State Expenditure Guidelines ("SEP Guidelines"), the primary eligible activity of the project is to restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region. (Eligible Activity (1)). The experience and behavior of the previous projects will also assist in developing and constructing the most cost effective and beneficial design. With the requested funds, it is estimated that 10,600-linear feet of shoreline will be protected.

  This project will contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf by preventing further shoreline erosion and tidal scour, and reducing saltwater intrusion in FWB.

  This project will be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region as defined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.2 because it is located in the Teche-Vermilion Basin which is in the coastal zone defined under section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 that border the Gulf of Mexico. (*See* Appendix D-1 for map for the approximate boundaries of the project influence area.)

  For the purposes of the RESTORE Act and Section 4.2.2 of the RESTORE Council's SEP Guidelines, this project is not considered an infrastructure project. CPRA is providing funding for engineering and design, as well as construction of this project. It is estimated that 10% of the total requested funds will be used for planning purposes and 90% will fund construction activities. Funding of post-construction activities, including without limitation, monitoring and operations and maintenance, will be the responsibility of the Parish. It will be required that the engineer overseeing the design and construction of the project certify that the project is built to specification and the invoices are accurate. This process will allow CPRA to monitor and measure the success of this project.

  Consistency with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, as defined under the terms of the Parish Matching Program, was required for a project to be considered for the Parish Matching Program. Each project was also evaluated based on specific selection criteria to ensure that projects were selected under this program based on the best available science. As such, this project was selected based on the best available science for the Parish Matching Program.

- Funds Requested: The estimated cost of the project is $5,088,748. This estimate is based on recent bid information from the similar CWPPRA project. Vermilion Parish Police Jury has

pledged $494,725 of parish RESTORE Act Direct Component funds. CPRA is requesting an estimated $4,594,023 in Spill Impact Component funding to complete the funding needs of this project. CPRA will also request an estimated $238,601 from the Spill Impact Component to cover costs incurred by CPRA to complete this project. In total, CPRA will request an estimated $4,832,624 in Spill Impact Component funding for this project. Including the CPRA costs, the project is estimated to cost $5,327,349.

Currently, the Parish funds are pending. The requested RESTORE dollars will not be used as a non-federal match.

- High level milestones:
  1. Design
  2. Permitting
  3. Bidding
  4. Construction
- Measures of Success:
  1. Completion of engineering and design phase
  2. Awarding construction contract
  3. Construction mobilization
  4. Issuing Substantial Completion
- Measures of Success for Ecosystem Benefits
  1. Erosion control – linear feet restored
- Estimated Start and Completion Dates:
  Project dates assume a start date of November 2018:
  Engineering and design: November 2018-January 2020
  Permitting: May 2019 - January 2020
  Advertisement for Bids: February 2020 – April 2020
  Construction: May 2020 - April 2021

The project-specific information provided above will be provided to the RESTORE Council using the project information templates available on the Council's website, including the Project Narrative Template and Milestones Template.

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APPENDIX D – PARISH MATCHING PROGRAM

CPRA-Parish RESTORE Act Matching Opportunities Program

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority ("CPRA") has elected to allocate an amount of up to $100 million, over a 15 year period, from the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act for project and program matching opportunities for coastal parishes who are receiving RESTORE funds under the Direct Component (i.e. those parishes identified in 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(1)(D)(i)(II)).

The total funds anticipated to be used for the CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program are up to $100 million over a 15 year period, with an initial solicitation in the summer of 2017 of up to $20 million for parish matching projects. Because each project and each eligible parish has its own unique set of circumstances there will be no predetermined match percentage. However, the CPRA anticipates that it will offer a higher match percentage for those projects or programs that are proposed by an eligible parish for matching by state funds from the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act if that project or program is identified in Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan in effect at the time of the proposal, and a lower match percentage for those projects that are not identified in the Master Plan but are consistent with the Master Plan. To be considered consistent with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, the proposed project must strive to achieve one or more of the Coastal Master Plan's objectives and must not detrimentally affect, significantly diminish or otherwise conflict with integrated coastal protection projects or the benefits of projects intended to protect, conserve or enhance coastal areas. This consistency determination will be made by CPRA on a case by case basis and at the sole discretion of CPRA.

This matching program is designed to help parishes that receive RESTORE funds under the Direct Component prioritize Coastal Master Plan projects with those funds while also recognizing and responding to the needs of parishes to implement projects that may not be specifically contained in the Master Plan, but are nevertheless consistent with the Coastal Master Plan and are included in Parish RESTORE Act Multiyear Implementation Plans. This approach will also allow the CPRA to connect large scale projects with strategic local projects in a way that can maximize efficiencies and the impact of RESTORE Act funds.

Project Solicitation and Selection for a CPRA-Parish RESTORE Act Match

Proposals for matching funds under the Spill Impact Component should be no more than ten (10) pages in length (i.e., 7-8 page description and 2-3 pages for maps or diagrams).

Minimum Project Standards

In order to be eligible for submission to the state for funding under this program, each project or program proposed for matching funds must meet the following minimum project standards:

- Meet the requirements of the RESTORE Act;
- Be consistent with the objectives of the Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast; and

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- Be included for funding with Direct Component funds in the parish's RESTORE Act Multiyear Implementation Plan if the project is selected for funding under this matching program.

Project Information

For each proposed project or program, the proposal must contain the following information:

(1) A narrative description indicating the need for, purpose, and objectives of the activity as well as a conceptual design and project area map;
(2) How the activity is eligible for funding under 31 C.F.R. §34.201 and meets or will meet all requirements of 31 C.F.R. §34.303;
(3) Location description and project or program area map;
(4) Budget, including: (i) total budget amount, (ii) the funds to be provided by the proposing parish and/or any third parties, and (iii) the amount the parish is requesting from CPRA;
(5) Project or program Milestones;
(6) Projected start and completion dates;
(7) Criteria the applicant will use to evaluate the success of each activity in helping to restore and protect the Gulf Coast Region impacted by the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill; and
(8) A description of how the proposed activity relates or contributes to the selection criteria below.

Selection Criteria

The following criteria will be used by CPRA to prioritize proposed activities for matching funds under the RESTORE Act. Information about these criteria should be included in any proposal submitted for consideration for funding.

(1) Consistency with the objectives of the Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast and the provisions of La. R.S. 49:214.5.4(I) in effect at the time of the proposal;
(2) The ability of the project to restore and protect coastal habitats suitable for ecologically and commercially important species or its ability to reduce economic losses from storm surge;
(3) The relative merits of the proposed activity, including the scope of project benefits based on the information contained in the proposal;
(4) Synergy with other integrated coastal protection and restoration efforts;
(5) Feasibility and/or constructability of the proposed project; and
(6) Funds made available by the parish for the proposed activity.

Solicitation and Selection Process

Proposals for an initial solicitation of funding totaling up to $20 million for parish matching projects were solicited by CPRA from July 3, 2017 through August 31, 2017, with a two week extension provided until September 14, 2017 due to Hurricane Harvey. CPRA issued a solicitation for projects for the matching program through a formal announcement posted on CPRA's website and distributed via email to each eligible parish on July 3, 2017, with the solicitation period extended until September 14,

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2017. Subsequent rounds of matching program solicitations will be announced in the future with dates to be determined.

Once proposals were formally solicited and submitted to CPRA, a selection committee composed of CPRA staff evaluated the proposals using the criteria listed above. An amendment to the State's RESTORE Plan is now being proposed, subject to approval by the CPRA Board, with the projects selected for funding. The projects selected for funding under the Parish Matching Program as an amendment to this Plan are subject to a forty five (45) day public comment period before their selection will be finalized by CPRA and approved by the CPRA Board. CPRA will announce additional rounds of funding in the future for matching proposals.

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APPENDIX D-1 – CAMERON PARISH – WESTWARD EXPANSION OF THE CWPRRA ROCKEFELLER REFUGE SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT

Project Scope and Elements

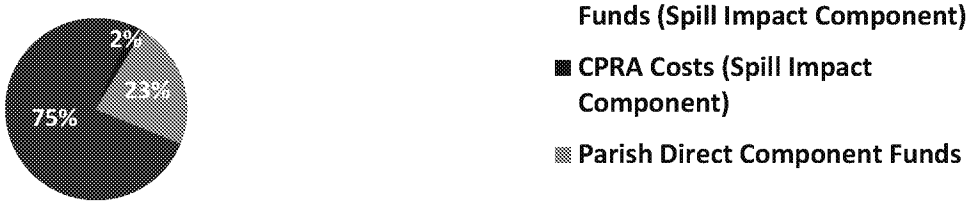
- The main purpose of the project is to provide shoreline protection along the southern boundary of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge by constructing 6,000 linear feet of reef breakwater with a lightweight aggregate (LWA) core located along the -3.0 ft. water bottom contour in order to halt shoreline erosion.
- The beach along Rockefeller shoreline mainly consists of exposed marine clays with a ridge of crushed shell above the water line that is backed by extensive and productive marsh. The area is exposed to waves and currents from the open Gulf of Mexico. High tides and/or storms, especially during winter cold fronts, produce considerable erosion.

Ecosystem Outcomes and Economic Impacts

- The originally deeded 86,000 acres of Rockefeller Refuge has been reduced to about 76,000 acres by coastal erosion. Historical estimates of long-term shoreline retreat range from 30 to 40 ft. per year.
- This project will preserve shoreline integrity and reduce wetland degradation from wave erosion, protecting marsh and nearshore habitat.

Costs

- CPRA-Parish RESTORE Matching Funds (Spill Impact): $6,671,531
- CPRA Costs (Spill Impact): $177,044
- Parish Direct Component Funds: $2,000,000
- Total Cost: $8,848,575



Project Timeline

Engineering and design start:	December 2018
Advertisement for Bids:	February 2019
Completion of Construction:	April 2020

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R04W
LAT: 29° 40' 9.543" N
LONG: 92° 51' 20.951" W
Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge
T
15
S
LAT: 29° 38' 55.731" N
LONG: 92° 48' 25.104" W
Legend
Existing ME-18
Proposed Feature
Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge
4,000 2,000 0 4,000
Feet
Attachment #1
Cameron Parish
Parish RESTORE Act Matching Opportunity
Cameron Parish, Louisiana

APPENDIX D-2 – LAFOURCHE PARISH – GRAND BAYOU FRESHWATER REINTRODUCTION PROJECT

Project Scope and Elements

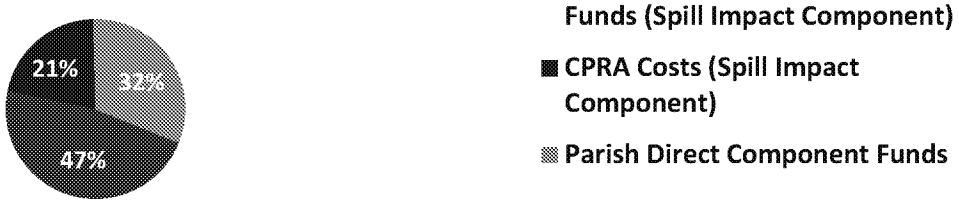
- The main purpose of the project is to continue and complete engineering and design of a project that will ultimately increase the flow of fresh water down Grand Bayou Canal from the GIWW from 600 cfs to 1600 cfs.
- The project will redirect much of the freshwater from Grand Bayou Canal into the marshes east and west of Grand Bayou Canal.

Ecosystem Outcomes and Economic Impacts

- Due to altered hydrology in the area, the Terrebonne Basin in Lafourche Parish is experiencing land loss along with high rates of subsidence, which are estimated to be between 2.1 and 3.5 feet per century.
- Without restoration, this region will continue to see the breakup of marshes and the conversion of low salinity marshes to brackish and saline marsh.
- This project will result in creation of 112 acres of fresh marsh and nourishing an additional 14 acres of intermediate marsh west of Grand Bayou near Hwy 24.

Costs

- CPRA-Parish RESTORE Matching Funds (Spill Impact): $412,722
- CPRA Costs (Spill Impact): $186,664
- Parish Direct Component Funds: $275,147
- Total Cost: $874,533



Project Timeline

Engineering and Design Start:	November 2018
Permitting:	May 2019 - January 2020
Ready to Bid:	February 2020

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Grand Bayou Freshwater Reintroduction Project
Western Influence Area
Eastern Influence
Legend
Hydrologic Control Structure
Channel Enlargement
Freshwater Influence

APPENDIX D-3 – ST. BERNARD PARISH – LAKE LERY MARSH CREATION PROJECT

Project Scope and Elements

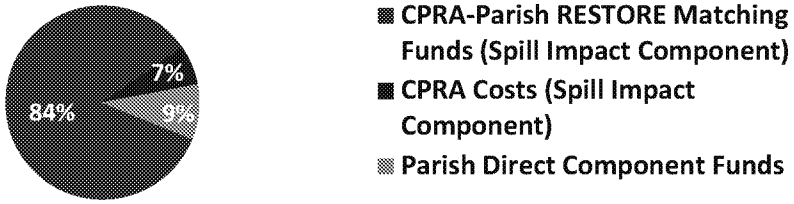
- The main purpose of the project is to build upon previously expended CIAP funds by constructing the designed 39 acre marsh creation project. The restoration of marshlands is important in an area where the natural ecosystem has become severely damaged.
- The Lake Lery Marsh Creation Project will use dredged material from Lake Lery to restore adjacent marsh as part of an ongoing phased approach to restore and protect the Lake Lery area.

Ecosystem Outcomes and Economic Impacts

- Saltwater intrusion, erosion, and subsidence have had a devastating impact on the wetlands surrounding Delacroix over the past century. Much of the shoreline along Lake Lery and the adjacent wetlands has rapidly degraded in recent years due to tropical weather events (2004, 2005, 2008, and 2012) and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (2010).
- Without restoration, the ridge and marshes along Bayou Terre aux Boeufs that function as a storm surge barrier for residents and businesses outside of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System will be further degraded.
- This project will result in creation of 39 acres of marsh while also supporting fish and wildlife habitat near Delacroix, one of the most historic fishing communities in Louisiana.

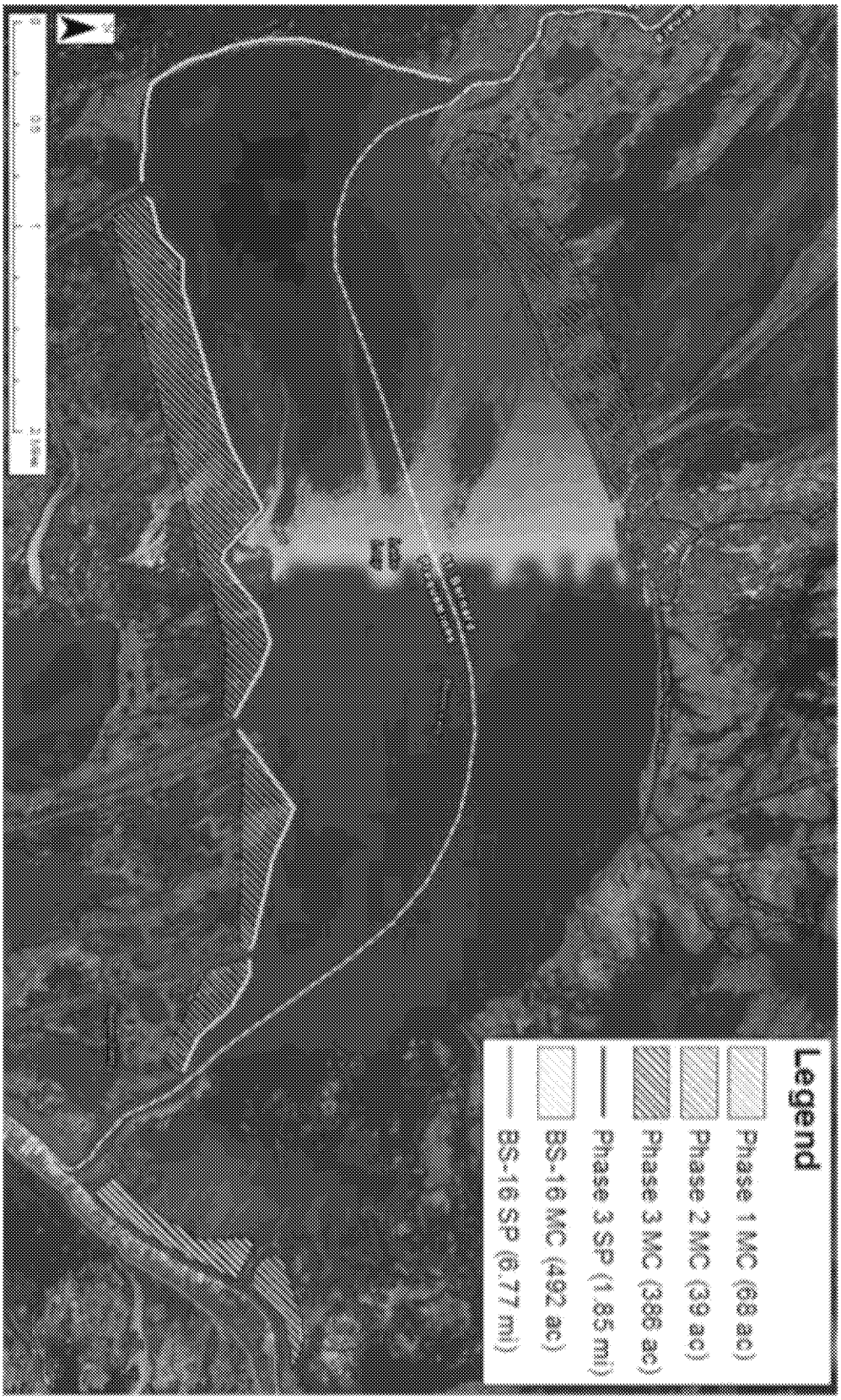
Costs

- CPRA-Parish RESTORE Matching Funds (Spill Impact): $2,781,000
- CPRA Costs (Spill Impact): $216,844
- Parish Direct Component Funds: $300,000
- Total Cost: $3,297,844



Project Timeline

Advertising for Bids:	November 2018
Permitting:	December 2018 - February 2019
Completion of Construction:	December 2019


Legend
Phase 1 MC (68 ac)
Phase 2 MC (39 ac)
Phase 3 MC (385 ac)
Phase 3 SP (1.85 mi)
BS-16 MC (492 ac)
BS-16 SP (0.77 mi)

APPENDIX D-4 – ST. CHARLES PARISH – PARADIS CANAL GATE

Project Scope and Elements

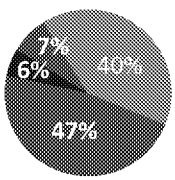
- The purpose of this project is to provide flood protection for the residents, businesses, and industries of the west bank of St. Charles Parish.
- The project will involve constructing a +14.5' flood control structure with a vertical gate, tie-ins to the existing levees, an extension of the access roadway from the Magnolia Ridge Pump Station and placement of 4" unreinforced concrete and sheet pile for erosion control and stability.
- The Paradis Canal Gate will prevent backwater flooding through the Paradis Canal opening in the West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee.

Ecosystem Outcomes and Economic Impacts

- Major flooding can negatively affect coastal habitats, resulting in loss of wildlife and biodiversity, destruction of habitats, and decreases in available food in the ecosystem. Additionally, inundation from waters with higher salinity from storm surges could result in damage to native vegetation.
- The proposed project will prevent backwater flooding within the Paradis Canal during heavy rain events and high tides. This will provide protection to properties on the west bank of St. Charles Parish valued at $12.5 billion, thus reducing future economic losses.

Costs

CPRA-Parish RESTORE Matching Funds (Spill Impact):	$2,540,724
CPRA Costs (Spill Impact):	$286,426
Parish Direct Component Funds:	$390,284
Remaining Local Share:	$2,150,440
Total Cost:	$5,367,874



CPRA-Parish RESTORE Matching Funds (Spill Impact Component)

CPRA Costs (Spill Impact Component)

Direct Component Funds

Remaining Local Share

Project Timeline

Start Date:	November 2018
Advertisement for Bids:	December 2018
Substantial Completion of Construction:	October 2020

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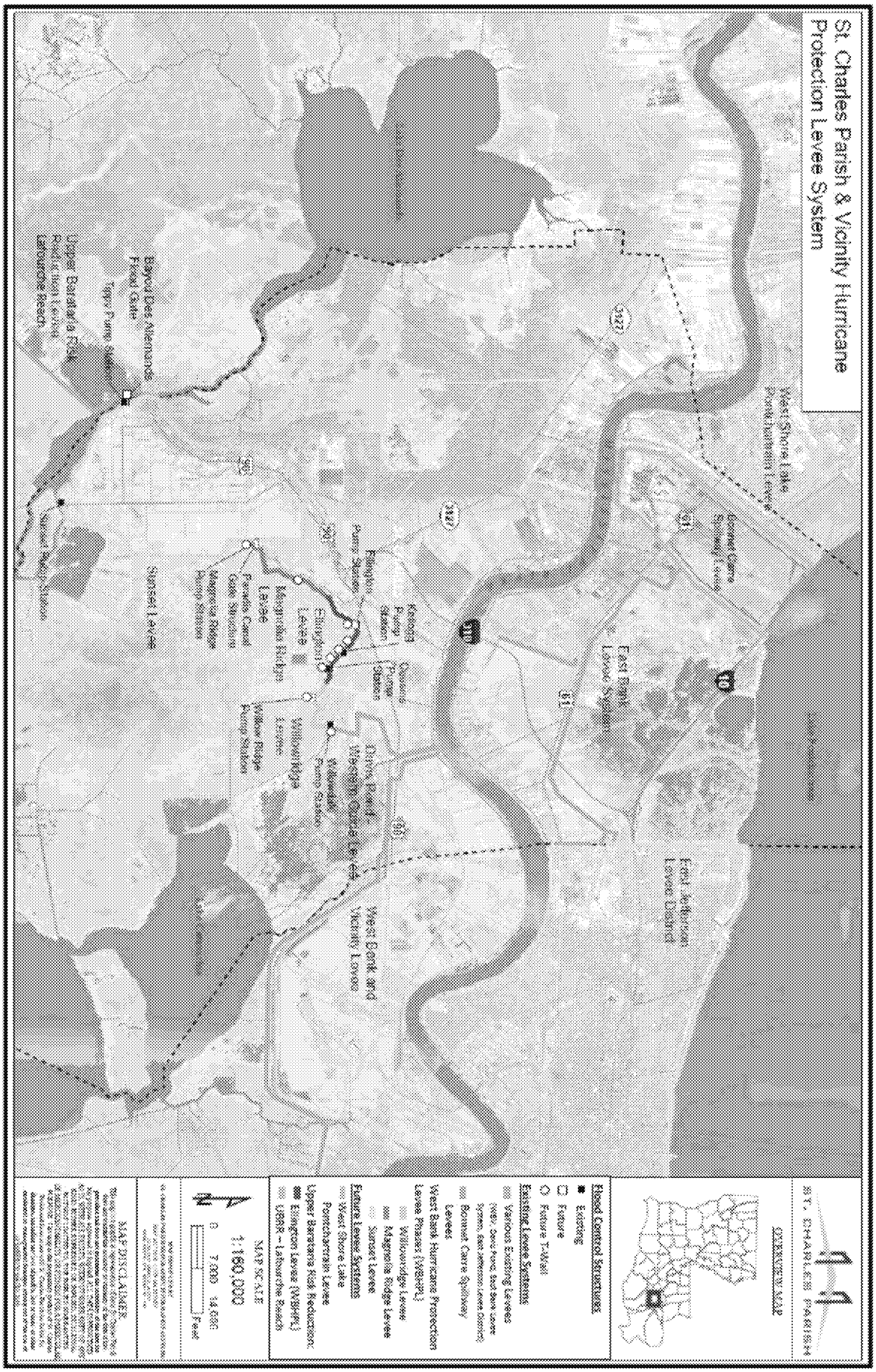
St. Charles Parish & Vicinity Hurricane Protection Levee System
ST. CHARLES PARISH
OVERVIEW MAP
Flood Control Structures
Existing
Future
Future T-Wall
Existing Levee Systems
Various Existing Levees
1985 Davis Pond, East Bank Levee System, East Jefferson Levee District
Bonnet Carre Spillway
Levees
West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee Project (WBHPP)
Willowridge Levee
Magnolia Ridge Levee
Sunset Levee
Future Levee Systems
West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Levee
Upper Barataria Risk Reduction: Ellington Levee (WBHPP)
UBRR – Lafourche Reach
MAP SCALE
1:160,000
0 7,000 14,000
Feet
MAP DISCLAIMER
West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Levee
Upper Barataria Risk Reduction Levee
Lafourche Reach
Bayou Des Allemands Flood Gate
Tropy Pump Station
Sunset Levee
Magnolia Ridge Pump Station
Powerlift Canal Gate Structure
Ellington Levee
Willowridge Levee
Willow Ridge Pump Station
Killona Pump Station
Davis Pond Diversion Outfall Canal
Westside Outfall Canal Levee
West Bank and Vicinity Levee
East Bank Levee System
East Jefferson Levee District
Bonnet Carre Spillway
Airline Pump Station
Kenner Pump Station
Orleans Pump Station
West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Levee
Upper Barataria Risk Reduction Levee
Lafourche Reach

APPENDIX D-5 – TANGIPAHOA PARISH – MANCHAC LANDBRIDGE (ROCK BREAKWATER) SHORELINE PROTECTION PROJECT

Project Scope and Elements

- The Manchac Landbridge Shoreline Protection project, consisting of 5,348 linear feet of rock breakwater, will strengthen the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline and decrease vulnerability of the wetlands north of Pass Manchac.
- The breakwater is designed to an elevation of +3.0 feet NAVD88. The breakwater crown is designed to a minimum width of 8 feet, and the base varies from 30 to 42 feet wide.

Ecosystem Outcomes and Economic Impacts

- Tangipahoa Parish has lost approximately 55 acres of shoreline since 1989, increasing the vulnerability of the wetlands north of Pass Manchac.
- This project will preserve shoreline integrity and reduce wetland degradation from wave erosion along the shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain, benefitting surrounding shoreline habitat.

Costs

- CPRA-Parish RESTORE Matching Funds (Spill Impact): $3,000,000
- CPRA Costs (Spill Impact): $179,266
- Parish Direct Component Funds: $491,871
- Total Cost: $3,671,137

Project Timeline

Start Date:	March 2018
Environmental Review:	March 2018
Preparation of Plans and Specs:	May - July 2018
Completion of Bid Package:	July - November 2018
Construction:	January 2019 – January 2020
Project completion:	February 2020

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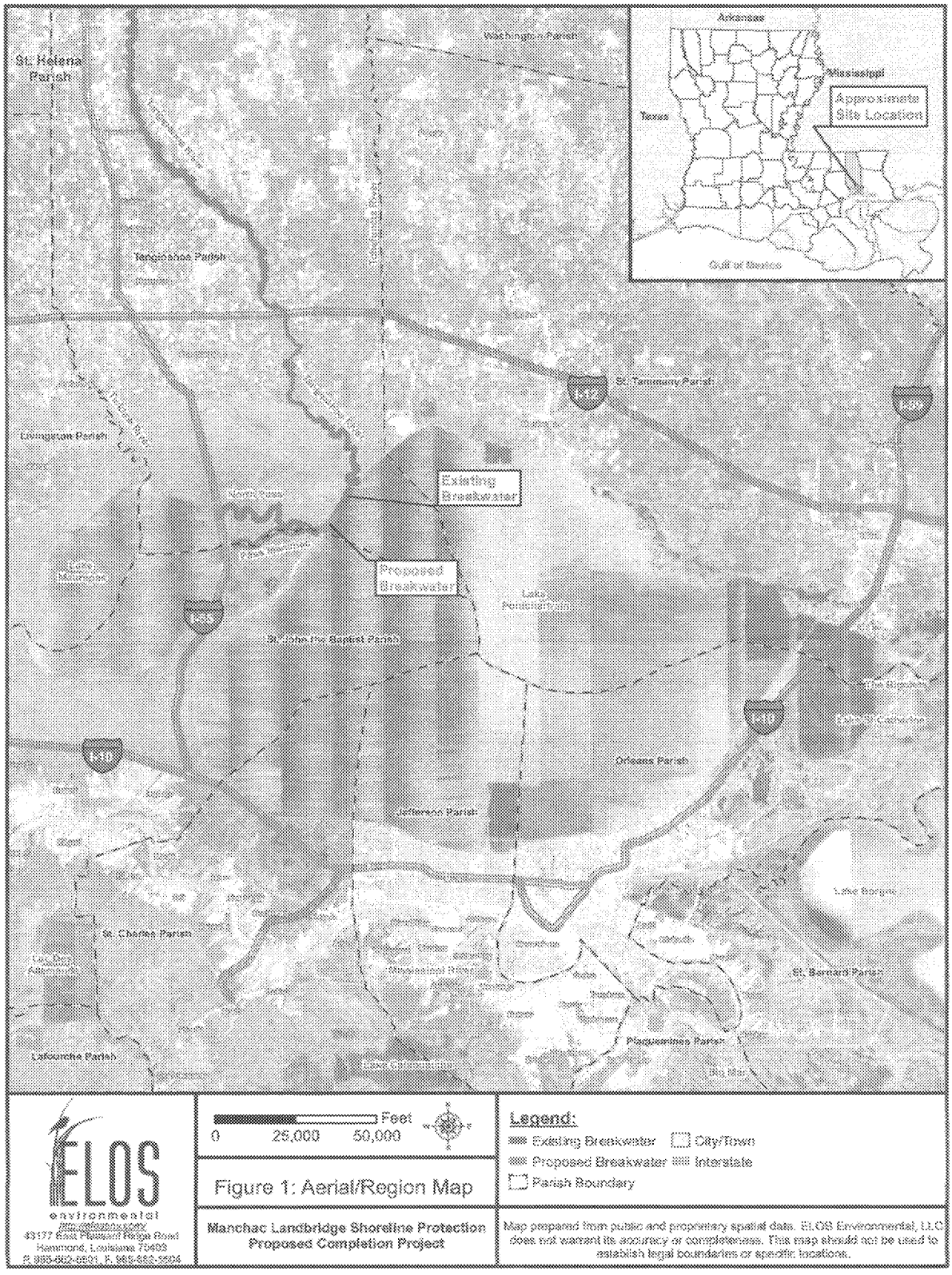


P:\ELE\Tangipahoa River Preliminary Studies and Plans\Breakwater\GIS Maps\Permit\Figure 1_Aerial\Region Map

APPENDIX D-6 – VERMILION PARISH – FRESHWATER BAYOU CANAL SHORELINE PROTECTION PROJECT

Project Scope and Elements

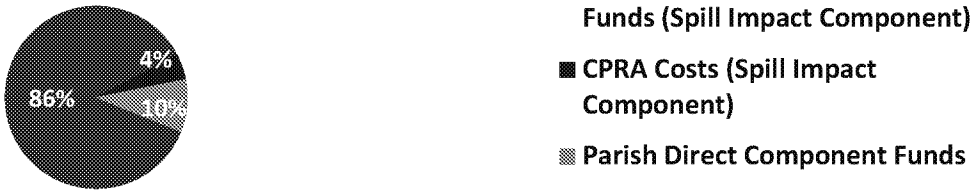
- The main purpose of the project is to provide shoreline protection by constructing approximately 10,600-linear feet of foreshore rock dike along the eastern bank of Freshwater Bayou Canal (FWB) to prevent further deterioration of shoreline areas and existing adjacent marsh.
- This project will connect to an existing shoreline protection project and provide protection for the proposed Cole's Bayou Marsh Restoration Project (TV-63) which is expected to begin construction within the next 1-2 years.

Ecosystem Outcomes and Economic Impacts

- The banks of FWB have experienced continuous erosion from large vessel wakes and tidal scour, increasing its width from 173' to over 600'. Without protection, the existing marshes along FWB are in danger of converting to open water.
- This shoreline protection project coupled with the Coles Bayou Marsh Restoration Project (TV-63) will protect and restore the valuable coastal habitats and resources adjacent to FWB and within the Coles Bayou Marsh Restoration Project Boundary.

Costs

- CPRA-Parish RESTORE Matching Funds (Spill Impact): $4,594,023
- CPRA Costs (Spill Impact): $238,601
- Parish Direct Component Funds: $494,725
- Total Cost: $5,327,349



Project Timeline

Start Date:	November 2018
Engineering and design:	November 2018 - January 2020
Permitting:	May 2019 - January 2020
Advertisement for Bids:	February 2020 - April 2020
Construction:	May 2020 - April 2021

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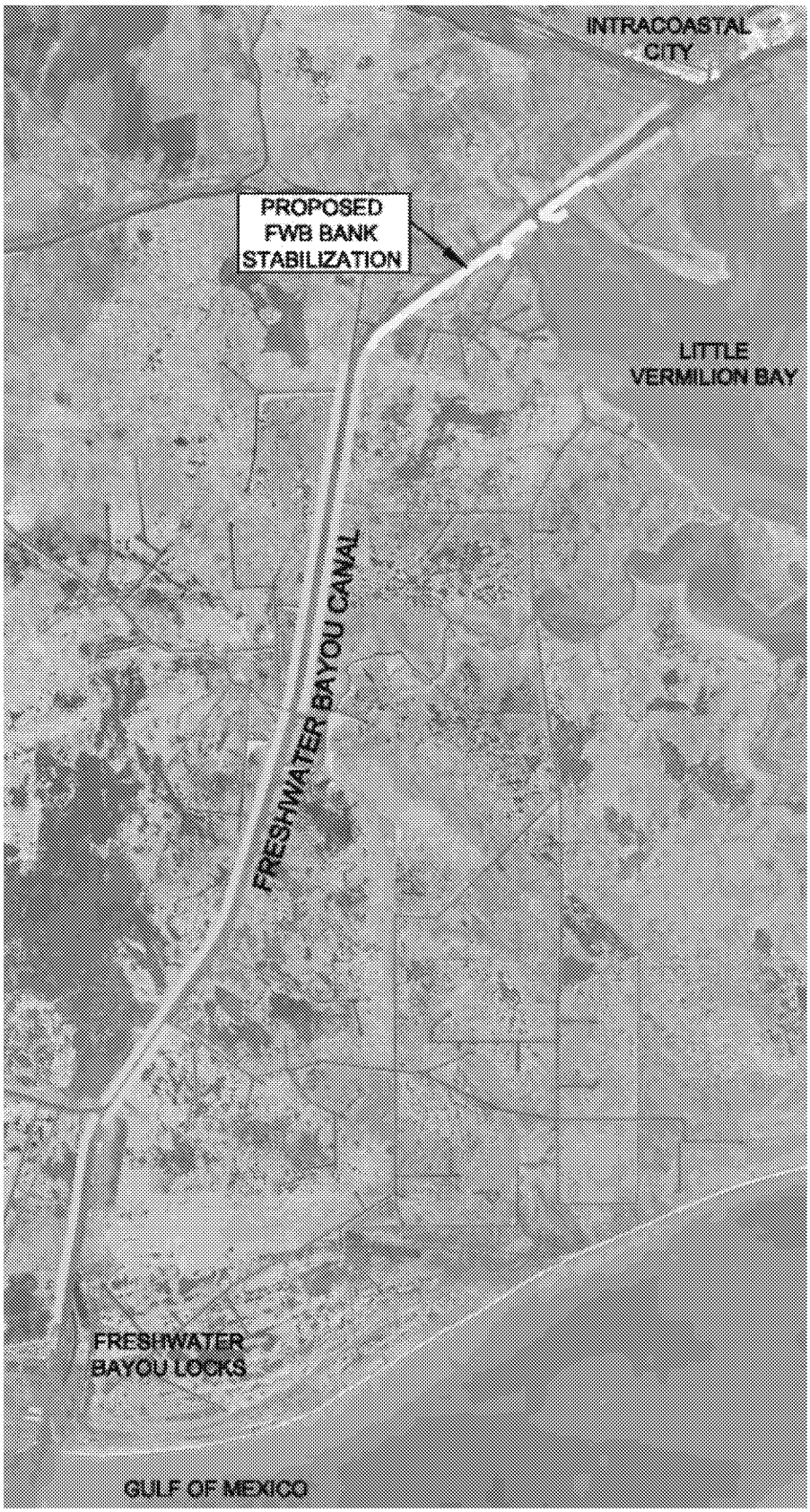
INTRACOASTAL CITY
PROPOSED FWB BANK STABILIZATION
LITTLE VERMILION BAY
FRESHWATER BAYOU CANAL
FRESHWATER BAYOU LOCKS
GULF OF MEXICO

APPENDIX D-7 – PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE DRAFT RESTORE PARISH MATCHING AMENDMENT

During the public comment period, CPRA received two public comments. All public comments submitted during the public comment period were reviewed and considered by CPRA before preparing the final CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program Selection Amendment to the State of Louisiana's First Amended RESTORE Plan. The public comments received are summarized below.

Comment: Commentor expressed strong support for the selection of Cameron Parish's Westward Expansion of the CWPPRA Rockefeller Refuge Shoreline Stabilization (ME-18) Project.

Comment: Commentor expressed strong support for CPRA's Parish Matching Program in general as an additional method for prioritizing and funding local projects that are consistent with the Coastal Master Plan and aiding eligible coastal parishes in maximizing their RESTORE Act Direct Component funds. Commentor also expressed specific support for Lafourche Parish's Grand Bayou Freshwater Reintroduction Project.

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Message

From: Rose, Scott [srose@jw.com]
Sent: 4/7/2017 10:59:47 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: New Contact Info

Ok. I'll let you know as soon as I know for sure.

Enjoy the Spring in D.C.!

J. Scott Rose | San Antonio Managing Partner
112 East Pecan Street | Suite 2400 | San Antonio, TX | 78205
O: Ex. 6 | M: Ex. 6 | http://www.jw.com/JScott_Rose/
Jackson Walker LLP

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 5:59 PM
To: Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com>
Subject: Re: New Contact Info

2nd or 3rd

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Apr 7, 2017, at 5:58 PM, Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com> wrote:

> We may be there for a week in late June up to the 4th or 5th of July. When will you arrive?
>
> **J. Scott Rose** | San Antonio Managing Partner
> 112 East Pecan Street | Suite 2400 | San Antonio, TX | 78205
> O: Ex. 6 | M: Ex. 6 | http://www.jw.com/JScott_Rose/
> <image002.jpg>
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
> **Sent:** Friday, April 7, 2017 5:49 PM

To: Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com>
Subject: Re: New Contact Info

Over the 4th to the 10th of July...you

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Apr 7, 2017, at 6:45 PM, Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com> wrote:

> Totally awesome. Got get 'em.
>
> And we need to meet up in FL. Let me know when are going to be there this summer.
>
> J. Scott Rose
> San Antonio Managing Partner
> Jackson Walker LLP
> 2400 Weston Centre
> 112 East Pecan Street
> San Antonio, TX 78205
> Ex. 6 (o)
> Ex. 6 (c)
> srose@jw.com
>
> On Apr 7, 2017, at 5:27 PM, Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> > Scott:
> >
> > Wanted to get you my new contact information as I have had a small career change. Hope all is going well with you. If I can ever be of help, or you make it to DC, I would love to see you. I believe you have my personal cell as well.
> >
> > Ken
> >
> > Kenneth E. Wagner
> > *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> > *For Regional & State Affairs*
> > **US Environmental Protection Agency**
> > Office: 202-564-1988
> > Cell: 2 Ex. 6
> > wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: Rose, Scott [srose@jw.com]
Sent: 4/7/2017 10:58:02 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: New Contact Info

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112 East Pecan Street | Suite 2400 | San Antonio, TX | 78205
O: Ex. 6 | M: Ex. 6 | http://www.jw.com/JScott_Rose/
Jackson Walker LLP

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Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 5:49 PM
To: Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com>
Subject: Re: New Contact Info

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Senior Advisor to the Administrator
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> Ex. 6 (o)
> Ex. 6 (c)
> srose@jw.com

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Scott:

Wanted to get you my new contact information as I have had a small career change. Hope all is going well with you. If I can ever be of help, or you make it to DC, I would love to see you. I believe you have my personal cell as well.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: 2 Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 3/28/2018 10:34:51 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

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Subject: April 4, 2018 Steering Committee Teleconference Agenda

Attachments: Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Apr_4.docx

Steering Committee Members:

Our next Steering Committee teleconference will be held April 4th at 1 pm central/2pm east coast. The agenda for the teleconference is attached to this email and our primary focus will be our upcoming April 24 and 25 face to face meeting in Pensacola, FL.

A block of rooms being held at the Hampton Inn and Suites Gulf Breeze located at 61 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze Fl. The Steering Committee meeting will start 9 am on Tuesday April 24th at the EPA Gulf Breeze laboratory, 1 Sabine Drive, Gulf Breeze, FL, which is about a 10 minute, 4.6 mile drive (with a toll at the bridge) from the hotel.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, April 4, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: April 24 and 25, 2018 Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting** (Ben Scaggs/Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Discuss high-level agenda for face to face meeting in Pensacola, Florida scheduled for the week of April 24 and 25, 2018, with a half-day visit to a local restoration site and day and half business meeting.
    - Logistics:
        - Hotel: Gulf Breeze Hampton Inn and Suites (see email for room block information)
        - Meeting will be held at the EPA Gulf Breeze facility.
        - Meeting will start 9 am April 24, 2018 and finish 4:30 pm April 25th. The field trip will run from 2 pm to 5 pm April 24th.

Materials: n/a

III. **TOPIC: Face to Face Steering Committee Meetings through end of 2018** (Ben Scaggs/Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Discuss follow-up face to face meeting content developed. Upcoming dates: July 31 - August 1 (Mississippi); September 11-12 (Alabama); November 27-28 (Texas); and late January 2019 (Louisiana).

Materials:
- See doodle poll link for Steering Committee member date preferences in meeting agenda email.

IV. **TOPIC: CPS FPL and Award Update** (Jean Cowan/Kristin Smith)
Objective:
- Provide update to the Steering Committee members on current CPS awarding processes and receive feedback on any issues that members may be encountering in submitting awards.

Materials: N/A

V. **Communication Issues** (Keala Hughes)
- Discussion of posting Member contact information on RESTORE website
- 508 Compliance and SOP's regarding posting documents on the RESTORE website

VI. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
April 18, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175073-00001

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 7/31/2018 12:34:25 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; Amy Hunter [amy.hunter@dcnr.alabama.gov]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

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Subject: Entry into the Port of Gulfport Marine Research Center

We are looking forward to a great Steering Committee meeting today and tomorrow at a wonderful new facility...Port of Gulfport Marine Research Center, located at the corner of Hwy 90 and 30th Avenue in Gulfport 1000 30th Ave, Gulfport

The building is on the beach side of Highway 90 just a couple block west of Hwy 49. When you arrive, please go to the glass doors and push the intercom located to your right when facing the doors. The meeting is on the second floor and you can take either the stairs or elevator.

Thank you,

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Message

From: Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 3/10/2018 9:27:27 PM
To: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
CC: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill,

Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: Re: March 7, 2018 Teleconference Agenda

Evidently we sent the incorrect reservation code for the block of rooms being held at the Hampton Inn and Suites Gulf Breeze located at 61 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze FL for the nights of April 23 and April 24. When you contact the hotel please mention "RTG" (NOT GCERC). With that code, reservations can be made online (in addition to calling). All reservations must be made by **3/24/18** to apply to our block; after that it rooms will based on availability.

Apologies for any confusion for those whom have attempted to make reservations and ran into a bit of confusion

On Wed, Feb 28, 2018 at 3:55 PM, Council Staff <staff@restorethegulf.gov> wrote:

Steering Committee Members:

Our April 24 and 25, 2018, face-to-face meeting in Pensacola, FL is coming together. A block of rooms being held at the Hampton Inn and Suites Gulf Breeze located at 61 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze FL includes 20 King rooms @ $129/night and 20 Queen rooms @119/night for the nights of April 23 and April 24. When you contact the hotel please mention the GCERC Block and then make a reservation. All reservations must be made by **3/24/18** to apply to our block; after that it rooms will based on availability

The Steering Committee meeting will be held at the EPA Gulf Breeze laboratory, 1 Sabine Drive, Gulf Breeze, FL, which is about a 10 minute, 4.6 mile drive (unfortunately with a toll at the bridge).

One agenda item for our upcoming March 7th call is reporting out on the proposed dates and general locations (states) for additional in-person meetings through the end of calendar year 2018. Some Steering Committee members have not yet filled out the doodle poll indicating your availability for a 2 day meeting for each of those months, including a half day for a field experience/site visit. You will need to scroll to the right in the Doodle Poll to view all potential dates. PLEASE NOTE: We are seeking one response per member. Please coordinate with all necessary staff to ensure that your response reflects availability for all in your organization who need to attend. If you have any questions about the Doodle Poll, please contact Jean Cowan (Jean.Cowan@restorethegulf.gov).

https://doodle.com/poll/rb27hxcfm5me4pk3

Thank you,

Council Staff

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staff@restorethegulf.gov
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Buck Sutter
Deputy Executive Director/Program Director
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Buck.Sutter@RestoreTheGulf.gov
Ex. 6

www.restorethegulf.gov

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 8/2/2018 3:02:00 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; Amy Hunter [amy.hunter@dcnr.alabama.gov]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

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Subject: Materials for the August 8, 2018 Steering Committee Teleconference

Attachments: Scales of Objectives_Outcomes.pdf; Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Aug 08.docx.pdf

Council and Steering Committee Members:

Please find attached the agenda for our August 8, 2018 teleconference. We will be addressing two topics. The first is a discussion of how information provided by Steering Committee member report-outs may be used to develop outcomes and measurable objectives at appropriate scales (e.g., projects, watershed/restoration types, programs); and the second, a proposed operational budget for fiscal year 2019.

Thank you,

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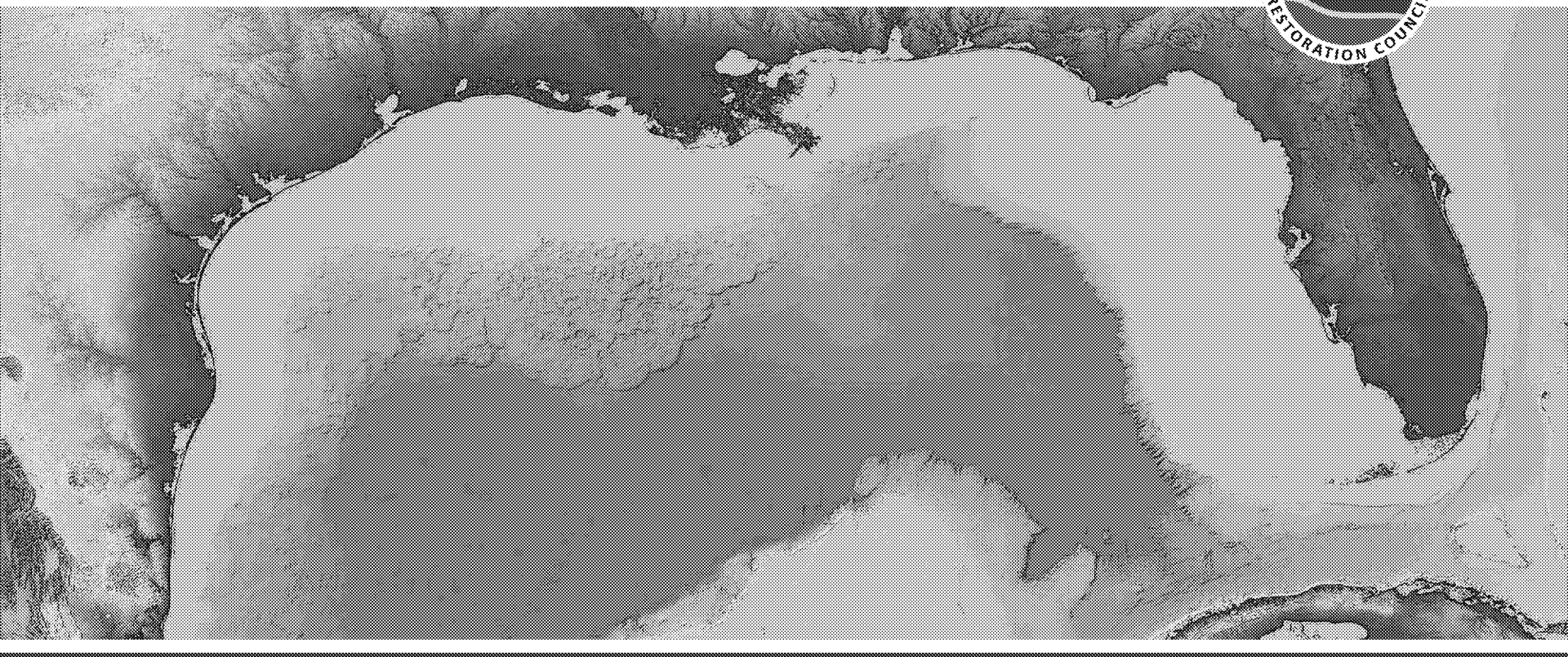
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council



Scales of Outcomes/Objectives

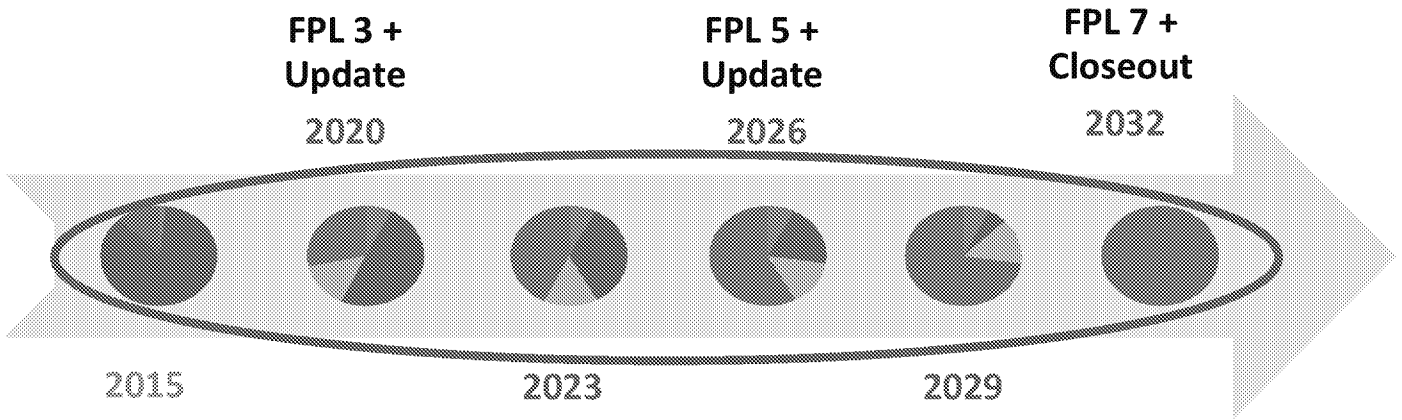
Steering Committee Meeting
Gulfport, MS
August 1, 2018

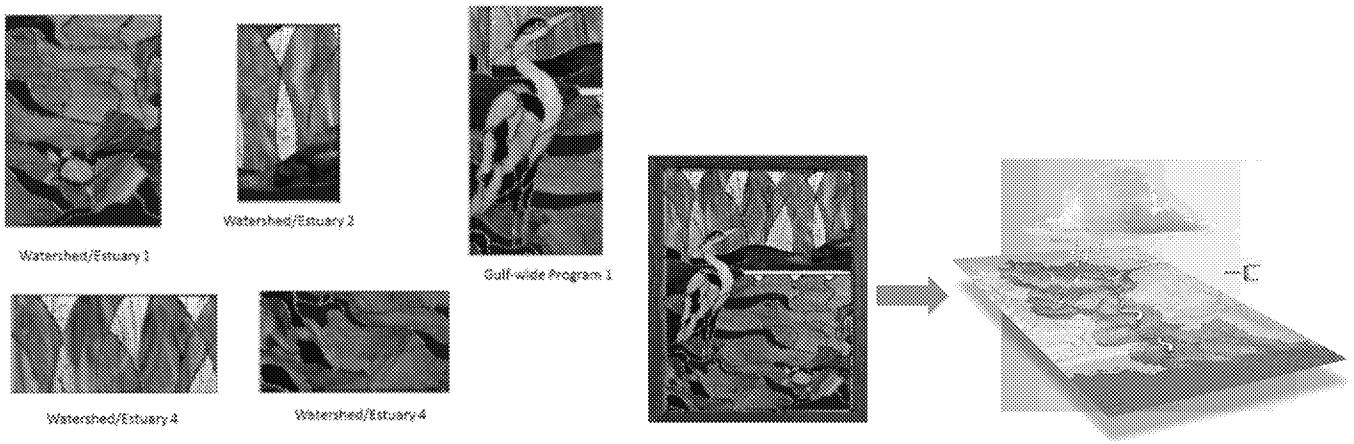
Telling the Broader Story

- Council has invested time and funds to increase collaboration to support development of best proposals possible for funding
- Council has committed to developing Planning Frameworks (gold slice of the pie), indicating watersheds and/or restoration types that the Council will be focusing upon for any given FPL
- Just as there needs to be a cohesive story within any one FPL, we need to consider the consistent thread between FPLs
- Information requested in templates for Members Report-outs will inform what this broader story could be, not just for FPL 3 but also between FPLs

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175275-00002

Achieving Program Outcomes Over Time





Why is this Needed?

- The Council made commitments in the Comprehensive Plan for:
  - Application of Best Available Science (BAS)
  - Delivering results and measuring impacts
  - Creation and use of a Council adaptive management plan

- Providing greater definition to where we are going helps:
  - Further refine and define the Council's 10-Year Funding Strategy (initially outlined in Comprehensive Plan and to be refined in FPL 3/Funding Strategy document)
  - Develop and implement Council adaptive management plan

Potential Benefits

- Focus our investments by providing the ability to:
  - "Right-size" our monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management investments
  - Report ecosystem benefits at multiple scales and evaluate what future investments may be most beneficial
  - Save time and money by pursuing the most promising/highest priority activities
- Improves ability to coordinate across funding streams:
  - Allows potential funding partners to consider how their future investments and interests may align with Council priorities
  - May allow for cross-program evaluations

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175275-00005

Next Steps

- Council staff will further define issues and next steps, to be discussed during September Steering Committee

- Could include facilitating CMAWG brainstorming on:
  - Scales of outcomes/objectives (based upon member priorities)
  - Mechanisms to "right-size" monitoring and evaluation approaches
  - Cross-program recommendations (seeking to streamline/leverage monitoring needs)
  - Implications for development of the Council's adaptive management plan

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175275-00006

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, August 8, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: Scales of Outcomes and Objectives** (Jean Cowan)
Objective:
- Introduce how information provided by Steering Committee member report-outs may be used to develop outcomes and measurable objectives at appropriate scales (e.g., projects, watershed/restoration types, program).

Materials:
- Scales of Objectives/Outcomes

III. **TOPIC: Steering Committee Discussion of Proposed FY19 Operating Budget** (Mary Pleffner)
Objective:
- Council staff present proposed FY19 budget.

Materials:
- Proposed FY19 Operating Budget presentation

IV. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
August 22, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 7/30/2018 12:44:50 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

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Subject: Florida State Expenditure Plan (SEP) - Member Review

Council Members:

Florida has submitted its SEP for Chair approval pursuant to the RESTORE Act. The statutory 60-day review period for this SEP begins today, July 30, 2018. A decision by the Chair is required by September 27, 2018.

Below is a link to the FL SEP. Pursuant to the Council's SEP Guidelines, all members have until August 20, 2018, to submit comments to the Chair for consideration. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the SEP and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines.

ftp://ftp.dep.state.fl.us/pub/outgoing/GC%20SEP/FloridaSEP_FINAL.pdf

Please provide any comments you might have to John Ettinger at john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov. If you have any questions, please contact John at Ex. 6

Thank you.

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Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 3/7/2018 7:52:14 PM
To: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

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Subject: Steering Committee Decisions and Actions - March 7, 2018

Attachments: March 7, 2018, Steering Committee Decisions and Actions.docx.pdf; Final SSEP.pdf; RAAMS_Status_3-2-2018.pdf

Council members:

Thanks for participating in the Steering Committee call today. Attached is the record of decisions and actions. As a reminder, the Gulf Consortium has submitted its Stand-Up SEP (attached) for Chair approval. Members have until **March 21, 2018**, to submit comments to the Chair for consideration. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the Stand-Up SEP and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines. Please provide any comments you might have to John Ettinger at john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov. If you have any questions regarding the Stand-Up SEP, please contact John at Ex. 6 Finally, also attached for your information is the latest RAAMS Application Status Report (as of March 2, 2018).

Thanks again.

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Gulf Consortium: Stand-up State Expenditure Plan for Florida

Points of contact for Gulf Consortium

The Gulf Consortium (Consortium) is the designated entity responsible for the development of the Florida State Expenditure Plan (SEP), as recognized in the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) and subsequent rulemaking. The Consortium is a public entity created in October 2012 through an Interlocal Agreement between Florida's 23 Gulf Coast counties - from Escambia County in the western panhandle of Florida to Monroe County on the southern tip of Florida - to meet the requirements of the RESTORE Act. The Consortium's Board of Directors consists of one representative from each county government. Since its inception, the Consortium has met approximately every other month and has held numerous committee meetings to develop Florida's State Expenditure Plan. The points of contact for the Consortium are as follows:

Executive
Grover Robinson, IV, Chairman
Gulf Consortium
113 S Monroe Street
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Phone: 850-922-4300
Fax: 850-201-7101
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Administrative
Craig Diamond
Gulf Consortium Manager
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Phone: 850-201-7165
Fax: 850-201-7101
E-mail: cdiamond@balmoralgroup.us

Introduction and Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this Standup State Expenditure Plan (SSEP) is to describe the activities required to enable the Consortium to provide the necessary financial controls and administrative duties needed to manage implementation, including grant management, of all the projects contained in the Florida State Expenditure Plan (SEP). The goal of the SSEP is to expedite implementation of projects in the SEP by ensuring that the Consortium is prepared to receive and effectively manage implementation grants once the SEP is approved and grants have been applied for and awarded. The SSEP will support establishment of additional cost-effective administrative and fiscal management processing structures to ensure sufficient separation of duties, internal controls, and financial integrity of the Gulf Consortium.

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The Gulf Consortium is the designated public entity created to develop and manage the implementation of the State Expenditure Plan for Florida's portion of the Spill Impact Component ("Pot 3") funds designated by the RESTORE Act (33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)).[1] The Gulf Consortium has an approved Planning State Expenditure Plan and associated implementation grant from the RESTORE Council that has been utilized to develop the SEP for Florida. The development of the SEP has involved extensive coordination with county stakeholders to develop projects, explore funding leveraging opportunities, and formulate the final SEP, which is scheduled to be submitted to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (RESTORE Council) in May, 2018.

State Certification of RESTORE Act Compliance

State Certifications of RESTORE Act Compliance

On behalf of the State of Florida, the Gulf Consortium hereby certifies to the following:

- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(I), the Stand-up State Expenditure Plan (SSEP) includes projects, programs, and activities that will be implemented within the Gulf Coast Region and are eligible for funding under the RESTORE Act.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(II), the projects, programs, and activities in the SSEP contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf Coast.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(III), the SSEP conforms to and is consistent with the goals and objectives of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan adopted by the RESTORE Council.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)(B)(i), the projects and programs that would restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast included in the SSEP will be based on the best available science as defined by the RESTORE Act.[2]
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(ii), not more than 25% of the funds will be used for infrastructure projects for the eligible activities described in 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(i)(VI-VII).

Cross-border issues are not pertinent to the scope of this Stand-Up State Expenditure Plan, which addresses Gulf Consortium internal administrative matters only.

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[1] Affirmed by letter from RESTORE Council to the Chair of the Gulf Consortium, dated October 6, 2017.

[2] Council Guidelines on Best Available Science (Section 5.2.2) provide that consideration of BAS will not be required where it would not be meaningful, such as in connection with administrative activities. The single project of the Stand-Up SEP is intended to advance and manage the implementation of projects in the SEP that will achieve the indicated environmental and economic objectives of the RESTORE Act and will be administrative in nature.

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Development of the SSEP

The development of the SSEP involved an open and transparent process requiring identification of its need, its intent, and its scope. The process resulted in a single project consistent with RESTORE Act requirements and which will establish the financial and administrative architecture necessary for the success of the SEP. The process included four phases:

Phase 1: Identifying Need
Phase 2: Concept Formulation
Phase 3: SSEP Development
Phase 4: Agency and Public Input; SSEP Refinement

Supporting tasks occurred in each phase. The activities of each phase were informed by the following objectives:

- Ensure the most efficient path to creating the requisite administrative and financial structure and capabilities of the Gulf Consortium;
- Establish the Consortium's administrative and financial architecture in advance of submitting and receiving implementation grants for projects within the SEP;
- Via the Consortium's internal procedures, ensure that eligible projects, programs and activities included in its SEP contribute to overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast; and
- Promote funded projects to be as successful, cost-effective, and sustainable as possible.

The four-phase process was implemented in part under the Planning State Expenditure Plan approved by the RESTORE Council in May 2015 and the planning grant award approved by the RESTORE Council in June 2015, and in part with Consortium funds.[3]

Phase I: Identifying Need

Through review of the Gulf Consortium's first Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA), RESTORE Council, the Consortium Interim Manager (the Florida Association of Counties), and the Consortium Manager (The Balmoral Group) determined that the general administrative and financial controls that have been in place to date for the management of the current Planning Grant are insufficient to conform to applicable Federal requirements, and that the RESTORE Council could not release any funds to the Consortium for implementation grants until such time that adequate controls have been adopted and operating. In sum, the Consortium would be required to institute appropriate controls prior to advancing the implementation of the projects anticipated as part of the SEP.

Phase II: Concept Formulation

The concept of a "Stand-Up SEP" to establish the necessary administrative and financial architecture within the Consortium as an initial project within the development of the SEP was considered. Subsequent

[3] In September 2017, Council approved the allowability of Pre-Award costs specifically identified as associated with the SSEP grant.

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discussion with Council staff and the Consortium Executive Committee identified the possibility that such a Stand-Up SEP could be submitted separately from and in advance of the SEP.[4]

The Board selected the latter option with the stated objective of advancing the general calendar of implementation of the SEP and ensuring the Consortium's capacity to manage future projects, provide transparency to all Consortium operations and withstand audits. The Board further recognized that the success of the SEP with respect to consistency with the goals and objectives of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan developed by the RESTORE Council and the Consortium's efforts to contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast depended on successful implementation of the SSEP. The Board approved the Draft SSEP for public comment and formal agency review on November 15, 2017.

Phase III: SSEP Development

Pursuant to Board direction, the four generalized categories of the Consortium's administrative and fiscal responsibilities to be addressed by the SSEP include procurement, grant management, accounting and finance, and technical oversight (**Figure 1**). The scope (reviewed by RESTORE Council staff, DEP, FWC, and with input from Florida's SEP consultant, multiple county RESTORE Act Coordinators, and the public) identifies specific tasks under each category. Ultimately, each task will be supported by policies, procedures, and assignments of roles to ensure full compliance with Federal requirements for all implementation grants and sub-awards.

[4] The RESTORE Act provides that multiple SEPs may be submitted by an individual state.

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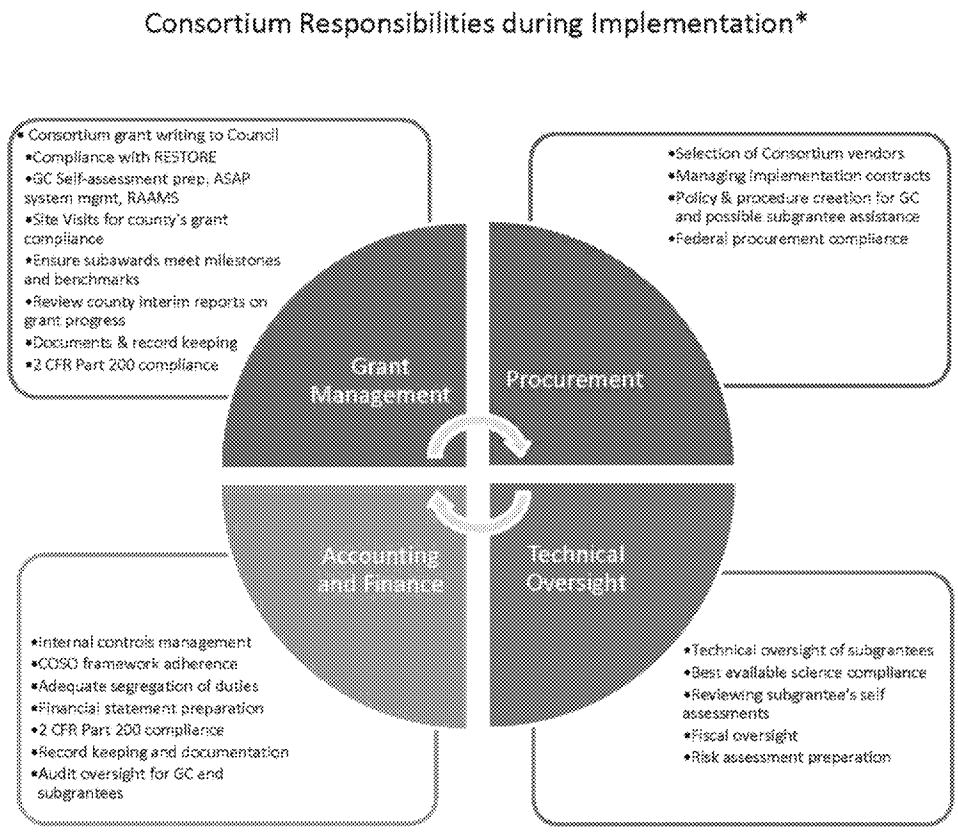
***Figure 1. Conceptual Overview of Stand-Up-SEP Content*[5]**



Phase IV: Agency Input, Public Comment and SSEP Refinement

As part of developing the Final SSEP, staff to the Consortium reached out to various parties for background information, programmatic support and input regarding SSEP format and content. Prior to finalization of the SSEP, the Consortium will have obtained input from each of the following:

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Office of the Governor
- Leon County, which has served as Fiscal Agent for the Consortium
- Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GOMURC)
- Florida Institute of Oceanography, Florida RESTORE Act Centers of Excellence Program (FLRACEP)
- RESTORE Council, Science Program

[5] The graphic refers to RAAMS; the Consortium understands this system will be replaced.

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- RESTORE Act coordinators in the 23 Florida counties
- Environmental Science Associates, the Consortium's SEP Consultant
- Langton Consulting, the Consortium's SEP Planning Grant manager
- Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, the Consortium's General Counsel
- Reedy Creek Improvement District (as an example of a multi-county special district with diverse administrative responsibilities)

The development of the Final SSEP included review of potential management and oversight structures, staffing/contracting for services, software, and costs for procurement, grant management, accounting and finance, and technical oversight (including review of grant requests, project interim and closeout reports, and the application of Best Available Science, where applicable). The Final reflects input from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and responds to issues raised by the Board and the public.

Compliance with RESTORE Act requirements for SEPs was specifically addressed as part of the agenda items and Board discussions relating to the SSEP at its May, June, September and November, 2017 and February, 2018 meetings, all duly advertised and open to the public. Compliance also was an element of the discussions about the SSEP at (teleconference) meetings of the Gulf Consortium Executive Committee, which are publicly noticed and within which public comment is also accepted.

Process Used to Verify Compliance

The compliance of the SSEP with the RESTORE Act was accomplished via both legal and technical review, which determined the SSEP to be an eligible project that conforms to Council's Comprehensive Plan. The intent, general outline, and specific content of the SSEP were evaluated relative to the applicable RESTORE Act provisions, and content was amended as needed in response to any concerns or issues raised.

Results of the Process Used to Verify Compliance

The process used to verify compliance resulted in a determination that the single project in the Final SSEP is an eligible project, will contribute to the economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf (via ensuring the success of the SEP and its own compliance with the RESTORE Act), conforms with the RESTORE Council's Comprehensive Plan, will make use of the application of best available science (where applicable) and does not violate the limitation on infrastructure projects.

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Public Participation Statement

Public outreach was completed in accordance with pertinent requirements and the Consortium's intent for transparency. Consistent with Treasury regulations, this Standup State Expenditure Plan was made available for public review and comment in accordance with 31 C.F.R. § 34.503(g). The SSEP was extensively advertised and made publicly available at the Consortium website (https://www.gulfconsortium.org/) between November 16, 2017 and January 19, 2018 (i.e., 64 days). Links to this site were provided on the DEP Portal (http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/) and several Consortium County member homepages. All submitted comments were reviewed and incorporated as appropriate (see **Appendix**).

Financial Integrity and Program Management

The Consortium understands its fiduciary responsibilities under the RESTORE Act and is committed to maintaining the highest level of transparency and internal controls to ensure financial accountability. It is the Consortium's mission to maintain transparency in such a way that assures the public's faith and trust in the ability of the Consortium to appropriately manage and disburse funds for the SEP projects. The SSEP will allow the Consortium to build accounting and financial systems based on principles of strong and reliable financial management.

The SSEP is designed to include the following financial principles which are best practices recognized around the world by leading government and private sector organizations. The basic principles of sound financial management include, but not limited to, tight internal controls, financial transparency, segregation of duties, and independent external auditing. By integrating these processes into the administrative functions and fiduciary functions of the organization the Consortium can ensure timely, accurate, and complete reporting throughout the SEP's lifecycle.

Segregation of Duties – To maintain effective internal controls, the Consortium will properly create internal checks and balances among the entities performing contract administration and financial duties for SEP related projects, programs, and activities. The SSEP anticipates carefully assigning the functions and roles of staff with the guidance of the Board, to create a robust duty segregation hierarchy. Furthermore, the Consortium has sought to retain a fiscal agent to manage any grant funds received from RESTORE Council, instituting firewalls between approval of disbursements and access to funding.

Transparency – The Consortium is committed to maintaining transparency with the public, RESTORE Council, and other constituents for reporting on SEP related projects, programs, and activities. The SSEP seeks to put in place administrative positions that will allow frequent, detailed, and complete grant reports and financial statements for the Consortium's stakeholders.

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Independent Financial Auditing – The Consortium is subject to annual audits conducted by independent auditors which evaluate not only the presentation of financial statements but also the effectiveness of internal controls based upon widely held government standards including, but not limited to, 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the Single Audit Act of 1996.

Financial Controls

The financial controls put in place through the SSEP will allow the Consortium to reduce the risk of asset loss or misappropriation of funds, maintain compliance with the RESTORE Council's financial documentation requirements, create a uniform financial standards for member counties, ensure that financial reports and disclosures are complete and reliable, and ensure compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations. The Consortium's financial control system will contain both preemptive controls (created to prevent errors or fraud) and detective controls (designed to identify an error or fraud after it has occurred).

Project management, grant managers, and other Consortium member county staff responsible for governance will be required to apply internal control processes created by the SSEP. The processes created by the SSEP are designed to provide reasonable assurance in the reliability of project financial reporting.

The proposed financial control system includes multiple protections of public funds including:

- Procedures that provide for appropriate segregation of duties to reduce the risk of asset loss or fraud;
- Personnel training materials that ensure employees are qualified to perform their assigned duties and responsibilities;
- Defined roles for the proper employees to authorize and records financial transactions,
- Requirement that sub-recipients operate and use resources with minimal potential for waste, fraud, and mismanagement.

The Consortium's internal control system has been, and continues to be modeled in accordance with the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) internal control framework and the five inter-related components. Further, the Consortium will evaluate each of these categories on a regular basis to adjust or change policies and procedures to enhance the internal control policy:

1. **Control Environment** – The set of standards, processes, and structures that provide the basis for carrying out internal control across the organization.

2. **Risk Assessment** – The types of risks both perceived and real must be identified, analyzed, and categorized in a relevant way to manage the goals of the SEP and requirements of the Consortiums regulatory bodies.

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3. **Control Activities** – The Consortium's internal control activities include written policies, procedures, techniques, and mechanisms that help ensure management's directives are carried out in compliance with the RESTORE Act criteria.

4. **Communication and Information** – Communication is vital to effective project management, and the Consortium's financial information system has mechanisms in place to properly capture and communicate RESTORE Act project financial data at the level appropriate for sound financial management.

5. **Monitoring** – Monitoring of the internal control system will be performed to assess whether controls are effective and operating as intended.

Conflicts of Interest

Consistent with Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, conflicts of interest are situations "in which regard for a private interest tends to lead to disregard of a public duty or interest." The Consortium requires a conflict of interest affidavit to be completed by all contractors and sub-recipients to ensure that no conflicts of interest for any proposed or contracted work would affect the impartiality or quality of the work. Strict conflict of interest policies ensure that no sub-recipients or contractors are given an unfair competitive advantage. Accordingly, contracts for the General Counsel, Manager, and SEP Consultant were amended on September 27, 2017, to include provisions required by 2 C.F.R. Part 200 for all non-Federal recipients of Federal funds.

Proposed Project

Expanding the financial and administrative capabilities of the Gulf Consortium

The single project included in this SSEP involves the development of a sufficient financial and managerial structure in order to ensure the Consortium will provide the financial integrity, controls, and management duties that will be required for individual project implementation. The four primary elements of the Consortium administrative structure to be developed include: 1) grant management, 2) procurement and contract management, 3) accounting and finance, and 4) technical oversight of deliverables under contracts and grant sub-awards.

The organizational structure of the Consortium envisioned by the SSEP is outlined in **Figure 2** and **Table 2**. This structure illustrates functional roles within the Consortium rather than individual personnel or specific contractual service providers.

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Figure 2. Proposed organizational chart of administrative functions of the Gulf Consortium

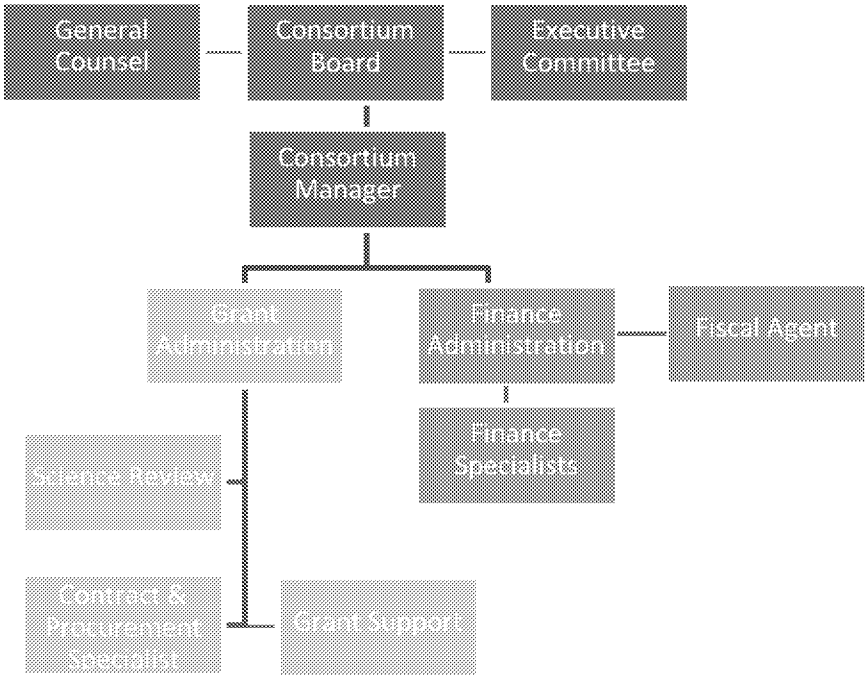

Figure 2 is organized into three primary cluster of functions: overall management as guided by the Board, financial administration, and grant management.

Table 2 recognizes that the only continuous staffing services of the Gulf Consortium are that of the Manager and the General Counsel. Consequently, select responsibilities described by **Table 1** may be contracted for, but with all contract approvals by the Board and oversight provided by the Manager.

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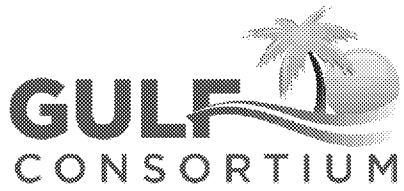

Table 1. Summary of responsibilities for administrative functional roles within the Gulf Consortium

Functional Role	Responsibilities / *Consortium Resource*
General Manager	Management and general administration of Consortium business *Manager**
General Counsel	Legal counsel, contract development and review *General Counsel**
Financial Administration	Prepare financial statements, payment requests, audit functions *Manager**
Finance Specialist	Data entry for payment requests, bookkeeping functions *Manager**
Fiscal Agent	Manages disbursements, check registers, bank statement *Pending approval, Leon County Clerk of Courts*
Grant Administration	Packages prepared grants for submission to RESTORE Council; assists County personnel (RESTORE coordinators) in grant preparation as requested; coordinates with RESTORE Council *Manager**
Grant Support	Database maintenance, grant submittal support *To be determined, as grant volume requirements dictate;* *Manager* or Contractual Grant managers during periods of high volume*
Contract Procurement	Manages contract procurement processes; *To be determined, as procurement volume requirements dictate;* *Manager* or New position, Contract Specialist,*
Science Review	Oversight of desktop reviews of prepared grant applications for BAS requirements prior to submittal to RESTORE Council; determines appropriate specialists for review *Manager**

* Under existing Consortium contracts for services

As an example, Science Review – such as for the application of Best Available Science for a particular project – may be expected to be contracted for; however, the oversight of the reviews and coordination of findings as part of required reporting to RESTORE Council would be handled through the Manager.

Procurement

The SSEP will implement procurement methods consistent with those outlined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.320. Procurement will be carried out by the Manager of the Consortium and the respective accounting and finance individuals on their team with assistance from the Consortium General Counsel. The SSEP will institute the following procurement scenarios depending on cost threshold and product or service:

1. Procurement by micro-purchases: Procurement by micro-purchase is the acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed $3,000 (or $2,000 in the case of acquisitions for construction subject to the Davis-Bacon Act). Micro-purchases may be awarded

without soliciting competitive quotations if the recipient (in this case, the Consortium) considers the price to be reasonable.

2. Procurement by small purchase procedures: Small purchase procedures are those relatively simple and informal procurement methods for securing services, supplies, or other property that do not cost more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently $150,000). If small purchase procedures are used, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources. The Consortium will consider three qualified bids as sufficient.

3. Procurement by sealed bids (formal advertising): Bids are publicly solicited and a firm-fixed-price contract (lump sum or unit price) is awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to all the material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is the lowest in price.

4. Procurement by competitive proposals: The technique of competitive proposals is normally conducted with more than one source submitting an offer, and either a fixed-price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. It is generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. A new requirement under this method is that the recipient must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and for selecting recipients.

5. Procurement by noncompetitive proposals: Procurement by noncompetitive proposals is procurement through solicitation of a proposal from only one source. 2 C.F.R. Part 200 clarified that this may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:
    a. The item is available only from a single source;
    b. The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation;
    c. The Council or pass-through entity expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the recipient; or
    d. After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.

6. Procurement by the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA): The acquisition of professional architectural, engineering, landscape architectural, or surveying and mapping services must be procured pursuant to Section 287.055, Florida Statutes.

The counties may rely on the Consortium to provide resources such as Best Available Science or other skilled professionals to assist their grant efforts. Those professionals will need to be procured at the Consortium level. The Stand-Up phase will prepare the Consortium for the following procurement scenarios depending on the level of projects that are developed enough to begin once implementation begins. **Table 2** provides expected levels of procurement activity that have been assessed; the SSEP budget has been derived based on the "Likely" Scenario.

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Table 2. Estimated Grant Management and Procurement Activity Level Scenarios under the SSEP

Estimated Volume	Fiscal Year 2018	Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Task
Maximum Volume	42	4	3	Grant Applications
	24	12	8	Procurements/Contracts
Minimum Volume	0	0	0	Grant Applications
	12	8	6	Procurements/Contracts
Likely Scenario	6	0	0	Grant Applications
	12	12	6	Procurements/Contracts

It is important to note that first year SEP activities include 42 project implementation grants (i.e., Maximum Volume). However, not all projects need be submitted immediately following affirmation by RESTORE Council that the Consortium is ready to submit project implementation grants and receive project funds. That affirmation of readiness is not expected until the latter months of SSEP implementation (**see Figure 3, SSEP Milestones**). Consequently, the budget provides for six projects during this window within the SSEP planning assistance grant.[6] The remaining first-year SEP projects may be submitted in the following 9-10 months of the first year that the Consortium is authorized to process project implementation grant submittals.[7]

Accounting and Finance

The initial Organizational Assessment submitted to the RESTORE Council highlighted areas that the Consortium can improve upon to carry out its mission related to the ultimate oversight of the SEP. The Consortium needs to have administrative infrastructure suited for the accounting and finance-related work that will need to be done in order to manage all the grants for the projects contained in the SEP. The SSEP will be used to establish that hierarchy of positions so that the Consortium has a finance and accounting structure in the background capable of handling the fiduciary responsibilities of carrying out the grant administration for the SEP.

The SSEP will give the Consortium Manager and supporting vendors the opportunity to create a cohesive administrative arm that fulfills the segregation of duties requirements for robust internal controls and also allows for effective grant management and administration. Further, the Consortium has engaged Leon County to act as fiscal agent for the Consortium so that the necessary segregation of duties objective is enhanced.

Software Requirements

RESTORE Council has previously recommended the Consortium implement a standalone grant management system dedicated to Consortium business. The existing accounting software in place with

[6] Board direction will establish the number to be submitted during SSEP implementation.

[7] Further, of the 42 first-year SEP projects, 14 are related to feasibility studies while 7 are for conceptual design. Based on discussion with RESTORE Council some of these projects may potentially be bundled into fewer grant applications.

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the Manager has been identified as Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) compliant[8], but may require upgraded licensing depending on the volume of grant activity in the early years of the implementation of the SEP. The Consortium has performed due diligence sufficient to establish a conservative budget for both possibilities (grant management software and potential license upgrading) and has estimated an appropriate scale and capacity for software to provide the functionality needed to carry out the SEP at reasonable costs.

Depending on the procurement selection, software costs for applications compatible with RESTORE Council systems will cost approximately $17,500, plus $10,000 for software license, $2,500 for software maintenance, and $5,000 for vendor provided setup and training costs. Actual costs may vary depending on availability.

Grant Management

The goals of grant management activities are to develop and submit the project-specific grants for implementation, to ensure sub-recipients (the 23 Florida Gulf Coast counties) are achieving the stated project objectives, and to comply with the RESTORE Council's policies and requirements.[9] Additional capacity within the Consortium will be developed as part of this SSEP project. There are two main pieces to this capacity building: 1) a dedicated individual will be assigned or hired to provide grant management services and to create sufficient segregation of duties, and 2) the Consortium will acquire grant management software to facilitate efficient grant preparation and project monitoring.

Sub-recipient Monitoring

The tasks involved in this project to establish sufficient capacity for sub-recipient monitoring by the Gulf Consortium include the following:

- Adapting an Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA) to be completed by the 23 Gulf Coast counties (sub-recipients) to assess the risk level of sub-recipients;
- Develop the procedures for assistance of high-risk sub-recipients; and
- Develop the procedures for financial and progress review of sub-recipient implementation projects

RESTORE Act Compliance

- Organizational Self-Assessments;
- 2 C.F.R. Part 200 compliance;

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[8] DCAA audits and pre-award surveys of government contractor assess the contractor's compliance with the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR). The FAR consists of regulations issued by Federal agencies to administer the acquisition process by which the government purchases goods and services. If a contractor is not in compliance with the FAR, they may be precluded from future government contracts or teaming arrangements with other contractors. It is also possible for DCAA to suggest to the Contracting Officer to stop payments on work that is in progress or disallow costs on completed contracts. Therefore, it is critical for contractors to comply with the FAR.

[9] Board direction is to rely on the counties to the greatest degree practicable for grant-related activity.

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- Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP); and
- Restoration Assistance and Awards Management System (RAAMS)

Technical Oversight

The goal of technical oversight is to ensure that 1) the projects serve the objectives of the RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component (Pot 3), 2) projects include Best Available Science (BAS) where relevant, and 3) project design and implementation are consistent and of sufficient quality. BAS describes science that:

- 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.

In addition to BAS, permitting (federal, state, and local), construction feasibility, and construction engineering inspection are among the tasks requiring technical oversight.[10]

The unique project types among the current list of 69 projects that may be in the SEP were reviewed in order to establish the types of technical professionals needed. The following project types describe one or more of the projects that may be included in the SEP:

- Aquaculture
- Beach Access, Coastal Access, Boat ramps, and Facilities
- Dredging
- Beach Nourishment
- Living Shorelines, Coastal Uplands, Habitat Restoration
- Reef Systems
- Wetland Hydrology
- Septic to Sewer Conversion, Sewer Expansion or Rehabilitation
- Sewer/Stormwater, Stormwater
- Education

The general groups of technical professionals needed for review at grant submittal and for evaluation after implementation have been identified on a preliminary basis for each of the above project types; the resultant classes of professionals include, at a minimum: 1) Engineering/Design, 2) Ecologists/Biologists, 3) Education Specialists, and 4) Construction Engineering Inspection. The Consortium has preliminarily identified experts for select technical oversight capacities. Technical professionals with experience and credentials in specialized fields that can be contracted for desktop review and implementation evaluation and monitoring, where appropriate, have either been identified or will be secured through a competitive procurement process.

[10] The Consortium seeks to minimize the level of BAS oversight where counties are conducting this work.

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The activities to be completed in this Stand-Up project related to technical oversight are described as follows:

1. Develop best practices protocol for meeting the technical oversight requirements of the RESTORE Council. This protocol will detail the process determining the type of technical oversight and whether technical oversight must be procured or can provided by the Manager.

2. Establish contracts with specialized Ecologists/Biologists experts for review of projects at application stage and during implementation to ensure projects are based on BAS, subject to approval. Where conflicts of interest due to prospective regulatory review would not preclude it, the Consortium plans to develop agreements for scientific review services from universities and affiliated research centers, and Federal and local environmental agencies to streamline the procurement of technical oversight services from the Ecologists/Biologists class of professionals referenced above. The contract would specify the scopes of services for different project types, the fees for services, and the timelines for desktop review and implementation assessment and/or monitoring.[11]

3. Establish contracts with groups of qualified technical professionals (Engineering/Design, Ecologists/Biologists, Education Specialists, and Construction Engineering Inspection professionals) for grant review and implementation assessment and monitoring. This effort will include the development of regionalized Requests for Proposals (RFPs) in three Gulf Coast regions to ensure local experience and to reduce travel costs for each of the four technical professional services. Within each technical professional class, scopes of work will be developed for sub-types of professionals. For example, the expected work and qualifications required from a production fisheries aquaculture expert will be different than the work and qualifications of specialist in living shorelines, but both types would be within the Ecologists/Biologists class of professionals. RFPs will be developed for each services group and will be tailored to each of the three geographic regions that will be established. Detailed review of project descriptions from the SEP will be used to identify all the sub-types of technical professionals. Existing state agency contracts for similar services have been obtained and will be used as a template for Consortium contracting.

4. Develop a data management plan to ensure consistent monitoring for biological, water quality, and other environmental data for projects requiring monitoring. This effort will establish the observational protocols and the data storage and analysis system to ensure that monitoring data is preserved and is publicly accessible. The Consortium will coordinate with Treasury staff overseeing Pot 1 funding in an effort to achieve compatibility and consistency with long-term monitoring requirements for Consortium projects.

[11] Existing NRDA contracts have been obtained and, to the extent they are applicable, may be used as a template for select Consortium contracting.

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Through the process described above, the Consortium will develop contracts with pools of available scientists and other professionals capable of efficiently providing technical oversight for grant implementation and evaluation.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERALL ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL RECOVERY OF THE GULF

By developing the administrative capacity of the Gulf Consortium to receive and manage SEP project implementation grants and all services required to ensure that such grants are carried out efficiently and in accordance with all applicable legal requirements, the SSEP will contribute to the economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf via the successful implementation of the SEP and the projects contained therein.

ELIGIBILITY AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

While administrative costs are eligible for funding in conjunction with one of the eligible activities listed in the RESTORE Act, the primary eligible activity for the SSEP is planning assistance. According to the 2015 Department of the Treasury Regulations for the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund, "planning assistance means data gathering, studies, modeling, analysis and other tasks required to prepare plans for eligible activities under 31 C.F.R. § 34.201(a) through (i), including environmental review and compliance tasks and architectural and engineering studies." Planning assistance also means one-time preparations that will allow the recipient to establish systems and processes needed to review grant applications, award grants, monitor grants after award, and audit compliance with respect to eligible activities under § 34.201 in a Multiyear Implementation Plan or State Expenditure Plan.

The SSEP is a one-time preparation to establish those administrative systems and processes needed for grant management as relates to supporting other RESTORE Act eligible activities in the SEP.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To the extent that the SSEP supports all projects in the SEP, the following Comprehensive Goals are furthered:

- Goal 1: Restore and Conserve Habitat (Restore and conserve the health, diversity, and resilience of key coastal, estuarine, and marine habitats);
- Goal 2: Restore Water Quality and Quantity (Restore and protect the water quality and quantity of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters);
- Goal 3: Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources (Restore and protect healthy, diverse, and sustainable living coastal and marine resources);
- Goal 4: Enhance Community Resilience (Build upon and sustain communities with capacity to adapt to short-and long-term changes); and

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- Goal 5: Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy (Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy).

IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

The Gulf Consortium is the implementing entity for Pot 3 for the State of Florida. RESTORE Council affirmed the authority of the Consortium to implement the SEP in a letter dated October 6, 2017; the Consortium affirmed its intent to serve in this capacity on November 15, 2017. With the Governor's approval of the SSEP and transmittal to the RESTORE Council, the Gulf Consortium will be responsible for receiving the planning grant from the RESTORE Council and implementing the proposed single project, establishing the administrative and financial architecture of the Consortium. Sub-entities will include the Consortium General Counsel, Leon County Clerk of Courts, and the several technical services providers to be procured under the scope of the project.

BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE AND FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

As the SSEP is a planning initiative for administration, Best Available Science (BAS) is not directly applicable. However, the implementation of the SSEP contemplates the procurement of professionals with BAS expertise to provide review of grant requests (via sub-awards) for projects contained within the SEP for which BAS is required.

Management and implementation of the SSEP are feasible and are fully within the purview of the scope of services of the Consortium's Manager. No permits are required for the SSEP. The budget has been based on hours and costs incurred by the Florida Association of Counties for past Consortium procurements and on recent experience by the Manager. The proposed budget reflects the anticipated workload for standing up the Consortium and processing an initial cycle of SEP project implementation grants. The SSEP is a one-time initiative that will provide the structure for the Consortium as implementer for Florida for the duration of the payout of Pot 3 funds.

RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

There are no risks identified with the SSEP itself as a planning project for administration. Uncertainties remain as to whether all conditions and requirements of Treasury and RESTORE Council have been duly identified and for which SSEP tasks, actions, or roles and responsibilities have been defined. Preliminary review of the Draft SSEP by RESTORE Council has flagged no major issues. Uncertainties exist as to the actual costs for implementation (i.e., costs for specific procurements of services) and the time required to put into place all key administrative and financial functions. While the proposed funding should be adequate, implementation may take longer than estimated.

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SUCCESS CRITERIA AND MONITORING

The primary project benefit will be a fully operable administrative and financial structure for the Consortium, capable of meeting all federal requirements and withstanding RESTORE Council scrutiny and audits. Applicable metrics for success include the following:

- Approval by RESTORE Council of the SSEP
- Approval by RESTORE Council of a planning grant to implement the SSEP
- Concluding the "stand-up" process in the timeframe contemplated (8-10 months)
- Efficiently reviewing and transmitting the first cycle of SEP implementation grant applications to the satisfaction of Council
- Streamlining processes between county sub-awardees and the Consortium to expedite invoicing and reimbursements / payments

MILESTONES AND SCHEDULE

The SSEP is anticipated to require approximately eight-to-ten months to implement, from transmittal of the grant request to support implementation until work commences under the first sub-award to a county. In addition, a Gantt chart (**Figure 3**) is provided showing high level milestones for the project, and anticipated start and end dates for each in months from SSEP approval.

Figure 3. Milestones Associated with Implementation of the SSEP

	--- MONTHS FROM SSEP APPROVAL ---										
MILESTONE	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**
Develop, transmit SSEP Planning Assistance Grant Application											
SSEP Implementation Grant Application approval by Council											
Policies, Protocols and Practices developed and adopted											
Services RFPs developed, advertised											
Services agreements executed											
1st County Implementation Grant Applications forwarded to Consortium											
1st County Implementation Grant Applications forwarded to RESTORE Council and RESTORE Council Review/Approval											
1st Sub-awards executed with County											
Work Commences											
1st Project Payment Requests											
1st Project Payments Received											

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Budget/Funding

Table 3 summarizes the categories of projected expenditures for the SSEP, to be paid for with Pot 3 funds. The administrative costs for developing agenda items for Board action or approval of purchases, contracts and project implementation grant transmittal and for executing any sub-awards with counties will be funded by Consortium resources.

Table 3. Budget for the Stand-Up SEP

Cost Category	Estimated *NTE** amount:	Components:
Pre-Award costs	$45,100	Development of SSEP through transmittal to RESTORE Council
Purchase, initialization of software and licensing	$17,500	$10,000 for software license; $2,500 for annual software maintenance fee; approximately $5,000 for implementation & vendor training package
Grant/procurement software labor costs	$47,175	90 hours of training and installation; 27.5 hours of monthly input & upkeep for procurement record processing & accounting activities (255 hours total)
Services Procurement & Related Contract Activities	$76,313	Up to an average of 34 hours ($6,360) per procurement/contracting activity, based on historical hours for Consortium mgmt; estimated 12 procurement activities
Grant Bundling and Administration	$34,950	Up to 25 hours ($5,825) per grant package assembly/ administration/BAS review activity, based on historical hours for Consortium mgmt; 6 grants proposed to be covered during the implementation of the SSEP
Total	**$221,038**	

***Not-to-Exceed*; all expenditures require Board approval of Work Order prior to incurring costs**
Total costs are shown; not all costs may be incurred during the anticipated 10 month time period but have been included in an abundance of caution

Project Cost and Expected Request from Oil Spill Component Funds: $221,038

These funds will allow the Consortium to pay for the contractor costs which will build the administrative infrastructure as well as the necessary grant management software and installation of those systems.

If funding for the project has been requested from other sources, describe any additional resource:

Consortium funding has been used to support the development and administration of the Board agenda items associated with the SSEP. No other funding has been requested for the SSEP.

Partnerships/Collaboration:

The Consortium anticipates further collaboration with Florida's RESTORE coordinators and with the Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GOMURC) to refine administrative and SEP project review procedures to contain costs wherever possible.

Leveraged Resources:

None specified at this time; however, county contributions to the Consortium will complement the SSEP implementation grant with respect to Board-meeting costs through the duration of the SSEP.

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Funds Used as Non-Federal Match:
No specific matching funds are anticipated. Contributions from the member counties of the Gulf Consortium provide funding for the general administrative expenses in preparing the Board and Executive Committee agenda items for consideration of the SSEP, and for time spent with Board members and RESTORE coordinators to refine SSEP content and processes.

Other: None anticipated

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APPENDIX. Summary of Agency and Public Comments

RESTORE Act coordinators were requested to include notices and links to the Draft SSEP on their websites to expand the outreach for public comment. The following entities reported establishing such links:

- Gulf Consortium
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- Bay County
- Collier County
- Escambia County
- Levy County
- Pinellas County
- Santa Rosa County
- Wakulla County

As a result of outreach by the Consortium, the following entities provided comments:

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Bay County
- Collier County
- Escambia County
- Manatee County
- Pasco County
- National Wildlife Foundation
- RESTORE Council
- Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson

In addition to further direction from the Board, public comments were received from the following at the February 8, 2018 meeting of the Gulf Consortium:

- National Wildlife Foundation
- RESTORE Coordinator, Pasco County
- RESTORE Coordinator, Escambia County
- Prior RESTORE Coordinator, Escambia County

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All comments received and responses have been archived and remain available in their entirety on the Gulf Consortium website. In addition technical corrections and editorial suggestions from the DEP and from Council, comments were submitted regarding the following categories of issues:

- Costs to the counties for the SSEP and its anticipated components, including fiscal agent services
- Costs for long-term implementation and management of the SEP and how these are to be allocated to the counties
- What components of Consortium administration (as implemented via the SSEP) are required versus optional
- The administrative capacity of the Consortium to advance the number of SEP projects
- The distinction between procurements and grants to support the Consortium versus those to support individual counties
- The schedule for SEP implementation
- The role of the Consortium Manager and which tasks it is charged to carry out versus what will be contracted
- The procedures for competitively bidding for services for the Consortium
- The Consortium's use of parallel application platforms that could be leveraged through a Consortium-licensed site
- The use of smart contract and performance measurement systems
- How (project funding) leveraging will be handled
- The allowable length of comments

The comments presented to the Board at the SSEP adoption have been incorporated into both this Appendix and the Final SSEP.

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RESPONSES TO COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SSEP

Commenting Party	Comment	Response
DEP	Page 2, Need to update this date	Text Amended
DEP	Page 2, Here is typo: he should be the. Would also suggest noting that Council Guidelines on BAS, section 5.2.2 provides that consideration of BAS will not be required where it would not be meaningful, such as in connection with administrative activities." The project in the SSEP is administrative in nature.	Text Amended
DEP	Page 4, Should this have anything further about why approval was tabled, what happened from Sept to approval of draft, or that there was ultimately a vote to approve the draft etc.?	Text Amended
DEP	Page 6, Why is this in here? Reedy Creek is in Orange and Osceola counties.	Purpose explained in footnote
DEP	Page 6, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Text Amended
DEP	Page 8, Should this be flushed out a little more?	Text Amended
DEP	Page 11, Assume recipient is the Consortium. If suggest using Consortium rather than recipient. Same comment elsewhere in this section where term recipient is used.	Text Amended
DEP	Page 13, What is the significance on being DCAA compliant? Was this suggested by Council staff? May require further elaboration.	Purpose explained in footnote
DEP	Page 15, This should be done by ESA as part of FSEP development	Text Amended
DEP	Page 15, Which federal agencies? Might be a conflict of interest since the same agency might be doing the regulatory review at a later date	Text Amended
DEP	Page 15, What NRDA contracts are you referring to? NRDA is not subject to the same regulations as RESTORE, so there is a high likelihood that those contracts will not work as template. Recommend deleting this paragraph.	Text Amended
DEP	Page 17, need to clarify who his is Suggest rewording to: With the Governor's approval of the SSEP and transmittal to the Council,	Text Amended
DEP	Page 19, Can a further breakdown of cost be provided? Say software purchase and maintenance, contractual services, etc. Suggest looking at PSEP as an example.	Table included

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
DEP	Page 20, We guess this appendix is intended to show or describe the process the GC went through to be able to make the required certifications for the SSEP. Think the narrative on page 6 related to "verifying compliance" could be expanded a little so that this appendix and table are not needed. It adds little value unless you get comments on each subject from the responding parties, which is highly unlikely	Appendix amended
RESTORE Council	p.2, bullet 1: Replace "with" with "within"	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p.2, bullet 3: Replace "Initial Comprehensive Plan" with "2016 Comprehensive Plan."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 2, footnote 2: A "t" is missing from "...he implementation of projects..."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 3, line 1: Suggest adding "identification of" after "requiring"	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 3, third paragraph, the reference to Planning grant approved by the Council in May 2015. The Planning State Expenditure Plan was approved in May 2015 and the award was approved in June of 2016; also, the pre-award costs, which were specifically identified as associated with the anticipated SSEP grant award, have been approved as to their allowability only and are incurred at the Consortium's own risk. We recommend you remove the second part of this sentence or clarify the status of the funds.	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 4; first paragraph: Replace "Initial Comprehensive Plan" with "2016 Comprehensive Plan."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 4, First paragraph Last sentence states that the Board tabled its approval of the Draft SSEP on September 27, 2017. Do you intend to replace this sentence once the Board has approved the SSEP to provide the approval date?	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 13, last paragraph A comma appears to be missing between $17,500 and $10,000.	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 17, under "Implementing Entities" Who is referenced in the statement, "By his approval of the SSEP and transmittal to the Council..."?	Text Amended

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
RESTORE Council	p. 17, under BAS section Consider changing "As a purely administrative initiative" to a "planning initiative."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 17, under Risks and Uncertainties Consider changing "...as an administrative project..." to "... as a planning project..."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 18, 4th bullet Consider changing "FSEP implementation grants" to "FSEP implementation grant applications", as it will be the applications that are transmitted by the Consortium	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 18, Table 3 Consider changing reference from "Implementation Grant" to "Implementation Grant Application" in 2 places	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 18, Table 3 It seems a bit optimistic to anticipate work commencing the month following the submission of a grant application to the Council. Council review and award preparation processes normally take at least 60 to 90 days	Timeline Modified
RESTORE Council	Per section 5.2.5 of the Council's SEP Guidelines, a primary eligible activity must be identified for each project or program. The draft SSEP contains a discussion of eligibility on page 16, in the section entitled Eligibility and Statutory Requirements. As currently drafted, that section discusses administrative costs as the eligible activity. Although administrative costs are included in eligible activities under the Act, after reviewing the Treasury regulations we believe that planning assistance is the most appropriate primary eligible activity for the SSEP. We recommend that the Eligibility and Statutory Requirements section be revised to replace the language on administrative costs and explicitly indicate that planning assistance is the primary eligible activity for the SSEP, while also including the Treasury regulation definition of "planning assistance."	Text Amended
Bay County	As much as possible, the Consortium should adopt or adapt acceptable standards, policies, processes and data management plans developed by others rather than having to develop these with Consortium resources.	The SSEP proposes to build on county RESTORE coordinators experience.
Bay County	If Leon County agrees to continue to act as the fiscal agent, what is the projected cost? What financial software does Leon County use, and is it suitable for all Consortium financial and grant management needs? Is it also available/necessary for the counties to use?	The cost is expected to be 0.15%. The SSEP proposes no specific software package, but to select that which works best for the Consortium and its

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		reporting to Council. Common platforms will be explored.
Bay County	Is it required that the counties and Consortium hire outside consultants for Best Available Science and that the Consortium review projects for Best Available Science? Will the Council duplicate the Best Available Science review if one is done at the Consortium level? Will this be unnecessary duplication? For the Direct Component, Treasury has hired the Best Available Science expertise. These experts review the grant applications and provide comments to the applicant. Can the Council take this same approach? If the Consortium must handle Best Available Science, is it necessary to hire regional experts for the desk review? I do not believe that Florida needs to be broken into regions for this review.	The SSEP proposes the Consortium contract for BAS expertise and Board direction is to provide technical oversight services of the projects it submits at the regional level. The Consortium has coordinated previously with Council staff on how best to employ BAS reviews and to reduce costs and duplication.
Bay County	I see the SSEP as performing two main functions. One is to integrate all federal grant and RESTORE Act requirements into the financial structure and processes of the Gulf Consortium. The second, related function is to lay out the specifics as to Consortium processes to obtain and manage project funds and the costs related to that effort. The current draft SSEP falls short of this second function. In order to evaluate the draft SSEP, members of the Consortium need to know the processes and costs related to Consortium management of Spill Impact Component projects.	The SSEP proposes the general framework for the Consortium, including grant management and project accounting. Further details will be developed during implementation to ensure compliance with Council requirements. SSEP costs are included in the budget; Consortium management costs are estimated and included in an agenda item.
Bay County	Of major interest to members of the Consortium is exactly what work/tasks will be done by the Consortium infrastructure and how much will it cost. The 23 counties vary widely in their management and staff capabilities. Some will need more help than others.	The SSEP recognizes the varying capacity of the counties and proposes to contract for services that counties may use if they choose.
Bay County	The SSEP should recognize this and should list those tasks that the Consortium must do, those that each county/subrecipient must do, and then list those that could be done by either entity, depending on the capabilities and desires of each county. Counties need approximate costs of the various levels of assistance from the Consortium. Each county could pay the Consortium for the optional services by building those costs into the budget for each project.	The SSEP outlines the core functions that must be carried out at the level of the Consortium. Costs for optional services are estimated in an agenda item.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
Bay County	A sufficient level of detail of the costs to each county and the long-term management costs of the Consortium should be provided before approval of the SSEP. Not all of this information must be in the SSEP, but it is important that the Consortium members have this information prior to approving the SSEP, which is a critical step for the Consortium.	A budget has been included in the SSEP. Longterm costs are reported to the Board in an agenda item.
Bay County	Page 8 includes the following paragraph "Project management, grant managers, and other Consortium member county staff responsible for governance will be required to apply internal control processes created by the SSEP. The processes created by the SSEP are designed to provide reasonable assurance in the reliability of project financial reporting." I believe this should be "staff responsible for governance will be required to apply comply with internal control processes standards created by the SSEP. The processes standards created by the SSEP..." The Consortium should not dictate the internal processes of each county. Rather, it should set standards (derived from statutes and rules) that each county must meet. Counties are required to meet federal grant and RESTORE Act requirements for Direct Component funds. I do not see a need to set up new processes.	The SSEP will explore this issue with Council and the counties during implementation. The SSEP does not contemplate replicating or modifying processes within counties, but ensuring that those processes support Council requirements. To the extent that such processes comply with Treasury standards, the Consortium would explore acceptance by Council.
Bay County	Page 14 under "Grant Management" states: "The goals of grant management activities are to develop and submit the project-specific grants for implementation...". It is likely that most counties will want to develop the grant for their own projects, rather than this being done by Consortium management.	The SSEP anticipates most counties preparing their own grant applications.
Bay County	Page 14 under "Sub-recipient Monitoring" references "Adapting an Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA)". All 23 counties are required to conduct annual OSAs for Treasury as part of the Direct Component requirements. The Consortium should just adopt Treasury's OSA and the counties' existing OSAs should be sufficient for the risk assessment	The Consortium must use Council's OSA, which is more rigorous than Treasury's.
Bay County	Page 14 under "Technical Oversight" states: "In addition to BAS, permitting (federal, state, and local), construction feasibility, and construction engineering inspection are among the tasks requiring technical oversight." Consortium	To comply with Council requirements, the SSEP proposes that the Consortium have these capacities, if only to review the work at the county level.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
	directors should discuss how much they want to develop these capabilities at the Consortium management level, and whether this should be handled at the county project level.	
Bay County	An issue that may be beyond the scope of the SSEP but that is critical to the success of the Consortium is the continued assistance to identify and obtain matching funds for projects. This needs to be an ongoing effort, because matching funds often cannot be secured far in advance of a project's initiation.	Leveraging is beyond the scope of the SSEP itself, but the Consortium anticipates coordination with counties and updates of leveraging resources as appropriate.
Bay County	Use of GrantSolutions.gov as the RESTORE Council grant application software would make sense. This is the software Treasury is utilizing for the Direct Component grant application and management, and many of the Florida counties have learned this system. While this issue is not a part of the SSEP, this consideration should be discussed with the Council.	The SSEP proposes to explore other platforms, with Board direction
Collier County	At the November 15, 2017 Consortium meeting the Board approved a budget of for the Standup SEP of $221,038. How does that relate to the tasks that you summarized in Table 1 on page 11 of your report?	The budget of the SSEP is associated with the tasks outlined in the November Board Meeting Agenda Item 6; the tasks in the SSEP itself describe the administrative functions are that need to be established within the Consortium.
Collier County	In table 1, page 11, what is the difference of Manager and Permanent Manager?	Text amended
Collier County	What is the projected costs in total and per county for execution of the State Expenditure Plan? In my mind, that should include the $221,038 and the tasks not covered (estimated) to date in table 11. I want to be able to share with our commission an accurate picture of what the administrative costs should be for the Consortium to manage the program and have a realistic projection of the balance of the funds we will be receiving	The projected costs for the Stand-Up SEP will not exceed $9,610 per each county - a one-time cost for establishing the required administrative capacities of the Consortium as the implementing entity. The costs of implementing the SEP itself will depend on the number of projects, the types of projects and the time required to carry out the projects.
Collier County	What is the projected cost of each item in table 1?	Budget included in Final SSEP
Collier County	How will the leveraging be handled? Who and How will that be decided and when will that be presented to the Board? Will that be decided when the SEP is submitted to the State and Restore Council.	Leveraging is beyond the scope of the SSEP The counties have been provided leveraging information through the SEP and to the extent feasible would have

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		primary responsibility for identifying and securing sources and timing of non-Pot 3 funding.
Escambia	What is the SSEP cost to Escambia County?	$9,610 per county as a one-time cost for the required COSO architecture of the Consortium
Escambia	What is the cost of the fiscal agent (Leon County)?	The proposed fee is fifteen basis points (i.e., 0.15%).
Escambia	What is the long-term management cost for Consortium? What is the long-term management cost to Escambia County (each county)?	Long-term costs are variable and consist of Board and project components. The former has been $8,000 per annum for the larger counties and $2,000 for those with smaller populations. Project-specific costs may be negligible or more significant but are not expected to exceed about 3%.
Escambia	The SSEP lists four primary elements for the Consortium administrative structure: 1) Grant Management 2) Procurement 3) Accounting and Finance 4) Technical Oversight. There is concern that all four of these elements will be imposed on the counties and result in unknown costs.	The elements are required for Consortium compliance with COSO. The Consortium must have practices that meet internal control, fraud deterrence and conflict of interest rules; must provide technical oversight for all of its sub-awards; and must be able to provide contractual documentation, contract review, and technical review of all work paid by Pot 3 monies.
Manatee County	I request that the Gulf Consortium pursue alternative competitive bids for implementation of the State Expenditure Plan for the following reasons: • The current single source has not defined its qualifications for exclusive no-bid procurement • The proposed long-term contract is not clear on expenses directly impacting county project budgets • Balmoral's response regarding its capacity to efficiently process the number of projects scheduled for year one implementation indicates a significant gap, potentially adversely affecting further SEP sequencing • Other RESTORE funding systems have parallel application platforms already containing data on Florida's eligible counties which could be leveraged through a Consortium-licensed site	There is no non-competitively bid single source contract operating with the Consortium. The expense of Manager contract is spelled out in its terms as not-to-exceed, using SEP Planning Grant and county contributions to the Consortium. The Manager contract does not otherwise impact county budgets. There is no gap in capacity; there is a division between those grants to be administered under the SSEP and those moving forward. Other platforms will be explored during SSEP implementation that meet Council requirements.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
	• Other large scale smart contract and performance measurement systems with proven track records currently exist	
Pasco County	The estimated standup for staffing was based on only an anticipated 6 grants being applied for per year for the first 3 years. That number is likely overly conservative. Execution of potentially 36 different grant agreements utilizing the proposed staffing is unrealistic. Add in the anticipated 72 anticipated contracts and the workload exceeds the capability proposed. This would eventually impact the timelines for all grants.	The 6 grants are associated with the SSEP, not the first 3 years of SEP implementation. The SSEP includes funding for one additional staff person. The SSEP does not present a delay for the timelines for grants.
Pasco County	Utilizing a program that is similar to Grantsolutions.org via the GCC would be far more effective, and would put the onus on the counties to execute, thus eliminating a lot of the overhead created by using BMG as the grant administration process. Communication with Treasury to investigate this potential is encouraged. BMG could then act in a monitor role, with access to the grantsolutions.org website, and utilize the OSA already done by the county. This would save funds for projects vice using for administrative requirements	Other platforms will be explored during SSEP implementation that meet Council requirements.
Pasco County	It is imperative that seasoned grant professionals with strong experience in executing federal grants be utilized to administer this program for the GCC. Single sourcing this process is not the most effective way to find that administrative experience. I did not note that BMG had extensive grant execution experience outlined in the SSEP. Additionally, the cost of executing the grants (9 for Pasco County alone) is not laid out clearly in the proposal. This should be clear, along with the expected expenses required by the grant to execute the SEP. Agreeing with this SSEP is de facto agreeing to an Interlocal Agreement written by Balmoral Group	The cost of transmitting individual grants is estimated in the SSEP budget. No interlocal agreement is proposed outside of the SEP project Sub-awards between the Consortium and the counties.
Pasco County	In the SEP, it indicates that counties will adopt policies and procedures that support the grants, but does not say what those are. Additionally, procurement via BMG administration takes away from county policies, procedures and most importantly local businesses efforts to get involved in the process.	The SSEP does not direct county policy but proposes uniform financial standards as relate to Pot 3 funding. The SSEP proposes the use of regional contractors to support Consortium oversight of county sub-awards and does not impact county use of local contractors.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
National Wildlife Federation	Clarification is needed regarding costs (both short-term and long-term) of administering the FSEP and implementing each project contained within. It is important for the costs associated with the SSEP (and implementing the FSEP -- including accessing and managing restoration funds) to be reasonable and predictable in order to maximize RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component funds going towards restoration projects rather than administration.	The short and long-term costs of the SSEP are addressed in the supporting agenda item. The proposed administrative architecture of the Consortium is intended to minimize overhead, avoid duplication and maximize funding for the projects.
National Wildlife Federation	Numerous other areas of the Draft SSEP require additional clarification to improve transparency. One such area of uncertainty concerns the Grant Management and Procurement Activity Level of volume and schedule over the next three years. The Draft SEP includes a schedule for Project Sequencing which indicates 39 projects would be implemented in Year 1. However, the Draft SSEP would only cover 2 – 12 grant applications and 4 – 24 procurements. The SSEP appears to grossly underestimate the number of grants to be submitted to the Council. Please explain how the Manager will determine which projects get submitted and which are postponed. Please also clarify whether the advertised cost for the SSEP ($221,038) reflects the low, mid, or high number of grants and procurements.	The SSEP budget reflects the expected (Mid) number of procurements. The SSEP contemplates supporting all grants to be submitted to Council. The SSEP scope of tasks included the successful transmittal of several project grant applications as project milestone, and not as a ceiling on Consortium capacity or administration.
National Wildlife Federation	NWF also requests clarification on Segregation of Duties. The Draft SSEP indicates that authorities and roles will be carefully assigned to create a robust duty segregation hierarchy, to maintain effective internal controls, and to create internal checks and balances among the entities performing contract administration and financial duties. However, Table 1 of the Draft SSEP indicates the Manager (currently the consulting firm The Balmoral Group) will have responsibility for the majority of the Functional Roles. Figure 2 likewise indicates all grant administration (science review, procurement, grant support) and finance administration are directly controlled by the Consortium Manager, a contracted consultant. Nowhere are the Counties themselves listed as being responsible for their projects. To improve transparency, consider assigning fewer responsibilities primarily to the Manager and improve segregation of duties.	Segregation of duties refers to controls internal to the Consortium and does not relate to any roles carried out by the counties under sub-awards. The SSEP identifies the roles at the Consortium level deemed necessary by Council for the Consortium to carry out implementation of the SEP. The capacities of the counties has no direct bearing on Council's assessment of the Consortium as it (or the State) is the eligible entity, and not the counties. The various functional roles need to be effected by either the Consortium manager internal or via contracted support (e.g., the proposed role of Leon County as a fiscal agent). Regardless of who carries out such services, the Consortium manager must coordinate

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		their activity. The Consortium has opted to not hire staff and so its management is via a contractor.
National Wildlife Federation	Additional clarity is also needed for Budget/Funding. The Project Cost reflects only a total cost ($221,038), and does not include detailed budget information. To improve transparency, a final detailed budget (such as presented at the November 15, 2017 Consortium meeting), with clear timeframes should be included in the Final SSEP. The Final SSEP should also clarify that this is a "not-to-exceed" cost. Please also clarify the difference between the terms "Permanent Manager" and "Manager", or correct erroneous language	The SSEP includes a detailed budget for categories of expense, and includes a timeline of activities. The budget has always included a not-to-exceed provision as all expenses are subject to Board approval. The Permanent Manager label has been corrected for the SSEP; the title of Permanent Manager is associated with the Consortium's RFQ and contract for management services.
National Wildlife Federation	Please specifically identify which tasks must be performed by the Manager for all Counties versus which tasks could be performed by Counties that possess necessary expertise. Please also indicate the long-term costs to those Counties (for both the mandatory and optional Manager-performed tasks).	The SSEP does not address the capacities of the counties except recognizing that the Consortium may choose to assist counties when requested and with Board approval. All tasks must be able to carried out by the Consortium, whether internally under existing contracts or via contracts for additional services. The tasks addressed by the SSEP are not optional. Administrative costs have been estimated to be about 3% but will be unique to the demands of each project.
National Wildlife Federation	The Draft SSEP describes a cumbersome and likely costly process that will entail contracting with numerous professionals. NWF encourages the Manager to work more closely with the Counties and state agencies before procuring a large number of additional contractors and consultants. During Consortium meetings, the Manager has indicated they are considering working with GOMA (Gulf of Mexico Alliance) and/or GOMURC (Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative) to minimize costs. This information is not reflected in the Draft SSEP. If these entities have committed to serving in this role, please include it (with estimates of cost) in the final SSEP.	The SSEP proposes the most cost-effective means of ensuring that the Consortium has the required capacity to implement the SEP. The SSEP does not include the scope or costs for specific technical services other than that of fiscal agent, for which there is a standing relationship. The SSEP is a framework for administration; costs for administrative services to support the Consortium under this framework are estimated in the supporting agenda item. Costs for any specific contracted service are not addressed by the SSEP and will be project-specific.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
Jessica Bibza	Commissioner Whitmore raised a question regarding the discrepancy between the number of projects in the SEP that should proceed in year 1 given Model B (n=39) vs. the number of grants and procurement/contracts listed in Table 2 under 3 different activity level scenarios	Table 2 does not determine the number of grants that may occur in Year 1, but those to be carried out under the umbrella of the SSEP implementation grant.
Jessica Bibza	My impression was that those grants and procurement in Table 2 were related to the projects in the SEP. The Manager stated that those grants and procurements in the Stand-up SEP were "just for the SSEP" and intended to set up the infrastructure with the Council (and NOT for the projects in the SEP). This is not well explained or clear from information contained in the Draft SSEP, especially since the paragraph describing that Table 2 (bottom of page 12) refers to SEP projects. If the grant applications and procurement/contracts in Table 2 are NOT related to SEP projects, please clearly and specifically articulate what they are for. Please list SPECIFICALLY what the Manager envisions there grants will cover	The procurements are specifically to support the Consortium's own activities; the "procurements/grants" are intended to provide the Consortium the necessary administrative capacity to support SEP implementation going forward.
Jessica Bibza	Please explain why are so many grants and procurements over a 3-year period needed to set up the infrastructure to implement the FSEP. If it's going to take 3 years to "set up the infrastructure" (since SSEP proposes a 3-year timeline), please address whether the FSEP projects will need to wait that length of time (3 years) to be submitted (to allow the infrastructure to be established).	The SSEP includes anticipates a 10-month window before the first project reimbursement(s) are processed and received, of which 7-8 months are expected to carry out the core tasks for standing up the required risk management processes of the Consortium. Council recommended the SSEP remain open for up to 3 years of activity in the event that SEP approval were unexpectedly delayed, or additional administrative services were identified, to avoid needing to submit another grant request.
Jessica Bibza	If it is costing $221K to SUBMIT the grants and the procurements, please explain how much it will cost for the actual work to be PERFORMED in those grants and procurements, who will be paying for it, and out of what source of funds (i.e, planning grant, county contributions, Pot 3 funds).	The SSEP is to be funded by Pot 3 funds via a planning assistance grant to be submitted to Council. The budgeted cost of SSEP work (including preparing the SSEP implementation grant) is $221,038 less the $34,950 (project-specific grants), or $176,088.
Jessica Bibza	I had expressed concern over the 2500 Character Limit for the comments via the on-line form. Imposing such a limit may greatly restrict ability of the public	The character limit was a practical consideration as comments are stored in a spreadsheet. There is no limit

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
	to provide meaningful input. My comments above – addressing just ONE issue/concern with the SSEP – used 2223 characters. Although Craig has communicated to me that I could submit longer comments via email, the other Directors, their staff, and members of the public should be afforded that same opportunity instead of being given the impression they are restricted in the length of their comments. Please update the Consortium Comment page immediately to reflect alternate means of submitting comments.	on the number of comments one can submit, and categories for. The public comment website includes a statement that longer comments can be emailed or mailed to the Consortium.
Jessica Bibza / NWF (at Board meeting)	The Final SSEP has been improved with inclusion of sub-recipient monitoring, data management plans for consistency, and a reduction of the manager role in BAS with greater reliance on the counties; however, the level of technical oversight remains too high. A recommendation is made to add the adoption of grant management policies and practices as milestones in Table 3, and the scope of Table 2 needs further consideration by the coordinators.	The level of technical oversight is based on input from RESTORE Council and the need of the Consortium to be responsible for all grant awards and sub-awards. The level of oversight is described further under "activities to be completed in this Stand-Up project." The adoption of policies and procedures (including grant management) is a milestone in Figure 3; Table 2 has been updated, and all tasks under Tables 2 and 3 are subject to Board approval
Shelly Marshall (at Board meeting)	Recommended a line item or task to include the RESTORE coordinators in the development of all processes. A concern is the ability to match county procedures and practices with that of the Consortium to reduce the need for special award conditions that thereby reduce time needed for agreement execution. Recommended hiring staff after two years to be placed within Leon County (but answer to the Board); Escambia has created such an arrangement for its Estuary program.	The SSEP focuses on internal coordination; coordination with County staff is identified in several areas of grant management and project implementation. The accompanying agenda item recognizes the ongoing need to coordinate closely with county staff to streamline processes (e.g., Success Criteria). The Board adopted a policy not to hire staff but to use contract services.
Matt Posner (at Board meeting)	More control of implementation should be provided to the counties; standard operating procedures are needed; Best Available Science review should remain at the Council level and while Consortium oversight is needed, reviews should not be redundant and should be avoided if Council approves; clarification is needed regarding "fixed" versus "optional" costs; if acceptable to Council, counties should be able to work directly with Council	The SSEP proposes that the level of oversight will depend on the scope of each project and the capacity of each county. The SSEP does not consider "optional" costs except for those counties requesting specific services to advance their projects; all other grant management and technical

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175469-00035

Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		oversight costs are fixed in that they are required, but may vary in hours (and costs) to carry out. It is the Consortium's understanding that sub-recipients may not work directly with Council, as sub-awardees do not work directly with Treasury under Pot 1. The Manager proposes to examine all possibilities for coordination among all parties to each grant. A footnote was added under "Technical Oversight" to clarify this intent.
Curtis Franklin (at Board meeting)	Pot 1 represented "extreme learning" for the coordinators. Guidelines were few but procedures have since been improved and work smoothly. It would be preferable for the Consortium to capitalize on these processes and avoid the prior pitfalls.	The agenda item for the SSEP clarifies that the Consortium proposes to work closely with county RESTORE Act coordinators to streamline processes and build upon prior experience. Text under "Funds Used as Non-Federal Match" affirms this intent.
Board of Directors (at Board meeting)	Include a commitment to place as much responsibility on the counties as possible to reduce administrative overhead.	"cost-effective" added to "administrative and fiscal management" under purpose of the SSEP

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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Decisions and Actions
March 7, 2018

I. **TOPIC: April 24 and 25, 2018 Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting**

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Council staff will refine and add more detail to the draft agenda for the April 24-25 meeting, and will send the revised agenda to the members for their input.

II. **TOPIC: Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meetings Throughout 2018**

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Selection of June date will be made soon.

III. **TOPIC: CPS FPL and Award Update**

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Members are encouraged to contact Council staff if they have any questions when preparing their applications for submission by the **April 30th** deadline and are encouraged to request a Council staff pre-review of their applications. Please reach out to Jean Cowan (jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov) or Kristin Smith (kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov) with any questions.

IV. **TOPIC: Florida Stand-Up SEP**

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Members are reminded that they have until **March 21** to provide comments on the FL Stand-Up SEP. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the Stand-Up SEP and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines. Please provide any comments to John Ettinger at john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov.

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
March 21, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175470-00001

Council-Selected Restoration Component

Of the approximately 52 Category 1 applications for funding expected to be submitted for the 2015 FPL, to date a total of 42 applications have been initiated in RAAMS. Twenty-five (27) grant/IAA awards have been made, totaling $101,117,203.

LEGENDS

Figure 1: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

Figures 1 and 2:

Not Started in RAAMS (Member) – application in the development stage; application data entry in RAAMS has not been initiated.

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete & submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

IAA Approval (Member) – IAAs only; review and approval of award by federal Members.

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Figure 1

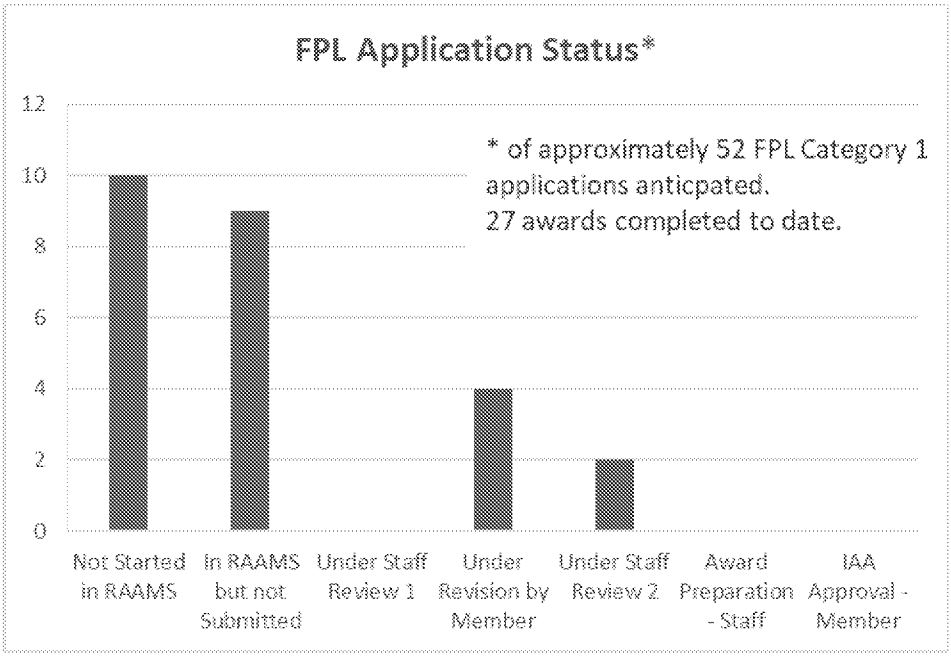
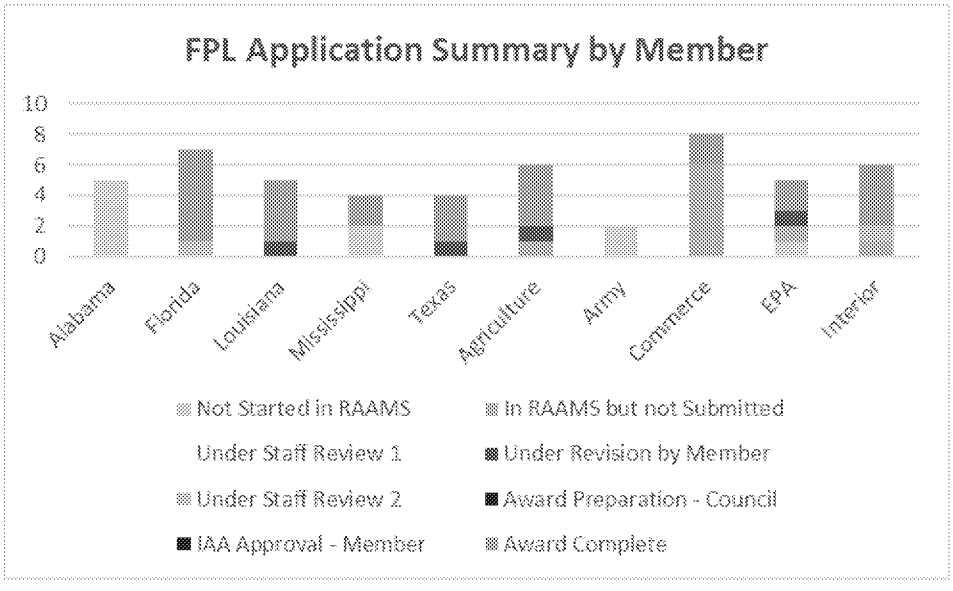


Figure 2



Spill Impact Component

Three Planning State Expenditure Plans (PSEPs) have been approved, and three PSEP grants have been awarded to the Gulf Consortium and states of Mississippi and Texas. Two State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) have been submitted in RAAMS and approved by the Council Chair, the Louisiana SEP and the Mississippi SEP. The first SEP project application was awarded on 8/31/2017 to the State of Louisiana for CPRA's Adaptive Management Program. $25,775,645 has been awarded to date under this component.

LEGEND

Figure 3: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete & submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

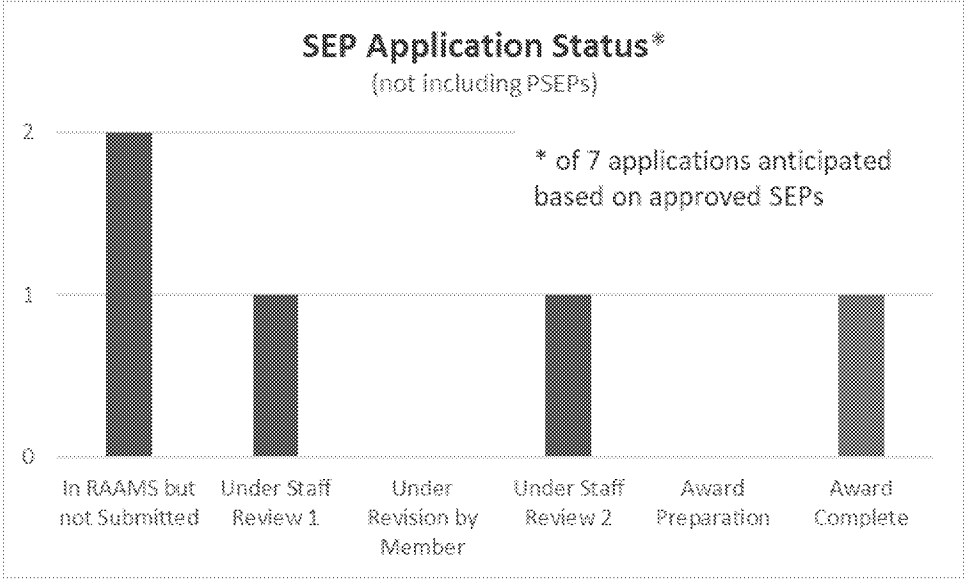
Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Table 1

Approved SEP	# Projects or Programs in Approved SEP	Anticipated Grant Awards	# Awarded
Louisiana	3	3	1
Mississippi	3	4	0

Figure 3



Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 2/21/2018 8:38:00 PM
To: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]

Subject: Decisions and Actions from February 21, 2018, Council Vote and Steering Committee Call

Attachments: Decisions and Actions_Council_Vote_and_Steering_Committee_2018_Feb_21.pdf

Council Members:

Thank you for participating in the Council Vote and Steering Committee call. Attached is a summary of decisions and actions from the call.

Members are encouraged to complete the Doodle Poll (updated to reflect deletion of August dates and addition of September dates) regarding subsequent meeting date preferences.

-
- Please note that we are seeking one response per member. Therefore, responses should reflect the availability of everyone from your organization who would need to attend.
-
-
- Link is found here: https://doodle.com/poll/rb27hxcfm5me4pk3
-
-
- For members who replied prior to the revisions of potential dates, you may follow the link to the Doodle poll. Next to your name you will find an icon that looks like a pencil. When you click on that, you will have the ability to edit your entry.

Thanks again.

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

COUNCIL VOTE
and
Steering Committee Call
Decisions and Actions
21 February 2018

Steering Committee

I. **TOPIC: Next Face-to-Face Steering Committee Meeting**

Decisions:

- The next face-to-face Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for the Pensacola area on April 24th and 25th. There will be a field component the morning of the 24th, followed by an afternoon meeting on the 24th and an all-day meeting on the 25th.

Actions:

- Council staff will develop a draft agenda for the April meeting for member review, including a discussion of tentative Council "decision points" for the coming year.
- Council staff will work with Florida to reserve a hotel and room block and meeting facility by no later than March 9.
- Members are encouraged to complete the Doodle Poll (updated to reflect deletion of August dates and addition of September dates) regarding subsequent meeting date preferences sent by Council staff on February 21, 2018.
    - Please recall that we are seeking one response per member. Therefore, responses should reflect the availability of everyone from your organization who would need to attend.
    - Link is also found here: https://doodle.com/poll/rb27hxcfm5me4pk3
    - For members who replied prior to the revisions of potential dates, you may follow the link to the Doodle poll. Next to your name you will find an icon that looks like a pencil. When you click on that, you will have the ability to edit your entry.

II. **TOPIC: Update on Interagency Regulatory Efficiency Work Group**

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- N/A

III. **TOPIC: 2017 MS SEP Amendment**

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Members are reminded to submit any comments they may on the 2017 MS SEP Amendment to Council staff by March 6, 2018. Please send comments to John Ettinger, john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov.

Council Vote:

I. **TOPIC: Council Vote on 2017 Annual Report to Congress**

Decision:

- The 2017 Annual Report to Congress is approved by the Council.

Action:

- Ben Scaggs, as acting Executive Director, will sign the document.
- A notice, including the final report, will be posted to the Council website, and will be transmitted to Congress per the Act.

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
March 7, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 8/2/2018 12:02:54 AM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; Amy Hunter [amy.hunter@dcnr.alabama.gov]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

[megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]

Subject: Decisions and Actions Materials from July 31-August 1 Steering Committee Meeting

Attachments: July 31_August 1 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Decisions_Actions.pdf; Member Collaboration Reports Summary_August 2018.pdf; RAAMS_Application_Status_7-31-2018.pdf; Grant-IAA_and_System_Replacement_Update_July-2018.pdf; Public Engagement Update 080118.pdf

Council and Steering Committee Members:

Thank you for a great face-to-face meeting in Gulfport, MS; the collaborative juices were really flowing!! The new Port of Gulfport Marine Research Center was an excellent facility to hold the meeting -- thank you Gary, Chris and Camille!

Please find attached the Steering Committee Decisions and Actions document (July 31_August 1 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Decisions_Actions) summarizing decisions made during the meeting and any concomitant actions.

Also attached are presentations that were given on August 1 by RESTORE Council staff that were not included in the read ahead material.

-
- Member Collaboration Reports Summary_August 2
-
-
- RAAMS Application Status Report
-
-
- Grant-IAA_and_System_Replacement_Update_July-2018
-
-
- Public Engagement Update 080118

An agenda for the August 8, 2018 Steering Committee meeting will be sent under a separate message.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
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500 Poydras Street

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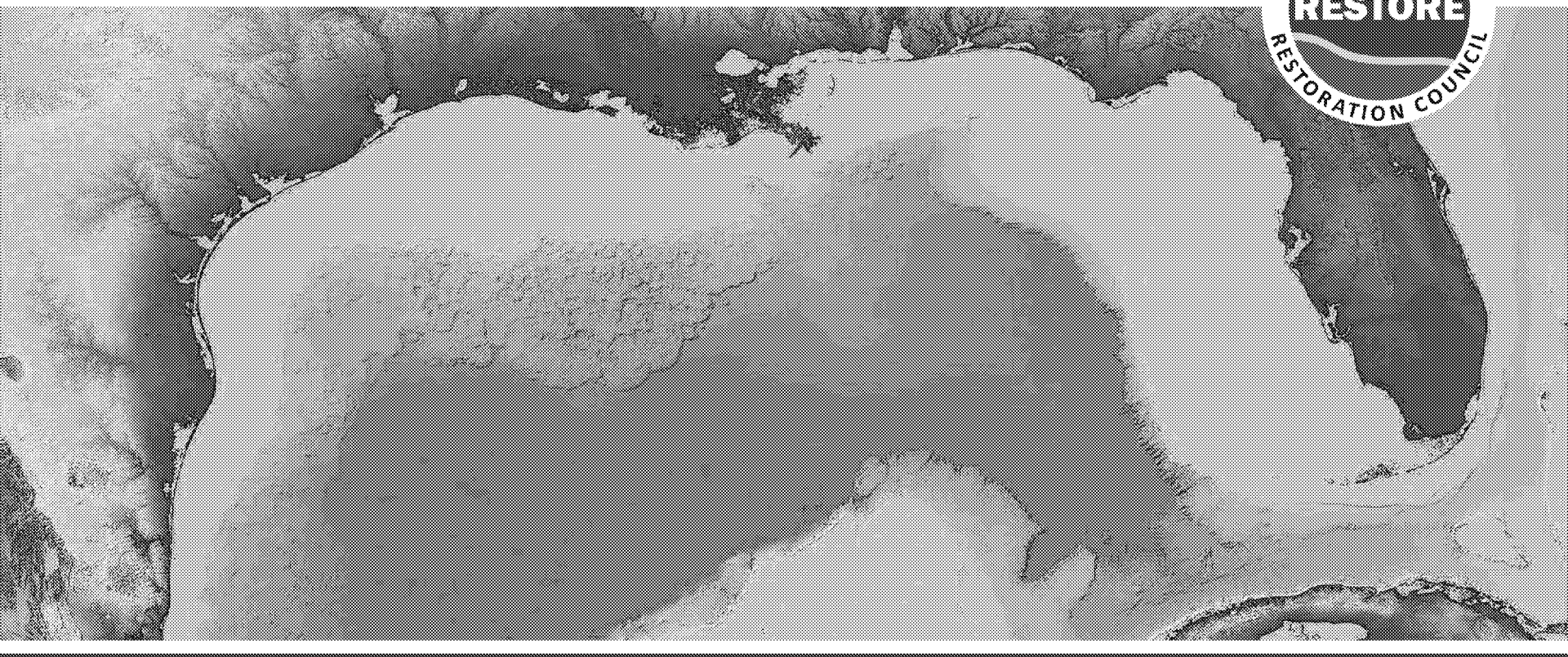
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

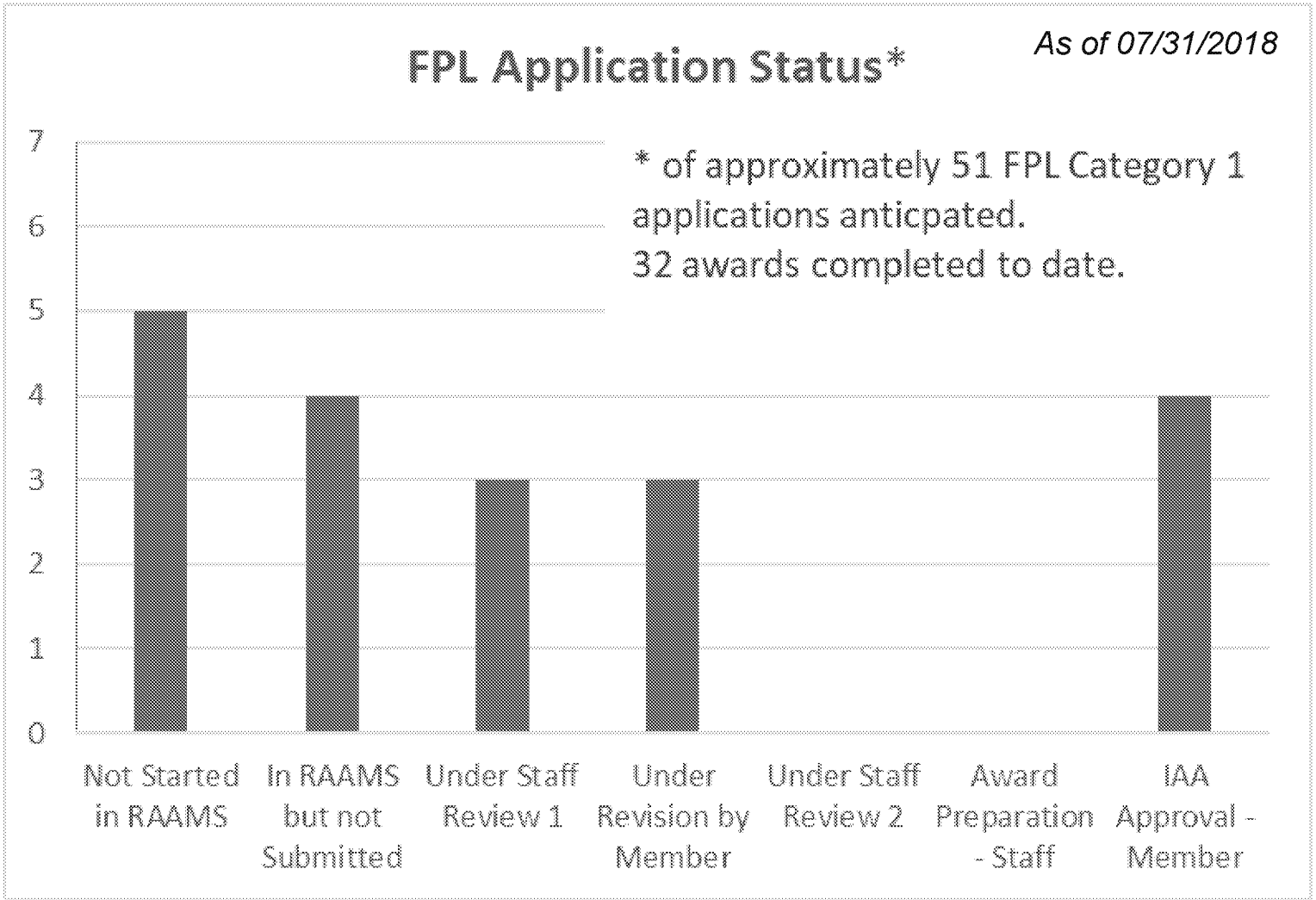


Grant/IAA Update

August 1, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL1 Application Process and Summary Status



Blue = Council member process

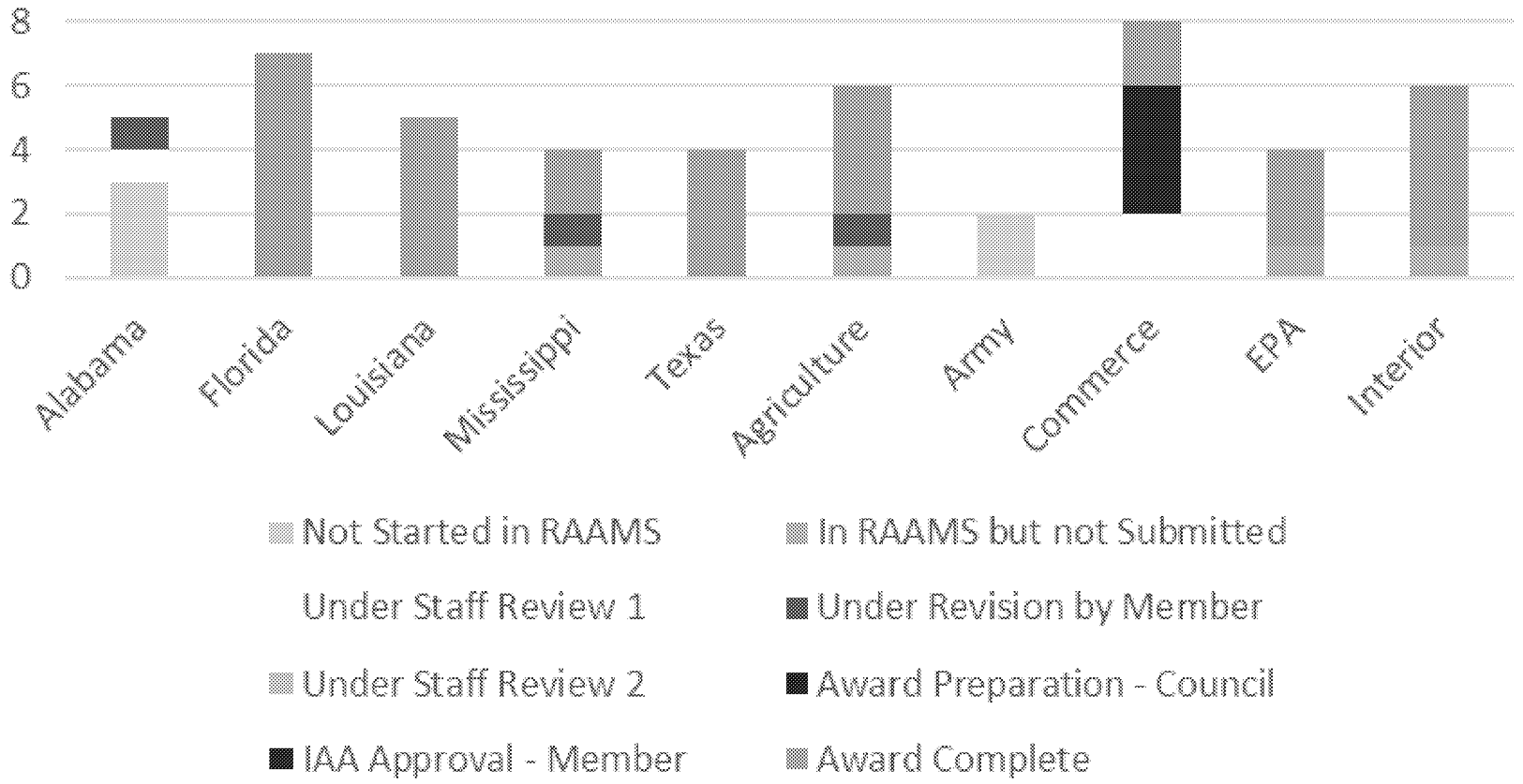
Orange = Council Staff Process

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175554-00002

FPL1 Application Status

As of 07/31/2018

FPL Application Summary by Member



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CPS FPL Status

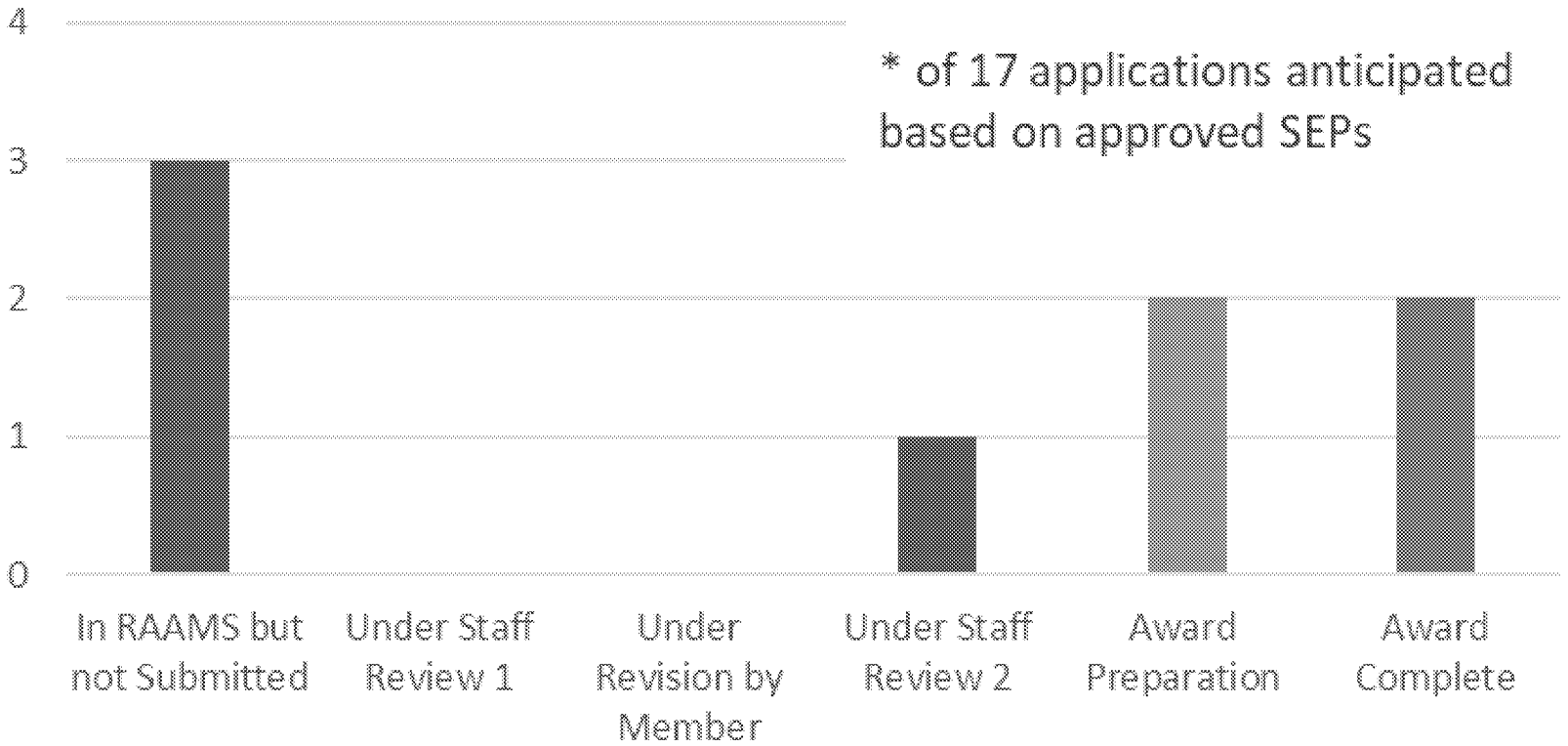
- 7 awards signed for $14,558,656
  - Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas
  - Coast Guard, Department of Interior
- 2 awards pending member approval
  - Department of Agriculture, EPA
- 1 application under final review
  - Department of Commerce

SEP Grant Application Process

As of 07/31/2018

SEP Application Status*

(not including PSEPs)



Blue = Council member process

Orange = Council Staff Process

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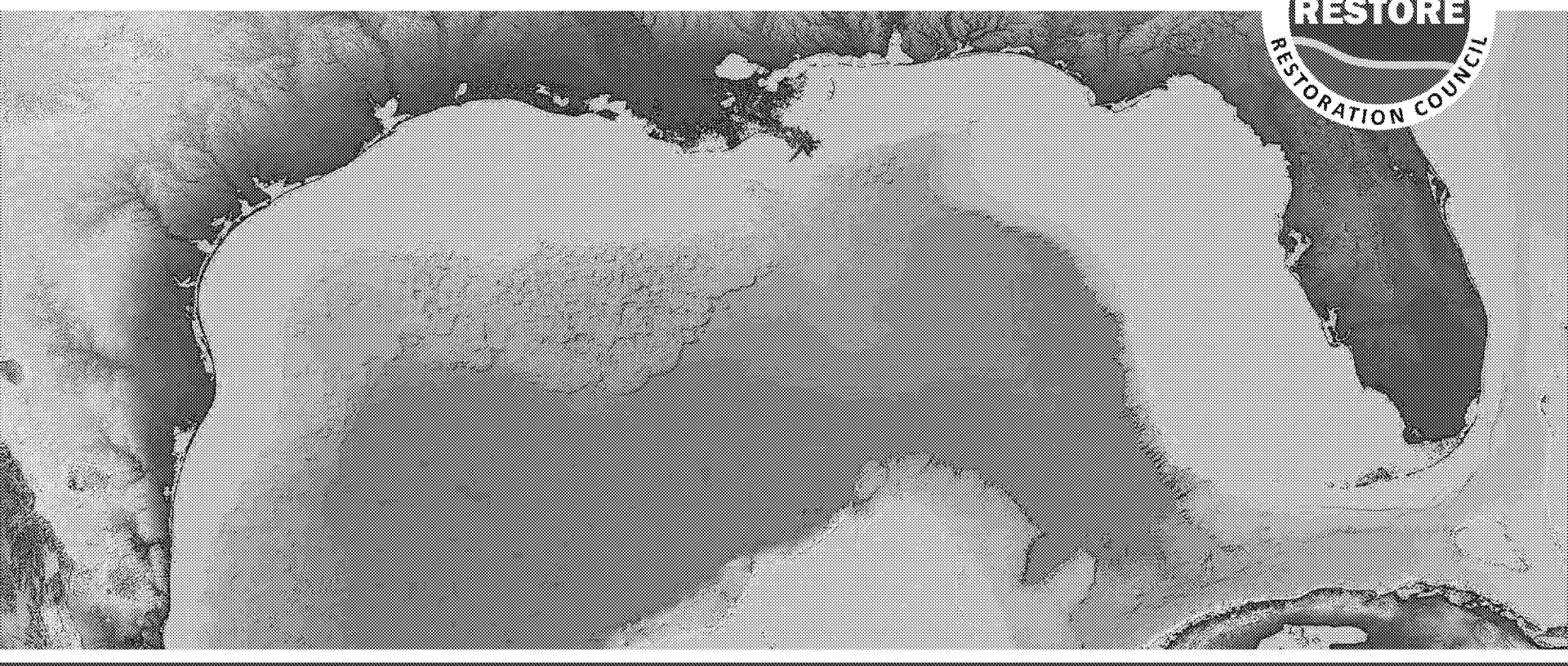
Awards Summary

Total Funds Obligated $174,613,715

Component	Awards	Amount
Initial FPL	32	$115,759,200
CPS FPL	7	$14,558,656
Planning SEPs	3	$6,307,790
SEPs	2	$37,988,069



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Grants System Acquisition Update
Steering Committee Meeting
August 1, 2018

System Replacement Timeline

- **9/25/2017** Letter from Altum announcing the end of Easygrants (RAAMS) support after October 2021
- **10/17 to 4/18** Stood up a Task Force to develop requirements and provide recommendation to Council
- **4/25/18** Council directed staff to move forward with GrantSolutions Fit-Gap analysis
- **6/18 to 7/18** Fit-Gap analysis in progress; deliverables due **8/18**
- **4/19** Tentative "go live" on GrantSolutions

Status and Next Steps

Fit-Gap analysis underway

- GrantSolutions appears to be a good fit for most Council grant management functions
- Gaps identified
  - Council-Selected Component processes unique
  - Interagency Agreements not currently supported
- Modification of features proposed to address gaps
  - If accepted, will increase implementation costs
  - Working to refine system requirements and internal processes

Status and Next Steps

- Continued consultation with Task Force members and other end users
- Final Gap Analysis Deliverables complete in late August, including proposed transition plan and final cost estimates
- Ready for review and discussion by Steering Committee at September face-to-face meeting

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Questions?

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

July 31 and August 1, 2018

Decisions and Actions

TOPIC: Member Collaboration Reports and Discussion

Decision(s)

- A request was made to revise the "gap filling" phrase used to discuss Bucket 2 funding.
- Members requested a report-out on the Council Monitoring and Assessment Program.

Action(s)

- Staff will continue to work with Steering Committee on Bucket 2 messaging.
- Staff will coordinate with the NOAA/USGS CMAP team to develop a report out for a future Steering Committee meeting.
- Staff will develop a calendar of upcoming meetings between members. Members will supply staff with the meetings to be included on the calendar. Calendar review will be a standing agenda item on Steering Committee calls.
- See attached Member Collaboration Reports Summary_August 2018.

TOPIC: FPL Budget Shortfall Funding Process

Decision(s)

- Before a member requests additional funding from the Council for a budget shortfall on an FPL activity, the member will first consider ways to address the issue without increasing the FPL budget. If the member still believes additional FPL funding is needed, it will work with Council staff to develop a recommendation and supporting information for Steering Committee consideration.
- The Council will address FPL budget shortfalls as they arise.

Action(s)

- Staff will develop a draft budget shortfall process document (one to two pages) and share with the members for their review.

TOPIC: FPL 3 Funding Strategy Schedule

Decision(s)

- FPL Planning Frameworks may contain a range of priorities at varying levels of detail. For example, the FPL 3 Planning Framework might identify specific restoration types (e.g., oysters) and/or geographic locations, as well as more targeted priorities for certain areas (e.g., wetland restoration in a specific watershed).

Action(s)

- N/A

TOPIC: Applications and Awards Status and RAAMS Update

Decision(s)

- N/A

Action(s)

- Staff will reach out to Task Force for input on Fit-Gap analysis.
- See attached RAAMS Application Status Report and Grants-IAA and System Replacement Update.

TOPIC: Role of Public Engagement Workgroup

Decision(s)

- Steering Committee accepted PE Workgroup's recommendation to remove "public comment" from box 6 of the Proposed FPL 3 Funding Strategy Workflow Diagram and instead emphasize public transparency. Each proposal will include Council members' contact information on the cover page.

Action(s)

- PE Workgroup will have further discussion on synchronizing DWH 10 yr commemoration with NRDA plans.
- See attached Public Engagement Update 080118.pdf

TOPIC: Operationalizing the Treasury Proposed 3% Rule

Decision(s)

- N/A

Action(s)

- Staff and members will coordinate before Staff submits bi-annual reports to Treasury.

TOPIC: Scales of Outcomes and Objectives

Decision(s):

- Topic will be presented and discussed during the August 8, 2018 Steering Committee call.

Action(s)

- N/A

OTHER ITEMS:

- Louisiana has requested a states-only meeting at some point before the next Steering Committee meeting. Louisiana will follow up with other states.

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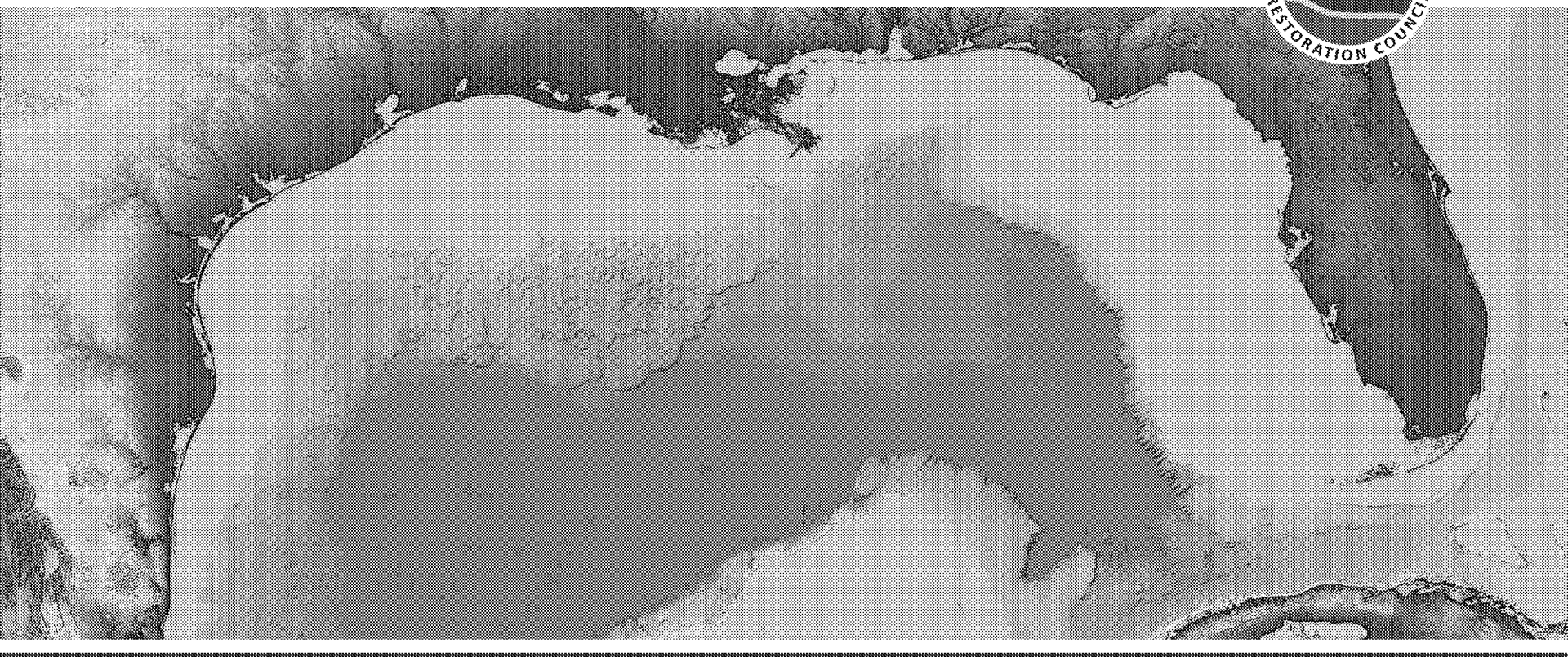
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council



Member Collaboration Reports Summary

Steering Committee Meeting
Gulfport, MS
August 1, 2018

CPS Year 1 Activities

- Collaboration!
  - Commitment to transparency
  - Member-Member discussions
  - Stakeholders, especially local governments, NGO community
  - Summits (FL, AL, MS, LA)
  - Support to Council Public Engagement efforts
  - Early environmental compliance technical assistance
- Application of Best Available Science
  - All to include application of BAS throughout collaboration process
  - Gulf-wide and within-state watershed comparison of potential benefits of restoration investments
  - Support to CMAWG for development of Council's adaptive management plan
  - Sand inventory and identification of additional data needs

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175556-00002

Restoration Ideas - What We Heard

- Water Quality, including
  - Septic-to-sewer
  - Sediment loading
  - Water Quantity - Hydrologic reconnections
- Habitat (e.g., marsh, longleaf pine)
  - Restoration
  - Acquisition & stewardship
- Living Coastal and Marine Resources, especially oysters
  - Living shorelines
  - Also intersects the Resilience Goal - Green Infrastructure

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Building on Existing Work

- Regional Plans
  - NERRs, NEPs, state Master Plans, others
- Concept of Bucket 2 as "gap filler" for important work that may not be able to be implemented in other funding streams
- Also leveraging for greater benefit to projects and/or programs

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Continuing to build "Story"

- As collaboration proceeds, gain more clarity on:
  - FPL 3 priorities
    - Planning framework (priority watersheds and/or restoration types)
    - Specific projects and/or programs (especially those that would benefit from multi-member coordination)
  - Long-view on Restoration
    - Defining long-term success
    - Measuring progress

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Resources to Support Collaboration

- Council Collaboration Tool
  - Discussed during April 2018 Steering Committee meeting
  - Funded as part of FY 18 budget
  - Internal platform for developing FPL ideas (information not pushed to public platform until Council members approve)
  - Using the database from the start facilitates carrying information through from concept to award, streamlining projects funding
- DOI Strategic Conservation Assessment database of existing regional plans
  - Link: https://scagulf.shinyapps.io/visualization2/

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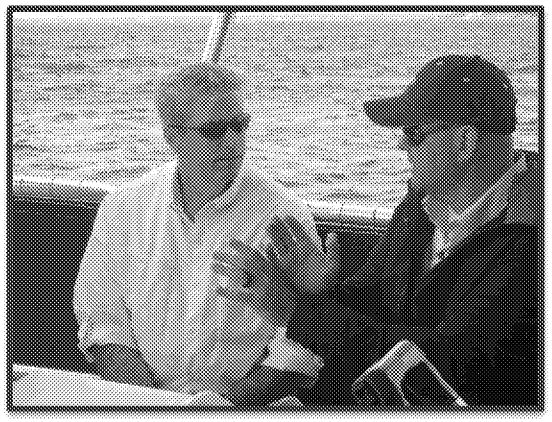
Next Steps

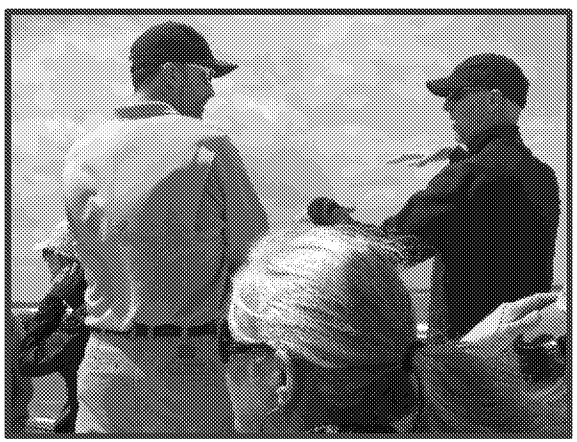
- Continue to refine/increase detail of information requested in Member report-out template
- Share "Lessons Learned"
  - Land Acquisition (e.g., TX projects)
  - Building programs (e.g., MS Water Quality Program)
- Report-out on CMAP and CMAWG, including how CMAWG coordinates with Cross-TIG MAM workgroup
- Discuss other federal funding opportunities between members
- Develop calendar of upcoming meetings (mechanism TBD)
  - Members to supply Council staff with the meetings to be included
  - Provide as standing agenda item on Steering Committee calls

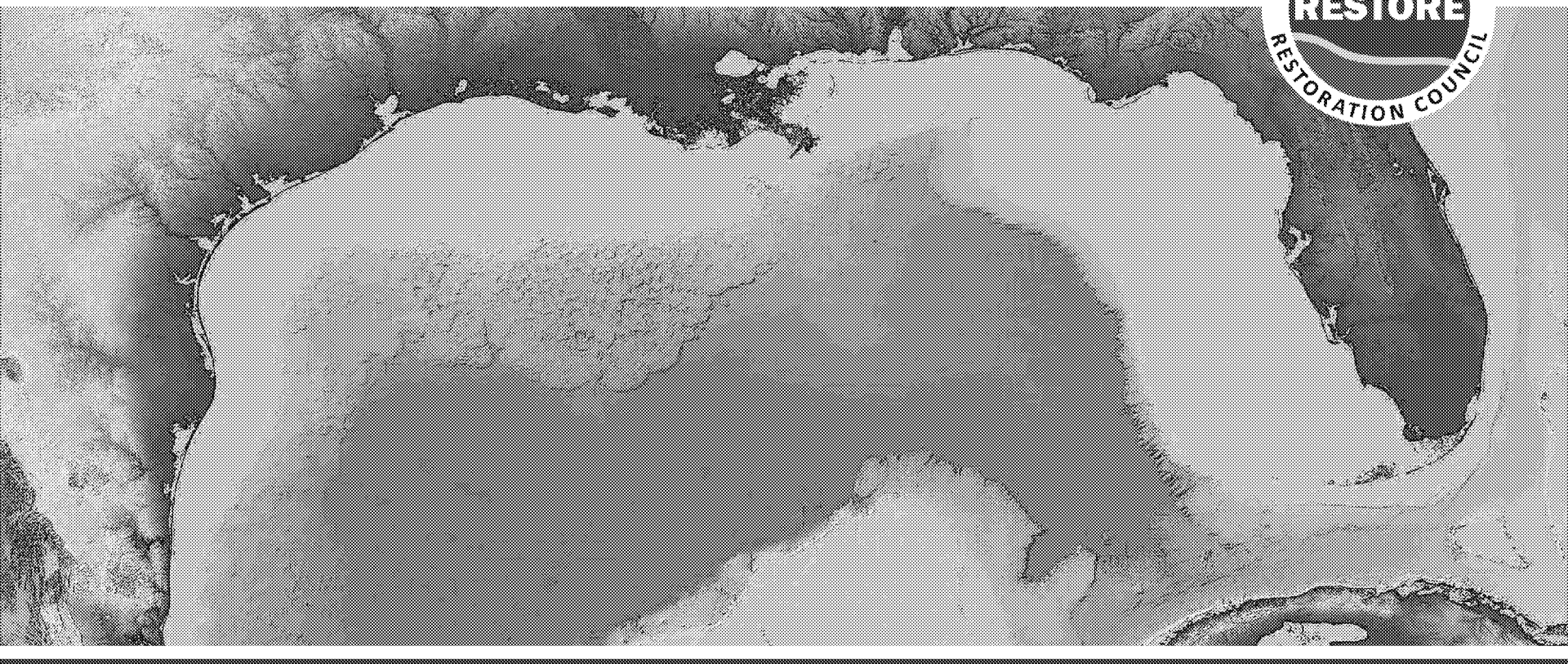
Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175556-00007

Questions/Comments



What did you hear?



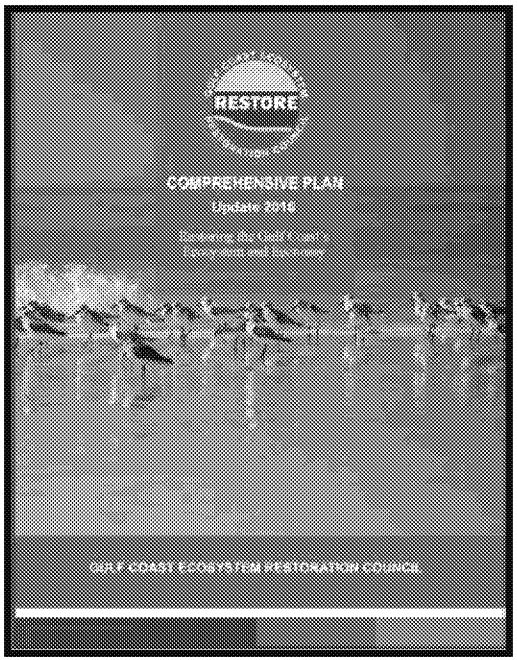


Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Public Engagement Update

August 1, 2018

Comprehensive Plan Update



Commitment to Engagement, Inclusion, and Transparency

- Committed to setting and maintaining the highest standard for public engagement and transparency
- Seek broad participation and input from the diverse stakeholders who live, work, and play in the Gulf Coast region
- Support engagement with all stakeholders, including under-represented communities and federally-recognized Tribes
- Continue offering public engagement opportunities & ensure public participation
- Refine process for considering public input

Stakeholders

- Develops cooperative relationships with stakeholders
  - ❑ Internal Stakeholders
    - Council Members/Steering Committee & Staff
    - Council Staff
  - ❑ External Stakeholders
    - Congressional Members/Staff
    - Federally recognized Tribes
    - Intergovernmental
    - Non Governmental Organizations
    - Media
    - General Public (including but not limited to limited English proficient and underserved/underrepresented communities)

Engagement, Inclusion, and Transparency

"It is the Council's intent to seek broad participation and input from the diverse stakeholders who live, work, and play in the Gulf Coast region in both the continued development of this Plan and the ultimate selection and funding of ecosystem restoration activities."

- ❑ Gulf wide public meetings
- ❑ Social media
- ❑ Webinars
- ❑ Workshops
- ❑ Videos
- ❑ eBlasts

Engagement, Inclusion, and Transparency

"The Council intends to continue offering public engagement opportunities that reflect the richness and diversity of Gulf Coast communities to ensure ongoing public participation in the Council's restoration efforts."

- ❑ Educating stakeholders- one consistent Council message
  - Gulf-wide meetings
  - Webinars
  - Workshops
- ❑ Continuation of Council Member state/agency portals for project/program ideas
- ❑ RESTORE Council acronyms/glossary

Engagement, Inclusion, and Transparency

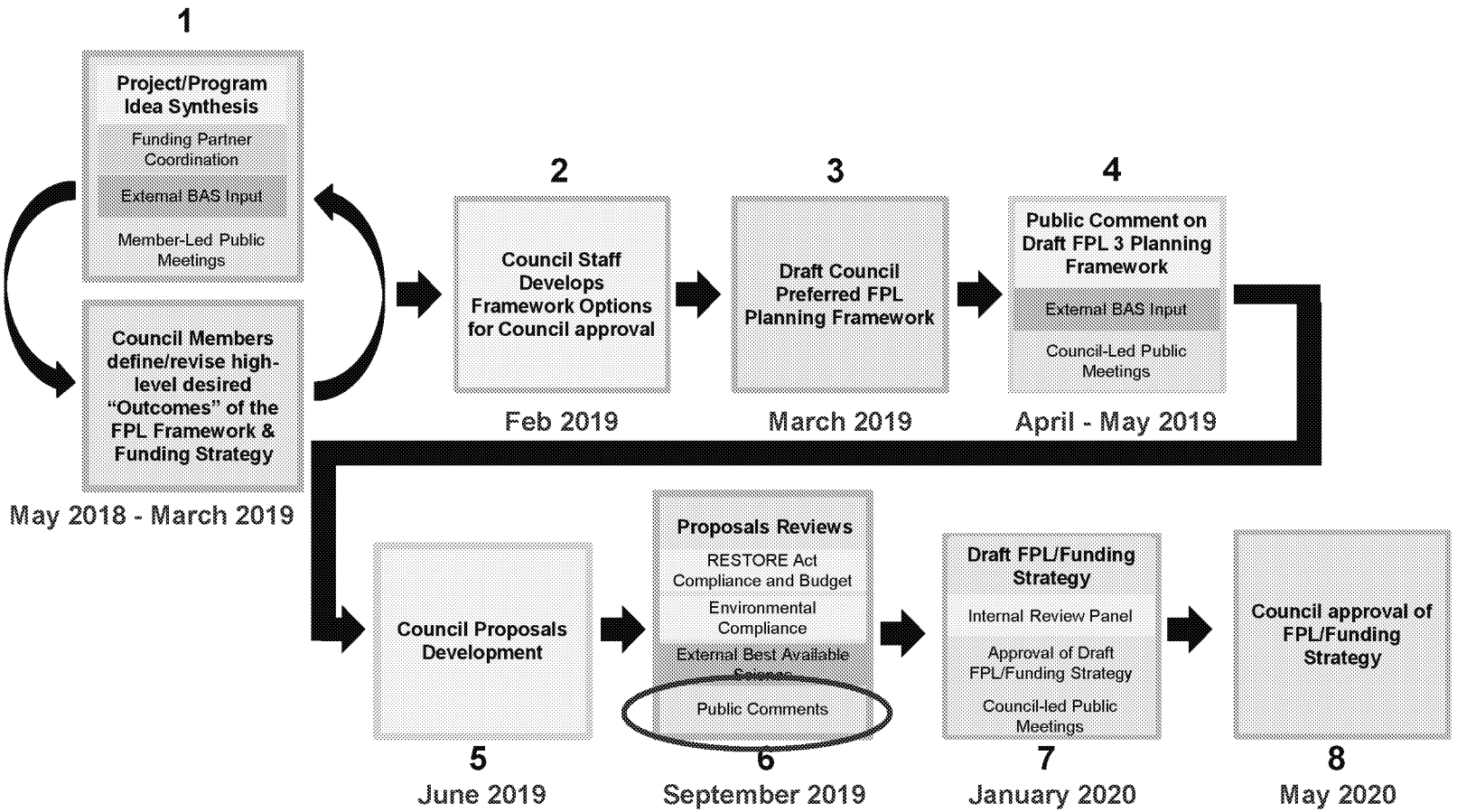
"The Council fully appreciates the importance of strong, productive, and predictable public engagement and maintaining transparency throughout its operations and decision-making."

- Managing stakeholder expectations- use clear and concise language
- Continue using existing Council tools
  - Website- post upcoming public meetings
  - eBlasts- project award announcements, Council decisions
- RESTORE Council Newsletter
- PE Milestones and deliverables

PE Workgroup Workshop Outcomes

- RESTORE Council tools vs Council Member tools
  - Websites, social media, newsletters, stakeholder text messaging
  - PE WG either control or have influence over member tools
- RESTORE Council skills vs PE WG Member skills
  - Writers/editors
  - Social media
  - Photographer
- Formation of PE sub workgroups
  - RESTORE Council acronyms/glossary
  - RESTORE Council newsletter
  - PE Milestones and deliverables

Revised Proposed FPL/10-Year Funding Strategy Timeline



PE Workgroup Recommendations

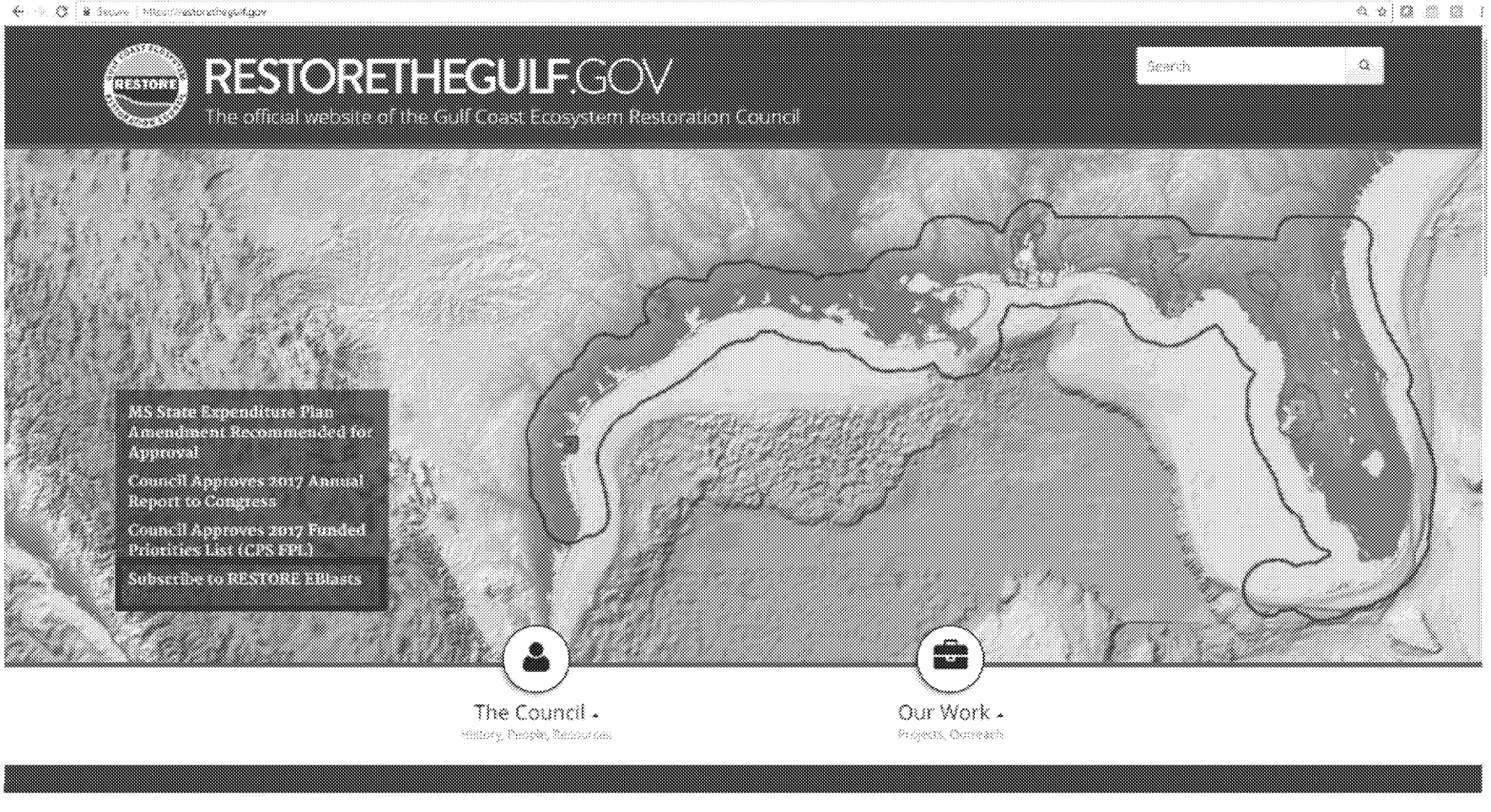
- Future PE WG meeting schedule based on SC agenda structure

- 2020 FPL Timeline
  - Remove "public comment" from Box 6 and focus on transparency
  - Include Council member contact info on cover pages of proposals

Public Engagement Roles & Responsibilities

- Identifying opportunities to educate/engage
  - 2018 State of the Coast
  - Gulf of Mexico Alliance
  - Come Fish Off My Boat
  - NRDA Public Meetings
    - LA TIG
    - Annual Meeting (mini RESTORE 101)
- Public Engagement Casework- over 150 stakeholder inquiries

RESTORE eBlasts Subscription



Press - Media Releases	Press releases/media advisories from the RESTORE Council Members and other related Gulf restoration efforts.
Gulf-wide	Gulf-wide updates from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida on projects awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts.
Texas	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Texas.**
Louisiana	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Louisiana.**
Mississippi	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Mississippi.**
Alabama	Updates on project awards, project amendments RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Alabama.**
Florida	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with the state of **Florida.**
Tribal	Updates on project awards, project amendments, RESTORE Council Member activities and other related Gulf restoration efforts associated with **Federally Recognized Tribal lands.**
Public Meetings or Public Comment Periods	Notification of public meetings or public comment periods from the RESTORE Council Members and other related Gulf restoration efforts.

RESTORE eBlasts Subscription

	04/25/18	05/21/18	06/25/18	07/30/18
Press- Media	30087	714	722	727
Gulf-wide	30071	695	703	710
AL	204	209	213	218
FL	292	299	302	307
LA	255	261	266	272
MS	207	212	217	223
TX	210	216	222	230
Tribal	229	235	239	248
Public Meeting/Comment	431	442	451	460
Total Subscribed	**30087**	**812**	**820**	**828**

Council PE Workgroup Members

- Serve as POC for transparency of member activities
  - ❑ Project Page content/update
  - ❑ Develop member project award roll out
  - ❑ Public Meeting announcements
  - ❑ Member collaboration activities
  - ❑ CPS activities
- Participate in developing coordinated Council message
  - ❑ Enhance public knowledge of ongoing Council restoration activities/efforts
  - ❑ Communicate FPL/10 year funding strategy
  - ❑ RESTORE Council DWH 10 yr Commemoration strategy

Council-Selected Restoration Component (Initial FPL)

Of the approximately 51 Category 1 applications for funding expected to be submitted for the 2015 FPL, to date a total of 46 applications have been initiated in RAAMS. Thirty (32) grant/IAA awards have been made, totaling $115,759,200.

LEGENDS

Figure 1: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

Figures 1 and 2:

Not Started in RAAMS (Member) – application in the development stage; application data entry in RAAMS has not been initiated.

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

IAA Approval (Member) – IAAs only; review and approval of award by federal Members.

Figure 1

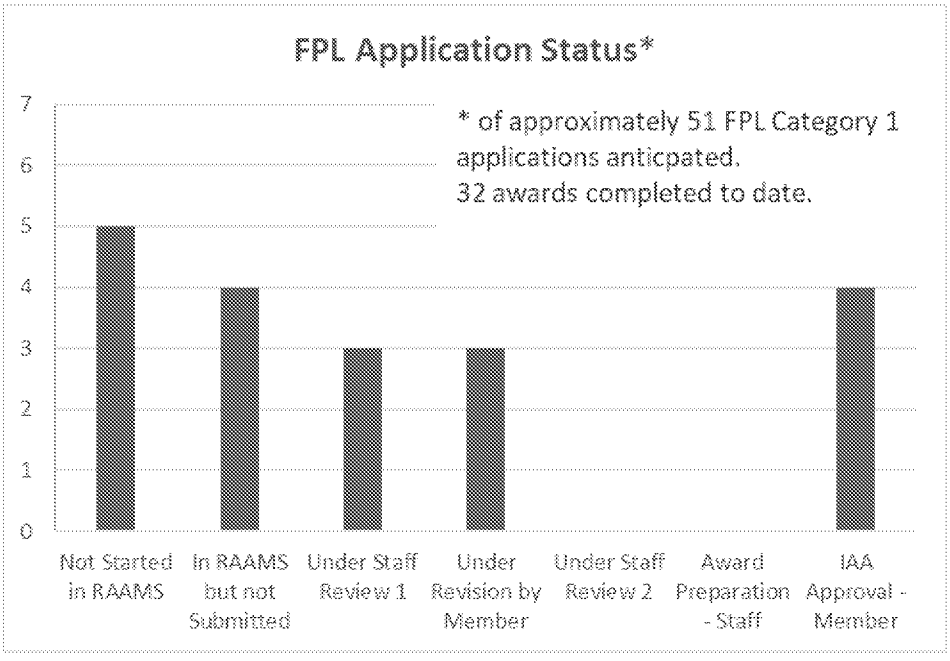
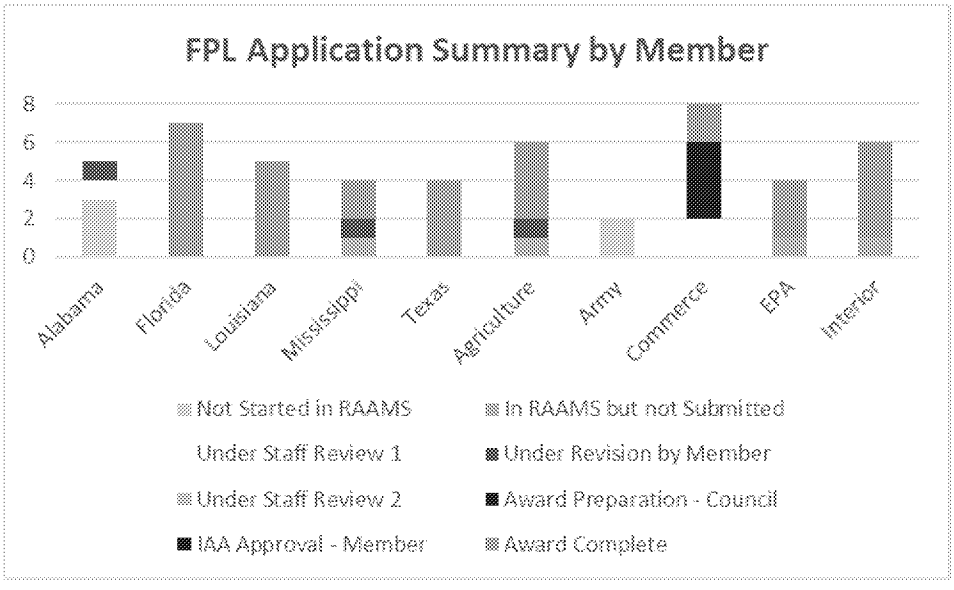


Figure 2



Commitment and Planning Support FPL (2017 CPS FPL)

Five Commitment and Planning Support grants have been awarded to the States of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas for a total $10,493,880. Two Interagency Agreement (IAAs) have been approved for $4,064,776 with the Coast Guard and Department of the Interior. IAA's have also been drafted for review and signature by the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Spill Impact Component

Three Planning State Expenditure Plans (PSEPs) have been approved, and three PSEP grants have been awarded to the Gulf Consortium and states of Mississippi and Texas. Two State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) have been submitted in RAAMS and approved by the Council Chair, the Louisiana SEP and the Mississippi SEP. The Mississippi SEP was amended to add additional funds and projects, with approval by the Chair on April 16, 2018. An amendment to the Louisiana SEP to include six Parish Matching Projects was approved on June 18, 2018. In addition, the Gulf Consortium submitted a Stand-Up SEP, which was approved by the Chair on April 23, 2018, to prepare for implementation of the future Florida SEP. $44,295,859 in grants have been awarded to date under this component.

LEGEND

Figure 3: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete and submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

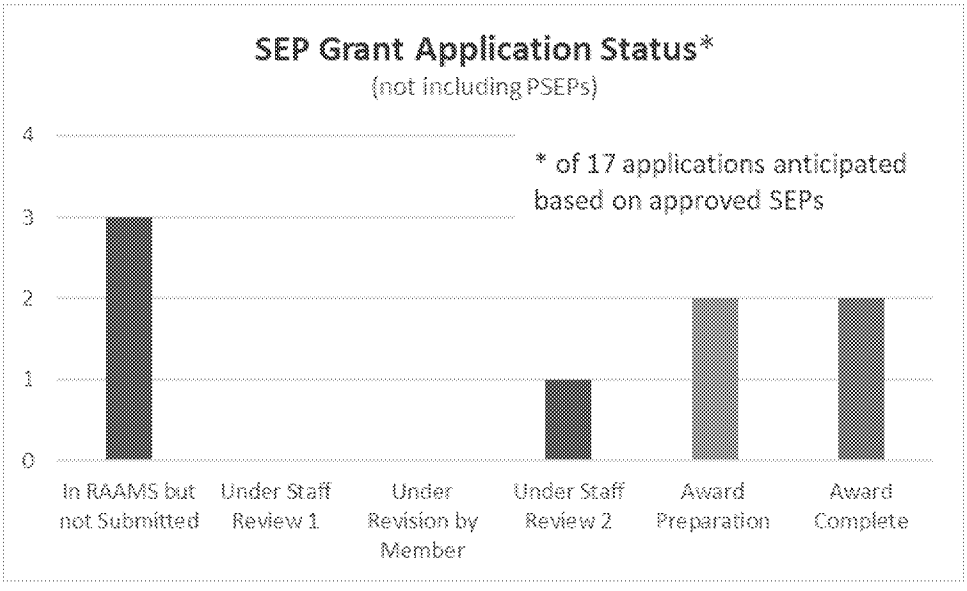
Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Table 1

Approved SEP	# Projects or Programs in Approved SEP	Anticipated Grant Awards	# Awarded
Louisiana	3	8	2
Mississippi	7	8	0
Florida Stand-Up	1	1	0

Figure 3



Message

From: Lyons, Troy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=15E4881C95044AB49C6C35A0F5EEF67E-LYONS, TROY]
Sent: 3/7/2018 3:20:55 PM
To: Ann Swanson [aswanson@chesbay.us]; Pruitt, Scott [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=757bedfd70ca4219b6d8046f5ce5681e-Pruitt, Sco]; Richardson, RobinH [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2fa5c9eb65dc497c81a8dc9ccdb1ffa7-Richardson, RobinH]
CC: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Adam Pankake (Yaw) (apankake@pasen.gov) [apankake@pasen.gov]; Ann Jennings - VA Natural Resouces (ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov) [ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov]; Ann Watts (Throwe) (ann.watts@maryland.gov) [ann.watts@maryland.gov]; Bernie Fowler (riverman@chesapeake.net) [riverman@chesapeake.net]; Cheryl Gruber (Gillespie) (Cgruber@pahousegop.com) [Cgruber@pahousegop.com]; David Goshorn (david.goshorn@maryland.gov) [david.goshorn@maryland.gov]; David L. Bulova (DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov) [DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov]; Dennis Treacy [dhtreacy@gmail.com]; Emma Manzi -Admiral- (emma.manzi@navy.mil) [emma.manzi@navy.mil]; Emmett W. Hanger Jr. (district24@senate.virginia.gov) [district24@senate.virginia.gov]; Frank W. Wagner (district07@senate.virginia.gov) [district07@senate.virginia.gov]; Garth D. Everett (Geverett@pahousegop.com) [Geverett@pahousegop.com]; Gene Yaw (gyaw@pasen.gov) [gyaw@pasen.gov]; Guy Guzzone [guyguzzone@comcast.net]; Guy Guzzone (guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us) [guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us]; Reim, Heather [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userf6840911]; Jennifer Donnelly [jdonnelly@chesbay.us]; Joanne Throwe (joanne.throwe@maryland.gov) [joanne.throwe@maryland.gov]; John "Jack" Scorby (john.c.scorby@navy.mil) [john.c.scorby@navy.mil]; Judy Brennan (Middleton) (jbrennan@senate.state.md.us) [jbrennan@senate.state.md.us]; Keith Gillespie (Kgillesp@pahousegop.com) [Kgillesp@pahousegop.com]; Kenya Colbert (Goshorn) (kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov) [kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov]; Linda Fiorilla (Yaw) (lfiorilla@pasen.gov) [lfiorilla@pasen.gov]; Lisa Daniels [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userd571c471]; Maggie McIntosh (Delmaggie@msn.com) [Delmaggie@msn.com]; Maggie McIntosh (maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us) [maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us]; Marel King [mking@chesbay.us]; Margaret Ransone (DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov) [DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov]; Mark J. Belton (mark.belton@maryland.gov) [mark.belton@maryland.gov]; Mathew Stegman (McInstosh) (Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us) [Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us]; Matthew Fleming -DNR- [matthew.fleming@maryland.gov]; Matthew J. Strickler (Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov) [Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Meryem Karad (Strickler) (Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; P. Michael Sturla (msturla@pahouse.net) [msturla@pahouse.net]; Richard L. Alloway II (alloway@pasen.gov) [alloway@pasen.gov]; Rita Zielonis (Yaw) (rzielonis@pasen.gov) [rzielonis@pasen.gov]; Sarah Diebel [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userce823642]; Stacy Gregson (Alloway) (sgregson@pasen.gov) [sgregson@pasen.gov]; Tawanna Gaines (tawannagaines@hotmail.com) [tawannagaines@hotmail.com]; Tawanna P. Gaines (Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us) [Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us]; Thomas "Mac" Middleton (Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us) [Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us]; Thomas.middleton35@icloud.com; vbkasi@state.pa.us [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1648a91e1cce414ebbd7a3fa4c1d5df8-vbkasi@state.pa.us]; Warren Elliott (wdelliott@comcast.net) [wdelliott@comcast.net]
Subject: RE: Bay Journal Funding reinstated

Many thanks, Ann!

From: Ann Swanson [mailto:aswanson@chesbay.us]
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 10:15 AM
To: Pruitt, Scott <Pruitt.Scott@epa.gov>; Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>
Cc: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Adam Pankake (Yaw) (apankake@pasen.gov) <apankake@pasen.gov>; Ann Jennings - VA Natural Resouces

(ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov) <ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov>; Ann Swanson <aswanson@chesbay.us>; Ann Watts (Throwe) (ann.watts@maryland.gov) <ann.watts@maryland.gov>; Bernie Fowler (riverman@chesapeake.net) <riverman@chesapeake.net>; Cheryl Gruber (Gillespie) (Cgruber@pahousegop.com) <Cgruber@pahousegop.com>; David Goshorn (david.goshorn@maryland.gov) <david.goshorn@maryland.gov>; David L. Bulova (DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov) <DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov>; Dennis Treacy <dhtreacy@gmail.com>; Emma Manzi -Admiral- (emma.manzi@navy.mil) <emma.manzi@navy.mil>; Emmett W. Hanger Jr. (district24@senate.virginia.gov) <district24@senate.virginia.gov>; Frank W. Wagner (district07@senate.virginia.gov) <district07@senate.virginia.gov>; Garth D. Everett (Geverett@pahousegop.com) <Geverett@pahousegop.com>; Gene Yaw (gyaw@pasen.gov) <gyaw@pasen.gov>; Guy Guzzone <guyguzzone@comcast.net>; Guy Guzzone (guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us) <guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us>; Reim, Heather <hreim@pa.gov>; Jennifer Donnelly <jdonnelly@chesbay.us>; Joanne Throwe (joanne.throwe@maryland.gov) <joanne.throwe@maryland.gov>; John "Jack" Scorby (john.c.scorby@navy.mil) <john.c.scorby@navy.mil>; Judy Brennan (Middleton) (jbrennan@senate.state.md.us) <jbrennan@senate.state.md.us>; Keith Gillespie (Kgillesp@pahousegop.com) <Kgillesp@pahousegop.com>; Kenya Colbert (Goshorn) (kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov) <kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov>; Linda Fiorilla (Yaw) (lfiorilla@pasen.gov) <lfiorilla@pasen.gov>; Lisa Daniels <ldaniels@pa.gov>; Maggie McIntosh (Delmaggie@msn.com) <Delmaggie@msn.com>; Maggie McIntosh (maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us) <maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us>; Marel King <mking@chesbay.us>; Margaret Ransone (DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov) <DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov>; Mark J. Belton (mark.belton@maryland.gov) <mark.belton@maryland.gov>; Mathew Stegman (McInstosh) (Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us) <Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us>; Matthew Fleming -DNR- <matthew.fleming@maryland.gov>; Matthew J. Strickler (Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov) <Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov>; McDonnell, Patrick <pmcdonnell@pa.gov>; Meryem Karad (Strickler) (Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov) <Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov>; P. Michael Sturla (msturla@pahouse.net) <msturla@pahouse.net>; Richard L. Alloway II (alloway@pasen.gov) <alloway@pasen.gov>; Rita Zielonis (Yaw) (rzielonis@pasen.gov) <rzielonis@pasen.gov>; Sarah Diebel <sarah.diebel@navy.mil>; Stacy Gregson (Alloway) (sgregson@pasen.gov) <sgregson@pasen.gov>; Tawanna Gaines (tawannagaines@hotmail.com) <tawannagaines@hotmail.com>; Tawanna P. Gaines (Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us) <Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us>; Thomas "Mac" Middleton (Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us) <Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us>; Thomas.middleton35@icloud.com; vbkasi@state.pa.us; Warren Elliott (wdelliott@comcast.net) <wdelliott@comcast.net>
Subject: Bay Journal Funding reinstated

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

Attached please find a letter from Chesapeake Bay Commission Chairman Senator Frank W. Wagner (R-7, Virginia) expressing the Commission's appreciation of your decision to reinstate FY2019 funding for the *Bay Journal*.

While we recognize future budget decisions are contingent upon available funding, the Commission envisions that this funding will be restored for the full cycle of the grant, and hopefully beyond.

Again, thank you for your personal efforts to restore this funding. We look forward to meeting with you on May 3.

Sincerely,
Ann Swanson

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 2/28/2018 8:55:47 PM
To: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis

[Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: March 7, 2018 Teleconference Agenda

Attachments: Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Mar_7.docx

Steering Committee Members:

Our April 24 and 25, 2018, face-to-face meeting in Pensacola, FL is coming together. A block of rooms being held at the Hampton Inn and Suites Gulf Breeze located at 61 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze FL includes 20 King rooms @ $129/night and 20 Queen rooms @119/night for the nights of April 23 and April 24. When you contact the hotel please mention the GCERC Block and then make a reservation. All reservations must be made by **3/24/18** to apply to our block; after that it rooms will based on availability

The Steering Committee meeting will be held at the EPA Gulf Breeze laboratory, 1 Sabine Drive, Gulf Breeze, FL, which is about a 10 minute, 4.6 mile drive (unfortunately with a toll at the bridge).

One agenda item for our upcoming March 7th call is reporting out on the proposed dates and general locations (states) for additional in-person meetings through the end of calendar year 2018. Some Steering Committee members have not yet filled out the doodle poll indicating your availability for a 2 day meeting for each of those months, including a half day for a field experience/site visit. You will need to scroll to the right in the Doodle Poll to view all potential dates. PLEASE NOTE: We are seeking one response per member. Please coordinate with all necessary staff to ensure that your response reflects availability for all in your organization who need to attend. If you have any questions about the Doodle Poll, please contact Jean Cowan (Jean.Cowan@restorethegulf.gov).

https://doodle.com/poll/rb27hxcfm5me4pk3

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: April 24 and 25, 2018 Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting** (Ben Scaggs/Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Discuss face to face meeting in Pensacola, Florida scheduled for the week of April 24 and 25, 2018, with a half-day visit to a local restoration site and day and half business meeting.
    - Logistics:
        - Hotel: Gulf Breeze Hampton Inn and Suites (see email for room block information)
        - Meeting will be held at the EPA Gulf Breeze facility.

Materials:
- N/A

III. **TOPIC: Face to Face Steering Committee Meetings through end of 2018** (Ben Scaggs/Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Discuss process whereby follow-up meetings are established and content developed. Proposed upcoming dates: June (week of 11th or 18th in Mississippi); September (week of 3rd or 10th in Alabama); October (week of 15th or 22nd in Texas); and December (week of 3rd or 10th in Louisiana).

Materials:
- See doodle poll link for Steering Committee member date preferences in meeting agenda email.

IV. **TOPIC: CPS FPL and Award Update** (Jean Cowan/Kristin Smith)
Objective:
- Provide update to the Steering Committee members on current CPS awarding processes and receive feedback on any issues that members may be encountering in submitting awards.

Materials: N/A

V. **Other Issues**

VI. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
March 21, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: Ann Swanson [aswanson@chesbay.us]
Sent: 3/7/2018 3:14:40 PM
To: Pruitt, Scott [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=757bedfd70ca4219b6d8046f5ce5681e-Pruitt, Sco]; Richardson, RobinH [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2fa5c9eb65dc497c81a8dc9ccdb1ffa7-Richardson, RobinH]
CC: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]; Adam Pankake (Yaw) (apankake@pasen.gov) [apankake@pasen.gov]; Ann Jennings - VA Natural Resouces (ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov) [ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov]; Ann Swanson [aswanson@chesbay.us]; Ann Watts (Throwe) (ann.watts@maryland.gov) [ann.watts@maryland.gov]; Bernie Fowler (riverman@chesapeake.net) [riverman@chesapeake.net]; Cheryl Gruber (Gillespie) (Cgruber@pahousegop.com) [Cgruber@pahousegop.com]; David Goshorn (david.goshorn@maryland.gov) [david.goshorn@maryland.gov]; David L. Bulova (DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov) [DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov]; Dennis Treacy [dhtreacy@gmail.com]; Emma Manzi -Admiral- (emma.manzi@navy.mil) [emma.manzi@navy.mil]; Emmett W. Hanger Jr. (district24@senate.virginia.gov) [district24@senate.virginia.gov]; Frank W. Wagner (district07@senate.virginia.gov) [district07@senate.virginia.gov]; Garth D. Everett (Geverett@pahousegop.com) [Geverett@pahousegop.com]; Gene Yaw (gyaw@pasen.gov) [gyaw@pasen.gov]; Guy Guzzone [guyguzzone@comcast.net]; Guy Guzzone (guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us) [guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us]; Reim, Heather [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userf6840911]; Jennifer Donnelly [jdonnelly@chesbay.us]; Joanne Throwe (joanne.throwe@maryland.gov) [joanne.throwe@maryland.gov]; John "Jack" Scorby (john.c.scorby@navy.mil) [john.c.scorby@navy.mil]; Judy Brennan (Middleton) (jbrennan@senate.state.md.us) [jbrennan@senate.state.md.us]; Keith Gillespie (Kgillesp@pahousegop.com) [Kgillesp@pahousegop.com]; Kenya Colbert (Goshorn) (kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov) [kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov]; Linda Fiorilla (Yaw) (lfiorilla@pasen.gov) [lfiorilla@pasen.gov]; Lisa Daniels [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userd571c471]; Maggie McIntosh (Delmaggie@msn.com) [Delmaggie@msn.com]; Maggie McIntosh (maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us) [maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us]; Marel King [mking@chesbay.us]; Margaret Ransone (DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov) [DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov]; Mark J. Belton (mark.belton@maryland.gov) [mark.belton@maryland.gov]; Mathew Stegman (McInstosh) (Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us) [Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us]; Matthew Fleming -DNR- [matthew.fleming@maryland.gov]; Matthew J. Strickler (Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov) [Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Meryem Karad (Strickler) (Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; P. Michael Sturla (msturla@pahouse.net) [msturla@pahouse.net]; Richard L. Alloway II (alloway@pasen.gov) [alloway@pasen.gov]; Rita Zielonis (Yaw) (rzielonis@pasen.gov) [rzielonis@pasen.gov]; Sarah Diebel [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userce823642]; Stacy Gregson (Alloway) (sgregson@pasen.gov) [sgregson@pasen.gov]; Tawanna Gaines (tawannagaines@hotmail.com) [tawannagaines@hotmail.com]; Tawanna P. Gaines (Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us) [Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us]; Thomas "Mac" Middleton (Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us) [Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us]; Thomas.middleton35@icloud.com; vbkasi@state.pa.us [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1648a91e1cce414ebbd7a3fa4c1d5df8-vbkasi@state.pa.us]; Warren Elliott (wdelliott@comcast.net) [wdelliott@comcast.net]
Subject: Bay Journal Funding reinstated
Attachments: Ltr to EPA Adm Pruitt re Bay Journal Funding.pdf

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

Attached please find a letter from Chesapeake Bay Commission Chairman Senator Frank W. Wagner (R-7, Virginia) expressing the Commission's appreciation of your decision to reinstate FY2019 funding for the *Bay Journal*.

While we recognize future budget decisions are contingent upon available funding, the Commission envisions that this funding will be restored for the full cycle of the grant, and hopefully beyond.

Again, thank you for your personal efforts to restore this funding. We look forward to meeting with you on May 3.

Sincerely,
Ann Swanson

CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

Policy for the Bay• www.chesbay.us

March 7, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Mail Code: 1101A
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

On behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, we applaud your decision to reinstate funding for the *Bay Journal* for FY 2019. As noted in our letter to you last August, the *Bay Journal* serves an important source of independent information, and has facilitated objectivity and accountability at all levels of the Bay restoration effort. With a large print and on-line presence, the *Bay Journal* has become the gold-standard for readable, science-based information about the Bay for all of us, leaders and stakeholders alike.

I would also like to thank you for having your staff reach out directly to Commission staff last week with news of this announcement. We are grateful for this direct communication. As both a formal signatory to the Chesapeake Bay agreements and an integral member of the multi-jurisdictional Chesapeake Bay Program, the Chesapeake Bay Commission brings a unique perspective to the table, as the only member of the partnership that represents both multiple states and the legislative branch of government.

As appropriators, we can understand potential concerns to committing to grant funding for the *Bay Journal* beyond FY 2019, given funding availability is subject to the Congressional appropriation. That said, we envision the funding reinstatement will be not just for FY 2019, but for the length of the current grant between EPA and Bay Journal Media, and beyond.

We look forward to meeting you again in person on the afternoon of May 3rd, when the full Commission will be meeting at the EPA Headquarters in Washington, DC. (agenda attached). Thank you for serving as our host.

Sincerely yours,

Frank W. Wagner

Frank W. Wagner, Chairman
Senate of Virginia (R-7)

I look forward to meeting you!

Frank

CC: Chesapeake Bay Commission Members
Kenneth Wagner
Troy Lyons

Headquarters & Maryland Office 60 West Street, Suite 406 • Annapolis, MD 21401 • Phone 410.263.3420 • Fax 410.263.9338
VA Office 900 East Main St., 11th Floor, Richmond, VA 23219 Phone 804.786.4849
PA Office Rm. G-05 North Office Bldg., Harrisburg, PA 17120 Phone 717.772.3651 • Fax 717.705.3548

Message

From: Barfield, Blake [Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com]
Sent: 4/7/2017 3:03:27 PM
To: Gunasekara, Mandy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=53d1a3caa8bb4ebab8a2d28ca59b6f45-Gunasekara,]
CC: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Re: Next week

That works perfectly thanks Mandy

Please let me know where we should meet

Thanks again
Blake

--
Blake D. Barfield
Director, Government Affairs
The HollyFrontier Companies
Ex. 6

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On Apr 6, 2017, at 11:20 PM, Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov> wrote:

Ken, Thank you for the connection.
Blake, would Wednesday (4/12) at 4 pm work?

From: Barfield, Blake [mailto:Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 10:44 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Next week

Thanks, Ken. Sounds like you're making the rounds – let me know if you want to connect when in Dallas.

Mandy, our General Counsel and I are planning to be back in DC next week – would appreciate chance to follow-up with you on RFS matters if you have time Wednesday.

Thanks
Blake

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 9:36 PM

To: Barfield, Blake; Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: Re: Next week

Blake:

I'm on a west coast swing next week and Region 5 and 6 the following week, so I am unavailable. If you recall, Mandy Gunasekara was also in our meeting, I have copied her on this correspondence.

Ken

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 5, 2017, at 6:50 PM, Barfield, Blake <Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com> wrote:

> Ken
>
> Sorry to harass you on the scheduling front but wanted to see about any time to meet perhaps next Wednesday?
>
> Thanks
> Blake
>
> --
> Blake D. Barfield
> Director, Government Affairs
> The HollyFrontier Companies
> **Ex. 6**
>
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contained in this message should be construed as a digital or electronic signature or a commitment to a binding agreement.

Message

From: Gunasekara, Mandy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=53D1A3CAA8BB4EBAB8A2D28CA59B6F45-GUNASEKARA,]
Sent: 4/7/2017 4:21:42 AM
To: Barfield, Blake [Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: RE: Next week

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Blake

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> Blake
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> --
> Blake D. Barfield
> Director, Government Affairs

The HollyFrontier Companies

Ex. 6

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Appointment

From: Kenney, James [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CE6FF869
Sent: 7/27/2018 9:55:20 PM
To: Passe, Loraine [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=59c5547714cc4944a
Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cbb65672f6f34545be460a66ff6fa969-Kirby, Kevin]; Parikh, Pooja [/o=ExchangeLabs
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=33cb08013cc94c21a3e3236dbad4c4a4-REELLIOT]; Moskal, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exc
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Smith, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exch
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=58f2a66b53c443e1a3c029243fbf55b4-Hall, Richa]; Jann, Stephen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Ex
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b22505b64aee401eba1a31e9b50f61d1-Lawrence, Rob]; Hildebrandt, Kurt [/o=ExchangeLa
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c24caabea47449c95c94acb6ac1c49e-DALBRIGH]; Werntz, James [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=E
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1c309f42d5d44d18a52b027bd0112778-ADAVIS06]; Gray, David [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exc
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(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b691cccca6264ae09df7054c7f1019cb-Letendre, D]; Coffman, Joel [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=E
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=94eefc2788084d73a97caf80d30a0e24-JMatuszk]; Curtis, Jennifer [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Ex
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=787b0a3376944fcabaed4f018432cf44-Ahambric]; Teichman, Kevin [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=
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(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4f4bb31fb6e94c0aa9756706cc1c888c-Baca, Andrew]; Hanson, Andrew [/o=ExchangeLabs/
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=377a4bb09a164281921d55ab06e188ae-JPritts]; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Ex
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9b11e688258c462bab293a6df8ff4b27-Beeler, Cynthia]; Benevento, Douglas [/o=Exchange
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0a83d74ccf7c4b40acdbf09c093f3b16-Bohan, Suzanne]; Byrne, Andrew [/o=ExchangeLabs/
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c52a18bcf6164b6d9f04545db694cac1-ACHAPMAN]; Cozzie, David [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=E
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5ced433b4ef54171864ed98a36cb7a5f-Dominguez,]; Egidi, Philip [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Ex
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ba28ac91f5f0498992cd5dc6c62add36-Eisele, Adam]; Fite, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exc
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a055d7329d5b470fbaa9920ce1b68a7d-Forsgren, D]; Gude, Karen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=E
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b1beca8121fb47a08e82b6bf2247a79b-Idsal, Anne]; Kenney, James [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e49335e2f5a64cbfa97c39cbf1faff2b-Mitchell, Kenneth]; Morales, Monica [/o=ExchangeLab
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d0e96b1ccd854467ac7c96016c4ea1b0-Patefield, Scott]; Topinka, Natalie [/o=ExchangeLab
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b6d06c6b766c4b4b8bfdf6b0fea4b998-Traylor, Pa]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/o
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bc65010f5c2e48f4bc2aa050db50d198-Woods, Clin]; michael.abraczinskas@ncdenr.gov [/
dallas_baker@deq.state.ms.us; andrea.balkenbush@dnr.mo.gov; Kim.Bannerman2@state.nm.us; jbarkley@mdeq.ms.gov; Bill.Ba
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(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user10801c4f]; craig.butler@epa.ohio.gov; ccain@nd.gov; Rick Calhoon [bbiard@pruet.co
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catherine.dickert@dec.ny.gov; ldorman@pa.gov; michael.dowd@deq.virginia.gov; adunn@slo.state.nm.us; william.f.durham@wv
[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62e33b226da84f58a6beeca3bd875
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=91bcf7c3940d4827a881c3d11c8d97a4-dglatt@nd.gov]; steve.goans@nebraska.gov; phillip
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; sean.hackett@state.co.us; Jim Halvorson [jhalvorson@mt.gov]; lacey.hard
[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d2ca020f9f1d43069826182c86eabf
bridget.hill1@wyo.gov; robert.hodanbosi@epa.ohio.gov; r.hoffman_kcc.ks.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Gr
[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5feb3a3073c043fba97a65253fef9e
Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=105a555e89de4515818f7bdbab0877d0-mark.jones@state.nm.us]; t
Butch.Lambert@dmme.virginia.gov; ed.larrimore@maryland.gov; lawrenced6@michigan.gov; shelly.lemon@state.nm.us; Richard
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pmcdonnell@pa.gov; tami.mcmullin@state.co.us; ken.mcqueen@state.nm.us; marian.mergist@la.gov; alec.messina@illinois.gov;
ronald.price@ky.gov; rretherford@dnr.in.gov; lriley@slo.state.nm.us; Riley, Heather, EMNRD [Heather.Riley@state.nm.us]; sectyr
Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user6ca64a10]; chona.sarte@calepa.ca.gov; matthiasl.sayer@state.
rick.simmers@dnr.state.oh.us; kathleen.staks@state.co.us; jstefanko@pa.gov; laurie.stevenson@epa.ohio.gov; john.stine@state.
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user77130e8f]; Larryc.taylor@ky.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Grou
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b491a9fa38e74834a77fec27e8e19edb-Kenneth.B.Taylor@ncdenr.gov]; ee@ee.ok.gov; nte
Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user4fd1e656]; sthomas@mt.gov; scott.thompson@deq.ok.gov; j.da
brandy.valdezmurphy@state.co.us; kara.valentine@nebraska.gov; nancy.vehr1@wyo.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Admin
mvisher@minerals.nv.gov; michelle.b.walker@tn.gov; mwallen@mhp.energy; mark.watson@wyo.gov; chrisw@weiser-brown.com
[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=757cee0fe3c04df5958df8a3be38c0
kirbya@utetribe.com; CAtcitty@taospueblo.com [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=R
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=810b2331fd894a3b9e0a06e0554a9928-edmundbaker@mhanation.com]; csage@southern
nsn.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8a4371838c954ca3b77748

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20a3d3b2d8264d4793f17afad1510
dinoc@santaclarapueblo.org [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=40aa1
sclow@utemountain.org [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=00730511
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=064f9b11405a4a39884fd1c496de762b-aduran@pojo]; chairmanfox@mhanation.com; dea
Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=33c92ddc47f4446294df7bec381493f2-alan.hatch@santaana-nsn.gov
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(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=78e63acc248f41328768db82d95464c3-JBOWLES]; Grantham, Nancy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou

Subject: Bi-Monthly EPA/State/Tribal Oil and Natural Gas Conference Call
Location: Dial: (877) 744-6030, Conference ID: TBD

Start: 2/20/2019 6:00:00 PM
End: 2/20/2019 7:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: Monthly

the third Wednesday of every 2 month(s) from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

The focus of the December call is on water-related oil and natural gas topics. We will hear from representatives with EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance on the following item:

1. The web-based oil and natural gas sector compliance assistance center.

To join the conference line, dial: (877) 744-6030. Please provide the operator with the following conference ID: TBD. You may join the call up to 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. If you need assistance during the call, use the following keypad commands on your phone: *0 - Operator assistance or *6 - Self mute/unmute.

If you have any questions about this particular call or would like to suggest topics for future calls, please contact me.
Sincerely,
Jim Kenney

--
James C. Kenney | Senior Policy Advisor for Unconventional Oil and Gas | US EPA
Desk/Mobile: Ex. 6 **Email:** kenney.james@epa.gov

Please note: I am geographically located in Albuquerque, New Mexico (Mountain Time Zone).
This message may contain deliberative, attorney-client or otherwise privileged material. Do not release this message without the appropriate review. If you are not the intended recipient, kindly advise and delete this message/attachments. Namaste

Appointment

From: Kenney, James [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CE6FF86
Sent: 7/27/2018 9:54:54 PM
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Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user81bfbd4a]; Harry Birdwell [harry.birdwell@clo.ok.gov]; Amy Ch
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(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=12a3c2ed7158417fb0bb1b1b72a8cfb0-Grantham, Nancy]

Subject: Bi-Monthly EPA/State/Tribal Oil and Natural Gas Conference Call
Attachments: FAQ.pdf
Location: Dial: Ex. 6

Start: 12/19/2018 6:00:00 PM
End: 12/19/2018 7:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: Monthly
the third Wednesday of every 2 month(s) from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

The focus of the December call is on waste-related oil and natural gas topics. We will hear from representatives with EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management on the following item:

1. Update on the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act consent decree (Civil Action No. 16-842 (JDB)) which requires the EPA to review the Subtitle D criteria regulations, 40 C.F.R. Part 257, for wastes associated with the exploration, development, or production of crude oil, natural gas, or geothermal energy (oil and gas wastes) and determine if regulatory updates are necessary by March 15, 2019.

To join the conference line, dial: Ex. 6. Please provide the operator with the following conference ID: Ex. 6. You may join the call up to 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. If you need assistance during the call, use the following keypad commands on your phone: *0 - Operator assistance or *6 - Self mute/unmute.

If you have any questions about this particular call or would like to suggest topics for future calls, please contact me.
Sincerely,
Jim Kenney
--
James C. Kenney | Senior Policy Advisor for Unconventional Oil and Gas | US EPA
Desk/Mobile: Ex. 6 | **Email:** kenney.james@epa.gov

Please note: I am geographically located in Albuquerque, New Mexico (Mountain Time Zone).

This message may contain deliberative, attorney-client or otherwise privileged material. Do not release this message without the appropriate review. If you are not the intended recipient, kindly advise and delete this message/attachments. Namaste.

Bi-Monthly EPA/State/Tribe Oil and Natural Gas Conference Call
Frequently Asked Questions

1) What is the bi-monthly call schedule?
   - The first bi-monthly conference call took place on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 from 1-2 pm EDT. Conference calls occur every other month from 1-2 pm EDT on the third Wednesday of the month (i.e., August 15, 2018, October 17, 2018, December 19, 2018, February 20, 2019, etc.).

2) What will these conference calls cover?
   - The bimonthly conference calls will focus on topics related to responsible oil and natural gas exploration and development.

3) Who from my organization should participate?
   - The answer is to this question is likely agenda dependent. You will receive an agenda before each call that will help answer this question.

4) Can multiple individuals from my organization participate?
   - Yes. When practical, we ask that you gather the multiple individuals together and connect to the conference call using a single phone line.

5) Can I suggest agenda topics?
   - Yes. Please send suggested agenda topics for future calls to James Kenney (kenney.james@epa.gov).

6) Who is invited to these calls?
   - State and tribal representatives with oil and natural gas exploration and production interests. The conference calls are generally for state and tribal governments only.

7) Who from EPA will participate?
   - Depending on the agenda topic, representatives from EPA's program and regional offices.

8) What is the objective of these conference calls?
   - It is our hope that these conference calls will allow us to continue to build and improve relationships while finding meaningful solutions to various challenges. For additional background, please see the Oil and Natural Gas Roundtable Highlights document.

9) Do these conference calls replace various state and tribal calls with EPA program or regional offices?
   - No, these conference calls provide an additional opportunity for states, tribes and EPA to discuss topics related to onshore oil and natural gas exploration and production.

10) What else do I need to know?
   - During the conference calls, we are looking to hear from individual states and tribes on various topics. Please note that EPA is not seeking group consensus from states or tribes during these conference calls.

11) What if I have additional questions?
   - Please contact James Kenney, Senior Policy Advisor for Unconventional Oil and Natural Gas, at kenney.james@epa.gov or at (Ex. 6

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 2/1/2018 1:43:39 PM
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Subject: February 7 Steering Committee Teleconference

Attachments: Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Feb_7.docx.pdf; 2017 Annual Report to Congress - Red-line Pending SC Concurrence_Jan_30_2018.pdf

Council Members:

In preparation for the Steering Committee call on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, please find attached the agenda and related materials for the call.

As discussed on our most recent call, Council staff will be seeking Steering Committee concurrence on the redline draft Annual Report to Congress (attached). Once the Steering Committee has concurred, we can then schedule a Council vote to officially approve the Annual Report to Congress.

We look forward to speaking with you next week.

Thank you,

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DRAFT

2017 Annual Report to Congress

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Calendar Year 2017

Submitted _____ 2018

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Letter from the Acting Executive Director

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) hereby submits its 2017 Annual Report to Congress. The Council was created by the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act) in 2012 as an independent federal agency charged with administering a portion of the civil settlements associated with the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Consisting of the five Gulf Coast states (States) and six federal agencies, the Council's mission is to implement a comprehensive plan for the ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast.

The funds administered by the Council offer a rare opportunity to address ecosystem and economic needs in a way that provides sustainable benefits to communities across the Gulf. To that end, the Council must be methodical in choosing its investments, efficient in implementing them, and diligent in financial management. In 2017, the Council made substantial progress toward developing future projects and programs, expediting existing investments, and effectively managing its funds. The Council has accomplished these while maintaining an administrative expense rate below 3%.

To date, the Council has approved approximately $771 million in ecosystem restoration projects and programs across the Gulf. This sum represents funds approved under both the Council-Selected Restoration Component and the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act (explained in further detail in our report). After funding for an activity is approved by the Council, it is disbursed to the sponsoring Council member via an award in the form of a grant (for States) or an interagency agreement (for federal member agencies). To date, the Council has awarded approximately $122 million from the foregoing funding sources to its members and the Gulf Consortium of Florida Counties to support an array of restoration activities across the Gulf Coast, including investments in habitat conservation, oyster restoration, water quality, planning, science and more. These investments, though substantial, represent only a portion of the total funding available to the Council in the coming years. It is critical that while the Council administers these awarded funds it also builds a strong foundation for future success.

The Council's 2016 Comprehensive Plan update recognized that future success depends upon collaboration among Council members, other Gulf restoration funding partners and the public. Collaboration is needed to break down potential bureaucratic stovepipes and leverage resources to ensure the greatest possible benefit from the Council's investments. Congress established the structure for this collaboration by creating a Council comprised of the States and six federal agencies. To realize the full potential of this structure, in 2017 the Council developed a proposal to ~~approved the~~ use ~~of~~ a small portion of its Council-Selected Restoration Component ~~total~~ funding for planning, collaboration and related actions to help identify and develop the best ideas for future funding. After reviewing public input, this proposal as well as a

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response to public comments were finalized in September of 2017. In January 2018, the Council approved these planning funds.

As it looks to the future, the Council continuously reviews its past activities in order to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its operations. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan update was based on the lessons learned from an internal and public review of the Council's first round of funding decisions. In 2017, the Council conducted a similar review of the way in which it disburses funds to its State and federal members. The Council is using the findings of this review to expedite the disbursement of funds to its members. In addition, the Council has continued to receive unqualified ("clean") audits of its financial and other activities.

On behalf of the Council, I am pleased to submit this Annual Report to Congress outlining our progress over the past twelve months. The Council remains committed to maintaining active communication with Congress. Please contact us at any time with your thoughts, suggestions or questions. Thank you for your continued leadership and support in restoring the Gulf Coast region.

Ben Scaggs
Executive Director (Acting)

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Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Members

Chair
Environmental Protection Agency
Scott Pruitt
Administrator

State of Alabama
Kay Ivey
Governor

State of Florida
Rick Scott
Governor

State of Louisiana
John Bel Edwards
Governor

State of Mississippi
Phil Bryant
Governor

State of Texas
Greg Abbott
Governor

Department of the Army
Mark T. Esper
Secretary

Department of Commerce
Wilbur Ross
Secretary

Department of Homeland Security
Kirstjen Nielsen
Secretary

Department of the Interior
Ryan Zinke
Secretary

~~**Environmental Protection Agency**~~
~~Scott Pruitt~~
~~Administrator~~

Department of Agriculture
Sonny Perdue
Secretary

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Background on the RESTORE Act

The Gulf Coast environment was significantly injured by the 2010 *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, as well as by past and ongoing human actions. Restoring an area as large and complex as the Gulf Coast region is a costly, multi-generational undertaking. Gulf habitats are continually degraded and lost due to development, infrastructure, sea-level rise, altered riverine processes, ocean acidification, salinity changes and other human-caused factors. Water quality in the coastal and marine environments is degraded by upstream pollution and hydrologic alterations spanning multiple States and involving the watersheds of large and small rivers alike. Stocks of marine and estuarine species are depleted by over-utilization and conflicting resource use. Some of the region's environmental problems such as wetland loss and hypoxia span areas the size of some U.S. states. This degradation represents a serious risk to the cultural, social and economic benefits derived from the Gulf ecosystem.

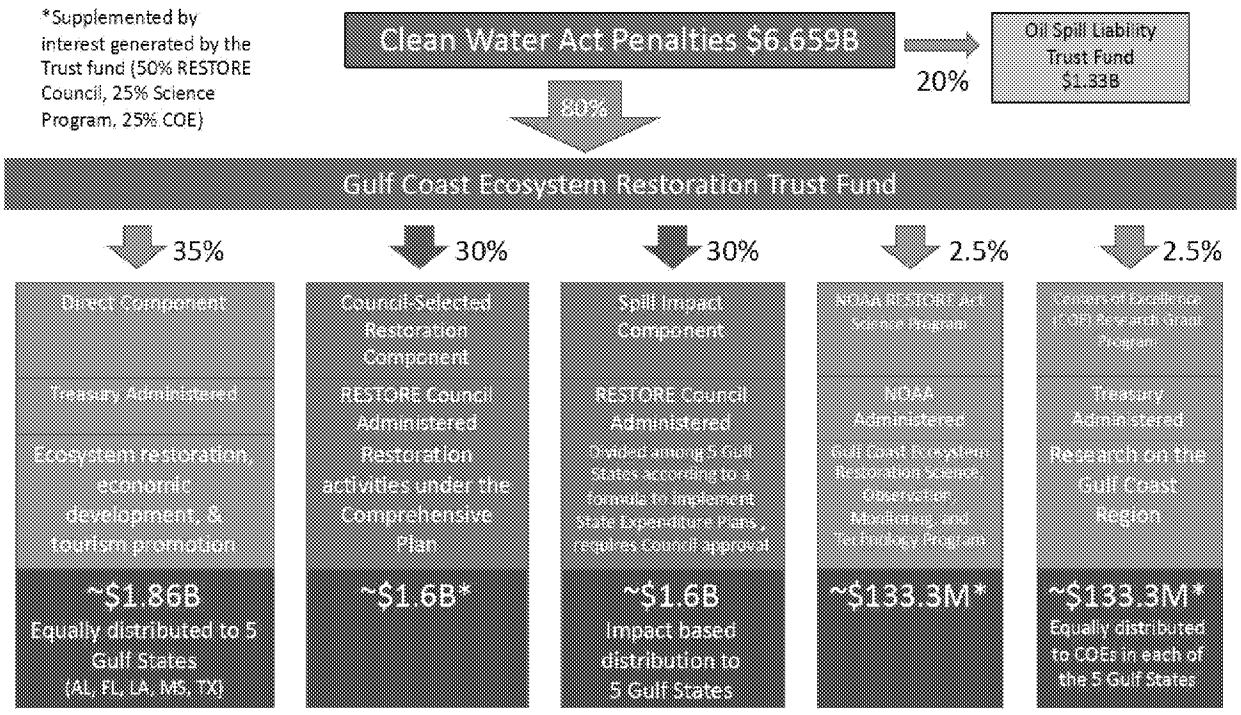
Spurred by the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012, or the RESTORE Act, was signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012. The Act calls for a regional approach to restoring the long-term health of the natural ecosystems and economy of the Gulf Coast region. The RESTORE Act dedicates 80 percent of civil and administrative penalties paid under the Clean Water Act (CWA), after the date of enactment, by responsible parties in connection with the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill to the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund) for ecosystem restoration, economic recovery and tourism promotion in the Gulf Coast region. Established by the Act, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) is comprised of the Governors of the five Gulf Coast States (States), the Secretaries of ~~from~~ the U.S. Departments of the Interior, Army, Commerce, Agriculture, and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Administrator of the EPA currently serves as the Council's Chairperson.

The resolution of civil claim totals for entities held responsible for the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill will yield more than $20 billion, the largest civil penalties ever awarded under any environmental statute, and the largest recovery of damages for injuries to natural resources of the United States. Of these penalties, the RESTORE Act will provide $5.33 billion (80 percent of $6.659 billion, ~~)~~ (plus interest) to the Trust Fund, consisting of 80 percent of~~based on~~ the following: $1 billion (plus interest) in civil penalties from Transocean Deepwater Inc. and related entities for violating the CWA in relation to their conduct in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; $159.5 ~~b~~million from a civil fine paid by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation; and $5.5 billion (plus interest) from BP Exploration and Production, Inc. (BP) for a CWA civil penalty under the April 4, 2016 consent decree (Consent Decree), payable over a fifteen-year period (Figure 1).

The Council has oversight of the expenditure of 60 percent of the Trust Fund (green highlighted areas, Figure 1). Under the Council-Selected Restoration Component, 30 percent of available funding is administered for Gulf-wide ecosystem restoration and protection according to the Council's Comprehensive Plan. Under the Spill Impact Component, 30 percent is allocated to the States. The remaining funds are allocated as follows: 35 percent under the Direct Component,

divided equally among the five Gulf States for ecological and economic restoration; 2.5 percent to a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Component (plus 25 percent of interest earned) dedicated to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring and Technology Program; and 2.5 percent to a Centers of Excellence Component (plus 25 percent of interest earned) dedicated to the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program.

Figure 1. Allocation of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund based on settlements with BP, Transocean and Anadarko; RESTORE Council oversight components are highlighted in green.



Council-Selected Restoration Component Accomplishments

Background

Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, the Council approved an Initial Comprehensive Plan in 2013, setting forth goals and objectives for advancing comprehensive Gulf restoration. In 2015, the Council approved its first list of restoration projects and programs to be carried out under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. This list, called the Initial Funded Priorities List (or Initial FPL), consisted of $156.6 million in restoration activities in 10 key watersheds as well as several Gulf-wide programs. After approving the Initial FPL, the Council began disbursing funds to its members to implement the projects and programs listed therein. The Council also conducted a thorough internal and public review of the process it used to select projects and programs in this first round of funding. The goal of this review was to apply lessons learned from the initial selection process to subsequent funding decisions.

The funding for the Initial FPL came from the settlement of CWA civil penalties against Transocean Deepwater Inc. and related entities. When it approved the Initial FPL, the Council did not know the amount and timing of additional funding that could come from the ongoing litigation with BP. In 2016, the entry of the Consent Decree meant that the amount and timing of that funding was now known.

In 2016, the Council updated its Comprehensive Plan in light of this new funding information and the lessons learned in the review of its Initial FPL. The Comprehensive Plan update emphasizes the importance of coordination and collaboration among the Council members and with other programs in order to leverage resources and maximize the effectiveness of available restoration funding. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan update also commits to enhancing public engagement and the use of best available science to support a holistic approach to Gulf restoration. These commitments are intended ensure that future Council investments provide the greatest possible ecological return. Following is a list of the specific commitments made in the Comprehensive Plan update (Table 1).

Table 1. Council Commitments from the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Topic	Commitment
Development of Funded Priority Lists	Take a holistic approach to restoration
	Continue to improve FPL Submission Guidelines
	Adopt the watershed/estuary-based approach as a strategic planning principle for future FPL development
	Healthy and sustainable ecosystems are essential for thriving and resilient coastal communities
	Encourage partnerships and additional public and private financial and technical support to maximize outcomes and impacts
	Identify and leverage new sources of funding to support current and future restoration work by exploring creative conservation funding
	Refine the Council processes for considering public input on draft FPLs before finalizing changes to the final FPL
	Project evaluation and selection will be conducted in the most open manner feasible

	Update and improve the process for applying best available science to FPL proposals, including exploring the use of one or more science review panels
Collaboration and Coordination	Sponsor and participate in meetings and workshops in 2017 and into 2018
	Facilitate meaningful engagement with range of stakeholders
	Maximize outcomes by leveraging funds and expertise
	Coordination and collaboration among members and our restoration partners is critical to the success of Gulf restoration
	Coordinate regulatory efforts across Council membership
Science	Decisions made pursuant to the FPL will be based on the best available science
	The Council recognizes the importance of measuring outcomes and impacts in order to achieve tangible results and ensure that funds are invested in a meaningful way

Promoting Coordination and Collaboration

It is now incumbent upon the Council to meet these commitments. Prior to 2017, no designated funding stream existed to support Council member efforts to plan and coordinate restoration activities under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Historically, Council members had to rely upon general, tax-generated or appropriated funds to support their work on matters such as FPL development and the Comprehensive Plan update.

To address this challenge, in 2017 the Council developed the Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support FPL (CPS FPL). The CPS FPL, officially approved by the Council in January 2018, is intended to ensure that ~~the~~ Council members have the resources needed to develop highly effective projects and programs for future funding under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Under the CPS FPL, each of the eleven Council members may apply for up to $500,000 per year for up to three years and up to $300,000 per year for two years thereafter. This equals up to $23.1 million, or 1.44% of the total funds available (not including interest) in the Council-Selected Restoration Component. As with the Initial FPL, the CPS FPL includes a clause that incentivizes savings and efficiency by enabling the Council to apply

unused planning funds to projects and programs sponsored by the member that achieves the savings.

The CPS FPL funding will provide the necessary resources for Council members to stimulate and encourage the coordination and collaboration necessary to achieve the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan. Specifically, the CPS FPL funding will provide funds necessary for members to:

- Strengthen ecosystem restoration proposals for future FPL(s) under the Council-Selected Restoration Component;
- Enhance the efficiency of future FPL development processes; and
- Facilitate long-term planning and leveraging efforts across funding streams.

The Council believes that investing a relatively small amount of time and resources in planning can ensure that restoration projects selected for funding will yield greater ecosystem benefits in the future. The Council will review the effectiveness of this funding at year four and consider whether extending planning and commitment support efforts beyond the five-year period is needed to continue to meet the Comprehensive Plan commitments.

Awarding Funds for Restoration Projects and Programs

In addition to the ongoing coordination and planning activities to support future investments, the Council has also worked to expedite the funding of the approximately $156.6 million in ecosystem restoration projects and programs approved in the Initial FPL. In 2017, the Council awarded funds for thirteen Initial FPL projects, totaling $62.14 million. This is in addition to the 2016 awards for ten Initial FPL projects totaling $34.38 million. The Initial FPL activities awarded funds in 2017 are listed below, along with links to additional information (including the projected duration of each activity).

Bayou Greenways (Planning & Implementation)
Location: Texas
Sponsor: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $7,109,000.00
Additional information is available here

Bayou Dularge Ridge, Marsh & Hydrologic Restoration (Planning)
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service
Award amount: $5,162,084.00
Additional information is available here

Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp (Planning)
Location: Louisiana

Sponsor: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $14,190,000.00
Additional information is available here

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (Planning)
Location: Alabama
Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency
Award amount: $358,000.00
Additional information is available here

Beach Haven - Joint Stormwater & Wastewater Improvement - Phase II (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $5,967,000.00
Additional information is available here

Bayou Chico Contaminated Sediment Removal - Planning, Design, and Permitting (Planning)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $356,850.00
Additional information is available here

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Additional information is available here

Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improvements (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,219,856.00
Additional information is available here

Suwannee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Program (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,884,000.00
Additional information is available here

Tate's Hell Strategy 1 (Planning & Implementation)

Location: Florida
Sponsor: Department of Agriculture
Award amount: $7,000,000.00
Additional information is available here

Council Monitoring and Assessment Program
Location: Gulfwide
Co-sponsor: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $1,175,000.00
Co-sponsor: Department of the Commerce/NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Award amount: $1,700,000.00
Additional information is available here

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership
Location: Gulfwide
Sponsor: U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA Restoration Center
Award amount: $7,500,000.00
Additional information is available here

Strategic Conservation Assessment of Gulf Coast Landscapes
Location: Gulfwide
Sponsor: Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Award amount: $1,842,583.00
Additional information is available here

These projects and programs support planning, implementation and science activities that will provide on-the-ground ecological benefits to key Gulf watersheds, develop shovel-ready projects, and help build a strong science foundation for future decision-making. In 2018, the Council will continue to award funds for activities on the Initial FPL, while also conducting technical and financial oversight of existing awards.

Making Projects "Shovel-Ready"

In addition to approving funds for specific projects and programs, the Initial FPL also lists activities the Council has identified as priorities for potential future funding. This category of activities (referred to as Category 2 activities) are projects and programs the Council believes have merit, but which were not ready for implementation funding because the requisite environmental compliance had not been completed. The Council set aside a pool of available funds for potential use on Category 2 activities, pending Council approval. The Council also approved planning funds to address the environmental laws applicable to these Category 2 activities. Once these laws have been addressed for a Category 2 activity, the Council can vote

to approve funding for that activity through an amendment to the Initial FPL. Such a vote only occurs after public comments have been considered by the Council.

The Council is committed to efficient, effective and transparent environmental compliance processes for its activities, including those in Category 2. With major federal regulatory agencies among its members, the Council was well positioned to efficiently address the environmental compliance needs for a number of Category 2 projects in 2017. By reviewing and adopting existing National Environmental Policy Act documentation ~~environmental clearances~~ developed by member agencies, the Council has been able to approve implementation funding for two Category 2 projects in 2017. This efficiency has enabled the Council to save over $187,750 that was previously committed to the planning phase of these projects. These funds were re-allocated to project implementation, thereby increasing on-the-ground ecological benefits. Below are the Category 2 projects that were approved for funding in 2017.

Tampa Bay Estuary Program
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency
Funding approved: $1,544,960
Additional information is available here

Palm River Restoration Project Phase II, East McKay Bay Project I
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida
Funding approved: $856,430
Additional information is available here

In 2017 the Council also amended the Initial FPL to allocate the $9,300,000 in approved funding for the Lowermost Mississippi River Management project to the State of Louisiana. (The Initial FPL originally had this funding equally allocated between the State of Louisiana and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.) In addition, the Council amended the Initial FPL to modify the potential acquisition and conservation boundary for the Mississippi program entitled "Strategic Land Protection, Conservation, and Enhancement of Priority Gulf Coast" and the geographic area for beneficial use planning for potential future marsh restoration activities under the "Texas Beneficial Use/Marsh Restoration (Planning)" project.

Sub-Awards to Non-Governmental Organizations

The RESTORE Act requires that, for purposes of awards made under the Council-Selected Restoration Component, a State or federal award recipient may make a grant or subaward to or enter into a cooperative agreement with a non-governmental entity that equals or exceeds 10 percent of the total amount of the award provided to the State or federal award recipient only

if certain notice requirements are met. The Council has provided notice in advance of each such proposed subaward through the *Federal Register* and to specified Congressional Committees. In addition, the Council must include the name, purpose and amount of each qualifying subaward in its Annual Report to Congress. The below table provides the required information.

2017 Subawards to Nongovernmental Entities That Exceed 10 Percent of an Award	
Name of Subrecipient	**Purpose and Amount of Subaward**
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Under a grant from the Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is implementing the Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor Implementation project, through which 1,852 acres of land will be conserved through fee title acquisition from willing sellers and added to a 105,000 acre corridor of conservation lands that includes the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Boca Chica State Park and the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR. Through a subaward in the amount of $4,363,391, TNC will acquire three properties in the Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor, which are expected to ultimately become part of the Laguna Atascosa NWR. These properties will connect Laguna Atascosa NWR, Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR, and Boca Chica State Park, as well as over 2 million acres of intact habitat on private ranchland with the 1.3 million acre Rio Bravo Protected Area. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on November 23, 2016 (81 FR 84581).
Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	Under an interagency agreement (IAA) with the Council, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Department of the Interior and NOAA are jointly administering the Council Monitoring and Assessment Program (CMAP) to build the foundational components for Gulf region-wide monitoring in order to measure impacts of investments in restoration. Through a subaward from NOAA in the amount of $525,000, GOMA will coordinate the Monitoring Community of Practice to leverage existing resources, capacities, and expertise and build on existing monitoring programs. These existing programs will be coordinated into a network, to provide efficiency in monitoring and collaborative cross-program review of performance with other Gulf ecosystem recovery efforts. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on March 14, 2017 (82 FR 13607), with a correction posted on April 14, 2017 (82 FR 17995).
The Houston Parks Board (HPB)	Under a grant from the Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is implementing the Bayou Greenways Planning and Implementation project, which supports the larger Bayou Greenways Initiative, which has the long-term goal of

	preserving and restoring 4,000 acres of riparian buffer corridors along the major waterways (bayous and creeks) running predominately through Harris County and the City of Houston. Through a subaward in the amount of $7,085,022, HPB will purchase and conserve approximately 80 to 100 acres of land through fee title acquisition from willing sellers. HPB intends to transfer title of acquired lands to the Houston Parks and Recreation Department for preservation in perpetuity as parkland. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on June 1, 2017 (82 FR 25289).
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Under an IAA with the Council, NOAA is implementing the Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership (GulfCorps) program, which is designed to contribute to meaningful Gulf Coast ecosystem restoration, while economically benefiting coastal communities by providing education, training, and opportunities to workers to implement conservation projects. Through a subaward in the amount of $7,000,000, TNC will recruit and train GulfCorps participants who will be mobilized to provide labor on selected coastal restoration projects in each Gulf State. Projects may include invasive species removal, shoreline protection and enhancement, riparian restoration, debris removal, revegetation, reef restoration, and habitat monitoring and conservation. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on June 29, 2017 (82 FR 29565).

Enhancing Environmental Compliance Efficiency through Interagency Collaboration

The Gulf Coast Interagency Environmental Restoration Working Group (GCIERWG) is a standing workgroup whose purpose is to achieve more effective and efficient environmental review and permitting of Gulf restoration projects across ecosystem restoration funding streams through early and consistent interagency coordination and prioritization of restoration efforts. This workgroup was formed in recognition of the critical need for increased regulatory collaboration to deliver timely restoration implementation. The GCIERWG is currently led by NOAA and is comprised of representation from the U.S. Departments of Army, Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency with facilitation by Council staff. The group coordinates through standing monthly interagency working group conference calls with follow-up as needed.

In 2017, the GCIERWG spearheaded a new interagency regulatory clearinghouse pilot effort to demonstrate the utility of a voluntary regulatory efficiency approach that engages field level technical review of restoration projects at the earliest possible stages to make the regulatory process collaborative and by applying efficiency tools to facilitate effective and expeditious environmental compliance. Two FPL planning projects were selected as pilots: the Pensacola

Bay Living Shoreline – Phase 1 project sponsored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (additional information available here) and the Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project sponsored by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (additional information available here). Regulatory contacts for each project were identified, and project kick-off meetings were completed this year. As the planning and design begins for these projects in 2018, the GCIERWG will continue to engage through these pilot efforts, evaluating their utility for future applicability and potential expansion as staffing resources allow.

Spill Impact Component Accomplishments

Background

In addition to the Council-Selected Restoration Component funding, the remaining 30 percent of the Trust Fund under the Council's purview is allocated to the States under the Spill Impact Component, according to a formula established by the Council and implemented through a regulation. These funds are spent according to individual State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) that contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf. The SEPs must adhere to four basic criteria set forth in the RESTORE Act and are subject to approval by the Council in accordance with those criteria. On December 15, 2015, the Council published the Spill Impact Component regulation, which set forth allocation for each State. These allocations became effective on April 12, 2016, following entry of the Consent Decree.

Approving State Expenditure Plans

In 2017, the Council approved SEPs for Louisiana and Mississippi, representing approximately $600,000,000 in coastal restoration investments. The Louisiana SEP, approved on March, 23, 2017, provides approximately $551,500,000 in Spill Impact Component funding to support coastal restoration activities in the State's Coastal Master Plan. The Louisiana SEP includes four elements:

1. **The Houma Navigation Canal Lock Complex ($366 million)**
2. **Adaptive Management ($60.9 million)**
3. **The Parish Matching Opportunities Program ($100 million)**
4. **Contingency funds ($24.6 million)**

This SEP will need to be amended when funding approval is sought by Louisiana for specific activities in the third element, the Parish Matching Opportunities Program.

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The Mississippi SEP, approved on April 13, 2017, provides approximately $49,800,000 in Spill Impact Component funding to support coastal restoration activities. The Mississippi SEP includes three elements:

1. **The Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program ($45 million)**

2. **Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement ($3.5 million)**

3. **Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning ($1.3 million)**

Awarding Funds for SEP Implementation

Once a SEP is approved, funding for activities in the SEP is disbursed to the respective State via Council grants when the requisite funds become available in the Trust Fund and upon application by the State. As part of the grant process, all activities for which funding is sought are carefully reviewed to ensure consistency with the approved SEP and compliance with the RESTORE Act and all other applicable requirements. Funding for implementation activities is disbursed to the State after verification of compliance with all applicable federal environmental and other laws. Funding for planning activities in the SEP will be disbursed after verification of a direct relationship to the Spill Impact Component criteria.

In 2017, the Council awarded $19.76 million in grant funding for implementation of the Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan (PSEP) and a portion of Louisiana's Adaptive Management project.

Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan
Location: Texas
Sponsor: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $292,503.00
Additional information is available here

Adaptive Management
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Award amount: $19,467,855.50
Additional information is available here

Assisting the Development of State Expenditure Plans

In 2017, the Council continued to work with other State members to assist with the ongoing development of their respective SEPs. The Florida Consortium of Counties, the designated entity responsible for development of the Florida SEP, has been awarded planning funds to

prepare a SEP that addresses the needs of its 23-county membership. The Council worked with the Consortium of Counties to help ensure that its SEP will meet the legal requirements of the RESTORE Act and that the future Council review of the SEP is as smooth and expeditious as possible. The Council also worked with Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, providing guidance on how its SEP could address ecosystem and economic impacts of the storm and include elements that could help improve coastal resilience.

Administrative Accomplishments

To best serve the communities of the Gulf Coast region, the Council carries out its activities to implement the Comprehensive Plan and accomplish the requirements of the RESTORE Act in an effective and efficient manner, at the minimum cost possible to maximize the funds available for restoration projects and programs. The Council has managed its fiscal resources through a strategy of incremental growth corresponding to the development of its Council-Selected Restoration Component and the Spill Impact Component programs. While a significant amount of unreimbursed support was provided to the Council staff by many of its members in the first several years, the Council is now operating on a steady-state basis.

During fiscal years 2013 through 2015 the Council developed its administrative and programmatic infrastructure by establishing its headquarters office in New Orleans; developing and implementing its core administrative systems including finance, budget, accounting, procurement, travel, records management and IT systems; acquiring and deploying its website and automated grants management system; and implementation of its grant, science, and environmental compliance programs.

During FY 2016 the Council completed an enterprise risk management (ERM) analysis and risk profile, and in FY 2017 the Council implemented the ERM program to ensure that the Council mitigates high risk areas identified through that analysis. Internal controls have been and continue to be a major consideration in the development and continued refinement of the Council's policies and procedures and automated systems. Administrative, finance, accounting, grants and interagency agreement policies and procedures have been developed and documented and continue to be refined. Post-award grants management and oversight procedures have been developed to mitigate the risk of improper payments and address risks identified in the enterprise-wide risk assessment, while also developing information that will enhance the Council's ability to forecast cash requirements and manage its awards in order to ensure positive outcomes.

Enhancing Efficiency of the Grant System

In December 2015 the Council deployed its automated grants management system, the Restoration Assistance and Agreements Management System (RAAMS), and began implementing its grants and IAA program concurrent with the approval of the Initial FPL. The Council is committed to ensuring that the process used for awarding and disbursing funds is as

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efficient as possible, while also providing the oversight needed for sound fiscal management. As it did with the Initial FPL, after a year of experience the Council initiated a thorough review of its application, disbursement and post-award oversight processes to identify and implement system changes that will lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness. While this review is ongoing, the Council has already incorporated efficiency measures identified thus far. The Council will continue to identify and implement process improvements and best practices for its grant and IAA program and system.

Department of Treasury Audits

In 2017 the Treasury Office of Inspector General completed the following seven audits.

1. RESTORE Act Council Effectively Acquired and Implemented a Grants Management System, but Challenges Remain in Service Agreement Monitoring and Invoice Processing *(OIG-17-037)*
    a. The audit report found that the Council's grant program and system complied with applicable RESTORE Act, Federal grant regulations and internal grants policies and procedures.
    b. The report identified two findings related to internal controls associated with processing the invoices associated with an IAA, and both findings have been resolved and all three recommendations implemented.
2. DATA Act Readiness: Council Is Making Progress in Meeting DATA Act Reporting Requirements Despite Challenges *(OIG-17-045)*
    a. The report had no findings other than the Council is making adequate progress to meet OMB deadlines despite challenges. There were no recommendations.
3. Permanent Funding Authorities: Some Selected Entities Should Review Financial Management, Oversight and Transparency Policies *(GAO 17-59)*
    a. The Council was mentioned briefly in the report, which focused on other federal entities. There were no findings with regards to the Council.
4. Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 Fiscal Year 2017 Evaluation *(OIG-CA-18-006)*
    a. The evaluation found that consistent with applicable federal requirements and guidelines, the Council's information security program and practices were established and maintained in FY 2017. However, the Council's IT security program was not in place for the entire year thus there was a finding that it was not fully effective for the entire period. Since the Council had already taken corrective action there were no recommendations.
5. Council Met Reporting Requirements Under the DATA Act Despite Challenges *(OIG-18-008)*
    a. The audit found that not all data was accurate due to a timing difference in processing between systems. The Council had improved their internal controls and reconciliation processes prior to completion of the audit.
6. Audit of the FY 2017 Financial Statements of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council *(OIG-18-016)*

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a. The auditors issued an unqualified ("clean") audit opinion with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies.

7. Management Letter for the Audit of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's Fiscal Years 2017 and 2016 Financial Statements. *(OIG-18-028)*
    a. The letter had one comment that the Council's Information Security program and practices were formalized and documented, but not consistently applied. This comment resulted because the CIO and the IT Security program and practices were not in place for the entire year. The Report noted that the Council has taken the necessary steps to remediate this condition by filling the CIO position to maintain and further develop information security policies, procedures, and control techniques.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

During ~~FY~~ 2017 Council staff received four~~three~~ Freedom of Information Requests (FOIA) submissions, all requesting the same information. The requests were complex, requiring multi-member coordination and response. Completion of information compilation and review will not be completed until early 2018. ~~average number of days needed to respond to these FOIA requests was six days, with a range of one to nine days to provide the requested information. No funds were collected from the three requesters.~~

Centers of Excellence Accomplishments

Background

The RESTORE Act dedicates 2.5 percent of the Trust Fund to the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program, administered by the Department of Treasury. These funds may be used to establish Centers of Excellence and by those Centers of Excellence for science, technology, and monitoring in one or more of the following disciplines:

- Coastal and deltaic sustainability, restoration, and protection, including solutions and technology that allow citizens to live in a safe and sustainable manner in a coastal delta in the Gulf Coast Region;
- Coastal fisheries and wildlife ecosystem research and monitoring in the Gulf Coast Region;
- Offshore energy development, including research and technology to improve the sustainable and safe development of energy resources in the Gulf of Mexico;
- Sustainable and resilient growth, economic and commercial development in the Gulf Coast Region; and
- Comprehensive observation, monitoring, and mapping of the Gulf of Mexico.

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The RESTORE Act specifies who may apply to receive funds under the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program. Following are the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program eligible applicants for each State:

- In Alabama, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council or such administrative agent as it may designate;
- In Florida, the Florida Institute of Oceanography;
- In Louisiana, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board of Louisiana through the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana;
- In Mississippi, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; and
- In Texas, the Office of the Governor or an appointee of the Office of the Governor.

Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, each State ~~Center of Excellence~~ provides an annual report on its respective Center of Excellence to the RESTORE Council with information regarding all grants, including the amount, discipline or disciplines, and recipients of the grants, and in the case of any grant awarded to a consortium, the membership of the consortium. This information is to be included in the Council's Annual Report to Congress. As of the date of this report, four Centers of Excellence have been established. Following are summaries of the activities of these Centers of Excellence; the full reports are located here *(link to a Council webpage for the full reports).*

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

In January 2015, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) competitively selected two consortia, the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi - Texas OneGulf Consortium and University of Houston (UofH) - Subsea Systems Institute.

The mission of the Texas OneGulf Center of Excellence is to gather and improve knowledge about the Gulf of Mexico to inform decision making around the challenges to environmental and economic sustainability of the Gulf of Mexico and its impact on the health and well-being of Texans and the nation. Texas OneGulf is designed with the capacity and flexibility to address all five focus disciplines denoted in Section 1605 of RESTORE. This Center has been awarded funding and has begun or completed activities on five projects. Highlights include: Completed and released first official Texas OneGulf Strategic Research and Action Plan (SRAP) project; Organized and convened Disaster Research Response (DR2) Workshop; Completed the sharing of and began use of templates and research protocols with multiple institutions; Completed 3-year plan to integrating Texas OneGulf DR2 program with other state and national DR2 programs to develop and advance initiatives identified; Completed the second round of glider missions; Three underserved datasets have been identified for Texas Knowledge Base project; Released Request for Proposal (RFP) to implement competitive grant program.

Subsea Systems Institute (SSI) is a collaborative endeavor focus on the translational engineering, validation science and appropriate policy towards maintaining the technological,

economic and workforce leadership of the Gulf coast area in the realm of deepwater and ultra-deepwater hydrocarbon use. The SSI is addressing offshore energy development, including research and technology to improve the sustainable and safe development of energy resources in the Gulf of Mexico as its focus on one of the disciplines denoted in Section 1605 of RESTORE. This Center has been awarded funding and has begun or completed activities on seven projects. Highlights include: Commenced with the testing of thin-film Li ion batteries and thin-film supercapacitors; Commenced with the construction of the high-pressure apparatus for capacitator- battery testing at 5,000 psi; Developed physics based annular models; Completed the presentation of results to the SSI Technical Advisory Committee and prepared final report for the Marine Drilling Hazard Mitigation and Production Facility Monitoring using Seismic and Sonar Imaging project; Completed industry workshop and prototype Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV) design modifications; Progress on a Finite Element Model of an Annular; Launched new project with the designing of sensor and gateway nodes for subsea environment communication.

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

On April 8, 2014, the Coastal and Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) named The Water Institute of the Gulf as the State of Louisiana's Center of Excellence. On November 1, 2015, the U.S. Department of the Treasury awarded CPRA a grant to begin its research program. The mission of the RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana (LA-COE) is to support research directly relevant to implementation of Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan by administering a competitive grants program and providing the appropriate coordination and oversight support to ensure that success metrics are tracked and achieved.

The LA-COE completed coordination of the review process of 76 proposals (graduate studentship, research and collaborative awards) that were solicited under the first request for proposals (RFP1). The proposals were all reviewed by subject matter experts (SME) and CPRA for criteria defined in the RFP. The SME and CPRA reviews of the research and collaborative proposals were compiled for the External Review Board (ERB). The ERB consists of nationally and internationally recognized subject matter experts on topics relevant to Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan. An in-person ERB meeting was held in Baton Rouge, LA in April 2017. The ERB made funding recommendations (based on a scale of 1-3) for each research and collaborative proposal based on review and discussion of the proposals, the SME reviews, and the CPRA reviews. A Recommendation Meeting was held on June 20, 2017 with CPRA and LA-COE staff to discuss the ERB's recommendations and to develop a potential list of projects to fund, subject to concurrence by CPRA and LA-COE leadership. A Concurrence Meeting was held on May 30, 2017 to finalize which graduate studentship, research and collaborative awards would be granted. Principal investigators (PIs) were notified of the awards and then a public announcement was made via a joint LA-COE and CPRA press release on June 22, 2017. A total of 13 awards were announced; six graduate studentship awards, two collaborative awards, and five research awards.

Contracting and research grants management procedures were developed to help manage the funding process and subrecipients. Assessment and reporting on progress using defined metrics that address federal reporting requirements including reports to Treasury have been developed.

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

In February 2015, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) made available for public comment for 45 days a draft Request for Proposals describing the competitive selection process, rules, and policies. MDEQ prepared the draft Request for Proposals in accordance with state law and in compliance with 31 C.F.R. §34.700-708. Notice of the public comment and review period for the draft Request for Proposals was published in the Sun Herald and Clarion Ledger newspapers as well as online at www.restore.ms. After consideration of meaningful input from the public, a final Request for Proposals was published in April 2015. Notice of availability of the final Request for Proposals was published in the Sun Herald and Clarion Ledger newspapers on April 6, 2015 and April 13, 2015, as well as online at www.restore.ms. The deadline to submit proposals was May 7, 2015. As a result of the Final RFP, MDEQ received two proposals. After reviewing the proposals according to the qualifications and criteria described above, the Mississippi Based Restore Act Center of Excellence (MBRACE) was selected. MBRACE is a consortium of four Mississippi universities - Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, University of Mississippi and University of Southern Mississippi. The University of Southern Mississippi serves as the lead university for the consortium.

The focus of MBRACE, a consortium of Mississippi's research universities, is a sound, comprehensive science- and technology-based understanding of the chronic and acute stressors, both anthropogenic and natural, on the dynamic and productive waters and ecosystems of the northern Gulf. The goals of MBRACE are: (1) serve as a focal point for new, long-term research and socio-economic initiatives along the northern Gulf with relevance to Mississippi's resources; (2) serve the people of Mississippi and the northern Gulf region with a scientifically based understanding of ecosystem status and trends (past to present, predictive) with special emphasis on improved forecasting abilities to ensure sustainable coastal and ocean ecosystems of the Gulf; and (3) work within a consortium of stakeholders including Mississippi's research universities under the Mississippi Research Consortium, state and federal agencies, local communities, private industry, and non-governmental organizations.

MBRACE established a five-person Executive Steering Committee (ESC) comprised of leadership from the four MBRACE universities. The ESC developed core research questions and a science plan relative to the COE eligible disciplines. The science plan guides the Core Research Program conducted by MBRACE. A Call for Proposals to fund research under the Core Research Program was developed to solicit proposals from MBRACE universities. Proposals submitted by the University of Southern Mississippi, the University of Mississippi, and Mississippi State University have been approved, and the sub-award agreements have been executed. The proposal

submitted by Jackson State University has been approved, and a sub-award agreement is pending execution.

Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council

In 2015, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (AGCRC) completed a competitive selection process and formally accepted the proposal of the Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium (MESC) to serve as Alabama's Center of Excellence. The AGCRC authorized its Administrator (the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) to develop an agreement outlining the specific scope of work for the Center of Excellence in Alabama. Once the agreement is finalized, the AGCRC will designate the MESC as Alabama's Center of Excellence.

Florida Institute of Oceanography

The Florida RESTORE Act Centers of Excellence Program (FLRACEP) continues to monitor and manage the initial ten research grant awards funded through the first Request for Proposals. While these awards were slated to close November 30, 2017, Hurricanes Hermine and Matthew from the 2016 season and, most notably, Hurricane Irma in 2017 caused significant delays and disturbances to data collection, analysis and manuscript preparation. FLRACEP personnel decided to offer no-cost extensions through February 28, 2018 to all RFP I projects, and grants that accept will now close out in May 2018. The FLRACEP applied for and received an extension (with funds) of its existing award from the U.S. Department of the Treasury in order to fund and implement the research project associated with the program's second Request for Proposals. This work began in March of 2017 and will continue through the end of 2018 with the possibility of extension. External science review of the project is planned for the summer of 2018, and the Program Management Team will decide on the extent and duration of any project extension at that time. FLRACEP participated in its second programmatic audit in July 2017 and is awaiting the report of findings from the Department of Treasury Office of the Inspector General.

Summary

Since its inception in 2012, the Council has established itself as an independent federal agency capable of meeting its legislative mandate to support ecological and economic recovery in the Gulf Coast region. To meet this challenge the Council built a small agency from the ground up, addressing a range of fundamental policy, governance, staffing and fiscal management responsibilities. This has required achieving consensus and leveraging the strengths among the Council's six federal and five State members. In the initial years, prior to entry of the BP Consent Decree, the Council was building an organization to manage an unknown, but potentially substantial amount of money. The Council chose to develop a lean, low-overhead organization that could be scaled as necessary to meet future demands.

In 2013 the Council completed its initial Comprehensive Plan, setting forth goals and objectives to guide future investments. In 2014 the Council began to develop its first set of restoration

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investments, using civil penalties from other parties involved in the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Since the ultimate amount of funding the Council would administer was unknown at that time, the Council focused on investments that would build a foundation for success for future restoration efforts. In 2015 the Council finalized this first list of restoration investments, which included planning, implementation and science activities in key watershed and estuaries across the northern Gulf.

In 2016 the Council began awarding funds for the projects and programs in this initial list, while continuing to strengthen its financial administration capacity. Additionally, the Consent Decree was finalized, and the Council assessed the process it used to identify its initial investments, incorporating the findings into an updated Comprehensive Plan. The updated Comprehensive Plan emphasizes collaboration and leveraging among Gulf restoration funding sources, along with other Council commitments necessary to achieve the greatest benefits from future investments.

In 2017 the Council set a path forward for meeting these commitments, while continuing to approve funds for a range of important restoration actions. In 2018 the Council will work toward the next round of funding decisions, using a robust collaboration process with its partners to make sure these investments provide the greatest restoration "bang for the buck."

Appendix 1: All Council Funding Awards

Council-Selected Restoration Component Awards

Alabama

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (Planning)

Organization: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Award amount: $358,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17EP0028
Watershed: Mobile Bay

Florida

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0039
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improvements (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,219,856.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL008
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Bayou Chico Contaminated Sediment Removal - Planning, Design, and Permitting (Planning)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $356,850.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0018
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Beach Haven - Joint Stormwater & Wastewater Improvement Project - Phase II (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $5,967,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0026
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline - Phase 1 (Planning)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $231,314.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0040
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Suwannee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Program (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,884,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0015
Watershed: Suwannee

Tate's Hell Strategy 1 (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Department of Agriculture
Award amount: $7,000,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DA0041
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Louisiana

Bayou Dularge Ridge, Marsh & Hydrologic Restoration (Planning)

Organization: Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service
Award amount: $5,162,084.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0007
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $3,220,460.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0025
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Golden Triangle Marsh Creation (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $4,347,733.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0013
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $14,190,000.00

Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0044
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment and Stabilization (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $7,259,216.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16LA0024
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Mississippi

Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use (BU) of Dredge Sediments in the Mississippi Sound (Planning)

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $2,178,847.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16MS0022
Watershed: Mississippi Sound

Sea Grant Education and Outreach (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $750,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16MS0020
Watershed: Mississippi Sound

Texas

Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor (Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $4,378,500.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17TX0010
Watershed: Laguna Madre

Bayou Greenways (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $7,109,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP18TX0011
Watershed: Galveston Bay

Matagorda Bay System Priority Landscape Conservation (Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $6,012,000.00

Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17TX0009
Watershed: Matagorda Bay

Gulf-wide

Baseline Flow, Gage Analysis & On-Line tool to Support Restoration

Organization: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $5,549,800.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0001

Council Monitoring and Assessment Program

Organization #1: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $1,175,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0006

Organization #2: Department of the Commerce/NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Award amount: $1,700,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0038

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership

Organization: U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA Restoration Center
Award amount: $7,500,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DC0030

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnerships / Youth Conservation Corps

Organization: Department of the Interior/Bureau of Indian Affairs
Award amount: $500,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP16DI0002

Strategic Conservation Assessment of Gulf Coast Landscapes

Organization: Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife SErvice
Award amount: $1,842,583.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0005

Spill Impact Component Awards

Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $292,503.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP17TX0042
Read the plan here

Louisiana Adaptive Management

Organization: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Award amount: $19,467,855.50
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP17LA0046
Additional information available here

Mississippi Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $1,374,612.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP16MS0019
Read the plan here

Florida Gulf Consortium's Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Gulf Consortium
Award amount: -$4,640,675.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP16FL0021
Read the plan here

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call Agenda
Wednesday, February 7, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2PM EST - 2:00PM CST / 3:00PM EST

Ex. 6

I. **Roll Call** (Buck Sutter) (Please mute phones.)

II. **TOPIC: CPS Award Update** (Kristin Smith)
Objective:
- Update Steering Committee on CPS awards, particularly noting **April 30, 2018 deadline** for application submission.

Materials:
- N/A

III. **TOPIC: Annual Report to Congress** (John Ettinger)
Objective:
- Steering Committee concurrence on final redline of draft Annual Report to Congress.
- Schedule Council vote to approve the Annual Report to Congress for February 21, 2018.

Materials:
- Redline Draft Annual Report to Congress

IV. **Administrative Contract Support** (Ben Scaggs/Dave Gilliland)
Objective:
- Discuss use of contract support for administrative GCERC staff functions.

Materials:
- N/A

V. **Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting** (Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Initiate planning for a face to face meeting in April 2018

Materials:
- N/A

VI. **Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
February 21, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175877-00001

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 2/14/2018 10:43:17 PM
To: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. 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(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]

Subject: February 21 Council Vote and Steering Committee Call: Agenda and Materials

Attachments: Council_Vote_and_Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Feb_21.pdf; 2017_Annual_Report_Congress_Pending_Council_Vote_2_7_18.pdf; MS State Expenditure Plan Amendment 2017 2.12.18 - Final Submit to Council.pdf

Council Members:

During the February 21 call, the Council is scheduled to vote on acceptance of the 2017 Annual Report to Congress. Please ensure that your Council member or voting designee is on the call to allow the vote to take place. (For the federal members, only the Chair or his voting designee need be present for a vote to take place.)

Prior to conducting this vote, we will have a Steering Committee discussion of other agenda items. Attached is the agenda for the call, along with the related documents:

1.
2. 2017 Annual Report to Congress
3.
4.
5. 2017 Mississippi State Expenditure Plan Amendment (see below)

One agenda item for the call is finalizing logistics for the April in-person Steering Committee meeting. As a follow-up to a piece of business from our previous call, Council staff are also proposing dates and general locations (states) for additional in-person meetings through the end of calendar year 2018, as follows:

- June: Week of June 11th or June 18th in Mississippi
- August: Week of August 13th or Aug 20th in Alabama
- October: Week of Oct 15 or Oct 22 in Texas
- December: Week of Dec 3 or 10 in Louisiana

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Please follow the link below to fill out a Doodle Poll indicating your availability for a 2 day meeting for each of those months, including a half day for a field experience/site visit. You will need to scroll to the right in the Doodle Poll to view all potential dates. PLEASE NOTE: We are seeking one response per member. Please coordinate with all necessary staff to ensure that your response reflects availability for all in your organization who need to attend. If you have any questions about the Doodle Poll, please contact Jean Cowan (Jean.Cowan@restorethegulf.gov).

https://doodle.com/poll/rb27hxcfm5me4pk3

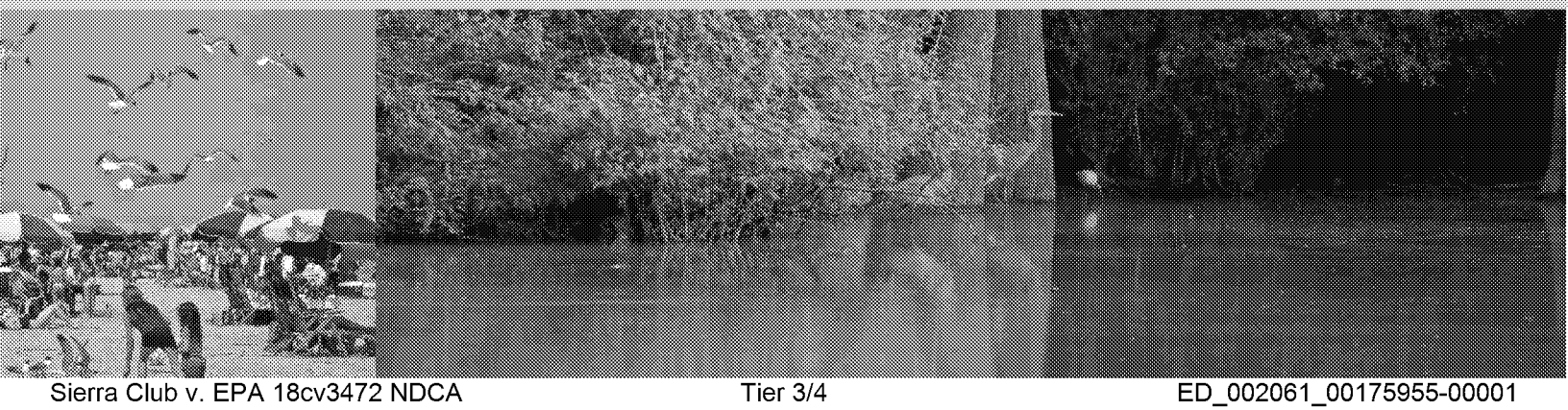
Mississippi State Expenditure Plan (SEP) Amendment and 20-Day Member Review: Mississippi has submitted a SEP Amendment for Chair approval/disapproval pursuant to the RESTORE Act. The statutory 60-day review period begins tomorrow, February 15, 2018. A decision by the Chair is required by April 16, 2018. Pursuant to the Council's SEP Guidelines, all members have until March 6, 2018, to submit comments to the Chair for consideration. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the SEP Amendment and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines. We have attached the Mississippi SEP Amendment for your review. Please provide any comments you might have to John Ettinger at john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov. If you have any questions, please contact John at (504) 444-3522.

We look forward to speaking with you next week. Thanks in advance for your participation in the call.

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

2017 Annual Report to Congress

Gulf Coast cosystem Restoration Council



DRAFT

2017 Annual Report to Congress

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Calendar Year 2017

Submitted _____ 2018

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Letter from the Acting Executive Director

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) hereby submits its 2017 Annual Report to Congress. The Council was created by the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act) in 2012 as an independent federal agency charged with administering a portion of the civil settlements associated with the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Consisting of the five Gulf Coast states (States) and six federal agencies, the Council's mission is to implement a comprehensive plan for the ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast.

The funds administered by the Council offer a rare opportunity to address ecosystem and economic needs in a way that provides sustainable benefits to communities across the Gulf. To that end, the Council must be methodical in choosing its investments, efficient in implementing them, and diligent in financial management. In 2017, the Council made substantial progress toward developing future projects and programs, expediting existing investments, and effectively managing its funds. The Council has accomplished these while maintaining an administrative expense rate below 3%.

To date, the Council has approved approximately $771 million in ecosystem restoration projects and programs across the Gulf. This sum represents funds approved under both the Council-Selected Restoration Component and the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act (explained in further detail in our report). After funding for an activity is approved by the Council, it is disbursed to the sponsoring Council member via an award in the form of a grant (for States) or an interagency agreement (for federal member agencies). To date, the Council has awarded approximately $122 million from the foregoing funding sources to its members and the Gulf Consortium of Florida Counties to support an array of restoration activities across the Gulf Coast, including investments in habitat conservation, oyster restoration, water quality, planning, science and more. These investments, though substantial, represent only a portion of the total funding available to the Council in the coming years. It is critical that while the Council administers these awarded funds it also builds a strong foundation for future success.

The Council's 2016 Comprehensive Plan update recognized that future success depends upon collaboration among Council members, other Gulf restoration funding partners and the public. Collaboration is needed to break down potential bureaucratic stovepipes and leverage resources to ensure the greatest possible benefit from the Council's investments. Congress established the structure for this collaboration by creating a Council comprised of the States and six federal agencies. To realize the full potential of this structure, in 2017 the Council developed a proposal to use a small portion of its Council-Selected Restoration Component funding for planning, collaboration and related actions to help identify and develop the best ideas for future funding. After reviewing public input, this proposal as well as a response to

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public comments were finalized in September of 2017. In January 2018, the Council approved these planning funds.

As it looks to the future, the Council continuously reviews its past activities in order to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its operations. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan update was based on the lessons learned from an internal and public review of the Council's first round of funding decisions. In 2017, the Council conducted a similar review of the way in which it disburses funds to its State and federal members. The Council is using the findings of this review to expedite the disbursement of funds to its members. In addition, the Council has continued to receive unqualified ("clean") audits of its financial and other activities.

On behalf of the Council, I am pleased to submit this Annual Report to Congress outlining our progress over the past twelve months. The Council remains committed to maintaining active communication with Congress. Please contact us at any time with your thoughts, suggestions or questions. Thank you for your continued leadership and support in restoring the Gulf Coast region.

Ben Scaggs
Executive Director (Acting)

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Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Members

Chair
Environmental Protection Agency
Scott Pruitt
Administrator

State of Alabama
Kay Ivey
Governor

State of Florida
Rick Scott
Governor

State of Louisiana
John Bel Edwards
Governor

State of Mississippi
Phil Bryant
Governor

State of Texas
Greg Abbott
Governor

Department of the Army
Mark T. Esper
Secretary

Department of Commerce
Wilbur Ross
Secretary

Department of Homeland Security
Kirstjen Nielsen
Secretary

Department of the Interior
Ryan Zinke
Secretary

Department of Agriculture
Sonny Perdue
Secretary

Background on the RESTORE Act

The Gulf Coast environment was significantly injured by the 2010 *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, as well as by past and ongoing human actions. Restoring an area as large and complex as the Gulf Coast region is a costly, multi-generational undertaking. Gulf habitats are continually degraded and lost due to development, infrastructure, sea-level rise, altered riverine processes, ocean acidification, salinity changes and other human-caused factors. Water quality in the coastal and marine environments is degraded by upstream pollution and hydrologic alterations spanning multiple States and involving the watersheds of large and small rivers alike. Stocks of marine and estuarine species are depleted by over-utilization and conflicting resource use. Some of the region's environmental problems such as wetland loss and hypoxia span areas the size of some U.S. states. This degradation represents a serious risk to the cultural, social and economic benefits derived from the Gulf ecosystem.

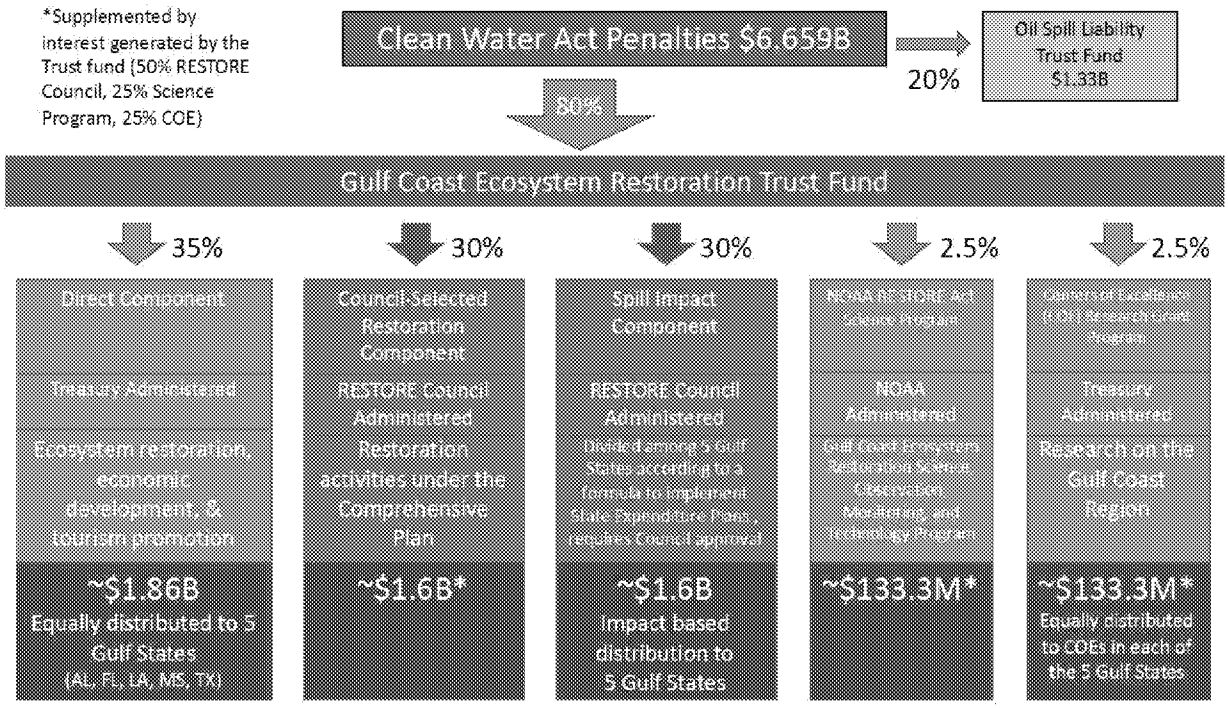
Spurred by the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012, or the RESTORE Act, was signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012. The Act calls for a regional approach to restoring the long-term health of the natural ecosystems and economy of the Gulf Coast region. The RESTORE Act dedicates 80 percent of civil and administrative penalties paid under the Clean Water Act (CWA), after the date of enactment, by responsible parties in connection with the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill to the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund) for ecosystem restoration, economic recovery and tourism promotion in the Gulf Coast region. Established by the Act, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) is comprised of the Governors of the five Gulf Coast States (States), the Secretaries of the U.S. Departments of the Interior, Army, Commerce, Agriculture and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Administrator of the EPA currently serves as the Council's Chairperson.

The resolution of civil claim totals for entities held responsible for the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill will yield more than $20 billion, the largest civil penalties ever awarded under any environmental statute, and the largest recovery of damages for injuries to natural resources of the United States. Of these penalties, the RESTORE Act will provide $5.33 billion (80 percent of $6.659 billion, plus interest) to the Trust Fund, consisting of 80 percent of the following: $1 billion (plus interest) in civil penalties from Transocean Deepwater Inc. and related entities for violating the CWA in relation to their conduct in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; $159.5 million from a civil fine paid by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation; and $5.5 billion (plus interest) from BP Exploration and Production, Inc. (BP) for a CWA civil penalty under the April 4, 2016 consent decree (Consent Decree), payable over a fifteen-year period (Figure 1).

The Council has oversight of the expenditure of 60 percent of the Trust Fund (green highlighted areas, Figure 1). Under the Council-Selected Restoration Component, 30 percent of available funding is administered for Gulf-wide ecosystem restoration and protection according to the Council's Comprehensive Plan. Under the Spill Impact Component, 30 percent is allocated to the States. The remaining funds are allocated as follows: 35 percent under the Direct Component,

divided equally among the five Gulf States for ecological and economic restoration; 2.5 percent to a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Component (plus 25 percent of interest earned) dedicated to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring and Technology Program; and 2.5 percent to a Centers of Excellence Component (plus 25 percent of interest earned) dedicated to the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program.

Figure 1. Allocation of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund based on settlements with BP, Transocean and Anadarko; RESTORE Council oversight components are highlighted in green.



Council-Selected Restoration Component Accomplishments

Background

Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, the Council approved an Initial Comprehensive Plan in 2013, setting forth goals and objectives for advancing comprehensive Gulf restoration. In 2015, the Council approved its first list of restoration projects and programs to be carried out under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. This list, called the Initial Funded Priorities List (or Initial FPL), consisted of $156.6 million in restoration activities in 10 key watersheds as well as several Gulf-wide programs. After approving the Initial FPL, the Council began disbursing funds to its members to implement the projects and programs listed therein. The Council also conducted a thorough internal and public review of the process it used to select projects and programs in this first round of funding. The goal of this review was to apply lessons learned from the initial selection process to subsequent funding decisions.

The funding for the Initial FPL came from the settlement of CWA civil penalties against Transocean Deepwater Inc. and related entities. When it approved the Initial FPL, the Council did not know the amount and timing of additional funding that could come from the ongoing litigation with BP. In 2016, the entry of the Consent Decree meant that the amount and timing of that funding was now known.

In 2016, the Council updated its Comprehensive Plan in light of this new funding information and the lessons learned in the review of its Initial FPL. The Comprehensive Plan update emphasizes the importance of coordination and collaboration among the Council members and with other programs in order to leverage resources and maximize the effectiveness of available restoration funding. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan update also commits to enhancing public engagement and the use of best available science to support a holistic approach to Gulf restoration. These commitments are intended ensure that future Council investments provide the greatest possible ecological return. Following is a list of the specific commitments made in the Comprehensive Plan update (Table 1).

Table 1. Council Commitments from the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Topic	Commitment
Development of Funded Priority Lists	Take a holistic approach to restoration
	Continue to improve FPL Submission Guidelines
	Adopt the watershed/estuary-based approach as a strategic planning principle for future FPL development
	Healthy and sustainable ecosystems are essential for thriving and resilient coastal communities
	Encourage partnerships and additional public and private financial and technical support to maximize outcomes and impacts
	Identify and leverage new sources of funding to support current and future restoration work by exploring creative conservation funding
	Refine the Council processes for considering public input on draft FPLs before finalizing changes to the final FPL

Topic	Commitment
Development of Funded Priority Lists	Project evaluation and selection will be conducted in the most open manner feasible
	Update and improve the process for applying best available science to FPL proposals, including exploring the use of one or more science review panels
Collaboration and Coordination	Sponsor and participate in meetings and workshops in 2017 and into 2018
	Facilitate meaningful engagement with range of stakeholders
	Maximize outcomes by leveraging funds and expertise
	Coordination and collaboration among members and our restoration partners is critical to the success of Gulf restoration
	Coordinate regulatory efforts across Council membership
Science	Decisions made pursuant to the FPL will be based on the best available science
	The Council recognizes the importance of measuring outcomes and impacts in order to achieve tangible results and ensure that funds are invested in a meaningful way

Promoting Coordination and Collaboration

It is now incumbent upon the Council to meet these commitments. Prior to 2017, no designated funding stream existed to support Council member efforts to plan and coordinate restoration activities under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Historically, Council members had to rely upon general, tax-generated or appropriated funds to support their work on matters such as FPL development and the Comprehensive Plan update.

To address this challenge, in 2017 the Council developed the Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support FPL (CPS FPL). The CPS FPL, officially approved by the Council in January 2018, is intended to ensure that Council members have the resources needed to develop highly effective projects and programs for future funding under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Under the CPS FPL, each of the eleven Council members may apply for up to

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$500,000 per year for up to three years and up to $300,000 per year for two years thereafter. This equals up to $23.1 million, or 1.44% of the total funds available (not including interest) in the Council-Selected Restoration Component. As with the Initial FPL, the CPS FPL includes a clause that incentivizes savings and efficiency by enabling the Council to apply unused planning funds to projects and programs sponsored by the member that achieves the savings.

The CPS FPL funding will provide the necessary resources for Council members to stimulate and encourage the coordination and collaboration necessary to achieve the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan. Specifically, the CPS FPL funding will provide funds necessary for members to:

- Strengthen ecosystem restoration proposals for future FPL(s) under the Council-Selected Restoration Component;
- Enhance the efficiency of future FPL development processes; and
- Facilitate long-term planning and leveraging efforts across funding streams.

The Council believes that investing a relatively small amount of time and resources in planning can ensure that restoration projects selected for funding will yield greater ecosystem benefits in the future. The Council will review the effectiveness of this funding at year four and consider whether extending planning and commitment support efforts beyond the five-year period is needed to continue to meet the Comprehensive Plan commitments.

Awarding Funds for Restoration Projects and Programs

In addition to the ongoing coordination and planning activities to support future investments, the Council has also worked to expedite the funding of the approximately $156.6 million in ecosystem restoration projects and programs approved in the Initial FPL. In 2017, the Council awarded funds for thirteen Initial FPL projects, totaling $62.14 million. This is in addition to the 2016 awards for ten Initial FPL projects totaling $34.38 million. The Initial FPL activities awarded funds in 2017 are listed below, along with links to additional information (including the projected duration of each activity).

Bayou Greenways (Planning & Implementation)
Location: Texas
Sponsor: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $7,109,000.00
Additional information is available here

Bayou Dularge Ridge, Marsh & Hydrologic Restoration (Planning)
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service
Award amount: $5,162,084.00
Additional information is available here

Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp (Planning)
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $14,190,000.00
Additional information is available here

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (Planning)
Location: Alabama
Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency
Award amount: $358,000.00
Additional information is available here

Beach Haven - Joint Stormwater & Wastewater Improvement - Phase II (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $5,967,000.00
Additional information is available here

Bayou Chico Contaminated Sediment Removal - Planning, Design, and Permitting (Planning)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $356,850.00
Additional information is available here

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Additional information is available here

Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improvements (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,219,856.00
Additional information is available here

Suwannee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Program (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,884,000.00
Additional information is available here

Tate's Hell Strategy 1 (Planning & Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Department of Agriculture
Award amount: $7,000,000.00
Additional information is available here

Council Monitoring and Assessment Program
Location: Gulfwide
Co-sponsor: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $1,175,000.00
Co-sponsor: Department of the Commerce/NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Award amount: $1,700,000.00
Additional information is available here

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership
Location: Gulfwide
Sponsor: U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA Restoration Center
Award amount: $7,500,000.00
Additional information is available here

Strategic Conservation Assessment of Gulf Coast Landscapes
Location: Gulfwide
Sponsor: Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Award amount: $1,842,583.00
Additional information is available here

These projects and programs support planning, implementation and science activities that will provide on-the-ground ecological benefits to key Gulf watersheds, develop shovel-ready projects, and help build a strong science foundation for future decision-making. In 2018, the Council will continue to award funds for activities on the Initial FPL, while also conducting technical and financial oversight of existing awards.

Making Projects "Shovel-Ready"

In addition to approving funds for specific projects and programs, the Initial FPL also lists activities the Council has identified as priorities for potential future funding. This category of activities (referred to as Category 2 activities) are projects and programs the Council believes have merit, but which were not ready for implementation funding because the requisite environmental compliance had not been completed. The Council set aside a pool of available funds for potential use on Category 2 activities, pending Council approval. The Council also approved planning funds to address the environmental laws applicable to these Category 2

activities. Once these laws have been addressed for a Category 2 activity, the Council can vote to approve funding for that activity through an amendment to the Initial FPL. Such a vote only occurs after public comments have been considered by the Council.

The Council is committed to efficient, effective and transparent environmental compliance processes for its activities, including those in Category 2. With major federal regulatory agencies among its members, the Council was well positioned to efficiently address the environmental compliance needs for a number of Category 2 projects in 2017. By reviewing and adopting existing National Environmental Policy Act documentation developed by member agencies, the Council has been able to approve implementation funding for two Category 2 projects in 2017. This efficiency has enabled the Council to save over $187,750 that was previously committed to the planning phase of these projects. These funds were re-allocated to project implementation, thereby increasing on-the-ground ecological benefits. Below are the Category 2 projects that were approved for funding in 2017.

Tampa Bay Estuary Program
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency
Funding approved: $1,544,960
Additional information is available here

Palm River Restoration Project Phase II, East McKay Bay Project I
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida
Funding approved: $856,430
Additional information is available here

In 2017 the Council also amended the Initial FPL to allocate the $9,300,000 in approved funding for the Lowermost Mississippi River Management project to the State of Louisiana. (The Initial FPL originally had this funding equally allocated between the State of Louisiana and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.) In addition, the Council amended the Initial FPL to modify the potential acquisition and conservation boundary for the Mississippi program entitled "Strategic Land Protection, Conservation, and Enhancement of Priority Gulf Coast" and the geographic area for beneficial use planning for potential future marsh restoration activities under the "Texas Beneficial Use/Marsh Restoration (Planning)" project.

Sub-Awards to Non-Governmental Organizations

The RESTORE Act requires that, for purposes of awards made under the Council-Selected Restoration Component, a State or federal award recipient may make a grant or subaward to or enter into a cooperative agreement with a non-governmental entity that equals or exceeds 10 percent of the total amount of the award provided to the State or federal award recipient only

if certain notice requirements are met. The Council has provided notice in advance of each such proposed subaward through the *Federal Register* and to specified Congressional Committees. In addition, the Council must include the name, purpose and amount of each qualifying subaward in its Annual Report to Congress. The below table provides the required information.

Table 2. 2017 Subawards to Nongovernmental Entities That Exceed 10 Percent of an Award

Name of Subrecipient	Purpose and Amount of Subaward
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Under a grant from the Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is implementing the Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor Implementation project, through which 1,852 acres of land will be conserved through fee title acquisition from willing sellers and added to a 105,000 acre corridor of conservation lands that includes the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Boca Chica State Park and the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR. Through a subaward in the amount of $4,363,391, TNC will acquire three properties in the Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor, which are expected to ultimately become part of the Laguna Atascosa NWR. These properties will connect Laguna Atascosa NWR, Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR, and Boca Chica State Park, as well as over 2 million acres of intact habitat on private ranchland with the 1.3 million acre Rio Bravo Protected Area. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on November 23, 2016 (81 FR 84581).
Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	Under an interagency agreement (IAA) with the Council, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Department of the Interior and NOAA are jointly administering the Council Monitoring and Assessment Program (CMAP) to build the foundational components for Gulf region-wide monitoring in order to measure impacts of investments in restoration. Through a subaward from NOAA in the amount of $525,000, GOMA will coordinate the Monitoring Community of Practice to leverage existing resources, capacities, and expertise and build on existing monitoring programs. These existing programs will be coordinated into a network, to provide efficiency in monitoring and collaborative cross-program review of performance with other Gulf ecosystem recovery efforts. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on March 14, 2017 (82 FR 13607), with a correction posted on April 14, 2017 (82 FR 17995).
The Houston Parks Board (HPB)	Under a grant from the Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is implementing the Bayou Greenways Planning and Implementation project, which supports the larger Bayou Greenways Initiative, which has the long-term goal of preserving and restoring 4,000 acres of riparian buffer corridors along

Name of Subrecipient	Purpose and Amount of Subaward
	the major waterways (bayous and creeks) running predominately through Harris County and the City of Houston. Through a subaward in the amount of $7,085,022, HPB will purchase and conserve approximately 80 to 100 acres of land through fee title acquisition from willing sellers. HPB intends to transfer title of acquired lands to the Houston Parks and Recreation Department for preservation in perpetuity as parkland. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on June 1, 2017 (82 FR 25289).
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Under an IAA with the Council, NOAA is implementing the Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership (GulfCorps) program, which is designed to contribute to meaningful Gulf Coast ecosystem restoration, while economically benefiting coastal communities by providing education, training, and opportunities to workers to implement conservation projects. Through a subaward in the amount of $7,000,000, TNC will recruit and train GulfCorps participants who will be mobilized to provide labor on selected coastal restoration projects in each Gulf State. Projects may include invasive species removal, shoreline protection and enhancement, riparian restoration, debris removal, revegetation, reef restoration, and habitat monitoring and conservation. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on June 29, 2017 (82 FR 29565).

Enhancing Environmental Compliance Efficiency through Interagency Collaboration

The Gulf Coast Interagency Environmental Restoration Working Group (GCIERWG) is a standing workgroup whose purpose is to achieve more effective and efficient environmental review and permitting of Gulf restoration projects across ecosystem restoration funding streams through early and consistent interagency coordination and prioritization of restoration efforts. This workgroup was formed in recognition of the critical need for increased regulatory collaboration to deliver timely restoration implementation. The GCIERWG is currently led by NOAA and is comprised of representation from the U.S. Departments of Army, Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency with facilitation by Council staff. The group coordinates through standing monthly interagency working group conference calls with follow-up as needed.

In 2017, the GCIERWG spearheaded a new interagency regulatory clearinghouse pilot effort to demonstrate the utility of a voluntary regulatory efficiency approach that engages field level technical review of restoration projects at the earliest possible stages to make the regulatory process collaborative and by applying efficiency tools to facilitate effective and expeditious

environmental compliance. Two FPL planning projects were selected as pilots: the Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline – Phase 1 project sponsored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (additional information available here) and the Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project sponsored by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (additional information available here). Regulatory contacts for each project were identified, and project kick-off meetings were completed this year. As the planning and design begins for these projects in 2018, the GCIERWG will continue to engage through these pilot efforts, evaluating their utility for future applicability and potential expansion as staffing resources allow.

Spill Impact Component Accomplishments

Background

In addition to the Council-Selected Restoration Component funding, the remaining 30 percent of the Trust Fund under the Council's purview is allocated to the States under the Spill Impact Component, according to a formula established by the Council and implemented through a regulation. These funds are spent according to individual State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) that contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf. The SEPs must adhere to four basic criteria set forth in the RESTORE Act and are subject to approval by the Council in accordance with those criteria. On December 15, 2015, the Council published the Spill Impact Component regulation, which set forth allocation for each State. These allocations became effective on April 12, 2016, following entry of the Consent Decree.

Approving State Expenditure Plans

In 2017, the Council approved SEPs for Louisiana and Mississippi, representing approximately $600,000,000 in coastal restoration investments. The Louisiana SEP, approved on March, 23, 2017, provides approximately $551,500,000 in Spill Impact Component funding to support coastal restoration activities in the State's Coastal Master Plan. The Louisiana SEP includes four elements:

1. **The Houma Navigation Canal Lock Complex ($366 million)**
2. **Adaptive Management ($60.9 million)**
3. **The Parish Matching Opportunities Program ($100 million)**
4. **Contingency funds ($24.6 million)**

This SEP will need to be amended when funding approval is sought by Louisiana for specific activities in the third element, the Parish Matching Opportunities Program.

The Mississippi SEP, approved on April 13, 2017, provides approximately $49,800,000 in Spill Impact Component funding to support coastal restoration activities. The Mississippi SEP includes three elements:

1. **The Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program ($45 million)**

2. **Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement ($3.5 million)**

3. **Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning ($1.3 million)**

Awarding Funds for SEP Implementation

Once a SEP is approved, funding for activities in the SEP is disbursed to the respective State via Council grants when the requisite funds become available in the Trust Fund and upon application by the State. As part of the grant process, all activities for which funding is sought are carefully reviewed to ensure consistency with the approved SEP and compliance with the RESTORE Act and all other applicable requirements. Funding for implementation activities is disbursed to the State after verification of compliance with all applicable federal environmental and other laws. Funding for planning activities in the SEP will be disbursed after verification of a direct relationship to the Spill Impact Component criteria.

In 2017, the Council awarded $19.76 million in grant funding for implementation of the Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan (PSEP) and a portion of Louisiana's Adaptive Management project.

Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan
Location: Texas
Sponsor: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $292,503.00
Additional information is available here

Adaptive Management
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Award amount: $19,467,855.50
Additional information is available here

Assisting the Development of State Expenditure Plans

In 2017, the Council continued to work with other State members to assist with the ongoing development of their respective SEPs. The Florida Consortium of Counties, the designated entity responsible for development of the Florida SEP, has been awarded planning funds to

prepare a SEP that addresses the needs of its 23-county membership. The Council worked with the Consortium of Counties to help ensure that its SEP will meet the legal requirements of the RESTORE Act and that the future Council review of the SEP is as smooth and expeditious as possible. The Council also worked with Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, providing guidance on how its SEP could address ecosystem and economic impacts of the storm and include elements that could help improve coastal resilience.

Administrative Accomplishments

To best serve the communities of the Gulf Coast region, the Council carries out its activities to implement the Comprehensive Plan and accomplish the requirements of the RESTORE Act in an effective and efficient manner, at the minimum cost possible to maximize the funds available for restoration projects and programs. The Council has managed its fiscal resources through a strategy of incremental growth corresponding to the development of its Council-Selected Restoration Component and the Spill Impact Component programs. While a significant amount of unreimbursed support was provided to the Council staff by many of its members in the first several years, the Council is now operating on a steady-state basis.

During fiscal years 2013 through 2015 the Council developed its administrative and programmatic infrastructure by establishing its headquarters office in New Orleans; developing and implementing its core administrative systems including finance, budget, accounting, procurement, travel, records management and IT systems; acquiring and deploying its website and automated grants management system; and implementation of its grant, science, and environmental compliance programs.

During FY 2016 the Council completed an enterprise risk management (ERM) analysis and risk profile, and in FY 2017 the Council implemented the ERM program to ensure that the Council mitigates high risk areas identified through that analysis. Internal controls have been and continue to be a major consideration in the development and continued refinement of the Council's policies and procedures and automated systems. Administrative, finance, accounting, grants and interagency agreement policies and procedures have been developed and documented and continue to be refined. Post-award grants management and oversight procedures have been developed to mitigate the risk of improper payments and address risks identified in the enterprise-wide risk assessment, while also developing information that will enhance the Council's ability to forecast cash requirements and manage its awards in order to ensure positive outcomes.

Enhancing Efficiency of the Grant System

In December 2015 the Council deployed its automated grants management system, the Restoration Assistance and Agreements Management System (RAAMS), and began implementing its grants and IAA program concurrent with the approval of the Initial FPL. The Council is committed to ensuring that the process used for awarding and disbursing funds is as

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efficient as possible, while also providing the oversight needed for sound fiscal management. As it did with the Initial FPL, after a year of experience the Council initiated a thorough review of its application, disbursement and post-award oversight processes to identify and implement system changes that will lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness. While this review is ongoing, the Council has already incorporated efficiency measures identified thus far. The Council will continue to identify and implement process improvements and best practices for its grant and IAA program and system.

Department of Treasury Audits

In 2017 the Treasury Office of Inspector General completed the following seven audits.

1. RESTORE Act Council Effectively Acquired and Implemented a Grants Management System, but Challenges Remain in Service Agreement Monitoring and Invoice Processing *(OIG-17-037)*
    a. The audit report found that the Council's grant program and system complied with applicable RESTORE Act, Federal grant regulations and internal grants policies and procedures.
    b. The report identified two findings related to internal controls associated with processing the invoices associated with an IAA, and both findings have been resolved and all three recommendations implemented.
2. DATA Act Readiness: Council Is Making Progress in Meeting DATA Act Reporting Requirements Despite Challenges *(OIG-17-045)*
    a. The report had no findings other than the Council is making adequate progress to meet OMB deadlines despite challenges. There were no recommendations.
3. Permanent Funding Authorities: Some Selected Entities Should Review Financial Management, Oversight and Transparency Policies *(GAO 17-59)*
    a. The Council was mentioned briefly in the report, which focused on other federal entities. There were no findings with regards to the Council.
4. Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 Fiscal Year 2017 Evaluation *(OIG-CA-18-006)*
    a. The evaluation found that consistent with applicable federal requirements and guidelines, the Council's information security program and practices were established and maintained in FY 2017. However, the Council's IT security program was not in place for the entire year thus there was a finding that it was not fully effective for the entire period. Since the Council had already taken corrective action there were no recommendations.
5. Council Met Reporting Requirements Under the DATA Act Despite Challenges *(OIG-18-008)*
    a. The audit found that not all data was accurate due to a timing difference in processing between systems. The Council had improved their internal controls and reconciliation processes prior to completion of the audit.
6. Audit of the FY 2017 Financial Statements of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council *(OIG-18-016)*

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a. The auditors issued an unqualified ("clean") audit opinion with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies.

7. Management Letter for the Audit of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's Fiscal Years 2017 and 2016 Financial Statements. *(OIG-18-028)*
    a. The letter had one comment that the Council's Information Security program and practices were formalized and documented, but not consistently applied. This comment resulted because the CIO and the IT Security program and practices were not in place for the entire year. The Report noted that the Council has taken the necessary steps to remediate this condition by filling the CIO position to maintain and further develop information security policies, procedures, and control techniques.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

During 2017 Council staff received four Freedom of Information Requests (FOIA) submissions, all requesting the same information. The requests were complex, requiring multi-member coordination and response. Completion of information compilation and review will not be completed until early 2018.

Centers of Excellence Accomplishments

Background

The RESTORE Act dedicates 2.5 percent of the Trust Fund to the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program, administered by the Department of Treasury. These funds may be used to establish Centers of Excellence and by those Centers of Excellence for science, technology, and monitoring in one or more of the following disciplines:

- Coastal and deltaic sustainability, restoration, and protection, including solutions and technology that allow citizens to live in a safe and sustainable manner in a coastal delta in the Gulf Coast Region;
- Coastal fisheries and wildlife ecosystem research and monitoring in the Gulf Coast Region;
- Offshore energy development, including research and technology to improve the sustainable and safe development of energy resources in the Gulf of Mexico;
- Sustainable and resilient growth, economic and commercial development in the Gulf Coast Region; and
- Comprehensive observation, monitoring, and mapping of the Gulf of Mexico.

The RESTORE Act specifies who may apply to receive funds under the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program. Following are the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program eligible applicants for each State:

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- In Alabama, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council or such administrative agent as it may designate;
- In Florida, the Florida Institute of Oceanography;
- In Louisiana, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board of Louisiana through the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana;
- In Mississippi, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; and
- In Texas, the Office of the Governor or an appointee of the Office of the Governor.

Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, each State provides an annual report on its respective Center of Excellence to the RESTORE Council with information regarding all grants, including the amount, discipline or disciplines, and recipients of the grants, and in the case of any grant awarded to a consortium, the membership of the consortium. This information is to be included in the Council's Annual Report to Congress. As of the date of this report, four Centers of Excellence have been established. Following are summaries of the activities of these Centers of Excellence; the full reports are located here *(link to a Council webpage for the full reports).*

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

In January 2015, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) competitively selected two consortia, the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi - Texas OneGulf Consortium and University of Houston (UofH) - Subsea Systems Institute.

The mission of the Texas OneGulf Center of Excellence is to gather and improve knowledge about the Gulf of Mexico to inform decision making around the challenges to environmental and economic sustainability of the Gulf of Mexico and its impact on the health and well-being of Texans and the nation. Texas OneGulf is designed with the capacity and flexibility to address all five focus disciplines denoted in Section 1605 of RESTORE. This Center has been awarded funding and has begun or completed activities on five projects. Highlights include: Completed and released first official Texas OneGulf Strategic Research and Action Plan (SRAP) project; Organized and convened Disaster Research Response (DR2) Workshop; Completed the sharing of and began use of templates and research protocols with multiple institutions; Completed 3-year plan to integrating Texas OneGulf DR2 program with other state and national DR2 programs to develop and advance initiatives identified; Completed the second round of glider missions; Three underserved datasets have been identified for Texas Knowledge Base project; Released Request for Proposal (RFP) to implement competitive grant program.

Subsea Systems Institute (SSI) is a collaborative endeavor focus on the translational engineering, validation science and appropriate policy towards maintaining the technological, economic and workforce leadership of the Gulf coast area in the realm of deepwater and ultra-deepwater hydrocarbon use. The SSI is addressing offshore energy development, including research and technology to improve the sustainable and safe development of energy resources in the Gulf of Mexico as its focus on one of the disciplines denoted in Section 1605 of RESTORE. This Center has been awarded funding and has begun or completed activities on seven projects.

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Highlights include: Commenced with the testing of thin-film Li ion batteries and thin-film supercapacitors; Commenced with the construction of the high-pressure apparatus for capacitator- battery testing at 5,000 psi; Developed physics based annular models; Completed the presentation of results to the SSI Technical Advisory Committee and prepared final report for the Marine Drilling Hazard Mitigation and Production Facility Monitoring using Seismic and Sonar Imaging project; Completed industry workshop and prototype Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV) design modifications; Progress on a Finite Element Model of an Annular; Launched new project with the designing of sensor and gateway nodes for subsea environment communication.

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

On April 8, 2014, the Coastal and Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) named The Water Institute of the Gulf as the State of Louisiana's Center of Excellence. On November 1, 2015, the U.S. Department of the Treasury awarded CPRA a grant to begin its research program. The mission of the RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana (LA-COE) is to support research directly relevant to implementation of Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan by administering a competitive grants program and providing the appropriate coordination and oversight support to ensure that success metrics are tracked and achieved.

The LA-COE completed coordination of the review process of 76 proposals (graduate studentship, research and collaborative awards) that were solicited under the first request for proposals (RFP1). The proposals were all reviewed by subject matter experts (SME) and CPRA for criteria defined in the RFP. The SME and CPRA reviews of the research and collaborative proposals were compiled for the External Review Board (ERB). The ERB consists of nationally and internationally recognized subject matter experts on topics relevant to Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan. An in-person ERB meeting was held in Baton Rouge, LA in April 2017. The ERB made funding recommendations (based on a scale of 1-3) for each research and collaborative proposal based on review and discussion of the proposals, the SME reviews, and the CPRA reviews. A Recommendation Meeting was held on June 20, 2017 with CPRA and LA-COE staff to discuss the ERB's recommendations and to develop a potential list of projects to fund, subject to concurrence by CPRA and LA-COE leadership. A Concurrence Meeting was held on May 30, 2017 to finalize which graduate studentship, research and collaborative awards would be granted. Principal investigators (PIs) were notified of the awards and then a public announcement was made via a joint LA-COE and CPRA press release on June 22, 2017. A total of 13 awards were announced; six graduate studentship awards, two collaborative awards, and five research awards.

Contracting and research grants management procedures were developed to help manage the funding process and subrecipients. Assessment and reporting on progress using defined metrics that address federal reporting requirements including reports to Treasury have been developed.

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

In February 2015, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) made available for public comment for 45 days a draft Request for Proposals describing the competitive selection process, rules, and policies. MDEQ prepared the draft Request for Proposals in accordance with state law and in compliance with 31 C.F.R. §34.700-708. Notice of the public comment and review period for the draft Request for Proposals was published in the Sun Herald and Clarion Ledger newspapers as well as online at www.restore.ms. After consideration of meaningful input from the public, a final Request for Proposals was published in April 2015. Notice of availability of the final Request for Proposals was published in the Sun Herald and Clarion Ledger newspapers on April 6, 2015 and April 13, 2015, as well as online at www.restore.ms. The deadline to submit proposals was May 7, 2015. As a result of the Final RFP, MDEQ received two proposals. After reviewing the proposals according to the qualifications and criteria described above, the Mississippi Based Restore Act Center of Excellence (MBRACE) was selected. MBRACE is a consortium of four Mississippi universities - Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, University of Mississippi and University of Southern Mississippi. The University of Southern Mississippi serves as the lead university for the consortium.

The focus of MBRACE, a consortium of Mississippi's research universities, is a sound, comprehensive science- and technology-based understanding of the chronic and acute stressors, both anthropogenic and natural, on the dynamic and productive waters and ecosystems of the northern Gulf. The goals of MBRACE are: (1) serve as a focal point for new, long-term research and socio-economic initiatives along the northern Gulf with relevance to Mississippi's resources; (2) serve the people of Mississippi and the northern Gulf region with a scientifically based understanding of ecosystem status and trends (past to present, predictive) with special emphasis on improved forecasting abilities to ensure sustainable coastal and ocean ecosystems of the Gulf; and (3) work within a consortium of stakeholders including Mississippi's research universities under the Mississippi Research Consortium, state and federal agencies, local communities, private industry, and non-governmental organizations.

MBRACE established a five-person Executive Steering Committee (ESC) comprised of leadership from the four MBRACE universities. The ESC developed core research questions and a science plan relative to the COE eligible disciplines. The science plan guides the Core Research Program conducted by MBRACE. A Call for Proposals to fund research under the Core Research Program was developed to solicit proposals from MBRACE universities. Proposals submitted by the University of Southern Mississippi, the University of Mississippi, and Mississippi State University have been approved, and the sub-award agreements have been executed. The proposal submitted by Jackson State University has been approved, and a sub-award agreement is pending execution.

Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council

In 2015, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (AGCRC) completed a competitive selection process and formally accepted the proposal of the Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

(MESC) to serve as Alabama's Center of Excellence. The AGCRC authorized its Administrator (the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) to develop an agreement outlining the specific scope of work for the Center of Excellence in Alabama. Once the agreement is finalized, the AGCRC will designate the MESC as Alabama's Center of Excellence.

Florida Institute of Oceanography

The Florida RESTORE Act Centers of Excellence Program (FLRACEP) continues to monitor and manage the initial ten research grant awards funded through the first Request for Proposals. While these awards were slated to close November 30, 2017, Hurricanes Hermine and Matthew from the 2016 season and, most notably, Hurricane Irma in 2017 caused significant delays and disturbances to data collection, analysis and manuscript preparation. FLRACEP personnel decided to offer no-cost extensions through February 28, 2018 to all RFP I projects, and grants that accept will now close out in May 2018. The FLRACEP applied for and received an extension (with funds) of its existing award from the U.S. Department of the Treasury in order to fund and implement the research project associated with the program's second Request for Proposals. This work began in March of 2017 and will continue through the end of 2018 with the possibility of extension. External science review of the project is planned for the summer of 2018, and the Program Management Team will decide on the extent and duration of any project extension at that time. FLRACEP participated in its second programmatic audit in July 2017 and is awaiting the report of findings from the Department of Treasury Office of the Inspector General.

Summary

Since its inception in 2012, the Council has established itself as an independent federal agency capable of meeting its legislative mandate to support ecological and economic recovery in the Gulf Coast region. To meet this challenge the Council built a small agency from the ground up, addressing a range of fundamental policy, governance, staffing and fiscal management responsibilities. This has required achieving consensus and leveraging the strengths among the Council's six federal and five State members. In the initial years, prior to entry of the BP Consent Decree, the Council was building an organization to manage an unknown, but potentially substantial amount of money. The Council chose to develop a lean, low-overhead organization that could be scaled as necessary to meet future demands.

In 2013 the Council completed its initial Comprehensive Plan, setting forth goals and objectives to guide future investments. In 2014 the Council began to develop its first set of restoration investments, using civil penalties from other parties involved in the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Since the ultimate amount of funding the Council would administer was unknown at that time, the Council focused on investments that would build a foundation for success for future restoration efforts. In 2015 the Council finalized this first list of restoration investments, which included planning, implementation and science activities in key watershed and estuaries across the northern Gulf.

In 2016 the Council began awarding funds for the projects and programs in this initial list, while continuing to strengthen its financial administration capacity. Additionally, the Consent Decree was finalized, and the Council assessed the process it used to identify its initial investments, incorporating the findings into an updated Comprehensive Plan. The updated Comprehensive Plan emphasizes collaboration and leveraging among Gulf restoration funding sources, along with other Council commitments necessary to achieve the greatest benefits from future investments.

In 2017 the Council set a path forward for meeting these commitments, while continuing to approve funds for a range of important restoration actions. In 2018 the Council will work toward the next round of funding decisions, using a robust collaboration process with its partners to make sure these investments provide the greatest restoration "bang for the buck."

Appendix 1: All Council Funding Awards

Council-Selected Restoration Component Awards

Alabama

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (Planning)

Organization: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Award amount: $358,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17EP0028
Watershed: Mobile Bay

Florida

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0039
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improvements (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,219,856.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL008
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Bayou Chico Contaminated Sediment Removal - Planning, Design, and Permitting (Planning)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $356,850.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0018
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Beach Haven - Joint Stormwater & Wastewater Improvement Project - Phase II (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $5,967,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0026
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline - Phase 1 (Planning)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Award amount: $231,314.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0040
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Suwannee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Program (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,884,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0015
Watershed: Suwannee

Tate's Hell Strategy 1 (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Department of Agriculture
Award amount: $7,000,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DA0041
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Louisiana

Bayou Dularge Ridge, Marsh & Hydrologic Restoration (Planning)

Organization: Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service
Award amount: $5,162,084.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0007
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $3,220,460.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0025
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Golden Triangle Marsh Creation (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $4,347,733.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0013
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $14,190,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0044
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment and Stabilization (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $7,259,216.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16LA0024
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Mississippi

Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use (BU) of Dredge Sediments in the Mississippi Sound (Planning)

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $2,178,847.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16MS0022
Watershed: Mississippi Sound

Sea Grant Education and Outreach (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $750,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16MS0020
Watershed: Mississippi Sound

Texas

Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor (Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $4,378,500.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17TX0010
Watershed: Laguna Madre

Bayou Greenways (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $7,109,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP18TX0011
Watershed: Galveston Bay

Matagorda Bay System Priority Landscape Conservation (Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $6,012,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17TX0009
Watershed: Matagorda Bay

Gulf-wide

Baseline Flow, Gage Analysis & On-Line tool to Support Restoration

Organization: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $5,549,800.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0001

Council Monitoring and Assessment Program

Organization #1: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $1,175,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0006

Organization #2: Department of the Commerce/NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Award amount: $1,700,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0038

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership

Organization: U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA Restoration Center
Award amount: $7,500,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DC0030

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnerships / Youth Conservation Corps

Organization: Department of the Interior/Bureau of Indian Affairs
Award amount: $500,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP16DI0002

Strategic Conservation Assessment of Gulf Coast Landscapes

Organization: Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife SErvice
Award amount: $1,842,583.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0005

Spill Impact Component Awards

Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $292,503.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP17TX0042
Read the plan here

Louisiana Adaptive Management

Organization: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Award amount: $19,467,855.50
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP17LA0046
Additional information available here

Mississippi Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $1,374,612.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP16MS0019
Read the plan here

Florida Gulf Consortium's Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Gulf Consortium
Award amount: $4,640,675.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP16FL0021
Read the plan here

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

COUNCIL VOTE
and
Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, February 21, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2:00PM EST - 2:30PM CST / 3:30PM EST

Ex. 6

Steering Committee Agenda

I. **Roll Call, Ensure Quorum for Vote** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: Next Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting** (Ben Scaggs/Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Discuss face to face meeting in Florida scheduled for the week of April 24 and 25, 2018, with a half-day visit to a local restoration site and day and half business meeting. Location is TBD (current thinking is Escambia County or Tampa Bay area).
- Discuss process whereby follow up meetings are established and content developed. Proposed upcoming dates: June (week of 11th or 18th in Mississippi); August (week of 13th or 20th in Alabama); October (week of 15th or 22nd in Texas); and December (week of 3rd or 10th in Louisiana).

Materials:
- See doodle poll link for Steering Committee member date preferences in meeting agenda email.

III. **TOPIC: Update on the Interagency Regulatory Efficiency Work Group** (NOAA/Heather Young)
Objective:
- Provide the RESTORE Steering Committee an update of the activities and focus of the Gulf Coast Interagency Environmental Regulatory Work Group (GCIERWG).

Materials:
- N/A

IV. **TOPIC: 2017 Mississippi SEP Amendment** (John Ettinger)
Objective:
- Provide brief overview of issue.
- Remind members of review role and deadline.

Materials:
- 2017 MS SEP Amendment.

Council Voting Agenda:

I. **TOPIC: Council Vote on 2017 Annual Report to Congress** (John Ettinger)

Objective:

- Brief review of 2017 Annual Report to Congress.
- Hold vote.

Materials:

- 2017 Annual Report to Congress.

II. **TOPIC: Other Topics**

III. **TOPIC: Wrap-Up/Adjourn** (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
March 7, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
MISSISSIPPI STATE EXPENDITURE PLAN
2017 AMENDMENT

Submitted Pursuant to the
Oil Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act
33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)

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Introduction

Overview of the Oil Spill

On or about April 20, 2010, the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon, which was being used to drill a well for BP Exploration and Production, Inc. (BP) in the Macondo prospect (Mississippi Canyon 252 – MC252), experienced an explosion, caught fire, and subsequently sank in the Gulf of Mexico (the Gulf). This incident resulted in the discharge of oil and other substances into the Gulf from the rig and the submerged wellhead. The Deepwater Horizon oil spill (Spill) is the largest maritime oil spill in U.S. history. The Spill discharged millions of barrels of oil over a period of 87 days. In addition, well over one million gallons of dispersants were applied to the waters of the Spill area in an attempt to disperse the spilled oil. An undetermined amount of natural gas was also released to the environment as a result of the Spill. After several failed attempts to stop the release of oil, the well was declared "sealed" on September 19, 2010.

As a result of civil and criminal settlements with the parties responsible for the Spill, the state of Mississippi (Mississippi) has and will continue to receive funding from several sources to restore or benefit the natural resources or the economy of Mississippi, including, but not limited to funding received through the following: (1) the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) and the corresponding Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA); (2) the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act); and (3) the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF).

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is the designated natural resource trustee under OPA-NRDA and the Governor's designee for the RESTORE Act and NFWF GEBF for Mississippi.

RESTORE Act

On July 6, 2012, the President signed into law the RESTORE Act, Subtitle F of Public Law 112-141. The RESTORE Act makes available 80% of the Clean Water Act (CWA) civil and administrative penalties paid by the responsible parties for the Spill (i.e., BP and Transocean) for programs, projects and activities that restore and protect the environment and economy of the Gulf Coast region through the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund established in the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury). Within the RESTORE Act, there are five funding components (commonly referred to as "buckets"), which make funds available to each of the Gulf States in accordance with certain legal parameters. These components are:

- Direct Component (Bucket 1)
- Comprehensive Plan Component (Bucket 2)
- Oil Spill Impact Component (Bucket 3)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Program (Bucket 4)
- Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program (Bucket 5)

The Oil Spill Impact Component, also referred to as Bucket 3, accounts for 30% of the funds available in the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund. In accordance with the requirements of the RESTORE Act and as set out in the allocation regulation at 40 CFR 1800.500, the state of Mississippi will receive 19.07% of the total allocation of the Oil Spill Impact Component. The amount currently available to Mississippi under the Oil Spill Impact Component is approximately $71 Million. The RESTORE Act requires Mississippi, through MDEQ, to prepare a Mississippi State Expenditure Plan (MSEP) describing each activity, project, or program for which Mississippi seeks funding under the Oil Spill Impact Component.

As defined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.503, the MSEP includes a narrative description for each activity, project, or program for which Oil Spill Impact Component funding is being sought. The narrative description for each activity in the MSEP contains the following information:

- The need, purpose, and objectives of the activity;
- How the activity is eligible for funding and meets all requirements of § 34.203 and § 34.503;
- Location of the activity;
- Budget for the activity;
- Milestones for the activity;
- Projected completion dates for the activity;
- Criteria MDEQ will use to evaluate the success of each activity in helping restore and protect the Gulf Coast Region;
- If funding has been requested from other sources, including other components of the Act, the plan identifies the source, states how much funding was requested, and provides the current status of the request;
- How the activities in the plan contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf Coast; and
- How each activity, that would restore and protect natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands or the economy of the Gulf Coast, is based on the best available science.

New and/or amended MSEP(s) may be written as additional funds become available and as additional projects are identified for funding.

Eligible Activities for the Oil Spill Impact Component

The RESTORE Act dedicates 80% of any civil and administrative penalties paid under the Clean Water Act by responsible parties in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Trust Fund or ecosystem restoration (environmental), economic recovery, and tourism promotion in the Gulf Coast region. The RESTORE Act differs from other restoration funding sources (i.e., NFWF, NRDA) in that it specifically allows and anticipates that restoration projects will be developed for the restoration of natural resources and the restoration of the economy, both of which were affected as a result of the Spill.

The eligible activities for the Oil Spill Impact Component cover both ecological and economic projects. The RESTORE Act defines eligible activities for which the Oil Spill Impact Component funds may be used. The eligible activities, projects, and programs as defined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.203 are:

1. Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region;
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources;
3. Implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring;
4. Workforce development and job creation;
5. Improvements to or on state parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill;
6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure;
7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure;
8. Planning assistance;
9. Administrative costs;
10. Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing; and
11. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region.

Designated State Entity

The State of Mississippi, Office of the Governor, is the entity designated under the Oil Spill Impact Component of the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) to develop the required State Expenditure Plan. The Office of the Governor appointed Gary C. Rikard, the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, as his appointee.

Points of Contact

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Section I: State Certification of RESTORE Act Compliance

Certifications of RESTORE Act Compliance

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality hereby certifies to the following:

- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(I), the MSEP includes projects, programs, and activities which will be implemented with the Gulf Coast Region and are eligible for funding under the RESTORE Act.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(II), the projects, programs, and activities in the MSEP contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf Coast.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(III), the MSEP conforms to and is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan adopted by the RESTORE Council.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)(B)(i), the projects and programs that would restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast included on the MSEP will be based on the best available science as defined by the RESTORE Act.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(ii), not more than 25% of the funds will be used for infrastructure projects for the eligible activities described in 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(i)(VI-VII).
- Issues crossing Gulf State boundaries have been evaluated to ensure that a comprehensive, collaborative ecological and economic recovery is furthered by the MSEP.

Process Used to Verify Compliance

The development of the MSEP involves a series of activities that create an iterative process while maintaining transparency to stakeholders. This process is divided into five phases with distinct tasks occurring in each phase. The activities occurring within each phase are designed to achieve the following criteria:

- Identify eligible projects, programs and activities for inclusion on the MSEP;
- Ensure that eligible projects, programs and activities included on the MSEP contribute to overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast;
- Ensure the MSEP takes into consideration and is consistent with the goals, objectives and commitments of the RESTORE Council's Comprehensive Plan; and
- Promote funded projects to be as successful and sustainable as possible.

The planning effort was broken down into five phases:

- Phase 1: Establishing a Foundation
- Phase 2: Project Contribution, Benefit, and Coordination
- Phase 3: Project Filtering

- Phase 4: Project Vetting
- Phase 5: Project Selection and MSEP development

This five phase process was implemented under a Planning State Expenditure Plan approved by the chairperson of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council in November 2015.

2017 Results of the Process Used to Verify Compliance

Phase I: Establishing a Foundation

In Phase I, MDEQ, on behalf of the State of Mississippi, worked to establish a foundation for the MSEP. The RESTORE Act requires that each program, project, and activity included on the MSEP be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan developed by the RESTORE Council. Stakeholder groups were engaged in July 2016 to identify priority aims for the MSEP. By establishing foundational components, MDEQ ensures that the MSEP:

- Contributes to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast;
- Takes into consideration and is consistent with the goals and objectives of the RESTORE Council's Comprehensive Plan; and
- Aligns process and project selection with MDEQ's commitment to transparency.

Stakeholder engagement began by asking the stakeholder groups to identify their priority aims from the established goals of the Comprehensive Plan. By identifying priority aims, stakeholders helped to define the focus of the MSEP. In response to which aim or aims should be prioritized for the MSEP, the majority responded that the MSEP should focus on two of the goals identified in the RESTORE Council's Comprehensive Plan:

1. Restore Water Quality – Restore and protect water quality of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters.
2. Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

As planning commenced for the 2017 MSEP Amendment, MDEQ revisited these goals with the stakeholder community. The response received was that the priorities were still consistent with the priorities stakeholders identified in 2016. The stakeholder community also requested that the 2017 MSEP Amendment consider more elements of community resilience.

Phase II: Project Contribution, Benefit, and Coordination

Phase II utilized the initial stakeholder input to engage a broader audience to identify the environmental and economic contributions and benefits a project can provide toward the identified priority aims of the MSEP. Project contributions and benefits were developed based on the RESTORE Act eligible activities, MSEP requirements, the Comprehensive Plan, and a review of existing restoration plans to further ensure coordination and compliance. For this exercise, MDEQ defined a contribution as an action that a project can take to meet the prioritized goal and a benefit as the outcome of a contribution. In 2016, MDEQ utilized an online community engagement platform called MetroQuest to collect public input to identify what contributions and benefits a project should make in order to be included on the MSEP. MDEQ utilized the 2016 results during the 2017 planning process.

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Utilizing MetroQuest, the public was asked to prioritize various contributions. Two contributions received the highest average rank positions. They were:

1. Improve marine ecosystems (Average position: 2.13; Times Ranked: 158).
2. Decrease water pollution (Average position: 2.18; Times Ranked: 148).

The corresponding highest ranking benefit for both contributions was:

1. Promote ecosystem health.

The contributions and benefit align with the following RESTORE Council Comprehensive Plan objectives:

- Restore, improve, and protect water resources.
- Protect and restore living and coastal marine resources.
- Promote community resilience.

Additionally, the planning process also considered the priorities, outcomes, and benefits of current restoration activities across the coastal restoration landscape in Mississippi. This coordination and synergy supports the development and implementation of restoration projects in order to achieve maximum restoration benefit. Where possible, additional resources can be used to leverage and add resiliency which builds and sustains communities with capacity to adapt to short- and long-term changes.

Phase III: Project Filtering

New project ideas submitted to the Mississippi Restoration Project Idea Portal since the 2016 MSEP was approved were filtered through the process described below, including currently implemented projects. This filtering process is represented in the following table and figure:

Process	Factors Considered
Step 1: Stakeholder Identified Aims and Initial Comprehensive Plan Goals	Project ideas must *Restore Water Quality* and *Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy.*
Step 2: Evaluation of Impacts	Evaluation of project description and supporting documentation towards *Restoring Water Quality* and *Restoring and Revitalizing the Gulf Economy.*
Step 3: Meets Priority Contribution of the Public	A project idea must meet both prioritized contribution criteria of decreased water pollution and improve marine ecosystems.
Step 4: Meets the Associated Benefit Associated with Each Contribution	A project idea must promote the prioritized benefit of ecosystem health.
Step 5: Supports Community Resilience	Evaluation of existing and proposed project ideas towards *Community Resilience.*

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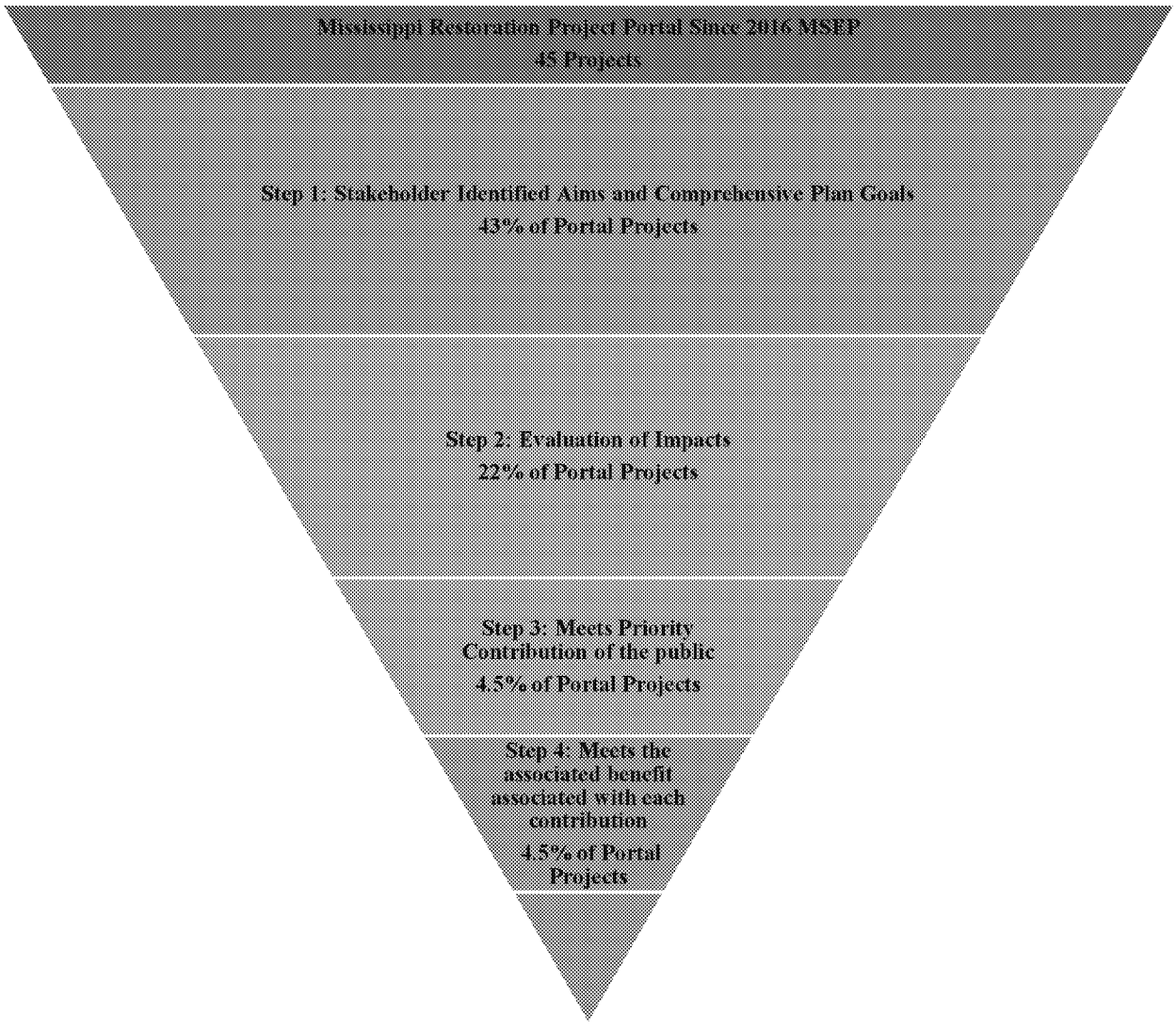

Project ideas made it through the filtering process if they were in line with the aims that were selected during Phase I of the development of the 2017 MSEP Amendment: *Restore Water Quality* and *Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy.* In order to be proposed for selection, project ideas must have checked both the water quality and economy identifier boxes during submission into the Mississippi Restoration Project Portal. Project ideas were eliminated if they did not address water quality or restoring and revitalizing the economy because they were not aligned with the aims selected for the 2017 MSEP Amendment.

In Step 5, existing and newly proposed restoration projects were evaluated to determine if additional resilience elements could be added to support building and sustaining communities with capacity to adapt short- and long-term changes.

Phase IV: Project Vetting

Following the project filtering process, remaining project ideas were evaluated exclusively for eligibility under the Oil Spill Impact Component; specifically: 1) eligibility of proposed activities with eligibility requirements of the RESTORE Act; and 2) review of proposed activity against applicable regulations,

federal law compliance and OMB guidance. Preliminary environmental compliance reviews were also conducted with applicable agencies.

The remaining project ideas conformed to the eligibility requirements described above.

Phase V: Project Selection

After project vetting, the following projects are proposed.

Approved 2016 MSEP Projects (budget additions to support actions described in 2016 MSEP)

1. Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program
    - Increase of $4 million to bolster existing resilience elements of wastewater and stormwater improvement repairs, monitoring efforts, and evaluation of project outcomes.

2. Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement
    - Increase of $600,000 to bolster existing resilience elements of water quality monitoring, biological assessment, and/or benthic habitat mapping to enhance the resilience of this project and future outcomes from this project.

3. Compatibility, Coordination and Restoration Planning
    - Increase of $500,000 additional funds for future project selection, vetting, and SEP development.

2017 Proposed Projects

4. Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (GMCLI) – Development of a Mobile Application for Marine Assessment (MAMA)
    - This is a new project proposed for the 2017 MSEP Amendment. The purpose of this project is to develop of mobile application for marine assessment (MAMA) for documenting issues regarding the marine environment, specifically water quality conditions, recreational and commercial activities, and to involve Mississippi residents and visitors in scientific data gathering.

5. Remote Oyster Setting Facility
    - This is a new project proposed for the 2017 MSEP Amendment. The purpose of this project is to fund the planning, construction and operations activities associated with a new large-scale oyster setting facility. This project will result in significant increases in oysters being placed in harvestable and non-harvestable waters enhancing and restoring the oyster fishery, the commercial oyster economy, and improving water quality.

Resilience Elements added to Current Investments

6. Coastal Headwaters Land Conservation Program
    - Land conservation is a currently funded program, leveraging NFWF-GEBF, NRDA, and RESTORE funding. The purpose of this project would be to add resilience to the existing coastal headwaters land conservation program by purchasing and/or preserving lands adjacent to, and/or targeted around conserved lands to decrease development pressure,

improve water quality and quantity to downstream systems, increase habitat areas, and enhance habitat connectivity.

7. Round Island Restoration Area Expansion and Living Shoreline Demonstration
    - Round Island is a beneficial use (BU) site currently being implemented under a NFWF-GEBF Marsh Restoration project. The purpose of this project is to plan, engineer, design, and permit a series of living shorelines that will provide water quality improvement of turbidity reduction, enhance recreational fishing opportunities, and add protection and resiliency to the project as well as expand, plan, engineer, design, and permit a larger restoration footprint for Round Island.

Section II: Public Participation Statement

There were multiple phases of public engagement for the 2017 MSEP Amendment in order to gather the appropriate public participation necessary to conform with the public participation requirements outlined in 31 C.F.R. § 34.503(g). In accordance with 31 C.F.R. § 34.503(g), the MSEP will be available for public review and comment for a minimum of forty-five (45) days. Each activity on the MSEP will only be adopted after consideration of all meaningful input. MDEQ made the MSEP available for public comment and review in a manner that is consistent with other MDEQ-administered public comment periods related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. See the attached "The State of Mississippi's Response to Comments Regarding the 2017 Amended Mississippi State Expenditure Plan (MSEP)" for additional information.

Section III: Financial Integrity

On behalf of the State of Mississippi, MDEQ understands its fiduciary responsibilities under the RESTORE Act and is committed to maintaining the highest level of fiscal accountability and transparency to assure the public and Congress that funds have been managed appropriately to further the purposes of the RESTORE Act. These responsibilities include RESTORE Act project administration functions, such as maintaining financial records and ensuring complete and accurate reporting through project oversight. MDEQ's financial system was developed around the basic principles of sound financial management. These principles are internationally accepted accounting and financial management practices recognized worldwide by leading public and private sector organizations. The basic principles of sound financial management include, among others, principles of transparency, internal checks and balances, and independent external auditing.

Transparency – MDEQ is committed to maintaining transparency with the public and for reporting on RESTORE Act projects, programs, and activities.

Internal checks and balances – To maintain effective controls, MDEQ properly segregates duties among state personnel performing financial functions for RESTORE Act projects, programs, and activities.

Independent external auditing – All state agencies are subject to annual audits to be conducted by the Office of the State Auditor or its contracted designee as prescribed by state law. Agency audits are performed at the fund level in conjunction with the State Auditor's annual audit of the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

These principles of sound financial management are designed to:

- Prevent corruption and reduce or eliminate financial risk and loss;
- Ensure that funds are spent in accordance with the respective grant awards, state law and federal law, as applicable;
- Ensure that personnel responsible for implementing the activities in the project work plans have the resources needed to support the job; and
- Assist state personnel in spending funds efficiently and effectively and report expenditures accurately.

MDEQ is responsible for:

- Fiscally managing and safeguarding RESTORE Act project funds;
- Disbursing funds to sub-recipients in a timely manner for reimbursement of eligible project expenditures;
- Keeping accurate and up-to-date records of all financial transactions related to project activities;
- Providing accurate financial reports as requested or required;
- Assisting state personnel with financial planning, budgeting, monitoring, and evaluation; and
- Assisting state personnel in understanding and complying with financial policies and procedures needed to ensure efficient and effective stewardship of RESTORE Act funds.

Effective financial operations depend on clear policies and procedures for different areas of activity, such as:

- Cash management policies (e.g., project budgets, requests for funds, and disbursement of funds);
- Personnel policies;
- Policies regarding delegation of signature authority for expenditures or reimbursements in excess of established thresholds;
- Purchasing and procurement laws, regulations, and policies;
- Policies regarding reimbursement of administrative expenses;
- Policies regarding supporting documentation required for disbursement of funds; and
- Policies establishing financial reporting requirements and schedules, including documented review processes by appropriate supervisory personnel.

Financial Controls

Financial controls are designed to enable state agencies to accomplish fiduciary responsibilities. These controls also reduce the risk of asset loss, ensure that RESTORE Act project documentation is complete and accurate, that financial reports are reliable, and ensure compliance with laws and regulations. A financial control system includes both preventative controls (designed to discourage errors or fraud) and detective controls (designed to identify an error or fraud after it has occurred).

Mississippi law requires each agency, through its governing board or executive head, maintain continuous internal audit covering the activities of such agency affecting its revenue and expenditures, and maintain an adequate internal system of pre-auditing claims, demands and accounts to ensure that only valid claims, demands and accounts will be paid (Miss. Code Ann. § 7-7-3(6)(d), (2016)). Consistent with the RESTORE Act and the MSEP, sub-recipients must operate and use resources with minimal potential for

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waste, fraud, and mismanagement. The State's financial control system provides assurance that significant weaknesses that could affect the State's ability to meet its objectives would be prevented or detected in a timely manner.

Project management, other personnel, and those charged with governance will apply internal control processes that are designed to provide reasonable assurance in the reliability of project financial reporting. The system includes characteristics such as:

- Policies and procedures that provide for appropriate segregation of duties to reduce the likelihood of deliberate fraud;
- Personnel training materials that ensure employees are qualified to perform their assigned responsibilities;
- Sound practices to be followed by personnel in performing their duties and functions; and
- Proper authorization and recording procedures for financial transactions.

MDEQ's internal control system has been modeled after the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO) internal control framework and the following five inter-related components. Annually, each state agency is required to certify it has performed an internal control risk assessment, identify weaknesses, and describe a corrective action plan, if applicable.

Control Environment – In Mississippi, responsibility for implementing internal controls at each state agency begins with the chief executive officer and extends to everyone in the agency. Each agency director personally holds those in leadership positions responsible for helping to design, implement, maintain, and champion an internal control program that encompasses all agency fiscal programs and related activities. Each agency's chief financial officer shares this leadership role, yet ultimate accountability remains with the agency head.

Only qualified, competent individuals are employed. These personnel are adequately trained to carry out their responsibilities and are required to explicitly and implicitly understand their responsibilities. State management provides its employees with the authority to perform the tasks assigned to them.

Risk Assessment – As part of establishing proper controls and procedures, an assessment is performed to identify, analyze, and manage risks relevant to achieving the state's goals and objectives for RESTORE Act projects. This assessment identifies internal and external events or circumstances that could adversely affect the state's ability to carry out its fiduciary responsibilities. Identified risks according to potential impact on the RESTORE Act projects and the likelihood of occurrence will be considered. The MSEP is considered in performing the risk assessment, incorporating the goals and objectives for the RESTORE Act activities while assessing the control environment, the overall financial management process, the role of the accounting system, and other financial management activities.

Identification of component systems comprising the complete accounting system is also included in the risk assessment process. Transaction cycles were identified and considered along with inherent risks. These will be continuously reviewed and strategies will be updated as needed to manage the risks.

Control Activities – MDEQ's internal control activities include written policies, procedures, techniques, and mechanisms that help ensure management's directives are carried out in compliance with the RESTORE Act criteria. Control activities help identify, prevent, or reduce the risks that can impede accomplishment of state objectives. Control activities occur throughout the financial department, at all levels and in all functions; control activities include things such as approvals, authorizations, verifications, reconciliations, documentation, separation of duties, and safeguarding of assets.

For each transaction cycle identified in the risk assessment, the flow of information through the process and the internal control activities taken will be documented and analyzed.

Documentation will include organizational charts, standard operation procedures, manuals, flowcharts, decision tables, questionnaires, and/or review checklists.

Communication and Information – The state's financial system provides adequate processes and procedures to ensure that each agency or department has relevant, valid, reliable, and timely communications related to internal and external events to effectively run and control its operations. Agency directors are able to obtain reliable information to make informed business decisions, determine their risks, and communicate policies and other important information to those who need it.

Communication is vital to effective project management, and MDEQ's financial information system has mechanisms in place to properly capture and communicate RESTORE Act project financial data at the level appropriate for sound financial management. Policy manuals, accounting and financial reporting manuals, internal memoranda, verbal directives, and management actions are a few of the means of communicating across state agencies.

Monitoring – Monitoring of the internal control system will be performed to assess whether controls are effective and operating as intended. Monitoring is built into normal, recurring operations, is performed on a real-time basis, reacts dynamically to changing conditions, and is ingrained in each state agency. Ongoing monitoring occurs through routine managerial activities such as supervision, reconciliations, checklists, comparisons, performance evaluations, and status reports. Monitoring may also occur through separate internal evaluations (e.g., internal audits/reviews) or from external evaluations (e.g., independent audits, comparison to industry standards, surveys). Any deficiencies found during monitoring will be reported to the appropriate authority.

MDEQ requires prompt evaluation of any findings and recommendations. Formal procedures are documented for responding to findings and recommendations. Those that generate action items are properly outlined for timely response and resolution. Responsible parties are required to complete action items to correct or otherwise resolve the deficiencies within an established timeframe. The monitoring process also includes analysis of whether exceptions are reported and resolved quickly.

Accountability

While each state employee has personal internal control responsibility, the state director holds ultimate responsibility and assumes ownership for internal control over financial reporting of RESTORE Act funds. Other directors and managers support the state's internal control philosophy, promote compliance, and maintain control within their areas of responsibility. Chief financial officers have key oversight and policy enforcement roles over fiscal matters. Other state personnel hold lead responsibility for compliance with nonfinancial aspects of laws, directives, policies, procedures, and codes of ethics.

The state director has designated a senior manager as the RESTORE Act project manager specialist who is responsible for coordinating the overall state-wide effort of evaluating, improving, and reporting on internal controls over RESTORE Act project management. A risk assessment of project internal control systems will be performed annually. If the risk assessment indicates a high level of risk associated with the financial control system, internal controls will be evaluated. Any serious deficiencies will be reported to the appropriate authority.

Key Controls

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MDEQ applies key controls for financial operating functions that serve as strategic risk mitigation tools within each area. These key controls are developed around financial management policies of segregation of duties, systematic reviews and reconciliations, and documented approval processes. These key controls serve as the framework for financial processes used in the flow of information for capturing and reporting financial data.

Other Financial Integrity Mechanisms
MDEQ has developed detailed written policies and procedures as part of its financial control systems and financial control system plan. The plan, policies, and procedures provide assurance that RESTORE Act funds are being safeguarded and that applicable statutes, rules, and regulations are being followed while also ensuring that the goals and objectives of the RESTORE Act are being met.

The financial control system plan is more than just a list of procedures or flowcharts of how activities operate. Rather, the plan is a comprehensive document that encompasses all components of internal controls. Likewise, the plan documents the financial control structure as it relates to those functions. Key financial integrity mechanisms of internal control over financial reporting are described in the following paragraphs.

Risk assessments of sub-recipients – Pursuant to the Uniform Guidance requirements in 2 C.F.R. § 200, MDEQ will emphasize components of sub-recipients' financial system internal checks and balances that address fraud, waste, and performance. MDEQ's financial management system is designed for the prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse. As such, risk assessments of all sub-recipients' financial management systems will be conducted before awarding RESTORE funding.

Project budgets – Project budgets represent the financial plans for projects throughout their lifespans. The budgets match planned expenditures with revenues that the state expects to receive, which is essential for effective cash flow planning and management. Budgets also help us prevent the misuse of project funds and control spending.

Segregation of duties – MDEQ employs several levels of control to achieve proper segregation of duties in financial processes. Departmental controls allow for proper segregation among functions related to the recording and reporting of project transactions. Supervisory approval is required for all expenditures by personnel independent of the recording process. Stewardship over project funds is essential for proper fiduciary accountability, and the State has established the framework to achieve this component of internal control.

Safeguarding of assets – Access to financial project information is restricted to essential personnel. Passwords and other physical safeguards are employed by the State to restrict access to financial data. By restricting access, risk of misappropriation and fraud is reduced because only the personnel who will be working on the financial data for the projects have access to those functions. Regular backups of financial information are done and stored off-site to minimize loss of data due to an unforeseen occurrence.

Sub-recipient monitoring – MDEQ developed a process for sub-recipient monitoring using an effective risk assessment model. As part of the initial risk assessment process, sub-recipients are required to complete an Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA) questionnaire and provide copies of standard financial policies and procedures that the state evaluates as part of designing the sub-recipient monitoring program. The OSA is required to be updated annually by each sub-recipient. On-site assistance and reviews for a sub-recipient based on appropriate risk levels will be provided throughout the life of the projects. MDEQ will require and review financial and progress reports for accuracy, completeness, and alignment with RESTORE goals. Budget reports may also be required for comparison to actual expenditures, in detail if necessary.

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MDEQ may also employ other financial integrity mechanisms if necessary or for specific RESTORE Act project types. Modifications will be based on updated risk assessments for the RESTORE Act financial control system.

Conflict of Interest

The processes that MDEQ uses to prevent conflicts of interest in the development and implementation of the MSEP, as required by 31 C.F.R. § 34.503(b)(3), are guided by Mississippi law. Under Mississippi Code § 25-4-1 *et seq.*, "it is the policy of the state that public officials and employees be independent and impartial, that governmental decisions and public policy be made on the proper channels of the government structure; that public office not be used for private gain other than the remuneration provided by law; that there be public confidence in the integrity of government; and that public officials be assisted in determinations of conflicts of interest."

Further, MDEQ requires, where applicable, the completion of a non-collusion and conflict of interest affidavit certifying that there are no present or currently planned interests (financial, contractual, organizational, or otherwise) relating to the work to be performed under any contract resulting from the proposed work that would create any actual or potential conflict of interest (or apparent conflicts of interest) (including conflicts of interest for immediate family members: spouses, parents, children) that would impinge on its ability to render impartial, technically sound, and objective assistance or advice or result in it being given an unfair competitive advantage. MDEQ also requires sub-recipients and contractors to notify MDEQ immediately of any potential or actual conflicts that may arise. If any potential or actual conflict cannot be resolved to MDEQ's satisfaction, MDEQ reserves the right to terminate the sub-award agreement or contract in place pursuant to the Termination for Convenience clause of the sub-award agreement or contract.

Section IV: Overall Consistency with the Goals and Objectives of the Comprehensive Plan

Mississippi's 2017 MSEP Amendment focuses on two of the goals identified in the Comprehensive Plan:

- Restore Water Quality – Restore and protect water quality of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters.
- Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

Mississippi's 2017 MSEP Amendment focuses on three objectives identified in the Comprehensive Plan:

- Restore, improve, and protect water resources.
- Protect and restore living and coastal marine resources.
- Promote community resilience.

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Section V: Projects, Programs, and Activities

	Project Title	*Estimated Cost*	*Infrastructure (Yes/No)*	*Start Date*	*End Date*	*Primary Eligible Activity (number 1-11; see section 4.1.1 of Submittal Guidelines)*	*Informed by Best Available Science (Yes/No)*	*Status*
1	Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program	$49 Million	No	08/01/2018	07/31/2023	1	Yes	Activity Approved (2016 Initial MSEP). Activity Amended (2017 MSEP Amendment) to add $4 Million.
2	Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement	$4.1 Million	No	08/01/2018	07/31/2023	1	Yes	Activity Approved (2016 Initial MSEP). Activity Amended (2017 MSEP Amendment) to add $600,000.
3	Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning	$1.8 Million	No	08/01/2018	07/31/2022	8	No	Activity Approved (2016 Initial MSEP). Activity Amended (2017 MSEP Amendment) to add $500,000.
4	Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (GMCLI)	$1.9 Million	No	08/01/2018	7/31/2023	1	Yes	New Activity (2017 MSEP Amendment)

5	Remote Oyster Setting Facility	$9.36 Million	No	01/01/2019	12/31/2023	1	Yes	New Activity (2017 MSEP Amendment)
6	Coastal Headwater Land Conservation Program	$8 Million	No	08/01/2018	12/31/2021	1	Yes	New Activity (2017 MSEP Amendment)
7	Round Island Living Shoreline Demonstration and Protection Project (Planning)	$2.2 Million	No	08/01/2018	12/31/2020	8	Yes	New Activity (2017 MSEP Amendment)

Activity #1: Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program

Project Summary

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program was approved in the 2016 MSEP. This program will support the restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region through the implementation of water quality improvement projects. Activities within this program include implementation of new or repairing/upgrading existing stormwater and wastewater systems, systematic source tracking to identify sources and stressors of water quality impairment, and monitoring of implemented projects. The program will also provide support to increase the analytical capacity of MDEQ's South Regional Office (SRO) in order to establish microbial analytical capability for the benefit and enhancement of water quality across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program was approved in the 2016 MSEP. Additional information about the approved scope of work for this program can be found in the 2016 MSEP.

Project Modifications - 2017 MSEP Amendment

The 2017 MSEP Amendment increases the program budget by $4 million (100% implementation) to support activities approved in the 2016 MSEP (i.e., wastewater and stormwater improvement repairs, monitoring efforts, and evaluation of project outcomes). The additional funds being proposed for this activity would be used to support only the action or types of actions described in the 2016 MSEP.

Activity #2: Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement

Project Summary

The Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement project was approved in the 2016 MSEP. This project will support the restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region by relaying oysters from the currently non-harvestable Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex (ORC) to harvestable reefs and enhancing the ORC. The oyster restoration and management project may include benthic habitat mapping, reef monitoring, and relay of oyster resources to increase productivity on harvestable reefs. Additional information about the approved scope of work for this program can be found in the 2016 MSEP.

Project Modifications - 2017 MSEP Amendment

The 2017 MSEP Amendment increases the program budget by $600,000 (100% implementation) to support activities of water quality monitoring, biological assessment, and/or benthic habitat mapping approved in the 2016 MSEP. The additional funds being proposed for this activity would be used to support only the action or types of actions described in the 2016 MSEP.

Activity #3: Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning

Project Summary

The Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning project was approved in the 2016 MSEP. This project will provide planning assistance to support MDEQ's coordinated restoration planning effort to maximize the effectiveness of coordination of restoration in the Gulf Coast Region and the development of new and/or amended State Expenditure Plan(s). Additional information about the approved scope of work for this program can be found in the 2016 MSEP.

Project Modifications - 2017 MSEP Amendment

The 2017 MSEP Amendment increases the program budget by $500,000 (100% planning) to support activities approved in the 2016 MSEP. The additional funds being proposed for this activity would be used to support only the action or types of actions described in the 2016 MSEP.

The approved 2016 MSEP can be found at the following link:
https://www.restorethegulf.gov/sites/default/files/SEP_MS_20170427.pdf

Activity #4: Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative

Project Summary
This project will support the restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region through data collection efforts to yield information that resource management agencies can use to inform decisions regarding water quality, economically viable fish stocks, and ultimately track changes in the overall coastal ecosystem.

The Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (GMCLI) will develop a mobile phone application for marine assessment (MAMA) that will be used to recruit citizens to gather coastal ecosystem health assessment data. The data collected from the MAMA application will be used to: 1) support a citizen based, real-time monitoring of water health of coastal ecosystems that documents and collects water quality conditions in all coastal marine environments, and 2) document and collect abundance and health of recreationally and commercially important fish species of interest to resource management agencies. Additionally, MAMA will allow Gulf coast citizens and visitors to a) upload photos, measurements, GPS locations and other data regarding specimens they have captured, observed, and identified b) submit photos of endangered/unusual specimens of fish and other marine creatures for identification, and c) document invasive species in Gulf waters. These data collection efforts will yield information that the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), and other resource management agencies, can use to inform decisions regarding water quality, economically viable fish stocks, and ultimately track changes in the overall coastal ecosystem. The curated long-term data set would be available to researchers and resource managers for scientific management. A database of this type will be an invaluable resource for assessing changes in the health of the Mississippi Sounds marine and estuarine ecosystems.

This project will follow the development guidance of the Federal Crowdsourcing and Citizen Science Toolkit and employ the following steps:

1. Determine which data will be helpful to resource management;
2. Design the application (app) architecture to collect those data;
3. Build a community of app users to generate the data;
4. Manage the dataset structure and data availability to end users;
5. Seek support to sustain and improve data collection through continued development of the app as new users are suggested and the technology improves.

Activities may also include program oversight and management, development, coordination, and execution of the grant award between MDEQ and the RESTORE Council and the sub-award between MDEQ and any sub-recipients.

Need: Coastal environments are dynamic and varied in their diversity. There is a need for additional data collection efforts to yield information that resource management agencies can use to inform decisions regarding water quality, economically viable fish stocks, and ultimately track changes in the overall coastal ecosystem.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to support data collection efforts to yield information that resource management agencies can use for decisions regarding water quality, economically viable fish stocks, and ultimately track changes in the overall coastal ecosystem.

Objective: Develop the mobile phone app, distribute the app to coastal residents and all other interested parties, and establish a database to store data on the coastal environment.

Location: This project will take place in the Gulf Coast Region.

Timeline: This project is anticipated to start 08/01/2018 and end 07/31/2023.

Additional Information: The project will be administered by MDEQ.

Overall Economic or Ecological Contribution to the Recovery of the Gulf Coast: This project will contribute to improving resource managers' understanding of coastal resources in Mississippi. Additionally, information collected by MAMA will inform resource managers of issues of water quality concerns which can help decision makers locate the appropriate sites for future restoration implementation. Improving the understanding of coastal resources will ultimately bolster sustainability of the region and contribute to economic recovery.

Eligibility and Statutory Requirements: This project is located in the Gulf Coast Region as defined by 31 C.F.R. § 34.2. This project qualifies as an eligible activity for Oil Spill Impact Component funding through 31 C.F.R. § 34.201(a) – restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine, and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region, and 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(i)(I) of the RESTORE Act. The primary purpose of the project is restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region. This project will provide resource managers with additional data to inform decision making regarding Mississippi's coastal ecosystems.

Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives:
This project aligns with the following Comprehensive Plan goals:

- Restore Water Quality – Restore and protect water quality of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters; and
- Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

This project supports the following Comprehensive Plan objectives:

- Protect and Restore Living Coastal and Marine Resources;
- Promote Community Resilience; and
- Restore, Improve, and Protect Water Resources.

Major Milestones:
Milestone – MAMA and Database Development. The University of Mississippi (UM) and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) will develop the MAMA application and database to receive, archive, and make data available.

Milestone – Beta Testing. Beta test the MAMA app.

Milestone – Widespread Distribution. Widespread distribution of MAMA will take place and data gathering will begin.

Success Criteria/Metrics/Outcomes:

The anticipated outcomes of the citizen led initiative include:

- Establishment of a long-term dataset of coastal ecosystem health;
- Engagement with the coastal stakeholder community in coastal ecosystem health; and

- Enhanced decision-making process to coastal ecosystem health concerns (i.e., phytoplankton blooms, sewage leaks, fish kills).

Activity	Anticipated Project Success Criteria/Metrics/ Outcomes:	Short-term outcome	Long-term outcome
Development and Beta Testing of MAMA	App development data App released to select participants.	Bugs worked out in App development prior to widespread release.	App to move forward with widespread release.
Widespread Release of MAMA	App used by Mississippi Gulf Coast residents and visitors Establishment of long-term dataset. Metrics that demonstrate the reliability of the data Frequency of use of data in peer-reviewed scientific journals	Citizen involvement on scientific data collection.	Increased data on Mississippi Gulf Coast ecological resources.

Monitoring and Evaluation: The GMCLI will be monitored for its effectiveness in providing data collected by citizens to resource managers. All data collected will be monitored, QA/QC procedures will be performed for validity, and the dataset structure and availability for end users will be managed. Additional monitoring and evaluation criteria could include: number of app users, frequency of app use, and quality and quantity of submitted data.

Best Available Science: Recent reviews have summarized how a) user training, b) peer user reviews of species identification, and c) spot-checking and rarity confirmation by experts, enable crowdsourced data to be quite reliable. Citizen engaged in these efforts were 97% accurate in identification of road-killed species (Waetgen & Shilling 2017). Water quality monitoring via the Mystic River Watershed Association's citizen scientist program, resulted in the EPA requiring the town of Belmont to make significant investment in repairs to their storm water system. Many citizens contributed countless hours of time taking water quality measures and identifying point sources of pollution (Cooper 2013). Garbarino and Mason (2016, *The Power of Engaging Citizen Scientists*) reports that "highly successful citizen-science projects from multiple scientific disciplines have enhanced our collective understanding of science, such as how RNA molecules fold or determining the microbial metagenomic snapshot of an entire public transportation system". Further examples of successful citizen engaged projects include:

1. Rediscovery of a rare nine-spotted lady beetle in North America (2007)
2. Citizen scientist program to validate identification of marine invasive species (2008)
3. A citizen scientist network to reduce killing non-venomous snakes in India (2010)
4. Improving and integrating data on invasive species collected by citizen scientists (2010)
5. Young citizen scientist program for collecting data on marine litter (2014)

In each of the above examples, citizens gathered data was found to be generally reliable (typically exceeding 90+% accuracy) and extremely valuable to the success of each project. This citizen led initiative will incorporate the best practices that have been developed in these previous projects.

Budget/Funding
Estimated Cost of the Project and Amount to be Requested from Oil Spill Impact Component Funds: $1.9 million (10% - 35% Planning; 65-90% Implementation)

Partnerships/Collaboration:
- University of Mississippi
- Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
- RESTORE Council

Leveraged Resources: None currently anticipated.

Funds Used as Non-Federal Match: None currently anticipated.

Other: None currently anticipated.

References:
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Activity #5: Remote Oyster Setting Facility

Project Summary

This project will support the restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region by constructing and operating a remote oyster setting facility. Remote setting is the placement of oyster larvae onto cultch (hard material for oysters to attach to usually shell, crushed concrete, limestone, and the like) at a remote location from the hatchery itself. This facility would assist in increasing the production of the natural oyster reefs along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Coastal marine living resources has been identified by the Mississippi coastal stakeholders as a priority restoration program, and further prioritized by the Governor of the State of Mississippi by creating the Governors Oyster's Council. The Council has a goal of harvesting a million sacks of oysters by 2025, and in order to do this restoration efforts must increase commensurately. The remote setting facility is a critical component in the Councils blueprint for oyster restoration, as it will enable the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources to place cultch, laden with spat, at high volumes out into the Mississippi Sound.

This facility will be designed and modeled after the University of Maryland's Horn Point Laboratory. The Horn Point Laboratory has operated since 2003 and has experience in all aspects of the remote-setting process. The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) will consult with Horn Point staff to configure optimal infrastructure layout, setting efficiencies and production milestones. The basic components of the facility will include but are not limited to a robust pier, flow through system holding pens, boat docking facilities, crane operations, and cultch storage. It is not anticipated that any land acquisitions or easement will be required, nor that the project would support transportation and/or deposition of spat-lade cultch materials.

Remote oyster setting facility will provide a complimentary mechanism to the proposed University of Southern Mississippi (USM) Oyster Hatchery that will be funded under the RESTORE Direct Component. Larvae created and raised within the USM Oyster Hatchery will be transported to the remote setting facility and placed on cultch materials at a large scale. Once set, these spat laden cultch materials will be transported to oyster reefs, seed grounds, and inter and sub-tidal areas, and deposited.

Activities may also include, but are not limited to, any necessary permitting, engineering and design, construction, monitoring, program oversight and management, development, coordination, and execution of the grant award between MDEQ and the RESTORE Council and the sub-award between MDEQ and any sub-recipients.

Need: In Mississippi, the oyster industry relies primarily on planting cultch and naturally produced oyster larvae (wild larvae) to set on the material to produce market oysters. There is a need to enhance production of existing harvestable reefs. The remote setting facility would allow the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources to increase the amount of spat introduced into the Mississippi Sound and monitor the health and growth of those oysters.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to fund the planning, construction, and operations activities associated with a new large-scale oyster setting facility.

Objective: Increase capacity of setting hatchery-reared larvae onto cultch.

Location: This project will take place in the Gulf Coast Region.

Timeline: This project is anticipated to start 01/01/2019 and end 12/31/2023.

Additional Information: The project will be administered by MDEQ.

Overall Economic or Ecological Contribution to the Recovery of the Gulf Coast: This project will allow MDMR to increase the amount of spat introduced into the Mississippi Sound and monitor the health and growth of those oysters, which will increase oyster populations and oyster fishery economy on Mississippi's harvestable reefs. Additionally, improvements to oyster reef management can enhance local water quality conditions and ecosystem functioning.

Eligibility and Statutory Requirements: This project is located in the Gulf Coast Region as defined by 31 C.F.R. § 34.2. This project qualifies as an eligible activity for funding under the Oil Spill Impact Component funding through 31 C.F.R. § 34.201(a) – restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine, and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region, and 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(i)(I) of the RESTORE Act. The primary purpose of the project is restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region. This project will enhance oyster resources in Mississippi coastal waters, and will help inform future restoration of the reef system.

Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives:
This project aligns with the following Comprehensive Plan goals:

- Restore Water Quality – Restore and protect water quality of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters; and
- Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

This project supports the following Comprehensive Plan objectives:

- Protect and Restore Living Coastal and Marine Resources;
- Promote Community Resilience; and
- Restore, Improve, and Protect Water Resources.

Major Milestones:
Milestone – Design Completed. The remote-setting facility will undergo engineering and design prior to construction.

Milestone – Construction Completed. The pier, remote-setting facility will be constructed.

Milestone – Setting of Oyster Larvae. MDMR will maximize oyster larvae production and commensurately spat set annually, the total number of which could vary year to year based on environmental conditions, cultch material availability, and other factors.

Success Criteria/Metrics/Outcomes:

The anticipated success criteria of the remote oyster setting facility that will be measured are:

- Design completion of remote oyster setting facility;
- Construction completion of remote oyster setting facility; and
- Direct contribution of the spat on shell (measured as set larvae) to commercial oyster harvest in the State of Mississippi.

Activity	Anticipated Project Success Criteria/Metrics/ Outcomes:	Short-term outcome	Long-term outcome
Oyster Setting Program	Increased in recruitment of oysters on harvestable reefs	Program initiated Increased oyster production Increased economic benefit from fishing industry participation	Improved economic benefit to the oyster fishery Improved oyster productivity and habitat quality

Monitoring and Evaluation: Remote setting will be used to increase the amount of spat on cultch introduced into the Mississippi Sound, which would therefore increase the oyster populations on Mississippi's harvestable reefs. Monitoring of cultch sets post larvae introduction will be used to assess spat set success and understand number of spat being delivered to oyster reefs.

Best Available Science: Remote setting is a method of producing oysters that differs from natural oyster production. Remote setting is the production of oyster spat by setting hatchery-reared larvae onto cultch (hard material for oyster larvae to attach usually shell, crushed concrete or limestone) at a remote location from the hatchery; spat are then planted on-bottom or off-bottom. The University of Southern Mississippi hatchery will provide larvae as well as knowledge with setting efficiency and deployment. Remote setting has been successfully implemented for the production of oysters along the Pacific coast and the Chesapeake Bay areas of the United States. Remote setting was developed in the Pacific in response to low natural oyster production as a result of over harvesting, pollution, siltation, disease and predation (Jones and Jones 1983, Henderson 1983). Initially, the Pacific coast oyster industry depended on imported seed, which became an unreliable source; however, with the development of hatcheries along the Pacific coast, remote setting continued to develop and thrived (Henderson 1983). In the Chesapeake Bay Area, remote setting developed in an effort to increase oyster production and to utilize disease-resistant larvae produced by hatcheries (Congrove et al. 2009).

Budget/Funding
Estimated Cost of the Project and Amount to be Requested from Oil Spill Impact Component Funds: $9.36 million (10% - 35% Planning; 65-90% Implementation)

Partnerships/Collaboration:
- University of Southern Mississippi
- Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
- RESTORE Council

Leveraged Resources: The USM Oyster Hatchery to be funded under the RESTORE Direct Component will provide oyster larvae for this setting facility.

Funds Used as Non-Federal Match: None currently anticipated.

Other: None currently anticipated.

References:

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Activity #6: Coastal Headwaters Land Conservation Program

Project Summary
This program will support the restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region by conserving lands adjacent to, and/or targeted around, existing conserved lands that would have water quality and quantity benefit to downstream receiving estuarine systems.

Mississippi's coastal areas have undergone significant changes over time due to a multitude of factors, including population growth, the spread of urban development, land conversion, pollution, invasive species colonization, hydrological modifications, and repeated natural and anthropogenic disasters, including the DWH oil spill. The resulting patterns and stressors have produced a substantial impact on coastal ecosystem mosaic in south Mississippi. Habitat protection will help Mississippi achieve its vision of improving and maintaining coastal water quality and restoring and enhancing ecological function and connectivity of coastal habitats at a landscape scale. Conservation lands with high-functioning ecosystems serve as a foundation for healthy watersheds, rivers and estuaries, fish and wildlife populations, and local communities. Permanently protected areas benefit water resources, buffer existing protected lands, and allow the condition of the ecosystem to be maintained.

Water quality and quantity alterations are the largest threats to our priority bays and estuaries, and land conservation and restoration practices in headwater watersheds is one the most effective restoration practices to ensure sustainable and perpetual delivery of natural system delivery of water quality and quantity to receiving water bodies. Conservation and protection of priority parcels that expand conservation areas, increase connectivity of protected areas, and conserve habitats and ecosystems within priority watersheds will allow for management and restoration actions to benefit water quality. Furthermore, these land conservation efforts will add resilience to existing conserved lands by acquiring lands that buffer those conservation efforts from development pressures, increase connectivity of conserved lands, and enhance connectivity of lands by purchasing inholdings.

The State of Mississippi has invested in land conservation efforts across all three DWH funding streams (RESTORE, NRDA, and NFWF). Under RESTORE, the Council funded the Strategic Land Protection, Conservation, and Enhancement of Priority Gulf Coast Landscapes in MS project that invests funds in the Grand Bay Complex, The Gulf Islands National Seashore, and the Biloxi River/Tuxachanie/Tchoutacabouffa/De Soto National Forest areas. Under NFWF-GEBF, the Coastal Connectivity project is acquiring priority parcels in the Coastal Preserves system, and under NRDA, two long term restoration projects in Grand Bay and Graveline are acquiring priority lands in those areas.

Activities also include program oversight and management, development, coordination, and execution of the grant award between MDEQ and the RESTORE Council and the sub-award between MDEQ and any sub-recipients. Activities may include appropriate restoration and management practices, once lands are conserved.

Need: From a land conservation perspective there is a need to enhance the resilience of existing conservation efforts by acquiring property that is adjacent to, and/or targeted around existing conservation areas to increase the buffer from development pressures. By acquiring inholdings, additional resilience is achieved by enhancing the connectivity of habitats and managing the area at a broader scale.

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to acquire lands for conservation and/or restoration that contribute to improvements in water quality and quantity.

Objective: Increase the connectivity and size of state protected areas by conserving lands that are adjacent to, and/or targeted around current protected lands.

Location: This program will take place in the Gulf Coast Region.

Timeline: This program is anticipated to start 01/01/2019 and end 12/31/2023.

Additional Information: The program will be administered by MDEQ.

Overall Economic or Ecological Contribution to the Recovery of the Gulf Coast: This program will ensure the long-term resiliency of habitats by placing priority lands that are adjacent to, and/or targeted around already conserved lands under state habitat management which will enhance water quality and quantity contributions downstream.

Eligibility and Statutory Requirements: This program is located in the Gulf Coast Region as defined by 31 C.F.R. § 34.2. This program qualifies as an eligible activity for funding under the Oil Spill Impact Component funding through 31 C.F.R. § 34.201(a) – restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine, and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region, and 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(i)(I) of the RESTORE Act. The primary purpose of the program is restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region.

Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives:
This program aligns with the following Comprehensive Plan goals:

- Restore Water Quality – Restore and protect water quality of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters; and
- Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

This program supports the following Comprehensive Plan objectives:

- Protect and Restore Living Coastal and Marine Resources;
- Restore, Enhance, and Protect Habitats;
- Promote Community Resilience; and
- Restore, Improve, and Protect Water Resources.

Major Milestones:
Milestone – Selection of priority parcels; list of selected parcels. MDEQ will utilize restoration planning tools to identify and coordinate with stakeholders to discuss priority acquisition targets and refine the areas of interest.

Milestone – Due Diligence. Land acquisition due diligence will be performed on all selected and prioritized parcels.

Milestone – Acquisition. Interests in land will be acquired.

Success Criteria/Metrics/Outcomes:

The anticipated success criteria of the coastal headwaters land conservation program that will be measured are:

- Land Acquisitions – Acres acquired in fee
- Conservation Easements – Acres protected under easement

Activity	Anticipated Program Success Criteria/Metrics/ Outcomes:	Short-term outcome	Long-term outcome
Coastal Headwater Land Conservation Program	Acres acquired and/or under easement	Establish connectivity amongst coastal protected land and increase habitat core size	Land protected in perpetuity Connectivity of already protected land to allow for better management Enhanced watershed health

Monitoring and Evaluation: Data received from the various components of land acquisition will be synthesized and appropriately added as data input of the Mississippi Comprehensive Ecosystem Restoration Tool (MCERT). Data derived from the respective efforts will be synthesized and analyzed to determine whether restoration outcomes and objectives are being met. These outcomes will be input into MCERT, and model scenarios will be completed to determine site specific alterations to the restoration effort index, as well as determine changes in priority ranking of adjacent parcels for future phases of acquisition.

Best Available Science: Connectivity and size of habitat structure are two of the most important ecological elements for productive ecosystem functioning and maintaining the integrity of coastal ecosystems (Correa et al, 2016; Hodgson et al., 2011; Sheaves, 2009). Additionally, upstream management of habitats preserves synergistic effects of service delivery to, and connectivity of, estuarine coastal ecosystems that influence provisions of ecosystem services (Barbier, 2011). The foundational and sustainable nature of land protection and conservation will contribute significantly to the overarching restoration and recovery of habitats and resources affected by the DWH oil spill. Inherently, land protection and conservation of coastal terrestrial and ecotone habitats, and the restoration thereof, will not only preserve priority habitats, but also serve multiple other functions:

- Support nesting, foraging, and stop-over habitat for migratory and resident birds (Buler et al., 2007)
- Enhance the delivery of natural ecosystem services (such as improved water quality and quantity) to priority bays and estuaries (Brooks et al., 2012)
- Improve critical ecosystem functions of community dependent fisheries resources (Albers, 2002)
- Facilitate habitat migration, specifically in times of climate change and sea level rise (Craft et al., 2008)
- Increase availability of natural, healthy spaces for fish and wildlife and local communities

This program aims to conserve areas based on the following two primary factors:

- Adjacency to, and/or targeted around existing publicly and/or privately owned/managed lands: This would contribute to expanding the size of existing tracts of public lands that in theory support larger and more diverse plant and animal communities while also allowing for efficiencies with respect to costs associated with ongoing land management activities;
- Ecological corridors or potential corridor node: This factor considers how a site might contribute to creating/expanding a natural ecological corridor across the coastal landscape, especially as part of a transition from one habitat type to the next. This factor may also dovetail with the adjacency factor for some sites (i.e., located directly adjacent to an existing public holding).

MCERT will be used to help identify suitable areas based on the factors above. Areas acquired will be synthesized and analyzed in MCERT to determine whether restoration outcomes and objectives are being met.

Budget/Funding
Estimated Cost of the Project and Amount to be Requested from Oil Spill Impact Component Funds: $8 million (10% - 35% Planning; 65-90% Implementation)

Partnerships/Collaboration:

- NFWF GEBF
- NRDA Trustees and Associated Trustee Implementation Groups
- RESTORE Council

Leveraged Resources: There are several projects that this project would be leveraged against: 1) RESTORE Council Comprehensive Plan Component – Strategic Land Protection, Conservation, and Enhancement of Priority Gulf Coast Landscapes in MS; 2) NFWF-GEBF – Coastal Connectivity; 3) NRDA Long term restoration projects of Grand Bay and Graveline Bayou.

Funds Used as Non-Federal Match: None currently anticipated.

Other: None currently anticipated.

References:

Barbier, E. B., Hacker, S. D., Kennedy, C., Koch, E. W., Stier, A. C., & Silliman, B. R. (2011). The value of estuarine and coastal ecosystem services. Ecological Monographs, 81(2), 169-193.

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Activity #7: Round Island Living Shoreline Demonstration and Protection Project (Planning)

Project Summary
This project will provide planning assistance for planning, engineering and design, and permitting of living shoreline structures at the Round Island Beneficial Use (BU) site to protect the newly created sand berm and marsh from erosion, as well as expansion of the footprint of the current Round Island BU site.

In Mississippi, approximately 10,000 acres of coastal wetlands have been lost in the last 60 years. Two of the primary needs with coastal marsh restoration are to restore and protect existing marsh and re-create marsh previously lost. Restoring and replacing marsh are critical first steps to ensure that a suite of ecosystem benefits is reestablished and enhanced within coastal environments. Protecting those investments with living shoreline technologies ensures the perpetuation of those benefits. To date MDEQ has invested in coastal marsh restoration through a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Project. This project led to the construction of Round Island, a 220 acre coastal marsh that replaces a years' worth of loss of coastal marsh in Mississippi, and additionally was created to provide significant ecological benefits for coastal birds (waders, colonial nesters, and migrants) as well as other coastal species that use a marsh habitat. The island, once completed, will also provide significant recreational benefit to the stakeholders of coastal Mississippi. Round Island is important as it can receive dredge materials from bi-annual dredge efforts by the US Army Corps of Engineers from the Pascagoula Navigation Channels. As such, Round Island has the capacity to be larger to receive future BU materials.

MDEQ is interested in evaluating living shoreline techniques which utilize material to stabilize shorelines as well as provide a variety of ecosystem service benefits to protect the investment in Round Island. A variety of specific living shoreline techniques and designs will be researched, evaluated, and designed to determine their ability to deliver ecosystem services, maximize shoreline protection, and meet regulatory requirements. Additionally, the project would provide further planning of the Round Island BU site to sync the logistics of the living shoreline placement to the proposed marsh expansion project, which endeavors to expand the current footprint of the Round Island with the purpose to capture beneficial use materials from the Pascagoula Navigation channel bi-annually and create additional marsh.

Activities may also include program oversight and management, development, coordination, and execution of the grant award between MDEQ and the RESTORE Council and the sub-award between MDEQ and any sub-recipients.

Need: With increasing investments in the restoration of marsh through the beneficial use of dredge sediments, there is a need to ensure the resilience and protection of those investments and restoration activities. Living shorelines are the single most appropriate restoration activity designed to enhance resilience and protection of marsh habitat.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to support planning assistance for planning, engineering and design, and permitting associated with the placement of a living shoreline at the Round Island BU site as well as expand the footprint of the existing Round Island BU site.

Objective: Provide planning activities to protect and expand Round Island's coastal marsh habitat.

Location: This project will take place at the Round Island restoration site in the Mississippi Sound.

Timeline: This project is anticipated to start 01/01/2019 and end 12/31/2021.

Additional Information: The project will be administered by MDEQ.

Overall Economic or Ecological Contribution to the Recovery of the Gulf Coast: Coastal marshes play a vital role in the ecological integrity of shoreline habitats, but more critically, as components of ecosystem health within a broader landscape context of coastal ecosystems. Coastal marshes are keystone habitats within the coastal environment as they provide the base for a host of ecosystem services and benefits such as serving as natural buffers to protect shorelines from eroding, storm surge protection, fisheries production, water quality enhancement by trapping and holding sediment and creating biogeochemical conditions for nutrient assimilation and transformation, faunal support, carbon sequestration, and habitat for a multitude of trophic levels within the ecosystem. Additionally, colonization of the living shoreline by oysters and other bivalves can increase the total volume of the breakwater resulting in additional wave attenuation. Other ecosystem services provided by the living shoreline include refuge habitat for aquatic animals and the use of the exposed portions of the breakwaters by seabirds and waterbirds. The foraging and refuge habitats are essential for locally important species such as spotted, blue crabs, stone crabs, eastern oyster, red drum, southern flounder, and various species of commercially important shrimp.

Eligibility and Statutory Requirements: This project is located in the Gulf Coast Region as defined by 31 C.F.R. § 34.2. This project qualifies as an eligible activity for funding under the Oil Spill Impact Component funding through 31 C.F.R. § 34.201(j) – planning assistance and 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(i)(VIII) of the RESTORE Act. The primary purpose of the project is planning.

Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives:
This project aligns with the following Comprehensive Plan goals:

- Restore Water Quality – Restore and protect water quality of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters; and
- Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy – Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

This project supports the following Comprehensive Plan objectives:

- Protect and Restore Living Coastal and Marine Resources;
- Promote Community Resilience; and
- Restore, Improve, and Protect Water Resources.

Major Milestones:
Milestone – Planning and Permitting. The living shoreline structure area and the footprint expansion areas for the Round Island BU site will undergo planning and permitting.

Milestone – Engineering and Design. The living shoreline structure and placement will undergo engineering and design prior to construction as will the expansion area for the current Round Island site.

Success Criteria/Metrics/Outcomes:

The anticipated success criteria of the project that will be measured are:

- Number of Engineering and Design Plans
- Island shoreline position

Activity	Anticipated Project Success Criteria/Metrics/ Outcomes:	Short-term outcome	Long-term outcome
Planning, Engineering and Design, Permitting	Number of Engineering and Design Plans/Permits	Shelf ready sites for implementation	Leverage opportunities for implementation

Monitoring and Evaluation:
The proposed activities include planning, engineering and design, and permitting activities. These efforts will be tracked to remain on schedule and dovetail with an implementation strategy for planned activities.

Best Available Science:
Coastal marshes are effectively keystone habitats within the coastal environment as they provide the base for a host of ecosystem services and benefits such as serving as natural buffers to protect shorelines from eroding, storm surge protection, fisheries production, water quality enhancement by trapping and holding sediment and creating biogeochemical conditions for nutrient assimilation and transformation, faunal support, carbon sequestration, and habitat for a multitude of trophic levels within the ecosystem (Barbier et al., 2011; Mendelssohn et al., 2012). To protect marsh habitats, restoration investments, and other coastal shorelines from wave erosion, damage by intense storms, and sea level rise, restoration actions like living shorelines are often needed to reduce wave energy, and allow for natural shoreline change (Swann, 2008). Various living shoreline technologies have been shown to:

- Slow waves and reduce shoreline erosion (Currin et al., 2015)
- Dissipate wave energy by 50 percent (Knutson et al., 1982)
- Attenuate low and medium energy waves on salt marshes (Shepard et al., 2011)

Additional living shorelines can provide valuable habitat and ecosystem services to society including food production, recreational opportunities, nutrient and sediment removal, water quality improvement, and carbon sequestration (Barbier et al., 2011).

Budget/Funding

Estimated Cost of the Project and Amount to be Requested from Oil Spill Impact Component Funds: $2.2 million (100% Planning)

Partnerships/Collaboration:

- Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
- RESTORE Council

Leveraged Resources: Round Island was constructed through a currently implemented project through NFWF-GEBF. Additional construction features on the Island may be provided through this NFWF-GEBF project.

Funds Used as Non-Federal Match: None currently anticipated.

Other: None currently anticipated.

References:

Barbier E.B., Hacker, S.D., Kennedy, C., Koch, E.W., Stier, A.C., Silliman, B.R.(2011). The value of estuarine and coastal ecosystem services. *Ecological Monographs* 81(2): 169-193

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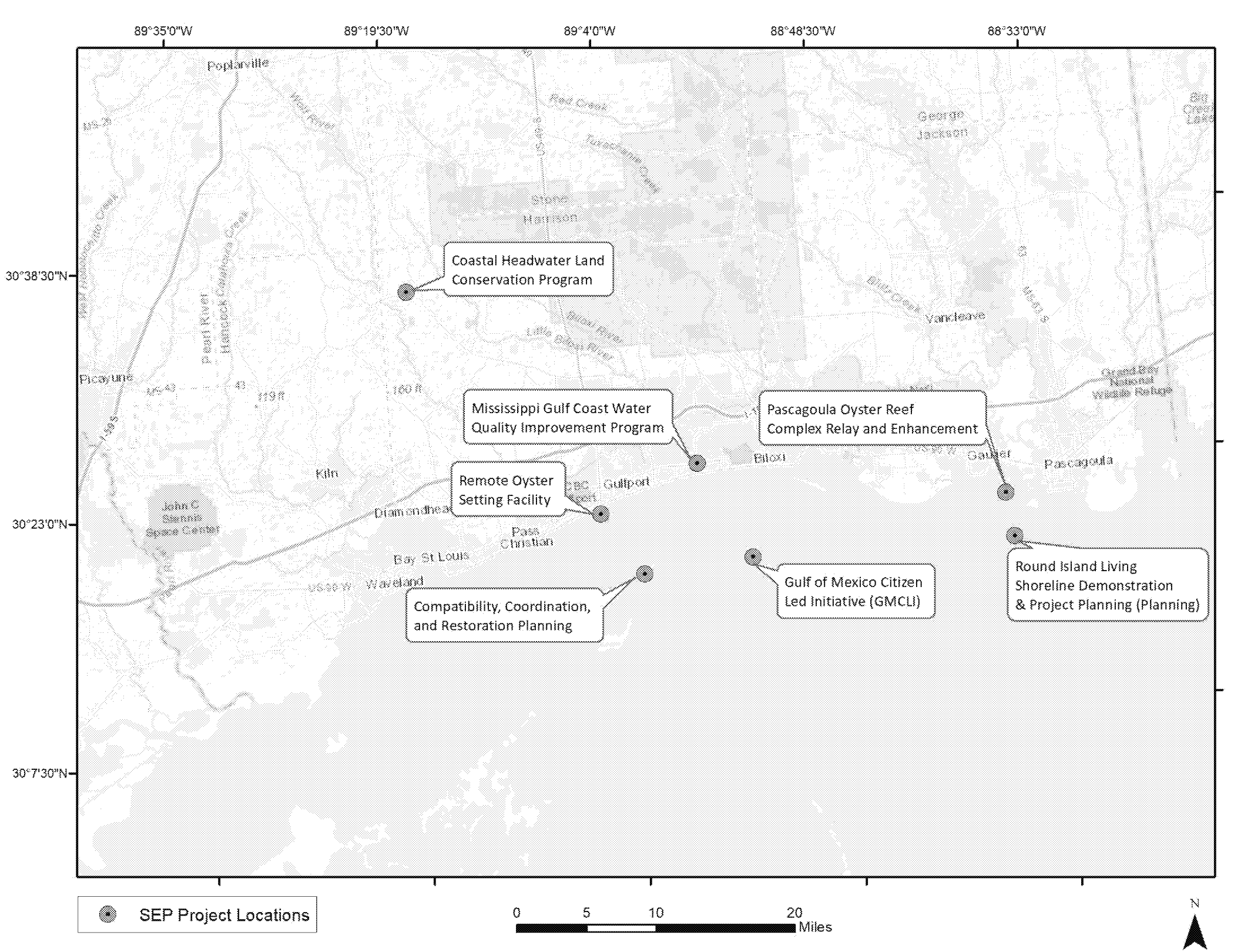
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30°7'30"N
Coastal Headwater Land Conservation Program
Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program
Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement
Remote Oyster Setting Facility
Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning
Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (GMCLI)
Round Island Living Shoreline Demonstration & Project Planning (Planning)
Poplarville
Stone
Harrison
George
Jackson
Vancleave
Picayune
Kiln
Gulfport
Biloxi
Gautier
Pascagoula
Pass Christian
Bay St Louis
Waveland
Diamondhead
John C Stennis Space Center
Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge
SEP Project Locations
0
5
10
20
Miles
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THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI'S RESPONSE TO COMMENTS REGARDING THE 2017 AMENDED MISSISSIPPI STATE EXPENDITURE PLAN (MSEP)

On November 14, 2017 Mississippi made available its 2017 Amended MSEP for public review and comment. The 2017 Amended MSEP was announced by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) at the 2017 Restoration Summit in Biloxi, MS. During the 2017 Restoration Summit, MDEQ representatives presented project information to the public and Vietnamese translation services were available. A notice was published in the Sun Herald and Clarion-Ledger newspapers informing the public that the 2017 Amended MSEP was available for public review and comment (See Exhibit A). An email blast and text message blast were also sent to those registered to receive notices (See Exhibit A). The 2017 Amended MSEP was made available in both English and Vietnamese through the www.restore.ms website. The 2017 Amended MSEP could be requested via email, fax, telephone, or mail directly from MDEQ. Submission of public input was accepted electronically via www.restore.ms, as well as via email, fax, telephone, or mail directly to MDEQ. On December 18, 2017, MDEQ delivered an email message to remind the public that the public review and comment period for the 2017 Amended MSEP would close on January 15, 2018. A final email was delivered to the public on January 10, 2018 as a reminder that the public review and comment period for the 2017 Amended MSEP would close on January 15, 2018 (See Exhibit A).

During the public review and comment period, MDEQ received a total of four sets of written comments. MDEQ reviewed all comments. Similar or related comments have been grouped and summarized for purposes of response and are represented in parentheses behind the comment. All comments submitted during the public review and comment period were considered by MDEQ and each activity in the plan was adopted after consideration of meaningful input from the public. MDEQ drafted summary comment statements to consolidate groups of similar comments into one statement or to summarize a particularly long comment.

This document includes the following sections:

Section 1: Comments on Specific Projects on 2017 Amended MSEP
Section 2: General Comments on 2017 Amended MSEP
Section 3: Comments on Future MSEP Projects

SECTION 1: COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC PROJECTS ON 2017 AMENDED MSEP

1.1 MDEQ received a comment requesting a refined focus on water quality in the coastal streams basin that MDEQ manages through its non-point source and point source permitting programs for the *Coastal Headwaters Land Conservation Program (Activity #6)* and the *Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (Activity #4).* (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments, and understands and appreciates the importance of focusing efforts on existing water quality issues in order to restore water quality and promote ecosystem health. To that end, MDEQ is seeking to address water quality issues in various ways through the currently-proposed projects and anticipates continuing to do so through future projects.

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1.2 MDEQ received a comment recommending that a portion of *planning project* funding support the Environmental Compliance & Enforcement Division (ECED) staff at MDEQ toward investigating coastal watersheds for permitting needs such as updates. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. MDEQ has and will continue to take into consideration such comments received.

1.3 MDEQ received a comment encouraging the state to host focus group discussions with the public and key user groups like recreational anglers and charter captains to ensure that the *Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (Activity #4)* is being designed in a way for maximum use and applicability. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments, and recognizes the importance of engaging those with the requisite experience for the implementation of restoration activities.

1.4 MDEQ received a comment on the *Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (Activity #4)* suggesting that MDEQ include an assessment of existing apps that are already employed by natural resource agencies, NGOs, or user groups, relative to water quality and/or living coastal and marine resources. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments, and understands and appreciates the importance of utilizing existing applications, data, and resources to maximize the effectiveness of the initiative.

1.5 MDEQ received a comment in support of the *Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program (Activity #1).* (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment received in support of the *Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program.*

1.6 MDEQ received a comment suggesting that the *Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program (Activity #1)* utilize commercial fishermen in collecting physical water quality samples and equipping them with water quality data logging sondes to help identify stressors and assist in the monitoring aspect of the program. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments, and recognizes the importance of engaging those with the requisite experience for the implementation of restoration activities. MDEQ has and will continue to comply with the applicable state and/or federal laws and regulations regarding the selection of contractors to perform any services needed to implement Mississippi's restoration activities and projects, as well as adhere to the strict quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) protocols for all water quality assessment activities.

1.7 MDEQ received a comment suggesting that a portion of the funds for the *Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program (Activity #1)* be allocated to address data deficiencies regarding hypoxic zones that originate from the eastern side of the Mississippi River and influence water quality conditions in the Western Mississippi Sound. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments, and recognizes the importance of ensuring QAQC'ed data to understand and document changes to water quality and promote ecosystem health. There are ongoing efforts to model hydrodynamic conditions in the Mississippi Sound that will help elucidate water movement dynamics as well as future efforts to identify sources and causes of water quality impairments in the nearshore environment. Further, MDEQ has made available a project portal on

the restore.ms website for which the public can submit restoration project ideas; MDEQ utilizes such portal information to inform the respective decision-making processes.

1.8 MDEQ received a comment on *Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement (Activity #2)* recommending the State Public Procurement Review Board and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources be engaged to ensure that licensed Mississippi commercial oyster fishermen are allowed to participate in the oyster relay component of the project as individual contractors. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments, and recognizes the importance of engaging those with the requisite experience for the implementation of restoration activities. MDEQ has and will continue to comply with the applicable state and/or federal laws and regulations regarding the selection of contractors to perform any services needed to implement Mississippi's restoration activities and projects. It is anticipated that the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources will be responsible for implementing relay/cultivation activities.

1.9 MDEQ received a comment recommending that the oysters relayed from the *Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement (Activity #2)* project be harvested using only traditional tonging methods from small, shallow draft vessels to minimize adverse impacts to shallow-water oyster reefs located in this area. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. Applicable state and/or federal laws, regulations, and procedures associated with oyster removal and transfer will be followed, it is anticipated that the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources will be responsible for implementing relay/cultivation activities.

1.10 MDEQ received a comment recommending that MDEQ request that the Commission of Marine Resources commit to authorizing the relay of a significant portion of the oysters relayed from the *Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement (Activity #2)* project to productive dredging reefs in the far Western Mississippi Sound such as St. Joe's Reef. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. It is anticipated that the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources will be responsible for implementing relay/cultivation activities.

1.11 MDEQ received a comment recommending that a portion of the funds for the *Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning (Activity #3)* project be utilized to engage the commercial fishing industry stakeholders before, during, and after implementation of proposed projects occurring within the waters of the Mississippi Sound and adjacent waterways. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments, and recognizes the importance of engaging the public, stakeholders and experts in restoration planning activities. A portion of the funds for *Activity #3* will be utilized for engagement activities.

1.12 MDEQ received a comment in support of the *Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (GMCLI) (Activity #4).* (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment received in support of the *Gulf of Mexico Citizen Led Initiative (GMCLI) (Activity #4).*

1.13 MDEQ received a comment in support of the *Remote Oyster Setting Facility (Activity #5).* (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment received in support of MDEQ's proposal action regarding the *Remote Oyster Setting Facility (Activity #5).*

1.14 MDEQ received a comment urging MDEQ to use only oyster shells as the preferred cultch material for the *Remote Oyster Setting Facility (Activity #5)* project and reiterated that limestone should not be considered as suitable cultch material. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. MDEQ has and will continue to take into consideration such comments received.

1.15 MDEQ received a comment recommending that an oyster shell recycling program with restaurant partners (and others) be implemented to support the *Remote Oyster Setting Facility (Activity #5)* project. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. MDEQ has and will continue to take into consideration such comments received. MDEQ encourages all stakeholders to submit project ideas to the Mississippi Restoration Project Idea Portal on www.restore.ms.

1.16 MDEQ received a comment recommending funding for additional projects that create private hatcheries within Mississippi to supplement oyster larvae production to support the *Remote Oyster Setting Facility (Activity #5)* project. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. MDEQ encourages all stakeholders to submit project ideas to the Mississippi Restoration Project Idea Portal on www.restore.ms. MDEQ has and will continue to comply with the applicable state and/or federal laws and regulations regarding the selection of subrecipients to implement Mississippi's restoration activities and projects. Private entities do not qualify as eligible subrecipients for RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component funding.

1.17 MDEQ received a comment strongly recommending that cultch material for the *Remote Oyster Setting Facility (Activity #5)* project be deployed using commercial oyster fishing vessels instead of the high-pressure water discharges that are normally used for cultch deployment from barges. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. MDEQ has and will continue to take into consideration such comments received. MDEQ recognizes the importance of seeking input from those with the requisite experience for the implementation of restoration activities. MDEQ has and will continue to comply with the applicable state and/or federal laws and regulations regarding the selection of contractors to perform any services needed to implement Mississippi's restoration activities and projects.

1.18 MDEQ received a comment questioning the justification of the *Coastal Headwaters Land Conservation Program (Activity #6)* considering that multiple funding sources currently exist and are in place that fund land acquisition in coastal Mississippi. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. MDEQ has and will continue to prioritize coordination and leveraging between the various restoration funding streams.

1.19 MDEQ received a comment with concern over conflicts of interest with the *Coastal Headwaters Land Conservation Program (Activity #6)* and suggests that these funds may be better utilized for projects that focus on debris and trash removal from coastal headwaters land. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. MDEQ has and will continue to take into consideration such comments received. MDEQ encourages all stakeholders to submit project ideas to the Mississippi Restoration Project Idea Portal on www.restore.ms.

1.20 MDEQ received a comment of concern on the *Round Island Living Shoreline Demonstration and Protection Project (Activity #7)*, specifically that the expansion will further take away habitat that was previously prime fishing/shrimping habitat for commercial fishermen, will impact operations at the adjacent off-bottom oyster aquaculture area and that the increased bird population will contribute to fecal coliform pollution on the adjacent off-bottom oyster aquaculture area. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. The Coastal Mississippi environment has experienced significant loss of tidal marsh habitat in the last 60 years, which has a negative impact on several fisheries in the area. The expansion of coastal marsh habitat through the Round Island project will help mitigate marsh loss and provide critical nursery habitat that numerous species of fish and shrimp utilize as part of their life cycle. It is anticipated that projects that create marsh habitat will benefit commercial and recreational fisheries over time.

Project planning and site design for a Round Island expansion will take the necessary steps to avoid conflicts with other efforts, including the off-bottom aquaculture site. MDEQ will work closely with MDMR to ensure the appropriate measures are in place to avoid negative impacts to adjacent efforts.

1.21 MDEQ received a comment recommending that MDEQ review the results of previously implemented living shoreline projects in Alabama and preliminary results from the Hancock County Marsh Living Shoreline to confirm that the types of living shorelines planned for the *Round Island Living Shoreline Demonstration and Protection Project (Activity #7)* produce the desired results. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. MDEQ will evaluate living shoreline types to identify the most effective design and materials for this specific location through the implementation of this activity. MDEQ has, and will continue to, monitor and evaluate previous projects to help inform the implementation of future projects.

SECTION 2: GENERAL COMMENTS ON 2017 AMENDED MSEP

2.1 MDEQ received a comment with concern about the possibility of implementation issues from taking Federal (non-appropriated) funds and executing projects based on the State of Mississippi's funding regulations, even though these funds were not approved by the Legislature. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment. MDEQ has and will continue to comply with applicable state and/or federal laws and regulations.

2.2 MDEQ received a comment recommending MDEQ consider the outcome of the risk assessments conducted as part of OMB Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. 200). (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. MDEQ conducts risk assessments and implements subrecipient monitoring as prescribed in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 for all *Deepwater Horizon* funded projects and programs in Mississippi. MDEQ considers the outcome of each risk assessment when implementing and overseeing projects and programs.

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00175957-00044

2.3 MDEQ received a comment in support of MDEQ's efforts to inform and engage the public in restoration efforts, most recently through the second annual Restoration Summit that incorporated a new breakout session on natural resource management, stakeholder conversations to inform future project planning, and online surveys for the public to provide feedback on the Summit as well as Mississippi's restoration in general. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment received in support of MDEQ's public outreach and engagement and the Restoration Summit programming.

2.4 MDEQ received a comment in support of adding the goal of *Support Community Resilience* to the two original goals, *Restore Water Quality* and *Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy* for the 2017 Amended MSEP. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment received in support of adding the goal *Support Community Resilience* to the two original goals: *Restore Water Quality* and *Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy*.

2.5 MDEQ received a comment in support of MDEQ's commitment to engage the Mississippi Gulf Coast's diverse cultures as demonstrated by the release of the 2017 Amended MSEP in English and Vietnamese. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment received in support of MDEQ's commitment to engage the diverse cultures of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

2.6 MDEQ received a comment in support of the inclusion of projects on the 2017 Amended MSEP that prioritize providing an ecological benefit to the Mississippi Gulf Coast and encouraging the State to do so in future MSEPS. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment in support of MDEQ's decision to include projects on the 2017 Amended MSEP that provide an ecological benefit to the Mississippi Gulf Coast and will continue to consider projects with ecological benefits in future MSEP development.

2.7 MDEQ received a comment urging Mississippi to avoid projects that will have direct or indirect adverse environmental impacts, namely degrading or negatively impacting the Coast's natural resources and/or reducing the impact to other completed or planned restoration investments, and recommended that in the rare case where a *Deepwater Horizon* restoration project results in minor and short-term adverse impacts, the project should set aside funds, along with a detailed plan and timeline, for compensatory mitigation. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. In implementing projects, MDEQ will comply with all applicable environmental law, rules and regulations to ensure that any impacts associated with restoration projects are minimized to the maximum extent practicable.

2.8 MDEQ received a comment encouraging MDEQ to provide details on how the planning investments funded by the various restoration funding sources support one another and are being leveraged to inform planning and project development, and encouraging MDEQ to provide regular updates on planning efforts so that the public can better understand the action and outcomes associated with these investments. (1)

MDEQ will continue to prioritize coordination and leveraging between the various funding streams, including planning activities, to maximize comprehensive outcomes and efficiencies. MDEQ has provided clear examples of funding coordination and leverage for specific restoration project area and

resource focuses to the public. These examples include Round Island, Beneficial Use, land conservation efforts in Grand Bay, and Coast-wide water quality improvement. MDEQ will continue to provide updates on all Mississippi *Deepwater Horizon* projects through various stakeholder engagement mechanisms, including www.restore.ms. MDEQ has and continues to be committed to public and stakeholder engagement.

2.9 MDEQ received a comment in support of the efforts in the 2017 Amended MSEP to maximize and complement other *Deepwater Horizon* investments that Mississippi has made. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges this comment received in support of the efforts in the 2017 Amended MSEP to maximize and complement other *Deepwater Horizon* investments that Mississippi has made.

SECTION 3: COMMENTS ON FUTURE MSEP PROJECTS

3.1 MDEQ received a comment requesting a meeting to discuss the coastal streams with a focus on Red Creek. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. MDEQ encourages all stakeholders to submit project ideas to the Mississippi Restoration Project Idea Portal on www.restore.ms.

3.2 MDEQ received a comment suggesting that MDEQ post future MSEPs directly on the www.restore.ms rather than making reviewers request an emailed copy. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. MDEQ intends to make future MSEPs directly available for public comment and review on the restore.ms website without making reviewers request a copy.

3.3 MDEQ received a comment encouraging MDEQ to develop a project tracking platform or tool that state and federal agencies involved in restoration can use to communicate their efforts to coast stakeholders and the public; such efforts include identifying, planning, implementing, and monitoring restoration project needs and investments, measuring project/program performance, applying adaptive management or corrective measures, evaluating and tracking project success and milestones, and identifying and applying synergies between *Deepwater Horizon* funding streams and other funding sources. (1)

DEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. Currently, all approved projects in Mississippi are viewable in the MDEQ restoration story map (http://www.msrestoreteam.com/ProjectStoryMap/). Information for projects includes budget, progress to date, and access to the project 1-page summary.

In addition, MDEQ is currently developing a project management system that tracks project progress and will include public facing features to update the public on project status. MDEQ has included a section in the NFWF Planning proposal (Round 5) to add a database function specifically for monitoring data and metadata to integrate with the project management system so that the public can obtain all project information in a one-stop shop. MDEQ is coordinating with the NRDA Monitoring and Adaptive Management working group and RESTORE Council staff on development of this system and ongoing efforts from federal entities that track and store project information, including DIVER (https://www.diver.orr.noaa.gov/).

MDEQ is also coordinating with GOMA to provide information for the Deepwater Horizon Project Tracker (http://www.dwhprojecttracker.org/). This platform maps and provides key information about all

projects funded by Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlements, fines, and other payouts in the Gulf of Mexico.

3.4 MDEQ received a comment encouraging future MSEPs to seek opportunities to coordinate and leverage proposals and projects in a way that complements and increases the net benefits of ecosystem restoration, as well as potential partnerships with public and private entities, and technical and scientific expertise. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. MDEQ has and will continue to take into consideration such comments received.

3.5 MDEQ received a comment requesting MDEQ to identify the various stakeholders that have been engaged in project development in future publicly available documents. (1)

MDEQ appreciates and acknowledges all comments. MDEQ has and will continue to take into consideration such comments received.

3.6 MDEQ received a comment stating that [certain NGO members] would like to have the opportunity to comment on potential unintended consequences of certain projects as they are proposed and before implementation. (1)

MDEQ makes available all projects for public comment that affords any member of the general public the opportunity to comment on potential unintended consequences of certain projects. When let for public comment, all these projects are still in the proposed stage and have not yet been implemented. MDEQ will continue to use the best available science to determine the methods and placement of restoration projects to maximize success and sustainability of the respective project outcomes.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
THE CLARION-LEDGER

3100023823

2018 JAN -4 AM 8:29

RECEIVED
MDEQ-PURCHASING

TO: MDEQ-OFFICE OF RESTORATION
515 E AMITE ST
JACKSON, MS 39201
Acct# TCL-C48613

Ad Number: 0002529467

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
HINDS COUNTY

PERSONALLY appeared before me, the undersigned notary public in and for Hinds County, Alicia Collins, an authorized clerk of The Clarion-Ledger, a newspaper as defined and prescribed in Sections 13-3-31 and 13-3-32, of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, who, being duly sworn, states that the notice, a true copy of which is hereto attached, appeared in the issues of said newspaper as follows:

Was published in said newspaper in the issue(s) of:

11/14/17

Size: 207 words / 2 col. x 34 lines
Published: 1 time(s)

Now due on said account is $56.14

Signed Alicia Collins
Authorized Clerk of The Clarion-Ledger

SWORN to and subscribed before me on 11/14/2017

Frances L. Mack
Notary Public
Frances Mack

Notary Public State of Mississippi at Large.

(SEAL)

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
NOTARY PUBLIC
ID # 96687
FRANCES L. MACK
Commission Expires
Aug. 4, 2018
HINDS COUNTY

61300000

015-245-9320-18-0001

Melanie Drew
1/2/18

The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTOREAct) established a new Trust Fund in the Treasury of the United States known as the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund. Eighty percent of the civil penalties paid after July 6, 2012, under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321) in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill will be deposited into the Trust Fund and invested. Trust Fund amounts will be available for programs, projects, and activities described in the RESTOREAct. One such program is the Spill Impact Component-Gulf RESTOREProgram (Program), administered by the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, under which each Gulf Coast State is eligible to receive funds for eligible activities carried out in the Gulf Coast Region.

In accordance with the Program, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has prepared the 2017 Mississippi State Expenditure Plan (MSEP) Amendment describing each activity for which MDEQ intends to seek funding. The purpose of this notice is to inform the public of the availability of the 2017 MSEP Amendment and to seek public comments on the document.

After the public comment period ends, MDEQ will consider and address any written comments received before adopting and submitting the 2017 MSEP Amendment to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council.

Invitation to Comment:

MDEQ seeks public review and comment on the 2017 MSEP Amendment. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be publicly available at any time.

Comments Due Date:

MDEQ will consider public comments received in writing on or before Monday, January 15, 2018.

Obtaining Documents:

You may request a copy of the 2017 MSEP Amendment by visiting www.restore.ms, or by contacting Melanie Green at mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov, or 601-961-5270.

Submitting Comments:

You may submit written comments on the 2017 MSEP Amendment electronically at www.restore.ms, by email to mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov, fax to 601-961-5365, or mail to MDEQ, Attn: Melanie Green, 515 East Amite Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

11/14/17

0002529467-01

Exhibit A

Proof of Publication

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF HARRISON

Before me, the undersigned Notary of Harrison County, Mississippi personally appeared Crista Brackett who, being by me first duly sworn, did depose and say that she is a clerk of The Sun Herald, a newspaper published in the city of Gulfport, in Harrison County, Mississippi, and the publication of the notice, a copy of which is hereto attached, has been made in said paper 1 times in the following numbers and on the following dates of such paper, viz:

Vol. 134 No., 42 dated 14 day of Nov, 2017

Vol. _____ No., _____ dated _____ day of _____, 20____

Vol. _____ No., _____ dated _____ day of _____, 20____

Vol. _____ No., _____ dated _____ day of _____, 20____

Vol. _____ No., _____ dated _____ day of _____, 20____

Vol. _____ No., _____ dated _____ day of _____, 20____

Vol. _____ No., _____ dated _____ day of _____, 20____

Affiant further states on oath that said newspaper has been established and published continuously in said county for a period of more than twelve months next prior to the first publication of said notice.

Crista Brackett

Clerk

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14 day of Nov A.D., 20 17

Meri A. Jackson

Notary Public

*The Sun Herald has been deemed eligible for publishing legal notices in Jackson County to meet the requirements of Miss. Code 1972 Section 13-3-31 and 13-3-32

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI NOTARY PUBLIC ID # 87184 MERI A. JACKSON Commission Expires Sept. 30, 2019 HARRISON COUNTY

the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) established a New Trust Fund in the Treasury of the United States known as the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund. Eighty percent of the civil penalties paid after July 6, 2012, under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321) in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill will be deposited into the Trust Fund and invested. Trust Fund amounts will be available for programs, projects, and activities described in the RESTORE Act. One such program is the Spill Impact Component-Gulf RESTORE Program. (Program), administered by the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, under which each Gulf Coast State is eligible to receive funds for eligible activities carried out in the Gulf Coast Region.

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Submitting Comments:

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ADV14

1595409

Exhibit A

From: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
To: Camille Cosgrove
Subject: MIP and SEP Available for Public Input
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 7:00:30 PM

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
Phil Bryant, GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Gary C. Rikard, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Today, MDEQ Executive Director Gary Rikard announced new restoration projects for the State of Mississippi designed to help restore and protect the environment and economy of the state following the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Director Rikard made the announcement at the Restoration Summit held at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi.

Among the projects announced today are two proposed plans released for public review and comment.

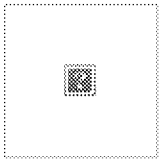
- Mississippi's amended Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP). The MIP is a list of projects and programs proposed for funding under Bucket 1 of the RESTORE Act. Mississippi's amended MIP includes one amended and seven proposed projects totaling more than $17 million.

- Mississippi's 2017 State Expenditure Plan (MSEP) Amendment. The MSEP is a list of projects and programs proposed for funding under Bucket 3 of the RESTORE Act. Mississippi's 2017 MSEP Amendment includes three amended and four proposed projects totaling more than $26 million.

MIP Amendment #2 and the 2017 MSEP Amendment are available for public review and input beginning today through January 15, 2018. Please visit www.restore.ms to view the amended MIP and the 2017 MSEP Amendment and provide your input.

Exhibit A

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Subject: Public Review and Comment on MIP and MSEP
Date: Monday, December 18, 2017 3:04:16 PM



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
Phil Bryant, GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Gary C. Rikard, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Public Review and Comment on MIP and MSEP

On November 14, 2017, the State of Mississippi's amended Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) and Mississippi State Expenditure Plan (MSEP) were made available for public review and comment in accordance with the RESTORE Act.

Please be reminded that the public review and comment period for the amended MIP and MSEP ends on Monday, January 15, 2018. You may request a copy of the amended MIP and MSEP in English or Vietnamese by visiting www.restore.ms, contacting Melanie Green at mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov, or calling 601.961.5270.

You may submit written comments on the amended MIP and MSEP electronically at www.restore.ms, by email to mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov, fax to 601.961.5366, or mail to MDEQ, Attn: Melanie Green, 515 East Amite St., Jackson, MS 39201. All comments must be received by 5 pm CST on Monday, January 15, 2018.

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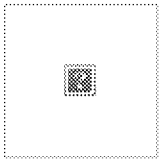
Exhibit A

From: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
To: Camille Covington
Subject: Public Review and Comment on MIP and MSEP
Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 8:01:10 AM



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
Phil Bryant, GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Gary C. Rikard, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 2/7/2018 7:57:30 PM
To: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. 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Subject: Decisions and Actions from February 7, 2018 Steering Committee Call

Attachments: Decisions_and_Actions_Steering_Committee_Call_2018_02_7.docx.pdf; 2017_Annual_Report_Congress_Pending_Council_Vote_2_7_18.pdf; RAAMS_Status_2-5-2018.pdf; HR and Audit Committee Assignments as of Feb 2018.pdf

Council Members:

Thank you for participating in the Steering Committee call today. Attached is the record of decisions and actions from the call. We thank the members for concurring to move to a Council vote on the 2017 Annual Report to Congress (clean version attached). For your information, we have also attached two additional documents: RAAMS Status as of February 5, 2018; and the HR and Audit Committee Assignments as of February 2018.

Thanks again.

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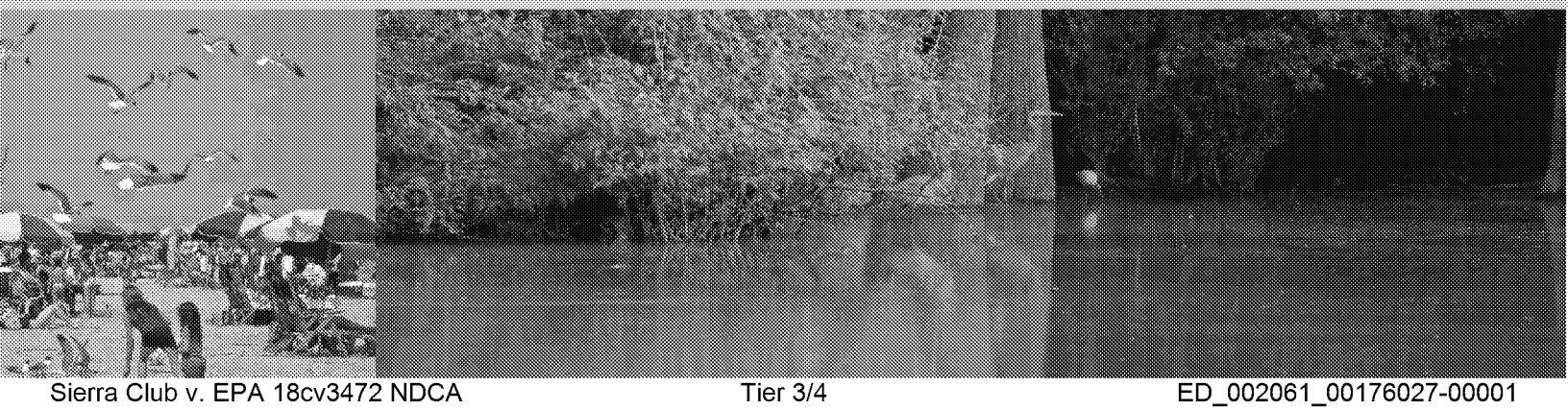
2017 Annual Report to Congress

Gulf Coast cosystem Restoration Council



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2017 Annual Report to Congress

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Calendar Year 2017

Submitted _____ 2018

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Letter from the Acting Executive Director

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) hereby submits its 2017 Annual Report to Congress. The Council was created by the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act) in 2012 as an independent federal agency charged with administering a portion of the civil settlements associated with the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Consisting of the five Gulf Coast states (States) and six federal agencies, the Council's mission is to implement a comprehensive plan for the ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast.

The funds administered by the Council offer a rare opportunity to address ecosystem and economic needs in a way that provides sustainable benefits to communities across the Gulf. To that end, the Council must be methodical in choosing its investments, efficient in implementing them, and diligent in financial management. In 2017, the Council made substantial progress toward developing future projects and programs, expediting existing investments, and effectively managing its funds. The Council has accomplished these while maintaining an administrative expense rate below 3%.

To date, the Council has approved approximately $771 million in ecosystem restoration projects and programs across the Gulf. This sum represents funds approved under both the Council-Selected Restoration Component and the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act (explained in further detail in our report). After funding for an activity is approved by the Council, it is disbursed to the sponsoring Council member via an award in the form of a grant (for States) or an interagency agreement (for federal member agencies). To date, the Council has awarded approximately $122 million from the foregoing funding sources to its members and the Gulf Consortium of Florida Counties to support an array of restoration activities across the Gulf Coast, including investments in habitat conservation, oyster restoration, water quality, planning, science and more. These investments, though substantial, represent only a portion of the total funding available to the Council in the coming years. It is critical that while the Council administers these awarded funds it also builds a strong foundation for future success.

The Council's 2016 Comprehensive Plan update recognized that future success depends upon collaboration among Council members, other Gulf restoration funding partners and the public. Collaboration is needed to break down potential bureaucratic stovepipes and leverage resources to ensure the greatest possible benefit from the Council's investments. Congress established the structure for this collaboration by creating a Council comprised of the States and six federal agencies. To realize the full potential of this structure, in 2017 the Council developed a proposal to use a small portion of its Council-Selected Restoration Component funding for planning, collaboration and related actions to help identify and develop the best ideas for future funding. After reviewing public input, this proposal as well as a response to

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public comments were finalized in September of 2017. In January 2018, the Council approved these planning funds.

As it looks to the future, the Council continuously reviews its past activities in order to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its operations. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan update was based on the lessons learned from an internal and public review of the Council's first round of funding decisions. In 2017, the Council conducted a similar review of the way in which it disburses funds to its State and federal members. The Council is using the findings of this review to expedite the disbursement of funds to its members. In addition, the Council has continued to receive unqualified ("clean") audits of its financial and other activities.

On behalf of the Council, I am pleased to submit this Annual Report to Congress outlining our progress over the past twelve months. The Council remains committed to maintaining active communication with Congress. Please contact us at any time with your thoughts, suggestions or questions. Thank you for your continued leadership and support in restoring the Gulf Coast region.

Ben Scaggs
Executive Director (Acting)

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Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Members

Chair
Environmental Protection Agency
Scott Pruitt
Administrator

State of Alabama
Kay Ivey
Governor

State of Florida
Rick Scott
Governor

State of Louisiana
John Bel Edwards
Governor

State of Mississippi
Phil Bryant
Governor

State of Texas
Greg Abbott
Governor

Department of the Army
Mark T. Esper
Secretary

Department of Commerce
Wilbur Ross
Secretary

Department of Homeland Security
Kirstjen Nielsen
Secretary

Department of the Interior
Ryan Zinke
Secretary

Department of Agriculture
Sonny Perdue
Secretary

Background on the RESTORE Act

The Gulf Coast environment was significantly injured by the 2010 *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, as well as by past and ongoing human actions. Restoring an area as large and complex as the Gulf Coast region is a costly, multi-generational undertaking. Gulf habitats are continually degraded and lost due to development, infrastructure, sea-level rise, altered riverine processes, ocean acidification, salinity changes and other human-caused factors. Water quality in the coastal and marine environments is degraded by upstream pollution and hydrologic alterations spanning multiple States and involving the watersheds of large and small rivers alike. Stocks of marine and estuarine species are depleted by over-utilization and conflicting resource use. Some of the region's environmental problems such as wetland loss and hypoxia span areas the size of some U.S. states. This degradation represents a serious risk to the cultural, social and economic benefits derived from the Gulf ecosystem.

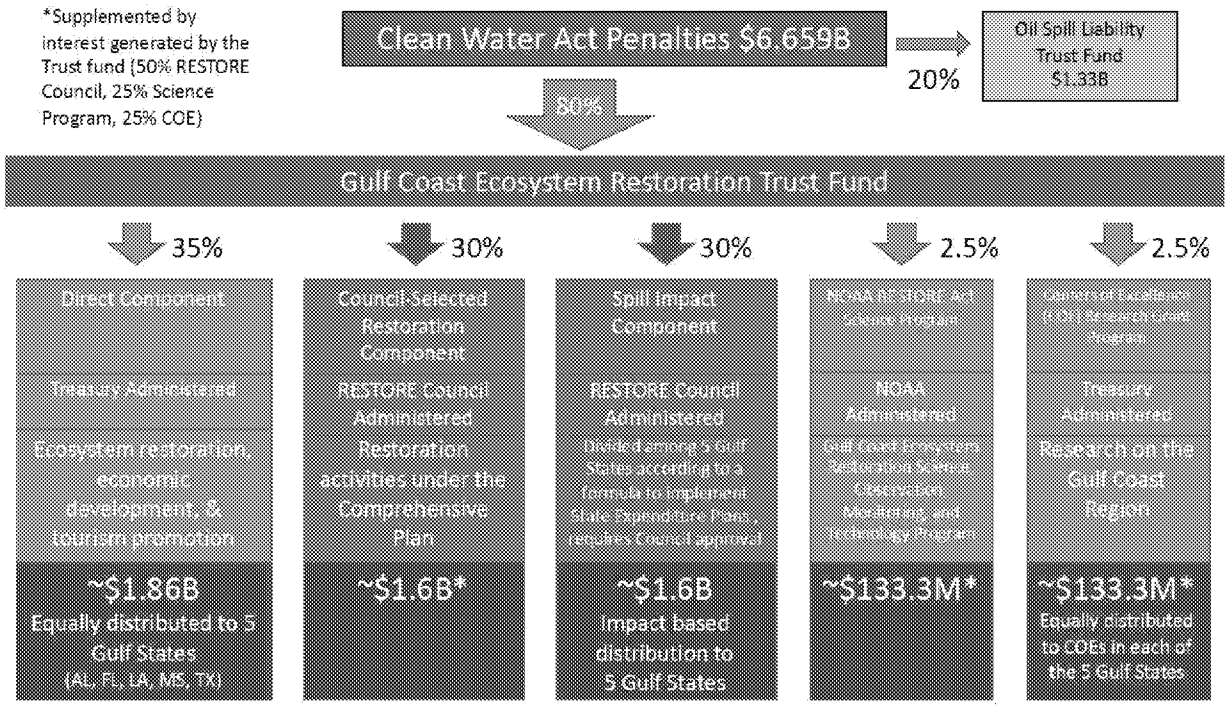
Spurred by the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012, or the RESTORE Act, was signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012. The Act calls for a regional approach to restoring the long-term health of the natural ecosystems and economy of the Gulf Coast region. The RESTORE Act dedicates 80 percent of civil and administrative penalties paid under the Clean Water Act (CWA), after the date of enactment, by responsible parties in connection with the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill to the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund) for ecosystem restoration, economic recovery and tourism promotion in the Gulf Coast region. Established by the Act, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) is comprised of the Governors of the five Gulf Coast States (States), the Secretaries of the U.S. Departments of the Interior, Army, Commerce, Agriculture and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Administrator of the EPA currently serves as the Council's Chairperson.

The resolution of civil claim totals for entities held responsible for the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill will yield more than $20 billion, the largest civil penalties ever awarded under any environmental statute, and the largest recovery of damages for injuries to natural resources of the United States. Of these penalties, the RESTORE Act will provide $5.33 billion (80 percent of $6.659 billion, plus interest) to the Trust Fund, consisting of 80 percent of the following: $1 billion (plus interest) in civil penalties from Transocean Deepwater Inc. and related entities for violating the CWA in relation to their conduct in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; $159.5 million from a civil fine paid by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation; and $5.5 billion (plus interest) from BP Exploration and Production, Inc. (BP) for a CWA civil penalty under the April 4, 2016 consent decree (Consent Decree), payable over a fifteen-year period (Figure 1).

The Council has oversight of the expenditure of 60 percent of the Trust Fund (green highlighted areas, Figure 1). Under the Council-Selected Restoration Component, 30 percent of available funding is administered for Gulf-wide ecosystem restoration and protection according to the Council's Comprehensive Plan. Under the Spill Impact Component, 30 percent is allocated to the States. The remaining funds are allocated as follows: 35 percent under the Direct Component,

divided equally among the five Gulf States for ecological and economic restoration; 2.5 percent to a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Component (plus 25 percent of interest earned) dedicated to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring and Technology Program; and 2.5 percent to a Centers of Excellence Component (plus 25 percent of interest earned) dedicated to the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program.

Figure 1. Allocation of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund based on settlements with BP, Transocean and Anadarko; RESTORE Council oversight components are highlighted in green.



Council-Selected Restoration Component Accomplishments

Background

Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, the Council approved an Initial Comprehensive Plan in 2013, setting forth goals and objectives for advancing comprehensive Gulf restoration. In 2015, the Council approved its first list of restoration projects and programs to be carried out under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. This list, called the Initial Funded Priorities List (or Initial FPL), consisted of $156.6 million in restoration activities in 10 key watersheds as well as several Gulf-wide programs. After approving the Initial FPL, the Council began disbursing funds to its members to implement the projects and programs listed therein. The Council also conducted a thorough internal and public review of the process it used to select projects and programs in this first round of funding. The goal of this review was to apply lessons learned from the initial selection process to subsequent funding decisions.

The funding for the Initial FPL came from the settlement of CWA civil penalties against Transocean Deepwater Inc. and related entities. When it approved the Initial FPL, the Council did not know the amount and timing of additional funding that could come from the ongoing litigation with BP. In 2016, the entry of the Consent Decree meant that the amount and timing of that funding was now known.

In 2016, the Council updated its Comprehensive Plan in light of this new funding information and the lessons learned in the review of its Initial FPL. The Comprehensive Plan update emphasizes the importance of coordination and collaboration among the Council members and with other programs in order to leverage resources and maximize the effectiveness of available restoration funding. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan update also commits to enhancing public engagement and the use of best available science to support a holistic approach to Gulf restoration. These commitments are intended ensure that future Council investments provide the greatest possible ecological return. Following is a list of the specific commitments made in the Comprehensive Plan update (Table 1).

Table 1. Council Commitments from the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Topic	Commitment
Development of Funded Priority Lists	Take a holistic approach to restoration
	Continue to improve FPL Submission Guidelines
	Adopt the watershed/estuary-based approach as a strategic planning principle for future FPL development
	Healthy and sustainable ecosystems are essential for thriving and resilient coastal communities
	Encourage partnerships and additional public and private financial and technical support to maximize outcomes and impacts
	Identify and leverage new sources of funding to support current and future restoration work by exploring creative conservation funding
	Refine the Council processes for considering public input on draft FPLs before finalizing changes to the final FPL

Topic	Commitment
Development of Funded Priority Lists	Project evaluation and selection will be conducted in the most open manner feasible
	Update and improve the process for applying best available science to FPL proposals, including exploring the use of one or more science review panels
Collaboration and Coordination	Sponsor and participate in meetings and workshops in 2017 and into 2018
	Facilitate meaningful engagement with range of stakeholders
	Maximize outcomes by leveraging funds and expertise
	Coordination and collaboration among members and our restoration partners is critical to the success of Gulf restoration
	Coordinate regulatory efforts across Council membership
Science	Decisions made pursuant to the FPL will be based on the best available science
	The Council recognizes the importance of measuring outcomes and impacts in order to achieve tangible results and ensure that funds are invested in a meaningful way

Promoting Coordination and Collaboration

It is now incumbent upon the Council to meet these commitments. Prior to 2017, no designated funding stream existed to support Council member efforts to plan and coordinate restoration activities under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Historically, Council members had to rely upon general, tax-generated or appropriated funds to support their work on matters such as FPL development and the Comprehensive Plan update.

To address this challenge, in 2017 the Council developed the Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support FPL (CPS FPL). The CPS FPL, officially approved by the Council in January 2018, is intended to ensure that Council members have the resources needed to develop highly effective projects and programs for future funding under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Under the CPS FPL, each of the eleven Council members may apply for up to

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$500,000 per year for up to three years and up to $300,000 per year for two years thereafter. This equals up to $23.1 million, or 1.44% of the total funds available (not including interest) in the Council-Selected Restoration Component. As with the Initial FPL, the CPS FPL includes a clause that incentivizes savings and efficiency by enabling the Council to apply unused planning funds to projects and programs sponsored by the member that achieves the savings.

The CPS FPL funding will provide the necessary resources for Council members to stimulate and encourage the coordination and collaboration necessary to achieve the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan. Specifically, the CPS FPL funding will provide funds necessary for members to:

- Strengthen ecosystem restoration proposals for future FPL(s) under the Council-Selected Restoration Component;
- Enhance the efficiency of future FPL development processes; and
- Facilitate long-term planning and leveraging efforts across funding streams.

The Council believes that investing a relatively small amount of time and resources in planning can ensure that restoration projects selected for funding will yield greater ecosystem benefits in the future. The Council will review the effectiveness of this funding at year four and consider whether extending planning and commitment support efforts beyond the five-year period is needed to continue to meet the Comprehensive Plan commitments.

Awarding Funds for Restoration Projects and Programs

In addition to the ongoing coordination and planning activities to support future investments, the Council has also worked to expedite the funding of the approximately $156.6 million in ecosystem restoration projects and programs approved in the Initial FPL. In 2017, the Council awarded funds for thirteen Initial FPL projects, totaling $62.14 million. This is in addition to the 2016 awards for ten Initial FPL projects totaling $34.38 million. The Initial FPL activities awarded funds in 2017 are listed below, along with links to additional information (including the projected duration of each activity).

Bayou Greenways (Planning & Implementation)
Location: Texas
Sponsor: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $7,109,000.00
Additional information is available here

Bayou Dularge Ridge, Marsh & Hydrologic Restoration (Planning)
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service
Award amount: $5,162,084.00
Additional information is available here

Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp (Planning)
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $14,190,000.00
Additional information is available here

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (Planning)
Location: Alabama
Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency
Award amount: $358,000.00
Additional information is available here

Beach Haven - Joint Stormwater & Wastewater Improvement - Phase II (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $5,967,000.00
Additional information is available here

Bayou Chico Contaminated Sediment Removal - Planning, Design, and Permitting (Planning)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $356,850.00
Additional information is available here

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Additional information is available here

Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improvements (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,219,856.00
Additional information is available here

Suwannee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Program (Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,884,000.00
Additional information is available here

Tate's Hell Strategy 1 (Planning & Implementation)
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Department of Agriculture
Award amount: $7,000,000.00
Additional information is available here

Council Monitoring and Assessment Program
Location: Gulfwide
Co-sponsor: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $1,175,000.00
Co-sponsor: Department of the Commerce/NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Award amount: $1,700,000.00
Additional information is available here

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership
Location: Gulfwide
Sponsor: U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA Restoration Center
Award amount: $7,500,000.00
Additional information is available here

Strategic Conservation Assessment of Gulf Coast Landscapes
Location: Gulfwide
Sponsor: Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Award amount: $1,842,583.00
Additional information is available here

These projects and programs support planning, implementation and science activities that will provide on-the-ground ecological benefits to key Gulf watersheds, develop shovel-ready projects, and help build a strong science foundation for future decision-making. In 2018, the Council will continue to award funds for activities on the Initial FPL, while also conducting technical and financial oversight of existing awards.

Making Projects "Shovel-Ready"

In addition to approving funds for specific projects and programs, the Initial FPL also lists activities the Council has identified as priorities for potential future funding. This category of activities (referred to as Category 2 activities) are projects and programs the Council believes have merit, but which were not ready for implementation funding because the requisite environmental compliance had not been completed. The Council set aside a pool of available funds for potential use on Category 2 activities, pending Council approval. The Council also approved planning funds to address the environmental laws applicable to these Category 2

activities. Once these laws have been addressed for a Category 2 activity, the Council can vote to approve funding for that activity through an amendment to the Initial FPL. Such a vote only occurs after public comments have been considered by the Council.

The Council is committed to efficient, effective and transparent environmental compliance processes for its activities, including those in Category 2. With major federal regulatory agencies among its members, the Council was well positioned to efficiently address the environmental compliance needs for a number of Category 2 projects in 2017. By reviewing and adopting existing National Environmental Policy Act documentation developed by member agencies, the Council has been able to approve implementation funding for two Category 2 projects in 2017. This efficiency has enabled the Council to save over $187,750 that was previously committed to the planning phase of these projects. These funds were re-allocated to project implementation, thereby increasing on-the-ground ecological benefits. Below are the Category 2 projects that were approved for funding in 2017.

Tampa Bay Estuary Program
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency
Funding approved: $1,544,960
Additional information is available here

Palm River Restoration Project Phase II, East McKay Bay Project I
Location: Florida
Sponsor: Florida
Funding approved: $856,430
Additional information is available here

In 2017 the Council also amended the Initial FPL to allocate the $9,300,000 in approved funding for the Lowermost Mississippi River Management project to the State of Louisiana. (The Initial FPL originally had this funding equally allocated between the State of Louisiana and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.) In addition, the Council amended the Initial FPL to modify the potential acquisition and conservation boundary for the Mississippi program entitled "Strategic Land Protection, Conservation, and Enhancement of Priority Gulf Coast" and the geographic area for beneficial use planning for potential future marsh restoration activities under the "Texas Beneficial Use/Marsh Restoration (Planning)" project.

Sub-Awards to Non-Governmental Organizations

The RESTORE Act requires that, for purposes of awards made under the Council-Selected Restoration Component, a State or federal award recipient may make a grant or subaward to or enter into a cooperative agreement with a non-governmental entity that equals or exceeds 10 percent of the total amount of the award provided to the State or federal award recipient only

if certain notice requirements are met. The Council has provided notice in advance of each such proposed subaward through the *Federal Register* and to specified Congressional Committees. In addition, the Council must include the name, purpose and amount of each qualifying subaward in its Annual Report to Congress. The below table provides the required information.

Table 2. 2017 Subawards to Nongovernmental Entities That Exceed 10 Percent of an Award

Name of Subrecipient	Purpose and Amount of Subaward
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Under a grant from the Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is implementing the Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor Implementation project, through which 1,852 acres of land will be conserved through fee title acquisition from willing sellers and added to a 105,000 acre corridor of conservation lands that includes the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Boca Chica State Park and the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR. Through a subaward in the amount of $4,363,391, TNC will acquire three properties in the Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor, which are expected to ultimately become part of the Laguna Atascosa NWR. These properties will connect Laguna Atascosa NWR, Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR, and Boca Chica State Park, as well as over 2 million acres of intact habitat on private ranchland with the 1.3 million acre Rio Bravo Protected Area. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on November 23, 2016 (81 FR 84581).
Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)	Under an interagency agreement (IAA) with the Council, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Department of the Interior and NOAA are jointly administering the Council Monitoring and Assessment Program (CMAP) to build the foundational components for Gulf region-wide monitoring in order to measure impacts of investments in restoration. Through a subaward from NOAA in the amount of $525,000, GOMA will coordinate the Monitoring Community of Practice to leverage existing resources, capacities, and expertise and build on existing monitoring programs. These existing programs will be coordinated into a network, to provide efficiency in monitoring and collaborative cross-program review of performance with other Gulf ecosystem recovery efforts. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on March 14, 2017 (82 FR 13607), with a correction posted on April 14, 2017 (82 FR 17995).
The Houston Parks Board (HPB)	Under a grant from the Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is implementing the Bayou Greenways Planning and Implementation project, which supports the larger Bayou Greenways Initiative, which has the long-term goal of preserving and restoring 4,000 acres of riparian buffer corridors along

Name of Subrecipient	Purpose and Amount of Subaward
	the major waterways (bayous and creeks) running predominately through Harris County and the City of Houston. Through a subaward in the amount of $7,085,022, HPB will purchase and conserve approximately 80 to 100 acres of land through fee title acquisition from willing sellers. HPB intends to transfer title of acquired lands to the Houston Parks and Recreation Department for preservation in perpetuity as parkland. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on June 1, 2017 (82 FR 25289).
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Under an IAA with the Council, NOAA is implementing the Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership (GulfCorps) program, which is designed to contribute to meaningful Gulf Coast ecosystem restoration, while economically benefiting coastal communities by providing education, training, and opportunities to workers to implement conservation projects. Through a subaward in the amount of $7,000,000, TNC will recruit and train GulfCorps participants who will be mobilized to provide labor on selected coastal restoration projects in each Gulf State. Projects may include invasive species removal, shoreline protection and enhancement, riparian restoration, debris removal, revegetation, reef restoration, and habitat monitoring and conservation. Notice of this subaward was originally published in the *Federal Register* on June 29, 2017 (82 FR 29565).

Enhancing Environmental Compliance Efficiency through Interagency Collaboration

The Gulf Coast Interagency Environmental Restoration Working Group (GCIERWG) is a standing workgroup whose purpose is to achieve more effective and efficient environmental review and permitting of Gulf restoration projects across ecosystem restoration funding streams through early and consistent interagency coordination and prioritization of restoration efforts. This workgroup was formed in recognition of the critical need for increased regulatory collaboration to deliver timely restoration implementation. The GCIERWG is currently led by NOAA and is comprised of representation from the U.S. Departments of Army, Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency with facilitation by Council staff. The group coordinates through standing monthly interagency working group conference calls with follow-up as needed.

In 2017, the GCIERWG spearheaded a new interagency regulatory clearinghouse pilot effort to demonstrate the utility of a voluntary regulatory efficiency approach that engages field level technical review of restoration projects at the earliest possible stages to make the regulatory process collaborative and by applying efficiency tools to facilitate effective and expeditious

environmental compliance. Two FPL planning projects were selected as pilots: the Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline – Phase 1 project sponsored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (additional information available here) and the Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project sponsored by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (additional information available here). Regulatory contacts for each project were identified, and project kick-off meetings were completed this year. As the planning and design begins for these projects in 2018, the GCIERWG will continue to engage through these pilot efforts, evaluating their utility for future applicability and potential expansion as staffing resources allow.

Spill Impact Component Accomplishments

Background

In addition to the Council-Selected Restoration Component funding, the remaining 30 percent of the Trust Fund under the Council's purview is allocated to the States under the Spill Impact Component, according to a formula established by the Council and implemented through a regulation. These funds are spent according to individual State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) that contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf. The SEPs must adhere to four basic criteria set forth in the RESTORE Act and are subject to approval by the Council in accordance with those criteria. On December 15, 2015, the Council published the Spill Impact Component regulation, which set forth allocation for each State. These allocations became effective on April 12, 2016, following entry of the Consent Decree.

Approving State Expenditure Plans

In 2017, the Council approved SEPs for Louisiana and Mississippi, representing approximately $600,000,000 in coastal restoration investments. The Louisiana SEP, approved on March, 23, 2017, provides approximately $551,500,000 in Spill Impact Component funding to support coastal restoration activities in the State's Coastal Master Plan. The Louisiana SEP includes four elements:

1. **The Houma Navigation Canal Lock Complex ($366 million)**
2. **Adaptive Management ($60.9 million)**
3. **The Parish Matching Opportunities Program ($100 million)**
4. **Contingency funds ($24.6 million)**

This SEP will need to be amended when funding approval is sought by Louisiana for specific activities in the third element, the Parish Matching Opportunities Program.

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The Mississippi SEP, approved on April 13, 2017, provides approximately $49,800,000 in Spill Impact Component funding to support coastal restoration activities. The Mississippi SEP includes three elements:

1. **The Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program ($45 million)**

2. **Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement ($3.5 million)**

3. **Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning ($1.3 million)**

Awarding Funds for SEP Implementation

Once a SEP is approved, funding for activities in the SEP is disbursed to the respective State via Council grants when the requisite funds become available in the Trust Fund and upon application by the State. As part of the grant process, all activities for which funding is sought are carefully reviewed to ensure consistency with the approved SEP and compliance with the RESTORE Act and all other applicable requirements. Funding for implementation activities is disbursed to the State after verification of compliance with all applicable federal environmental and other laws. Funding for planning activities in the SEP will be disbursed after verification of a direct relationship to the Spill Impact Component criteria.

In 2017, the Council awarded $19.76 million in grant funding for implementation of the Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan (PSEP) and a portion of Louisiana's Adaptive Management project.

Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan
Location: Texas
Sponsor: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $292,503.00
Additional information is available here

Adaptive Management
Location: Louisiana
Sponsor: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Award amount: $19,467,855.50
Additional information is available here

Assisting the Development of State Expenditure Plans

In 2017, the Council continued to work with other State members to assist with the ongoing development of their respective SEPs. The Florida Consortium of Counties, the designated entity responsible for development of the Florida SEP, has been awarded planning funds to

prepare a SEP that addresses the needs of its 23-county membership. The Council worked with the Consortium of Counties to help ensure that its SEP will meet the legal requirements of the RESTORE Act and that the future Council review of the SEP is as smooth and expeditious as possible. The Council also worked with Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, providing guidance on how its SEP could address ecosystem and economic impacts of the storm and include elements that could help improve coastal resilience.

Administrative Accomplishments

To best serve the communities of the Gulf Coast region, the Council carries out its activities to implement the Comprehensive Plan and accomplish the requirements of the RESTORE Act in an effective and efficient manner, at the minimum cost possible to maximize the funds available for restoration projects and programs. The Council has managed its fiscal resources through a strategy of incremental growth corresponding to the development of its Council-Selected Restoration Component and the Spill Impact Component programs. While a significant amount of unreimbursed support was provided to the Council staff by many of its members in the first several years, the Council is now operating on a steady-state basis.

During fiscal years 2013 through 2015 the Council developed its administrative and programmatic infrastructure by establishing its headquarters office in New Orleans; developing and implementing its core administrative systems including finance, budget, accounting, procurement, travel, records management and IT systems; acquiring and deploying its website and automated grants management system; and implementation of its grant, science, and environmental compliance programs.

During FY 2016 the Council completed an enterprise risk management (ERM) analysis and risk profile, and in FY 2017 the Council implemented the ERM program to ensure that the Council mitigates high risk areas identified through that analysis. Internal controls have been and continue to be a major consideration in the development and continued refinement of the Council's policies and procedures and automated systems. Administrative, finance, accounting, grants and interagency agreement policies and procedures have been developed and documented and continue to be refined. Post-award grants management and oversight procedures have been developed to mitigate the risk of improper payments and address risks identified in the enterprise-wide risk assessment, while also developing information that will enhance the Council's ability to forecast cash requirements and manage its awards in order to ensure positive outcomes.

Enhancing Efficiency of the Grant System

In December 2015 the Council deployed its automated grants management system, the Restoration Assistance and Agreements Management System (RAAMS), and began implementing its grants and IAA program concurrent with the approval of the Initial FPL. The Council is committed to ensuring that the process used for awarding and disbursing funds is as

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efficient as possible, while also providing the oversight needed for sound fiscal management. As it did with the Initial FPL, after a year of experience the Council initiated a thorough review of its application, disbursement and post-award oversight processes to identify and implement system changes that will lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness. While this review is ongoing, the Council has already incorporated efficiency measures identified thus far. The Council will continue to identify and implement process improvements and best practices for its grant and IAA program and system.

Department of Treasury Audits

In 2017 the Treasury Office of Inspector General completed the following seven audits.

1. RESTORE Act Council Effectively Acquired and Implemented a Grants Management System, but Challenges Remain in Service Agreement Monitoring and Invoice Processing *(OIG-17-037)*
    a. The audit report found that the Council's grant program and system complied with applicable RESTORE Act, Federal grant regulations and internal grants policies and procedures.
    b. The report identified two findings related to internal controls associated with processing the invoices associated with an IAA, and both findings have been resolved and all three recommendations implemented.
2. DATA Act Readiness: Council Is Making Progress in Meeting DATA Act Reporting Requirements Despite Challenges *(OIG-17-045)*
    a. The report had no findings other than the Council is making adequate progress to meet OMB deadlines despite challenges. There were no recommendations.
3. Permanent Funding Authorities: Some Selected Entities Should Review Financial Management, Oversight and Transparency Policies *(GAO 17-59)*
    a. The Council was mentioned briefly in the report, which focused on other federal entities. There were no findings with regards to the Council.
4. Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 Fiscal Year 2017 Evaluation *(OIG-CA-18-006)*
    a. The evaluation found that consistent with applicable federal requirements and guidelines, the Council's information security program and practices were established and maintained in FY 2017. However, the Council's IT security program was not in place for the entire year thus there was a finding that it was not fully effective for the entire period. Since the Council had already taken corrective action there were no recommendations.
5. Council Met Reporting Requirements Under the DATA Act Despite Challenges *(OIG-18-008)*
    a. The audit found that not all data was accurate due to a timing difference in processing between systems. The Council had improved their internal controls and reconciliation processes prior to completion of the audit.
6. Audit of the FY 2017 Financial Statements of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council *(OIG-18-016)*

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a. The auditors issued an unqualified ("clean") audit opinion with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies.

7. Management Letter for the Audit of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's Fiscal Years 2017 and 2016 Financial Statements. *(OIG-18-028)*
    a. The letter had one comment that the Council's Information Security program and practices were formalized and documented, but not consistently applied. This comment resulted because the CIO and the IT Security program and practices were not in place for the entire year. The Report noted that the Council has taken the necessary steps to remediate this condition by filling the CIO position to maintain and further develop information security policies, procedures, and control techniques.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

During 2017 Council staff received four Freedom of Information Requests (FOIA) submissions, all requesting the same information. The requests were complex, requiring multi-member coordination and response. Completion of information compilation and review will not be completed until early 2018.

Centers of Excellence Accomplishments

Background

The RESTORE Act dedicates 2.5 percent of the Trust Fund to the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program, administered by the Department of Treasury. These funds may be used to establish Centers of Excellence and by those Centers of Excellence for science, technology, and monitoring in one or more of the following disciplines:

- Coastal and deltaic sustainability, restoration, and protection, including solutions and technology that allow citizens to live in a safe and sustainable manner in a coastal delta in the Gulf Coast Region;
- Coastal fisheries and wildlife ecosystem research and monitoring in the Gulf Coast Region;
- Offshore energy development, including research and technology to improve the sustainable and safe development of energy resources in the Gulf of Mexico;
- Sustainable and resilient growth, economic and commercial development in the Gulf Coast Region; and
- Comprehensive observation, monitoring, and mapping of the Gulf of Mexico.

The RESTORE Act specifies who may apply to receive funds under the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program. Following are the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program eligible applicants for each State:

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- In Alabama, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council or such administrative agent as it may designate;
- In Florida, the Florida Institute of Oceanography;
- In Louisiana, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board of Louisiana through the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana;
- In Mississippi, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; and
- In Texas, the Office of the Governor or an appointee of the Office of the Governor.

Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, each State provides an annual report on its respective Center of Excellence to the RESTORE Council with information regarding all grants, including the amount, discipline or disciplines, and recipients of the grants, and in the case of any grant awarded to a consortium, the membership of the consortium. This information is to be included in the Council's Annual Report to Congress. As of the date of this report, four Centers of Excellence have been established. Following are summaries of the activities of these Centers of Excellence; the full reports are located here *(link to a Council webpage for the full reports).*

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

In January 2015, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) competitively selected two consortia, the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi - Texas OneGulf Consortium and University of Houston (UofH) - Subsea Systems Institute.

The mission of the Texas OneGulf Center of Excellence is to gather and improve knowledge about the Gulf of Mexico to inform decision making around the challenges to environmental and economic sustainability of the Gulf of Mexico and its impact on the health and well-being of Texans and the nation. Texas OneGulf is designed with the capacity and flexibility to address all five focus disciplines denoted in Section 1605 of RESTORE. This Center has been awarded funding and has begun or completed activities on five projects. Highlights include: Completed and released first official Texas OneGulf Strategic Research and Action Plan (SRAP) project; Organized and convened Disaster Research Response (DR2) Workshop; Completed the sharing of and began use of templates and research protocols with multiple institutions; Completed 3-year plan to integrating Texas OneGulf DR2 program with other state and national DR2 programs to develop and advance initiatives identified; Completed the second round of glider missions; Three underserved datasets have been identified for Texas Knowledge Base project; Released Request for Proposal (RFP) to implement competitive grant program.

Subsea Systems Institute (SSI) is a collaborative endeavor focus on the translational engineering, validation science and appropriate policy towards maintaining the technological, economic and workforce leadership of the Gulf coast area in the realm of deepwater and ultra-deepwater hydrocarbon use. The SSI is addressing offshore energy development, including research and technology to improve the sustainable and safe development of energy resources in the Gulf of Mexico as its focus on one of the disciplines denoted in Section 1605 of RESTORE. This Center has been awarded funding and has begun or completed activities on seven projects.

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Highlights include: Commenced with the testing of thin-film Li ion batteries and thin-film supercapacitors; Commenced with the construction of the high-pressure apparatus for capacitator- battery testing at 5,000 psi; Developed physics based annular models; Completed the presentation of results to the SSI Technical Advisory Committee and prepared final report for the Marine Drilling Hazard Mitigation and Production Facility Monitoring using Seismic and Sonar Imaging project; Completed industry workshop and prototype Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV) design modifications; Progress on a Finite Element Model of an Annular; Launched new project with the designing of sensor and gateway nodes for subsea environment communication.

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

On April 8, 2014, the Coastal and Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) named The Water Institute of the Gulf as the State of Louisiana's Center of Excellence. On November 1, 2015, the U.S. Department of the Treasury awarded CPRA a grant to begin its research program. The mission of the RESTORE Act Center of Excellence for Louisiana (LA-COE) is to support research directly relevant to implementation of Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan by administering a competitive grants program and providing the appropriate coordination and oversight support to ensure that success metrics are tracked and achieved.

The LA-COE completed coordination of the review process of 76 proposals (graduate studentship, research and collaborative awards) that were solicited under the first request for proposals (RFP1). The proposals were all reviewed by subject matter experts (SME) and CPRA for criteria defined in the RFP. The SME and CPRA reviews of the research and collaborative proposals were compiled for the External Review Board (ERB). The ERB consists of nationally and internationally recognized subject matter experts on topics relevant to Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan. An in-person ERB meeting was held in Baton Rouge, LA in April 2017. The ERB made funding recommendations (based on a scale of 1-3) for each research and collaborative proposal based on review and discussion of the proposals, the SME reviews, and the CPRA reviews. A Recommendation Meeting was held on June 20, 2017 with CPRA and LA-COE staff to discuss the ERB's recommendations and to develop a potential list of projects to fund, subject to concurrence by CPRA and LA-COE leadership. A Concurrence Meeting was held on May 30, 2017 to finalize which graduate studentship, research and collaborative awards would be granted. Principal investigators (PIs) were notified of the awards and then a public announcement was made via a joint LA-COE and CPRA press release on June 22, 2017. A total of 13 awards were announced; six graduate studentship awards, two collaborative awards, and five research awards.

Contracting and research grants management procedures were developed to help manage the funding process and subrecipients. Assessment and reporting on progress using defined metrics that address federal reporting requirements including reports to Treasury have been developed.

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

In February 2015, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) made available for public comment for 45 days a draft Request for Proposals describing the competitive selection process, rules, and policies. MDEQ prepared the draft Request for Proposals in accordance with state law and in compliance with 31 C.F.R. §34.700-708. Notice of the public comment and review period for the draft Request for Proposals was published in the Sun Herald and Clarion Ledger newspapers as well as online at www.restore.ms. After consideration of meaningful input from the public, a final Request for Proposals was published in April 2015. Notice of availability of the final Request for Proposals was published in the Sun Herald and Clarion Ledger newspapers on April 6, 2015 and April 13, 2015, as well as online at www.restore.ms. The deadline to submit proposals was May 7, 2015. As a result of the Final RFP, MDEQ received two proposals. After reviewing the proposals according to the qualifications and criteria described above, the Mississippi Based Restore Act Center of Excellence (MBRACE) was selected. MBRACE is a consortium of four Mississippi universities - Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, University of Mississippi and University of Southern Mississippi. The University of Southern Mississippi serves as the lead university for the consortium.

The focus of MBRACE, a consortium of Mississippi's research universities, is a sound, comprehensive science- and technology-based understanding of the chronic and acute stressors, both anthropogenic and natural, on the dynamic and productive waters and ecosystems of the northern Gulf. The goals of MBRACE are: (1) serve as a focal point for new, long-term research and socio-economic initiatives along the northern Gulf with relevance to Mississippi's resources; (2) serve the people of Mississippi and the northern Gulf region with a scientifically based understanding of ecosystem status and trends (past to present, predictive) with special emphasis on improved forecasting abilities to ensure sustainable coastal and ocean ecosystems of the Gulf; and (3) work within a consortium of stakeholders including Mississippi's research universities under the Mississippi Research Consortium, state and federal agencies, local communities, private industry, and non-governmental organizations.

MBRACE established a five-person Executive Steering Committee (ESC) comprised of leadership from the four MBRACE universities. The ESC developed core research questions and a science plan relative to the COE eligible disciplines. The science plan guides the Core Research Program conducted by MBRACE. A Call for Proposals to fund research under the Core Research Program was developed to solicit proposals from MBRACE universities. Proposals submitted by the University of Southern Mississippi, the University of Mississippi, and Mississippi State University have been approved, and the sub-award agreements have been executed. The proposal submitted by Jackson State University has been approved, and a sub-award agreement is pending execution.

Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council

In 2015, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (AGCRC) completed a competitive selection process and formally accepted the proposal of the Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium

(MESC) to serve as Alabama's Center of Excellence. The AGCRC authorized its Administrator (the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) to develop an agreement outlining the specific scope of work for the Center of Excellence in Alabama. Once the agreement is finalized, the AGCRC will designate the MESC as Alabama's Center of Excellence.

Florida Institute of Oceanography

The Florida RESTORE Act Centers of Excellence Program (FLRACEP) continues to monitor and manage the initial ten research grant awards funded through the first Request for Proposals. While these awards were slated to close November 30, 2017, Hurricanes Hermine and Matthew from the 2016 season and, most notably, Hurricane Irma in 2017 caused significant delays and disturbances to data collection, analysis and manuscript preparation. FLRACEP personnel decided to offer no-cost extensions through February 28, 2018 to all RFP I projects, and grants that accept will now close out in May 2018. The FLRACEP applied for and received an extension (with funds) of its existing award from the U.S. Department of the Treasury in order to fund and implement the research project associated with the program's second Request for Proposals. This work began in March of 2017 and will continue through the end of 2018 with the possibility of extension. External science review of the project is planned for the summer of 2018, and the Program Management Team will decide on the extent and duration of any project extension at that time. FLRACEP participated in its second programmatic audit in July 2017 and is awaiting the report of findings from the Department of Treasury Office of the Inspector General.

Summary

Since its inception in 2012, the Council has established itself as an independent federal agency capable of meeting its legislative mandate to support ecological and economic recovery in the Gulf Coast region. To meet this challenge the Council built a small agency from the ground up, addressing a range of fundamental policy, governance, staffing and fiscal management responsibilities. This has required achieving consensus and leveraging the strengths among the Council's six federal and five State members. In the initial years, prior to entry of the BP Consent Decree, the Council was building an organization to manage an unknown, but potentially substantial amount of money. The Council chose to develop a lean, low-overhead organization that could be scaled as necessary to meet future demands.

In 2013 the Council completed its initial Comprehensive Plan, setting forth goals and objectives to guide future investments. In 2014 the Council began to develop its first set of restoration investments, using civil penalties from other parties involved in the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Since the ultimate amount of funding the Council would administer was unknown at that time, the Council focused on investments that would build a foundation for success for future restoration efforts. In 2015 the Council finalized this first list of restoration investments, which included planning, implementation and science activities in key watershed and estuaries across the northern Gulf.

In 2016 the Council began awarding funds for the projects and programs in this initial list, while continuing to strengthen its financial administration capacity. Additionally, the Consent Decree was finalized, and the Council assessed the process it used to identify its initial investments, incorporating the findings into an updated Comprehensive Plan. The updated Comprehensive Plan emphasizes collaboration and leveraging among Gulf restoration funding sources, along with other Council commitments necessary to achieve the greatest benefits from future investments.

In 2017 the Council set a path forward for meeting these commitments, while continuing to approve funds for a range of important restoration actions. In 2018 the Council will work toward the next round of funding decisions, using a robust collaboration process with its partners to make sure these investments provide the greatest restoration "bang for the buck."

Appendix 1: All Council Funding Awards

Council-Selected Restoration Component Awards

Alabama

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (Planning)

Organization: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Award amount: $358,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17EP0028
Watershed: Mobile Bay

Florida

Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $4,680,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0039
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improvements (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,219,856.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL008
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Bayou Chico Contaminated Sediment Removal - Planning, Design, and Permitting (Planning)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $356,850.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0018
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Beach Haven - Joint Stormwater & Wastewater Improvement Project - Phase II (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $5,967,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0026
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline - Phase 1 (Planning)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Award amount: $231,314.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0040
Watershed: Pensacola Bay

Suwannee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Program (Implementation)

Organization: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Award amount: $2,884,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17FL0015
Watershed: Suwannee

Tate's Hell Strategy 1 (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Department of Agriculture
Award amount: $7,000,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DA0041
Watershed: Apalachicola Bay

Louisiana

Bayou Dularge Ridge, Marsh & Hydrologic Restoration (Planning)

Organization: Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service
Award amount: $5,162,084.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0007
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $3,220,460.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0025
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Golden Triangle Marsh Creation (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $4,347,733.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0013
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $14,190,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17LA0044
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment and Stabilization (Planning)

Organization: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana
Award amount: $7,259,216.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16LA0024
Watershed: Mississippi River Delta

Mississippi

Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use (BU) of Dredge Sediments in the Mississippi Sound (Planning)

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $2,178,847.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16MS0022
Watershed: Mississippi Sound

Sea Grant Education and Outreach (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $750,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP16MS0020
Watershed: Mississippi Sound

Texas

Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor (Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $4,378,500.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17TX0010
Watershed: Laguna Madre

Bayou Greenways (Planning & Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $7,109,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP18TX0011
Watershed: Galveston Bay

Matagorda Bay System Priority Landscape Conservation (Implementation)

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $6,012,000.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTCP17TX0009
Watershed: Matagorda Bay

Gulf-wide

Baseline Flow, Gage Analysis & On-Line tool to Support Restoration

Organization: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $5,549,800.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0001

Council Monitoring and Assessment Program

Organization #1: Department of the Interior/U.S. Geological Survey
Award amount: $1,175,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0006

Organization #2: Department of the Commerce/NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Award amount: $1,700,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0038

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnership

Organization: U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA Restoration Center
Award amount: $7,500,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DC0030

Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Partnerships / Youth Conservation Corps

Organization: Department of the Interior/Bureau of Indian Affairs
Award amount: $500,000.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP16DI0002

Strategic Conservation Assessment of Gulf Coast Landscapes

Organization: Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife SErvice
Award amount: $1,842,583.00
Interagency Agreement Number: IAACP17DI0005

Spill Impact Component Awards

Texas Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Award amount: $292,503.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP17TX0042
Read the plan here

Louisiana Adaptive Management

Organization: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Award amount: $19,467,855.50
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP17LA0046
Additional information available here

Mississippi Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Award amount: $1,374,612.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP16MS0019
Read the plan here

Florida Gulf Consortium's Planning State Expenditure Plan

Organization: Gulf Consortium
Award amount: $4,640,675.00
Federal Award ID Number: GNTSP16FL0021
Read the plan here

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Steering Committee Call
February 7, 2018
Decisions and Actions

I. TOPIC: CPS Award Update

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Members are encouraged to work with Council staff in advance of submission to help expedite the review and approval process for the CPS FPL awards.

II. TOPIC: Annual Report to Congress

Decisions:

- Steering Committee concurred on moving to a Council vote on the 2017 Annual Report to Congress.
- The Council vote on the Annual Report is tentatively scheduled for February 21, 2018, via teleconference.

Actions:

- Council staff will send a clean version of the Annual Report to Congress to the members in the decisions/actions e-mail from this call.
- Council staff will post the Annual Report to Congress on the Council website with an associated eBlast at least seven days in advance of the Council vote.

III. TOPIC: Administrative Contract Support

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- N/A

IV. TOPIC: Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting

Decisions:

- The next face to face meeting will be hosted by Florida in mid- to late-April. Date and specific location to be finalized by Wednesday the 14th of February.

Actions:

- Council staff will develop a draft agenda for member input, and will coordinate with Florida regarding logistics for the meeting.
- Council staff will develop a proposal for member consideration regarding 2018 face to face meetings, including specific dates and locations.

Next Steering Committee Meeting:

February 21, 2018

Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Audit Committee Schedule

YEAR 2015	YEAR 2016	YEAR 2017	YEAR 2018	YEAR 2019	YEAR 2020	YEAR 2021	YEAR 2022	YEAR 2023	YEAR 2024
MS	LA	TX	FL	AL	MS	LA	TX	FL	AL
LA	TX	FL	AL	MS	LA	TX	FL	AL	MS
ARMY	EPA	USCG	USDA	DOI	DOC	ARMY	EPA	USCG	USDA
EPA	USCG	USDA	DOI	DOC	ARMY	EPA	USCG	USDA	DOI
CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO
EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product - Subject to Council Approval

Human Resource Committee Schedule

YEAR 2015	YEAR 2016	YEAR 2017	YEAR 2018	YEAR 2019	YEAR 2020	YEAR 2021	YEAR 2022	YEAR 2023	YEAR 2024
AL	TX	FL	MS	LA	AL	TX	FL	MS	LA
TX	FL	MS	LA	AL	TX	FL	MS	LA	AL
USDA	DOI	ARMY	USCG	DOC	DOI	USDA	ARMY	USCG	DOC
CHAIR DOC	CHAIR USDA	CHAIR USDA	CHAIR EPA	CHAIR	CHAIR	CHAIR	CHAIR	CHAIR	CHAIR
CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO	CFO
EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR	EXEC DIR

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product - Subject to Council Approval

Council-Selected Restoration Component

Of the approximately 52 Category 1 applications for funding expected to be submitted for the 2015 FPL, to date a total of 42 applications have been initiated in RAAMS. Twenty-five (25) grant/IAA awards have been made, totaling $98,072,243.

LEGENDS

Figure 1: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

Figures 1 and 2:

Not Started in RAAMS (Member) – application in the development stage; application data entry in RAAMS has not been initiated.

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete & submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

IAA Approval (Member) – IAAs only; review and approval of award by federal Members.

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Figure 1

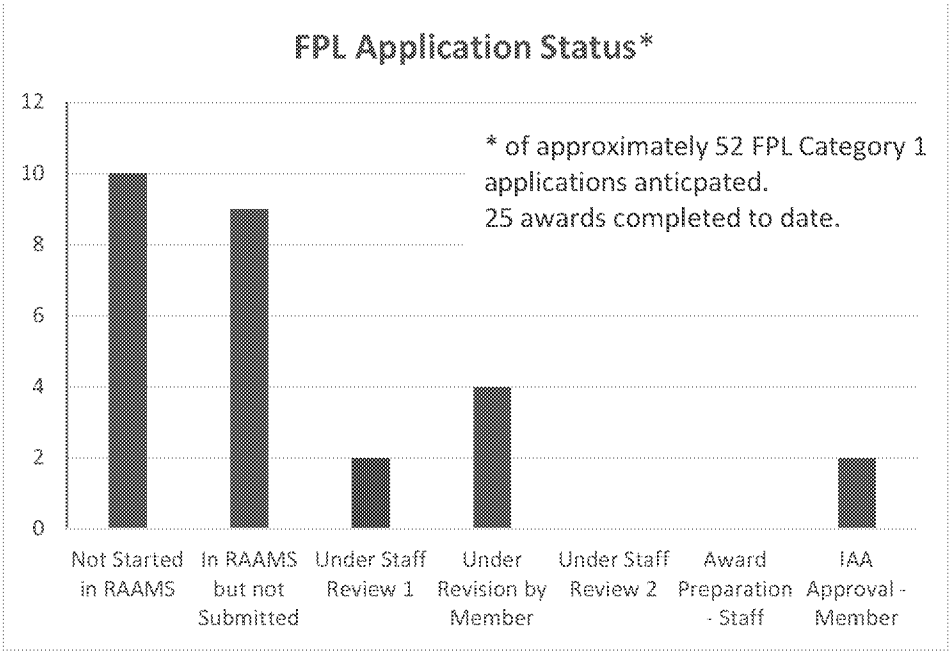
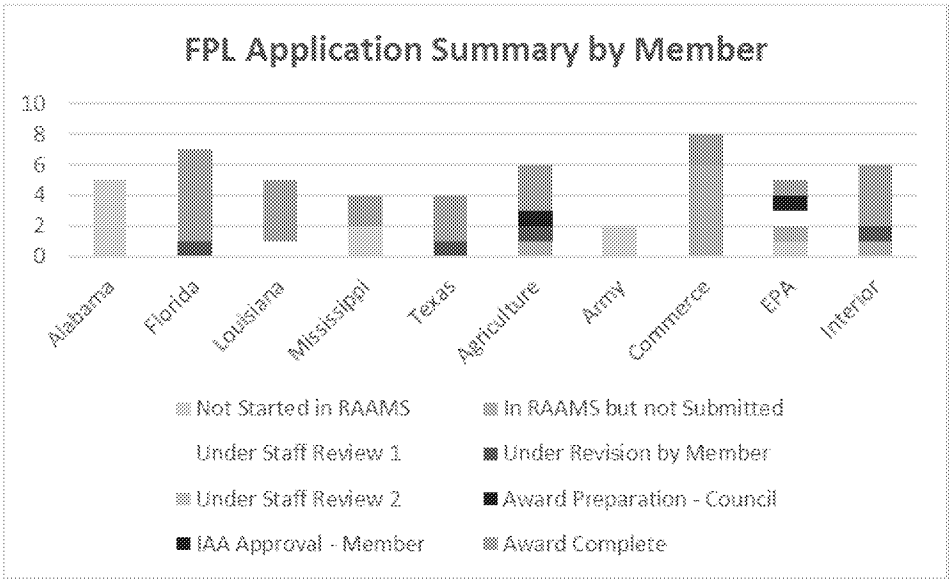


Figure 2



Spill Impact Component

Three Planning State Expenditure Plans (PSEPs) have been approved, and three PSEP grants have been awarded to the Gulf Consortium and states of Mississippi and Texas. Two State Expenditure Plans (SEPs) have been submitted in RAAMS and approved by the Council Chair, the Louisiana SEP and the Mississippi SEP. The first SEP project application was awarded on 8/31/2017 to the State of Louisiana for CPRA's Adaptive Management Program. $25,775,645 has been awarded to date under this component.

LEGEND

Figure 3: Blue = Member Role
Maroon = Council Staff Role

In RAAMS but not Submitted (Member) – application data entry started in RAAMS, but not complete.

Under Staff Review 1 (Council staff) – application complete & submitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing initial reviews and compiling consolidated comments.

Under Revision by Member (Member) – application returned to and under revision by Member to address Council staff comments, prior to resubmission in RAAMS.

Under Staff Review 2 (Council staff) – revised application resubmitted in RAAMS; Council staff completing final reviews.

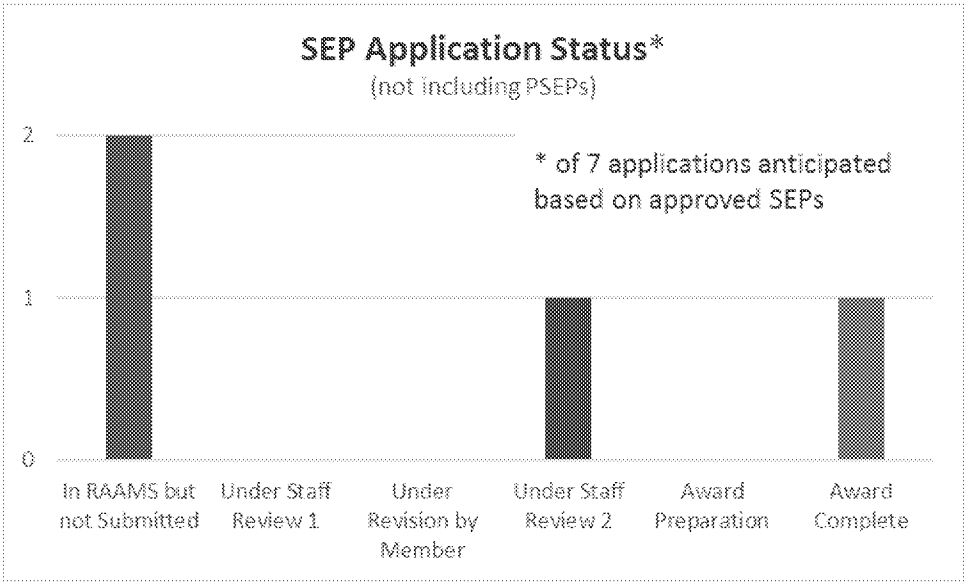
Award Preparation (Council staff) – Council staff preparing award for transmittal to Member

Award Complete – award complete and funds obligated; project underway.

Table 1

Approved SEP	# Projects or Programs in Approved SEP	Anticipated Grant Awards	# Awarded
Louisiana	3	3	1
Mississippi	3	4	0

Figure 3



Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 1/19/2018 3:58:19 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; alice_perry@deq.state.ms.us [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1eae3fec7def433ca4905991754ea8b5-alice_perry@deq.state.ms.us]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Derby, Jennifer [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e1ec2e99ae5a464e8bffecc778954d82-Derby, Jennifer]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard (gary_rikard@deq.state.ms.us) [gary_rikard@deq.state.ms.us]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; janet.vail@treasury.gov; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim_smith [Kim_Smith@deq.state.ms.us]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill,

Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Michelle B Meyers [mmeyers@usgs.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Paige Johnson (paige@nicholsoncpas.com) [paige@nicholsoncpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Sadie Hunt [sadie.hunt@restorethegulf.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]

Subject: Re: January 24, 2018, Council Vote and Steering Committee Call Agenda

Attachments: Council_Vote_and_Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Jan_24 updated.docx.pdf

Council Members and Steering Committee representatives: We have had to push the Council Vote and Steering Committee agenda start time ONE HOUR on Wednesday Jan 24, 2018 from 1:00 pm central/2:00 pm east coast. We will now begin the meeting at **2:00 pm central/3:00 pm east coast.** An amended agenda is attached to this email reflecting the updated time. Calendars will also be updated to reflect the correct time for the meeting.

We look forward to speaking with you all on Wed at 2 pm central/3 pm east coast and are excited to move forward with our new Council Chair!

Thank you and have a great (and warmer!) weekend.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

On Wed, Jan 17, 2018 at 4:31 PM, Council Staff <staff@restorethegulf.gov> wrote:

> Council Members:
>
> EPA is officially the new Chair of the Council. The Council can now vote on two items: the Commitment and Planning Support Funded Priorities List (CPS FPL) and the FPL Amendment for Robinson Preserve. Accordingly, the January 24, 2018, call will include a Council meeting to vote on these two items. Please ensure that your Council member or member voting designee is on the call to allow the vote to take place. (For the federal members, only the Chair or his voting designee need be present for a vote to take place.) Prior to conducting these two votes, we will have a Steering Committee discussion of other agenda items. Attached is the agenda for the January 24 call, along with the related attachments:
>
> 1. Final CPS FPL

2. Draft CPS Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) (see below)
3. Robinson Preserve Revised FPL Appendix (provided to members in 10/2017)
4. Robinson Preserve Record of Decision (unsigned) (provided to members in 10/2017)
5. Draft member contacts list

In the interest of moving forward efficiently, staff has prepared the attached draft NOFA in connection with the CPS FPL. If the CPS FPL is approved by the Council during the January 24 call, then staff will post the final NOFA on the Council website and publish a notice of the NOFA in the *Federal Register*. As of today this draft NOFA is provided for your information only. Please note that the proposed CPS grant/IAA application period will end April 30, 2018.

We look forward to speaking with you next week. Thanks in advance for your participation in the call.

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

COUNCIL VOTE
and
Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, January 24, 2018
2:00PM CST / 3PM EST - 3:00PM CST / 4:00PM EST

Ex. 6

Steering Committee Agenda

I. **Roll Call, Ensure Quorum for Vote** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: Welcome New Chair: EPA** (Ben Scaggs)

III. **TOPIC: Draft Annual Report to Congress** (John Ettinger)
Objective:
- Discuss and resolve any member "show-stopper" comments.
- Review schedule, next steps.

Materials:
- N/A

IV. **TOPIC: Next Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting** (Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Initiate discussion to identify time, location and topics for next in-person Steering Committee meeting.

Materials:
- N/A

V. **TOPIC: Member Contact List and Communications** (Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Request that each member send Council Staff their updated list of contacts: Member, Member Designee, SC Member, SC Alternate and other support (e.g., key technical, legal, public engagement staff).

Materials:
- Draft member contacts list.

Council Voting Agenda:

I. **TOPIC: Council Vote on Commitment and Planning Support Funded Priorities List** (Jean Cowan)
Objective:
- Review CPS FPL to be voted upon.
- Hold vote.

Materials:

- Final CPS FPL

II. TOPIC: Council Vote on Robinson Preserve Funding Approval (John Ettinger)

Objective:

- Review FPL amendment to be voted upon.
- Hold vote.

Materials:

- Robinson Preserve Revised FPL Appendix.
- Robinson Preserve Record of Decision (unsigned).

III. TOPIC: Other Topics

IV. TOPIC: Wrap-Up/Adjourn (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
February 7, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Message

From: Barb Glenn [carly@nasda.org]
Sent: 1/19/2018 3:16:19 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Updated RSVP Link - Invitation to the 2018 NASDA Congressional Reception at the Capitol Visitor Center

View in browser

On behalf of the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of Agriculture, the pleasure of your company is requested at the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture's upcoming Congressional Reception inside our nation's Capitol.

Monday, January 29
5:15 - 7:00 PM
Congressional Atrium at the Capitol Visitor Center

RSVP

Please RSVP in advance by clicking the button above. Registration for this event closes Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,
Dr. Barbara P. Glenn
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
(202) 296-9680
4350 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 910
Arlington, VA 22203
www.nasda.org

This in a non-transferrable invitation to a widely attended event. Please visit www.visitthecapitol.gov for a list of prohibited items. Please use the Visitor Center entrance at First Street and East Capitol.

Unsubscribe | Opt Out

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 1/25/2018 6:00:25 PM
To: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; alice_perry@deq.state.ms.us [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1eae3fec7def433ca4905991754ea8b5-alice_perry@deq.state.ms.us]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard (gary_rikard@deq.state.ms.us) [gary_rikard@deq.state.ms.us]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; janet.vail@treasury.gov; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. 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Subject: Decisions and Actions from January 24, 2018 Council Vote and Steering Committee Meeting

Attachments: Copy of RESTORE Steering Committee Contacts, WDS updated 20180125.pdf; Decisions_and_Actions_Council_Vote_and_Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Jan_24.pdf

Council Members:

Thank you for participating in the Council Vote and Steering Committee call yesterday. Attached is the record of decisions and actions from the call. The most recent Contact List is also attached to this email. Please review your associated member and support information and provide any updates and corrections to Buck Sutter (buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov).

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RESTORE STEERING COMMITTEE

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Ex. 6

Ex. 6

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Ex. 6

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

Council Vote and Steering Committee Call
Decisions and Actions
January 24, 2018

Steering Committee Call

I. TOPIC: Draft Annual Report to Congress

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Council staff will incorporate the edits received from Steering Committee (SC) members and send the red-line version of the draft Annual Report before the next SC call.

II. TOPIC: Next Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting

Decisions:

- SC members are supportive of holding a face to face meeting in the spring that will include a field component.

Actions:

- Council staff will reach out to Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida to determine location, and begin to draft an agenda.

III. TOPIC: Member Contact List and Communications

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Council members are asked to review the Contact list provided by Council staff and provide updates and revisions to the list to Buck Sutter (buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov).

Council Vote

I. TOPIC: Council Vote on Commitment and Planning Support Funded Priorities List

Decisions:

- The Council voted to approve the 2017 Funded Priorities List: Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support.

Actions:

- Council staff will post the announcement of the CPS FPL on the website, and send out an eBlast announcing the vote on Thursday January 25th.
- The Notice of Funding Availability will also be posted to the Council website.

II. TOPIC: Council Vote on Robinson Preserve Funding Approval

Decisions:

- The Council voted to approve implementation funding for Robinson Preserve and adopt the

NOAA Restoration Center Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.

Actions:

- Council staff will post the revised FPL Appendix, Record of Decision and associated environmental compliance documentation for this project on the Council website, and will send an eBlast announcing the vote.

Other Agenda Items

I. **TOPIC: Funding for Council staff support above Executive Director spending cap of $100,000.**

Decisions:

- N/A

Actions:

- Council staff will send an email to SC members and their alternates asking their approval of funding for contractor staff for $109,000.

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
February 7, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00176114-00002

Message

From: Barb Glenn [carly@nasda.org]
Sent: 1/16/2018 6:21:23 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Updated RSVP Link - Invitation to the 2018 NASDA Congressional Reception at the Capitol Visitor Center

View in browser

On behalf of the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of Agriculture, the pleasure of your company is requested at the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture's upcoming Congressional Reception inside our nation's Capitol.

Monday, January 29
5:15 - 7:00 PM
Congressional Atrium at the Capitol Visitor Center

RSVP

Please RSVP in advance by clicking the button above. Registration for this event closes Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,
Dr. Barbara P. Glenn
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
Ex. 6
4350 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 910
Arlington, VA 22203
www.nasda.org

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Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 3/13/2018 5:52:14 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher

[Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]

Subject: March 21, 2018 Steering Committee Call - Cancelled

Council members:

After consulting with the Chair and State Co-Chair, the March 21, 2018 Steering Committee call has been cancelled since there are no topics that warrant holding a call. Below are several topics for your action and/or information.

Proposed Topics for the April Face to Face:

- Collaboration In Practice - Path to the next FPL
- Progress on the Initial FPL - Members sharing current efforts under funded grants and IAAs
- New Grants System Update - Staff will provide update on efforts to replace RAAMS
- FPL Funding-Related Issues

Needed Action: Poll for Additional Face to Face Meeting Dates in 2018:
One item that does require your attention is participating in this **new poll** to indicate your availability for **additional potential dates** for in-person Steering Committee meetings through the end of the year. The previous poll had mixed results, so providing your availability in this new poll will help Council staff find the best dates for most. The link to the new poll is: https://doodle.com/poll/hd6q4iwwc7cehhfa. As a reminder, Council staff request ***ONE*** response per member which includes availability for the primary and/or secondary Steering Committee members (indicating availability reflects that one or both are available to participate at that time).

SEP Reminder:
As a reminder, the Gulf Consortium has submitted its Stand-Up SEP (attached) for Chair approval. Members have until March 21, 2018 to submit comments to the Chair for consideration. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the Stand-Up SEP and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines. Please provide any comments you might have to John Ettinger at

john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov. If you have any questions regarding the Stand-Up SEP, please contact John at (Ex. 6

CPS Update:
To date, one Member has submitted an application for CPS funding in RAAMS, and another Member has requested a pre-submission application review. At least three other members have begun entering their applications into RAAMS. Please keep the April 30, 2018 deadline for submitting CPS applications in RAAMS in mind. If you have any questions regarding CPS processes, applications or guidance documentation, templates and examples, please contact Jean Cowan at jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov or Kristin Smith at kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov.

RAAMS Update:
The RAAMS replacement Task Force has continued its investigation of alternative grant management systems and members of the Task Force recently met with different system owners in DC. The Task Force will provide an update on the progress thus far during the next Steering Committee call.

Our next Steering Committee call is scheduled for April 4th. We look forward to speaking with you then.

Thank you.

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

Message

From: Barb Glenn [carly@nasda.org]
Sent: 1/16/2018 6:02:55 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Invitation to the 2018 NASDA Congressional Reception at the Capitol Visitor Center

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On behalf of the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of Agriculture, the pleasure of your company is requested at the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture's upcoming Congressional Reception inside our nation's Capitol.

Monday, January 29
5:15 - 7:00 PM
Congressional Atrium at the Capitol Visitor Center

RSVP

Please RSVP in advance by clicking the button above. Registration for this event closes Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,
Dr. Barbara P. Glenn
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
(Ex. 6
4350 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 910
Arlington, VA 22203
www.nasda.org

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Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 7/25/2018 10:28:53 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

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Subject: Re: July 31/August 1 Steering Committee Agenda and Support Materials

Attachments: Budget_Shortfalls_for_FPL_Activities_Options.pdf

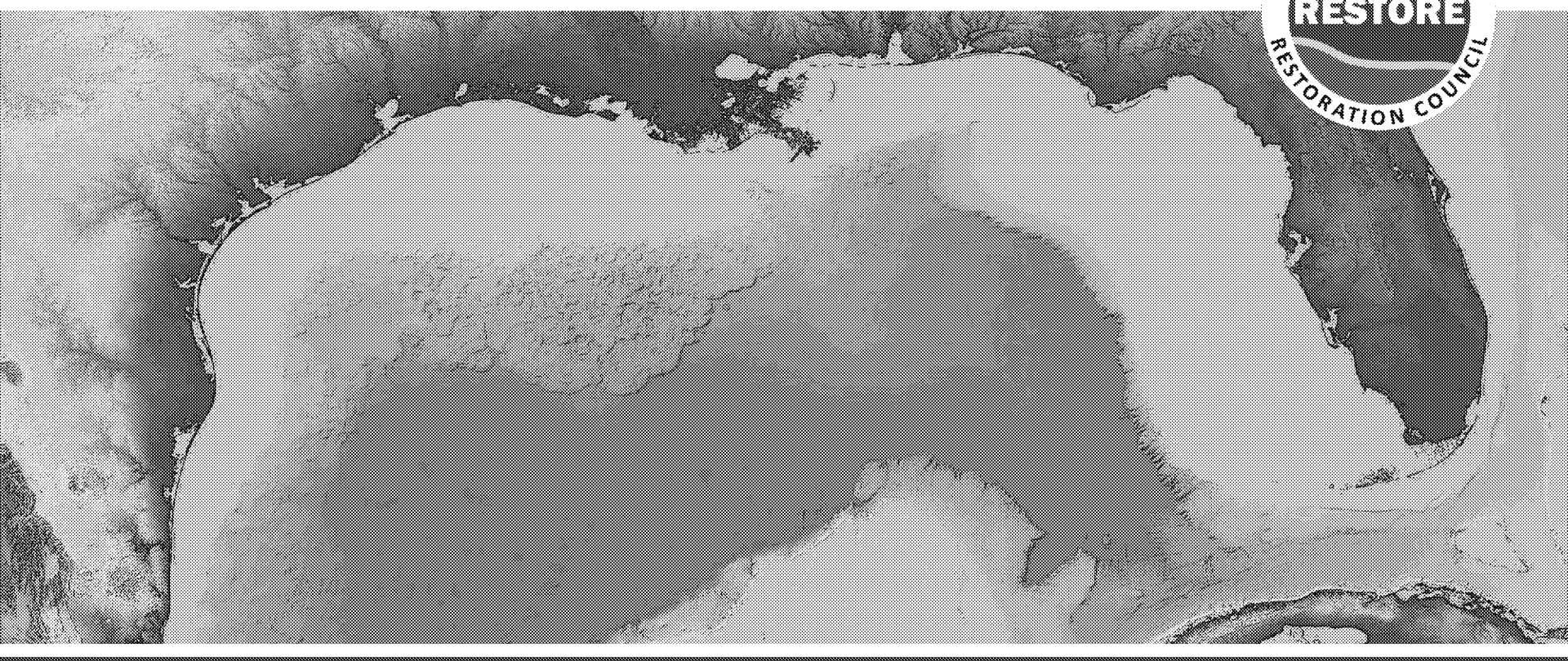
Apologies, one additional presentation that was inadvertently not included with the first group.

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

On Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 5:32 PM, Council Staff <staff@restorethegulf.gov> wrote:

> Please find attached our agenda for the Steering Committee Face to Face meeting next week in Gulfport, MS. Most of the presentations staff are using for Day 2 are also attached; the rest will be provided before the meeting starts.
>
> A big thank you to Chris Wells and Camille Covington for arranging our meeting space and for our air conditioned tour of the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies!
>
> Thank you,
>
> Council Staff
> Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
> staff@restorethegulf.gov
> 500 Poydras Street
> Suite 1117
> New Orleans, LA 70130
> www.restorethegulf.gov



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

FPL Budget Shortfalls: Process Options

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL Budget Shortfalls

Issue: Council process needed for member requests for additional funds to cover FPL budget shortfalls

Goal of presentation

- Review process options
  - Including fiscal discipline
- Reach consensus on Council process
  - Set path forward for finalizing process

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

Applying Fiscal Discipline

Before requesting additional funding

- Member should first consider addressing shortfall through other means:
  - Modifying the activity*
  - Seeking alternative funding sources
  - Rejecting bid and re-advertising

* Note: Some modifications would require FPL amendment via a Council vote.

Process Options: Step 1

Option 1: Member makes funding request directly to Steering Committee (SC)

Option 2: Council staff first reviews member request and makes recommendation to SC

Option 3: Member workgroup first reviews request and makes recommendation to SC

Process: Step 2

Step 2 - Potential Steering Committee Options

- Seek additional info from member
- Recommend approval to Council
  - After public notice (30 days)
- Recommend disapproval to Council
  - Could lead to scope change or deauthorization (public notice and Council vote)

Process: Step 3

Step 3 - Potential Council Options

- Approve funding request
- Disapprove funding request
- Consider at later date (e.g., subsequent FPL)

Timing Options

- **Option 1:** Requests are considered as they arise

- **Option 2:** Council holds periodic meetings (e.g., twice a year) where such funding requests are considered
  - Could also include Category 2 to 1 votes

Proposed Next Steps

- **Council staff drafts budget shortfall process**
  - Brief document (one to two pages)

- **Steering Committee review**
  - Further discussion, if needed

- **Steering Committee consensus on final written process**

Message

From: Barb Glenn [carly@nasda.org]
Sent: 1/22/2018 8:44:59 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Invitation to the 2018 NASDA Congressional Reception at the Capitol Visitor Center

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Monday, January 29
5:15 - 7:00 PM
Congressional Atrium at the Capitol Visitor Center

RSVP

Please RSVP in advance by clicking the button above. Registration for this event closes Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,
Dr. Barbara P. Glenn
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
(202) 000-0000 Ex. 6
4350 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 910
Arlington, VA 22203
www.nasda.org

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From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 7/25/2018 9:32:03 PM
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Subject: July 31/August 1 Steering Committee Agenda and Support Materials

Attachments: 3% Admin Costs report 6-30-18.pdf; July 31_August 1 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Agenda.pdf; FPL3_Schedule.pdf; CPS Award Summaries.pdf

Please find attached our agenda for the Steering Committee Face to Face meeting next week in Gulfport, MS. Most of the presentations staff are using for Day 2 are also attached; the rest will be provided before the meeting starts.

A big thank you to Chris Wells and Camille Covington for arranging our meeting space and for our air conditioned tour of the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies!

Thank you,

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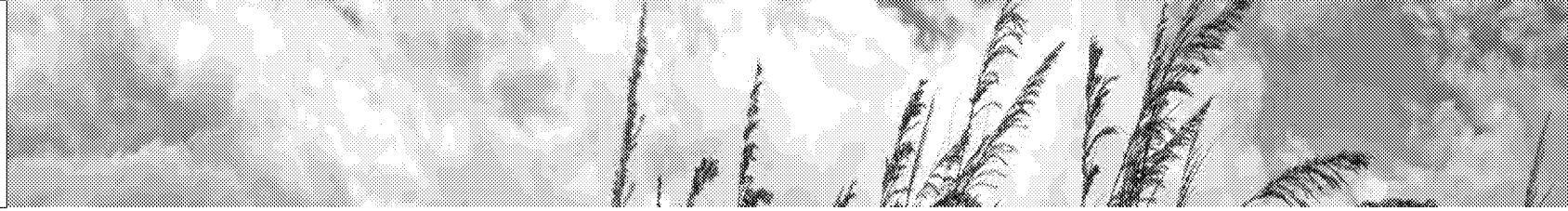


DISCUSSION OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING 3% ADMINISTRATIVE COST POOLS

As of June 30, 2018

OVERVIEW

- Bucket 2 and Bucket 3 cannot use the same methodology to develop and track their 3% administrative cost pools.
- For Bucket 3, each State is entitled to pre-defined amounts by formula, therefore the amount of the 3% admin pool is known
  - The Bucket 3 pool is calculated on the amounts actually deposited into the trust fund
  - Anticipated deposits cannot be factored into the current amount that is available calculation
- The Bucket 2 pool is calculated using the amounts of approved FPLs as a base
  - The ultimate amount of B2 funds each Member will receive is not known
- The proposed Rule requires at least annual public posting of the amounts available in the 3% cost pools by component
  - Council members should track their respective cost pools
  - Council members should reconcile their records with staff records before data is provided to Treasury for posting

Bucket 2 3% ADMIN COSTS POOL

- The 3% pool is developed and maintained as follows:
  - 3% of the funding for each approved FPL project proposal is calculated and aggregated by sponsor
  - The sum of these amounts comprise the sponsor's current admin pool
    - The pool, and the current balance in the pool have been calculated – see slides 8-11
  - As awards are made, each grant or IAA may charge admin costs (*as defined by the Rule*) up to the allowed amount as calculated per the recipient's negotiated indirect cost rate (NICRA) or federal agency overhead rate.
    - The amount charged to each grant/IAA reduces the pool accordingly
    - If a grant or IAA awarded is less than the proposal amount, the 3% pool is reduced by the relative difference
    - If the award is made to an entity other than the sponsor, the 3% admin calculated for the proposal would transfer to that entity
    - If the award is amended or closed and the award is reduced, the pool will be adjusted relative to the reduction in the award amount

FPL DEVELOPMENT

- When developing a suite of potential project proposals:
  - Calculate and aggregate 3% of the total cost of each proposal (*irrespective of the allowed indirect costs per the NICRA or federal overhead rate*)
  - For planning purposes, add this potential amount to your 3% pool available balance
    - To determine if you will have sufficient funds in the pool to cover your indirect costs *(subject to the cap)* calculate the allowed indirect costs of each proposal per the NICRA or federal overhead rate and subtract from the "planning" pool
  - Once the FPL is finalized, update your actual 3% pool to add an amount equal to 3% of the approved project proposals
  - As awards are made, reduce the pool accordingly

B2 ADMIN COST POOLS - SUMMARY

BUCKET 2 INDIRECT COST POOL CALCULATIONS AND USAGE			6/30/2018		
Project Name	Total Funding Cat 1	Total of Award Amounts	3% Pool Award or FPL Indirect Costs Amt Allowed	Sum of Indirect Costs Used on Awards	3% Available Indirect Costs not yet used on AwardS
TOTAL ALABAMA/ADCNR	$11,251,000	$2,100,000	$337,530	$63,000	$274,530
TOTAL LOUISIANA/CPRA	$40,417,409	$40,417,409	$1,212,522	$1,212,522	$0
TOTAL DEPT OF COMMERCE / NOAA	$14,790,544	$9,200,000	$443,716	$108,951	$334,765
TOTAL DEPT OF INTERIOR / BIA, FWS, NPS, USGS	$21,252,747	$10,384,950	$636,479	$253,249	$383,230
TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	$6,828,160	$4,102,960	$204,845	$39,781	$165,064
TOTAL FLORIDA	$19,295,450	$19,289,330	$578,680	$267,790	$310,890
TOTAL MISSISSIPPI	$22,800,000	$5,028,847	$683,965	$144,784	$539,181
TOTAL TEXAS	$20,567,500	$19,599,500	$617,025	$73,028	$543,997
TOTAL DEPT OF DEFENCE / USACE	$5,500,000	$0	$165,000	$0	$165,000
TOTAL DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY / USCG	$2,100,000	$1,964,776	$58,943	$0	$58,943
TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	$20,262,084	$15,162,084	$607,863	$0	$607,863
GRAND TOTAL	$185,064,894	$127,249,856	$5,546,568	$2,163,105	$3,383,463

B3 ADMIN COSTS POOLS - SUMMARY

SEP Trust Fund Balance as of 6/30/2018	$419,704,309					
	SEP Funds deposited to date	Total Grant Awards	Balance of Current SEP Funds Available	3% pool	Indirect Costs Used on Awards	Balance of 3% Pool Available
ALABAMA	$ 85,619,679	$ -	$ 85,619,679	$ 2,568,590	$ -	$ 2,568,590
FLORIDA CONSORTIUM	$ 77,057,711	$ 4,640,675	$ 72,417,036	$ 2,311,731	$ -	$ 2,311,731
LOUISIANA	$ 145,175,721	$ 37,988,070	$ 107,187,651	$ 4,355,272	$ 1,139,641	$ 3,215,631
MISSISSIPPI	$ 80,037,612	$ 1,374,612	$ 78,663,000	$ 2,401,128	$ 41,238	$ 2,359,890
TEXAS	$ 31,813,587	$ 292,503	$ 31,521,084	$ 954,408	$ 8,775	$ 945,633

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00176494-00006

BACK-UP SLIDES
FPL DETAILS FOR EACH MEMBER

FPL ADMIN POOL – AL, LA, DOC

State	Project Name		Entity	Funding Cat 1	EGID	Award Amounts		3% Pool Award or FPL Indirect Costs Amt Allowed	Indirect Costs Amt Used on each Award	3% Available Indirect Costs not used on AwardS
AL	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	AL	$2,100,000	64	$2,100,000		$ 63,000	$63,000	0
AL	Alabama Living Shorelines Program (P)	1	AL	$908,500				$ 27,255		$ 27,255
AL	Alabama Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Restoration & Monito	1	AL	$875,000				$ 26,250		$ 26,250
AL	Coastal Alabama Comprehensive Watershed Restoration Plan	1	AL	$4,342,500				$ 130,275		$ 130,275
AL	Comprehensive Living Shoreline Monitoring (P)	1	AL	$25,000				$ 750		$ 750
AL	Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use of Dredged Sedime	1	AL	$3,000,000				$ 90,000		$ 90,000
	TOTAL ALABAMA/ADCNR			**$11,251,000**		**$2,100,000**		**$337,530**	**$63,000**	**$274,530**
LA	Golden Triangle Marsh Creation (P)	1	CPRA	$4,347,733	13	$4,347,733		$ 130,432	$130,432	$ (0)
LA	West Grand Terre Beach Nourishment & Stabilization (P)	1	CPRA	$7,259,216	24	$7,259,216		$ 217,776	$217,776	$ 0
LA	Biloxi Marsh Living Shoreline (P)	1	CPRA	$3,220,460	25	$3,220,460		$ 96,614	$96,614	$ (0)
LA	Lowermost Mississippi River Management (P)	1	CPRA	$9,300,000	35	$9,300,000		$ 279,000	$279,000	$ -
LA	Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp (P)	1	CPRA	$14,190,000	44	$14,190,000		$ 425,700	$425,700	$ -
LA	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	CPRA	$2,100,000	55	$2,100,000		$ 63,000	$63,000	$ -
	TOTAL LOUISIANA/CPRA			**$40,417,409**		**$40,417,409**		**$1,212,522**	**$1,212,522**	**$0**
GW	Council Monitoring & Assessment Program Development (P)	1	NOAA	$1,700,000	38	$1,700,000		$ 51,000	$0	$ 51,000
TX	Bahia Grande Wetland System Restoration (P)	1	NOAA	$404,318				$ 12,130		$ 12,130
AL	Marsh Restoration in Fish River, Weeks Bay, Oyster Bay & Mea	1	NOAA	$333,651				$ 10,010		$ 10,010
AL	Marsh Restoration in Fish River, Weeks Bay, Oyster Bay & Mea	1	NOAA	$264,652				$ 7,940		$ 7,940
AL	Marsh Restoration in Fish River, Weeks Bay, Oyster Bay & Mea	1	NOAA	$309,651				$ 9,290		$ 9,290
FL	Robinson Preserve Wetlands Restoration (P&I)	1	NOAA	$1,790,546				$ 53,716		$ 53,716
GW	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	NOAA	$2,100,000				$ 63,000		$ 63,000
GW	Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Par	1	NOAA	$7,500,000	30	$7,500,000		$ 225,000	$108,951	$ 116,049
FL	Money Bayou Wetlands Restoration (P)	1	NOAA	$387,726				$ 11,632		$ 11,632
				$14,790,544		**$9,200,000**		**$443,716**	**$108,951**	**$334,765**

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00176494-00008

FPL ADMIN POOL – DOI, EPA, FL

State	Project Name		Entity	Funding Cat 1	EGID	Award Amounts		3% Pool Award or FPL Indirect Costs Amt Allowed	Indirect Costs Amt Used on each Award	3% Available Indirect Costs not used on AwardS
GW	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	DOI	$2,100,000				$ 63,000		$ 63,000
GW	Gulf of Mexico Habitat Restoration via Conservation Corps Par	1	BIA	$500,000	2	$500,000		$ 15,000	$0	$ 15,000
GW	Strategic Conservation Assessment Framework (P)	1	FWS	$1,879,380	5	$1,842,583		$ 55,277	$52,999	$ 2,278
TX	Plug Abandoned Oil & Gas Wells (I)	1	NPS	$1,317,567	3	$1,317,567		$ 39,527	$0	$ 39,527
LA	Jean Lafitte Canal Backfilling (I)	1	NPS	$8,731,000				$ 261,930		$ 261,930
GW	Baseline Flow, Gage Analysis & Online Tool to Support Restora	1	USGS	$5,549,800	1	$5,549,800		$ 166,494	$165,000	$ 1,494
GW	Council Monitoring & Assessment Program Development (P)	1	USGS	$1,175,000	6	$1,175,000		$ 35,250	$35,250	$ -
				$21,252,747		**$10,384,950**		**$636,479**	**$253,249**	**$383,230**
FL	Tampa Bay National Estuary Program (P&I)	1/2	EPA	$1,544,960	17	$1,544,960		$ 46,349	$10,764	$ 35,585
GW	Gulf of Mexico Estuary Program (P)	1	EPA	$2,200,000	27	$2,200,000		$ 66,000	$27,868	$ 38,132
AL	Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (P)	1	EPA	$358,000	28	$358,000		$ 10,740	$1,149	$ 9,591
GW	Baseline Flow, Gage Analysis & Online Tool to Support Restora	1	EPA	$250,200				$ 7,506		$ 7,506
GW	Gulf of Mexico Conservation Enhancement Grant Program (P)	1	EPA	$375,000				$ 11,250		$ 11,250
GW	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	EPA	$2,100,000				$ 63,000		$ 63,000
				$6,828,160		**$4,102,960**		**$204,845**	**$39,781**	**$165,064**
FL	Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improveme	1	FDEP	$2,219,856	8	$2,219,856		$ 66,596	$20,664	$ 45,932
FL	Suwanee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Prog	1	FDEP	$2,884,000	15	$2,884,000		$ 86,520	$19,805	$ 66,715
FL	Bayou Chico Contaminated Sediment Removal - Planning, Desi	1	FDEP	$356,850	18	$356,850		$ 10,706	$6,822	$ 3,884
FL	Beach Haven - Joint Stormwater & Wastewater Improvement I	1	FDEP	$5,967,000	26	$5,967,000		$ 179,010	$114,125	$ 64,885
FL	Apalachicola Bay Oyster Restoration (P&I)	1	FDEP	$4,680,000	39	$4,680,000		$ 140,400	$30,895	$ 109,505
FL	Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline - Phase 1 (P)	1	FDEP	$231,314	40	$231,314		$ 6,939	$4,416	$ 2,523
FL	Palm River Restoration Project Phase 2, East McKay Bay (P&I)	1	FDEP	$856,430	47	$856,430		$ 25,693	$8,247	$ 17,446
FL	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	FDEP	$2,100,000	54	$2,093,880		$ 62,816	$62,816	$ 0
				$19,295,450		**$19,289,330**		**$578,680**	**$267,790**	**$310,890**

FPL ADMIN POOL – MS, TX, DOD, DHS, USDA

State	Project Name		Entity	Funding Cat 1	EGID	Award Amounts		3% Pool Award or FPL Indirect Costs Amt Allowed	Indirect Costs Amt Used on each Award	3% Available Indirect Costs not used on AwardS
MS	SeaGrant Education & Outreach (P&I)	1	MDEQ	$750,000	20	$750,000		$ 22,500	$20,288	$ 2,212
MS	Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use of Dredge Sedimen	1	MDEQ	$2,180,000	22	$2,178,847		$ 65,365	$61,496	$ 3,869
MS	Strategic Land Protection, Conservation - Priority Landscapes(P	1	MDEQ	$15,500,000				$ 465,000		$ 465,000
MS	The Mississippi Sound Estuarine Program (P&I)	1	MDEQ	$2,270,000				$ 68,100		$ 68,100
MS	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	MDEQ	$2,100,000	56	$2,100,000		$ 63,000	$63,000	$ -
				$22,800,000		**$5,028,847**		**$683,965**	**$144,784**	**$539,181**
TX	Matagorda Bay System Priority Landscape Conservation (I)	1	TCEQ	$6,012,000	9	$6,012,000		$ 180,360	$3,495	$ 176,865
TX	Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor (I)	1	TCEQ	$4,378,500	10	$4,378,500		$ 131,355	$2,502	$ 128,853
TX	Bayou Greenways (P&I)	1	TCEQ	$7,109,000	11	$7,109,000		$ 213,270	$4,031	$ 209,239
TX	Texas Beneficial Use / Marsh Restoration (P)	1	TCEQ	$968,000				$ 29,040		$ 29,040
TX	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	TCEQ	$2,100,000	61	$2,100,000		$ 63,000	$63,000	$ -
				$20,567,500		**$19,599,500**		**$617,025**	**$73,028**	**$543,997**
MS	Deer Island Beneficial Use Site (I)	1	USACE	$3,000,000				$ 90,000		$ 90,000
AL	Upper Mobile Bay Beneficial Use Wetland Creation Site (P)	1	USACE	$2,500,000				$ 75,000		$ 75,000
				$5,500,000		**$0**		**$165,000**	**$0**	**$165,000**
GW	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	USCG	$2,100,000	59	$1,964,776		$ 58,943	$0	$ 58,943
				$2,100,000		**$1,964,776**		**$58,943**	**$0**	**$58,943**
LA	Bayou Dularge Ridge, Marsh & Hydrologic Restoration (P)	1	USDA	$5,162,084	7	$5,162,084		$ 154,863	$0	$ 154,863
GW	Gulf Coast Conservation Reserve Program - AL (P&I)	1	USDA	$1,500,000	14	$1,500,000		$ 45,000	$0	$ 45,000
GW	Gulf Coast Conservation Reserve Program - MS (P&I)	1	USDA	$1,500,000	15	$1,500,000		$ 45,000	$0	$ 45,000
FL	Tate's Hell Strategy 1 (P&I)	1	USDA	$7,000,000	41	$7,000,000		$ 210,000	$0	$ 210,000
GW	Gulf Coast Conservation Reserve Program - FL (P&I)	1	USDA	$1,500,000				$ 45,000		$ 45,000
GW	Gulf Coast Conservation Reserve Program - TX (P&I)	1	USDA	$1,500,000				$ 45,000		$ 45,000
GW	Collaboration and Planning Support	CPS	USDA	$2,100,000				$ 63,000		$ 63,000
				$20,262,084		**$15,162,084**		**$607,863**	**$0**	**$607,863**

DRAFT: CPS Collaboration Summaries

Steering Committee Member: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships that will result in a comprehensive long-term approach to addressing restoration needs in coastal Alabama, with a specific emphasis on identifying "best fit," collaborative projects for consideration for the Council-Selected Restoration Component. These efforts will contextualize proposals within the broader framework of restoration efforts in coastal Alabama, potentially leveraging restoration efforts across funding streams, where appropriate, while also leveraging technical expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council. Activities will also increase public engagement and transparency in the decision-making process and utilize existing partnerships, including but not limited to the Management Conference of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP).

Mechanism for Implementation:

1. Conduct planning and collaboration activities to meet the near-term need to develop strong proposals for future FPLs in a manner designed to enhance long-term restoration success while allowing the flexibility needed to adapt to changing conditions over time.
2. Convene a "Coastal Alabama Restoration Summit" in the fall of 2018 to review current restoration work from all Deepwater Horizon funding streams (NRDA, NFWF, RESTORE), increase understanding of potential types of projects that can be funded through - and potentially across – the various funding sources, and solicit input from the public regarding restoration priorities for future FPLs.
3. Develop "Alabama's Bucket 2 Project Development Strategy" in the context of work currently underway, such as:
    a. Coordination between the MBNEP and The Nature Conservancy in Alabama (TNC) to develop a Habitat Restoration Plan (HRP) to consider types of restoration activities in priority habitats expected to more likely succeed based on proximate stressors and ongoing activities to reduce those stressors.
    b. The MBNEP's efforts to finalize Watershed Management Plans (WMPs) in priority watersheds as well as the anticipated 5-year update of the MBNEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).
4. Attend and/or host up to ten (10) focus group and/or collaboration meetings with potential Federal and State project partners and technical experts to identify potentially successful FPL project submissions.
5. Update and enhance the Alabama Coastal Restoration website (www.alabamacoastalrestoration.org), which serves as the State's primary source for DWH restoration information and houses Alabama's project submission portal.

Notable Activities

1. Design an evaluation structure and process to support efforts to establish potential indicators/measures of Bucket 2 project/program impacts;
2. Develop a framework for project and program level adaptive management recommendations;
3. Consider potential mechanisms to support learning and subsequent transfer of knowledge gained (and lessons learned) to future project design and implementation. To the extent possible, this work will consider similar approaches developed to track NRDA project/program success in Alabama.

Steering Committee Member: Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships, in consultation with the public that will result in a comprehensive long-term vision for its coastal habitats, communities, and economy to support more effective submissions for Council-Selected Restoration Component funding. Specifically, this work will contextualize the proposals for Bucket 2 funding within the broader vision for Florida, leveraging not only restoration dollars across funding streams but also expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council. Activities will also increase public engagement and transparency in the decision-making process.

Mechanism for Implementation: State of Florida will take a long-term approach toward building and sustaining restoration partnerships, including expanding investment in public engagement and best available science endeavors. Specific activities include:

1. A stepwise approach to conducting planning and collaboration activities will be taken over the 5-year period of this award to meet the near-term need to develop the strongest proposals as possible for the next FPL while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success, allowing for flexibility as needed as the planning process proceeds.
2. Workplans will be developed with activities that contribute to achieving input from and buy-in of the public, stakeholders, and experts to support the long-term vision for coastal Florida that incorporates existing relevant regional plans, using the best available science, and includes goals and, to the extent possible, quantifiable objectives.
    a. Cultivation of new/reaffirmation of current restoration funding partners to leverage Bucket 2 funds to their greatest benefit in contributing to the long-term vision for Florida;
    b. Enter into technical and funding partnerships for projects development and implementation; and
    c. Development of a monitoring and evaluation approach for adapting the long-term vision and restoration priorities over time based upon new information
3. Collaboration activities will be focused on
    a. Conducting planning and collaboration meetings to develop conceptual, presubmission project/program priorities for the next FPL. These activities will include stakeholder and public engagement as part of the planning needed to place proposals within a broader context of long-term ecological goals and leveraging with other relevant funding streams;
    b. Identifying those project/program concepts (including technical and funding partners) for which proposals will be developed for consideration in the next FPL;
    c. Initiating development of proposals in conjunction with partners; and
    d. Engaged participation in the RESTORE Council Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup.

Notable Activities: The State of Florida anticipates utilizing the following methods:

1. Achieve broad-based public support and increased leveraging of projects, programs, and activities for the next FPL through public outreach and stakeholder engagement efforts.
2. FPL proposals include monitoring and adaptive management plans using monitoring standards and protocols developed by the RESTORE Council Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup
3. Complete an inventory of relevant data, reports, plans, and models and conduct an analysis of critical information gaps

Steering Committee Member: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Purpose: Planning and collaboration with local, State, Federal, and other leaders and experts to achieve commitments of the Comprehensive Plan by meeting and coordinating with technical points of contact (including state and federal), other funding entities, and academics across the Gulf of Mexico utilizing BAS to highlight the location and severity of known or emerging stressors both in Louisiana and Gulf-wide. This information will be synthesized to inform Louisiana's position on future FPL investments intended to mitigate those stressors or restore impacted resources, leverage funding from other sources, identify measures/metrics/indicators for success of actions in Gulf priority watersheds, and inform adaptive management for future FPLs.

Mechanism for Implementation:

1. CPRA anticipates working with the Water Institute of the Gulf.
2. Engagement, meetings, and discussions with relevant technical partners across the Gulf, monthly webinars or in person meetings with the RESTORE Council Staff, and compiling the information from the collaborative process into a digestible format to inform future FPL investments and long-term planning maximizing co-benefits across funding streams.
3. Through Council staff engagement, Council staff may be able to identify opportunities to utilize the information for future proposal evaluation based on BAS or to support other staff activities which in turn support the Council.
4. Through regular meetings with the Council Staff Science Advisor, as well as through CPRA's POC on CMAWG, as these proposed engagement activities on stressors moves forward, strategic points of connection with CMAWG may be identified and coordinated on.
5. Development of concepts that could be pursued for future FPL funding through discussions and meetings will be both deliberative and opportunistic, based upon participation in regional, state, or national meetings with relevant partners and stakeholders.

Notable Activities:

1. The Water Institute of the Gulf will meet and coordinate with technical points of contact (both state and federal), other funding entities, and academics across the Gulf of Mexico utilizing BAS to highlight the location and severity of known or emerging stressors.
2. Information will be compiled from the collaborative process into a digestible format to inform future FPL investments and long-term planning maximizing co-benefits across funding streams.
3. The synthesized information will be used to inform the State of Louisiana's position on future FPL investments and proposals the State wants to prioritize which best support projects intended to mitigate those stressors or restore impacted resources, leverage funding from other sources, identify measures/metrics/indicators for success of actions in Gulf priority watersheds, and inform adaptive management for future FPLs.
4. Development of concepts that could be pursued for future FPL funding and how projects and programs in watersheds and estuaries facing similar stress could be aligned to leverage other investments to increase ecological services. For example, meetings with the Centers of Excellences (COEs) and other funders will provide opportunities for leveraging of investments based on BAS.

Steering Committee Member: Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Purpose: Identify and develop new restoration partnerships and maintain existing partnerships, in consultation with the public, which will result in a comprehensive long-term vision for its coastal habitats, communities, and economy by leveraging not only restoration dollars across funding streams but also expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council.

Mechanism for Implementation: Mississippi will take a long-term, step-wise approach toward building and sustaining restoration partnerships, including investments in public engagement and best available science endeavors. Activities will build upon existing partnerships and collaboration pathways to maximize restoration efforts and outcomes, and to develop the strongest proposals as possible for the next FPL while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success.

Activities in year 1 (2018) will be focused on:
identifying those project/program concepts (including technical and funding partners) for which proposals will be developed for consideration in the next FPL, and then initiating development of those proposals in conjunction with those partners. The State of Mississippi will conduct planning and collaboration to develop conceptual, pre-submission project/program ideas for the next FPL. These activities may include stakeholder and public engagement as part of the planning needed to place proposals within a broader context of long-term ecological goals and leveraging with other relevant funding streams. MDEQ will also participate in any Council-wide workgroups needed to support development of FPL 3/10-Year Strategy.

Activities in year 2 (2019) will be focused on finalizing and submitting proposals. In addition to continuing all collaboration activities needed to maintain the foundation built in year 1, CPS activities in the remainder of 2019 and early 2020 will focus on participating in Council-level activities to develop and finalize the next FPL 3/10-Year Funding Strategy. Activities in year 2 (2019) will be further focused on finalizing and submitting proposals. In addition to continuing all collaboration activities needed to maintain the foundation built in year 1, CPS activities in the remainder of 2019 and early 2020 will focus on participating in Council-level activities to develop and finalize the next FPL 3/10-Year Funding Strategy. Activities in years 3-5 (2020-2022) will build upon those outlined for years 1-2. Upon finalization of FPL 3/10-Year Strategy in 2020, the State of Mississippi will turn its attention to finalizing the awards for projects and initiating planning for the FPL 3/10-Year Strategy.

Notable Activities: The State of Mississippi will continue investments in its monitoring and adaptive management tools by adding evaluation criteria that are directly related to Council-Selected Restoration Component (Bucket 2) planning and adaptive management. As part of this effort, the State of Mississippi will conduct periodic evaluations of overall Bucket 2 project/program impact at scales of the watersheds within Mississippi in order to develop and implement adaptive management strategies. Further, the State of Mississippi will interact with the Council Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup to aid in the development of procedures, standards, and plans that could be used to inform any FPL related projects, proposals, and/or activities. An outcome of this work will be the inclusion of monitoring and adaptive management information in the respective developed FPL proposals.

Steering Committee Member: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Purpose: Work in coordination with a team of Texas coastal experts, elected officials, representatives for Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the four other Gulf states, federal entities and the public, using the best available science, in meeting the requirements of the RESTORE Act Council-Selected Restoration Component and the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan update in 2016.

Mechanism for Implementation: The State will hire a contractor to:

1. Identify and enhance partnerships through the consultation with technical coastal experts, elected officials, Deepwater Horizon funding partners, federal entities and the public along the Texas and Gulf coast.
2. Build on existing plans already developed for the Texas coastal areas to identify priorities, reaffirm or cultivate new restoration funding partners and contribute to the long-term vision for addressing coastal habitats and vitalize the Texas coastal economy.
    a. First year activities will focus on identifying priorities, partners and pre-submission program/project ideas that are within the broad vision for Texas and Gulf coast areas.
    b. Include workshops/meetings with technical coastal experts to present a summary of plans, partnerships and priorities that have been implemented and to introduce any missing Bucket 2 objective area plans.
3. Work with local elected officials and the public regarding the identification of priorities and to introduce the thought process for large-scale partnerships and leveraged funding for future FPLs to approach the Deepwater Horizon (NRDA and NFWF) programs to identify similar priorities, and restoration needs on the Texas and Gulf coast.
4. Year two will include best available science endeavors with on-going engagement with technical experts and Gulf state partners to identify additional activities for the developing of the 10-year funding strategy (long-term vision). Proposed work in year two will also include discussions on evaluation and adaptive management tools

Notable Activities:

1. TCEQ and its contractor, with the input of the technical coastal experts, local elected officials and the public, will develop decision-support tools and evaluation criteria that support Council-Selected Restoration Component planning requirements.

2. Development of adaptive management strategies for incorporation into FPLs will be completed.

3. Activities that will be conducted in year one of the CPS award include completing an inventory of reports, compiling relevant data, plans, and models and conducting analyses to identify information gaps.

Steering Committee Member: Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard

Purpose: Strengthen Gulf of Mexico restoration by determining the need/ability to incorporate spill resiliency and spill response readiness into selected RESTORE restoration activities.

Mechanism for Implementation: Collaborative meetings with the restoration and response offices within each of the Council member agencies, as well as Council members, will be held to determine the need/ability to integrate spill resilience into restoration planning both conceptually and in the design and development of FPL projects.

1. Coast Guard will lead an interagency developed process to develop a proposal to assess the risk of spills in areas where Bucket 2 funded and/or proposed restoration projects are located
2. Use an iterative process to develop a Risk Matrix which could be used by Council members to facilitate right-sizing contingency planning relative to risk.
    a. Identify existing processes and tools for assessing threat of spills, vulnerability of resources, and risk measures.
    b. The risk scoring matrix will be used to evaluate proposed restoration project locations to allow for the appropriate level of planning to be incorporated into the relevant FPL project proposal
3. An interagency team will write a proposal to fund development of a matrix to establish contingency planning targets based on risk level.
4. Public engagement is anticipated to occur through public collaboration meetings in each state and through regular updates and discussions at standing response community public meetings and conferences.

Notable Activities:

1. Identification of available threat assessment tools and vulnerability assessment tools, including inventory of relevant data, reports, plans, and models and conducting an analysis of critical information gaps.
2. Design a risk assessment matrix to categorize restored areas according to their risk of impact from acute pollution events. For areas categorized as high risk, recommendations will be made for modifications in response strategies to be incorporated into future FPL proposals and/or recommendations for project design modifications to improve resiliency.

Steering Committee Member: United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Under Member Review

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships, in consultation with the public that result in a comprehensive long- term vision for coastal habitats, communities, and economies. This will support more effective proposal submissions for Council-Selected Restoration Component (bucket 2) funding. It will also contextualize them within the broader vision for the Gulf Coast region, leveraging restoration dollars across funding streams as well as expertise both within and outside of the RESTORE Council. These activities will also increase public engagement and transparency in the decision-making process.

Mechanism for Implementation: USDA, in partnership with other Council members, will conduct planning and collaboration activities over the 5-year period of this award to meet the need to develop the strongest proposals possible for the next FPL while setting the foundation for long-term restoration success. These CPS funds will be administered in a way that allows the flexibility needed as the planning process proceeds. Activities supported by this award will lay the foundation to build upon existing partnerships and collaboration pathways that will continue at least through the life of this award to produce the greatest on-the-ground restoration results possible.

Each year, work plans will be developed/revised that describe that year's activities and contribute to achieving input from and buy-in of the public, stakeholders, and experts to support the long-term vision that incorporates existing relevant regional plans, using the best available science. These work plans will include goals and, to the extent possible, quantifiable objectives, and will reflect restoration priorities and priority activities for bucket 2 funding. The work plans will also address the goals of cultivation of new/reaffirmation of current restoration funding partners to leverage bucket 2 funds to their greatest ecological benefit. These work plans will be submitted as part of each annual progress summary report.

Early activities will focus on working with other Council members to identify priority projects and partners that fit within the broader vision for coastal watersheds. Assuming that the next FPL and 10-year funding strategy (FPL 3/10-year strategy) will be finalized in spring 2020, proposals will likely need to be developed in early 2019. With that in mind, activities in year 1 (2018) will be focused on identifying those project/program concepts (including technical and funding partners) for which proposals will be developed for consideration in the next FPL, and then initiating development of those proposals in conjunction with those partners. This will be done in collaboration with the State and Federal Council members and include stakeholder and public engagement to place proposals within a broader context of long-term ecological goals and leverage other relevant funding streams.

USDA staff will be substantially involved with planning, collaboration, and project concept development (inclusive of all activities associated with the CPS); however, USDA will use all the CPS funds to support a personal services contract that will cover the activities described above. USDA staff will work directly with the contracted personnel to accomplish the goals and objectives of the CPS.

Notable Activities: USDA will continue to develop and assess evaluation criteria that are directly related to USDA Bucket 2 projects as it relates to monitoring and adaptive management. As part of this effort, USDA will contract with an entity (TBD) to conduct periodic evaluations of USDA-funded projects impacts at the HUC 12 watershed scale to develop and implement adaptive management strategies. These activities will be initiated in year 1 of this CPS award by completing an inventory or relevant data, reports, plans, and models and conducting an analysis of critical information gaps. An outcome of this work will be to develop specific tasks and strategies related to evaluation and adaptive management within USDA that will be outlined in work plans for the coming years of this award.

Steering Committee Member: Department of Interior (DOI)

Purpose: Identify and develop restoration partnerships, in consultation with other Council members and the public that will result in a comprehensive long-term vision for Gulf of Mexico restoration. Contribute to this vision by incorporating existing relevant plans, using the best available science, including goals and, to the extent possible, quantifiable objectives; and restoration priorities and priority activities for Bucket 2 funding.

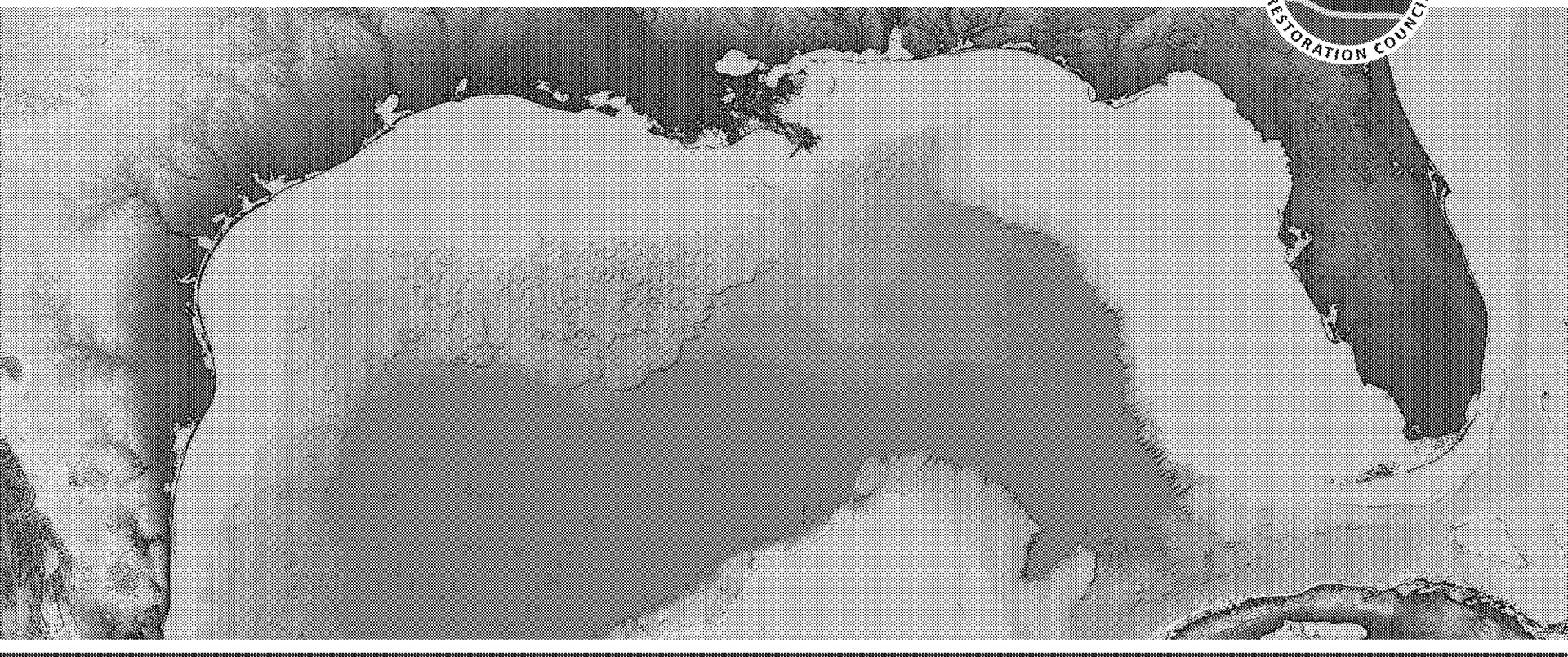
Mechanism for Implementation: The DOI will initially focus its efforts on three major components:

- Work with RESTORE Council staff and the CMAWG to develop a shared stakeholder plan that will support monitoring, analysis, and implementation of adaptive management elements to inform future FPLs (i.e., determine the objectives, uncertainties, and indicators to evaluate progress towards achieving objectives and making informed decisions on future FPL projects.) Additional activities include initial drafting of programmatic objectives and identification of key restoration uncertainties to help demonstrate the success of restoration actions as well as provide recommendations for future monitoring, data analysis, and reporting proposals for the Council Steering Committee.
- Work with State Council members to develop an inventory of existing data for offshore sand resources to inform availability of material for future coastal projects (e.g., restoration barrier islands and wetlands, beach nourishment and shore protection along the coast, identifying data gaps and determining priority areas for new geologic and geophysical data collection for 2020.)
- Support the RESTORE Council's commitment to increase engagement of the Council's partners, stakeholders and the public in developing improved and more broadly supported projects on the FPL This will include outreach and collaboration with other Council members, Council staff, DOI bureaus, and would place specific targeted attention on engaging the public-at-large.

Notable Activities:

- Work with the RESTORE Council staff and the CMAWG to initially draft measurable program objectives that reflect Council member priorities, against which restoration actions or projects can be evaluated; and begin identification of key uncertainties that could affect the ability of the Council to achieve their objectives.
- implementation of the Monitoring and Adaptive Management effort
    - Conduct a review of existing management plans developed within the RESTORE Council's geographic domain to identify and catalog existing mission statements, goals or objectives that articulate what each Council member or stakeholder identifies as important or valuable. T
- DOI will work with Council staff and the CMAWG to identify the most efficient ways to communicate and solicit input on key uncertainties with Gulf partners (e.g., joint workshops or individual meetings; use of habitat and resource subject matter expert teams), and the risk to effective restoration associated with those uncertainties.
- Support various bureau staff working on activities related to public engagement, adaptive management, outreach, planning and collaboration activities to develop conceptual, pre-submission project/program ideas for the next FPL.
- Provide funding to each Gulf state to support them in working with DOI to develop an inventory of existing data for offshore sand resources to inform availability of material for future coastal projects.

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council



FPL 3/Funding Strategy Schedule

Steering Committee Meeting
Gulfport, MS
August 1, 2018

FPL3/Funding Strategy as Milestones

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

FPL 3/Funding Strategy Schedule

RESTORE Council FPL3/Funding Strategy Development

CONFIDENTIAL; DRAFT/DELIBERATIVE; ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION; ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

Project Lead:
Project Start Date: 3/6/2018
Display Week: 19

Blue = Member Actions; Red= Program Staff Actions; Orange= PIE Actions; Green=Grants Staff Actions

WBS	Task	Start	End	Cal. Days	Work Days
1	**General Project Management**	Tue 03/06/18	Fri 6/12/20	829	594
2	**Education Opportunities (REOs and informational along the way)**	Tue 05/01/18	Wed 6/3/20	764	547
3	**FPL3 "Planning Framework" Development (Boxes 1-4)**	Tue 3/6/18	Thu 5/30/19	450	323
3.1	Individual Member Discussions	Tue 3/6/18	Thu 4/26/18	51	38
3.2	CPS Applications Submitted by Members	Wed 1/24/18	Mon 4/30/18	96	69
3.3	SC Meeting (Florida)	Tue 4/24/18	Wed 4/25/18	1	2
3.4	Initial Members' Ideas Development (Collab Model); Includes Council Staff participation	Tue 5/1/18	Fri 03/01/19	304	219
3.5	Initial REOs Presentations	Tue 5/1/18	Fri 9/7/18	129	94
3.6	SC Meeting (MS) - Collab updates; Nesting Objectives discussion; schedule discussion	Tue 7/31/18	Wed 08/01/18	1	2
3.7	Public Webinar monitoring sources for FPL3/Funding Strategy	Tue 9/18/18	Thu 9/20/18	2	3
3.8	SC Meeting (AL) - Collab updates; REOs updates; Precise Public Meeting; review & description of educational public engagements; Submission Guidelines policy questions; Planning Framework initial discussion; Science Review Process status update	Tue 9/11/18	Wed 9/12/18	1	
3.9	CMAWG review of Science Review Process	Wed 10/24/18	Thu 10/25/18		
3.10	SC Meeting (TX) - Collab updates; Sci Rev Process, Sub Guidelines update; discuss upcoming revisions re: planning Framework	Tue 11/27/18	W		
3.11	Initial Draft Council "Planning Framework" for FPL3/Fund Strat	Mon 1/7	02/0	25	20
3.12	Public Webinar (hosted by Planning Framework public meeting) & what they are for	Mon 1/21	Fri 1/25/19		
3.13	Steering Committee review draft "Framework"	Mon 02/04/19	d 2/13/19	9	8
3.14	Sort and Summarize Comments. Assemble Show Stoppers for SC discussion	Thu 2/14/19	M	4	3
3.15	SC Meeting (LA) - Collab updates; Framework options; Sub Guidelines; PIE/SI Meetings updates	Tue 2/19/19	Wed 2/20/19	1	2
3.16	"Planning Framework" Regs (website - locations, A/V, interpreters, etc.	Fri 02/01/19	Fri 3/15/19	42	31
3.17	Second Draft Council "Framework" for FPL3/Fund Strat	Wed 2/20/19	Fri 2/22/19	2	3
3.18	Steering Committee review second draft "Framework"	Mon 2/25/19	Fri 03/01/19	4	5
3.19	Develop PR materials (e.g., fact sheets, FAQs, web content, emails, presentation) including translations, PEER/S review)	Mon 2/11/19	Fri 03/08/19	25	20
3.20	Post Announcements & Materials for "Draft Council "Framework" Comment period, & meetings (web, FR Notice)	Mon 3/11/19	Mon 3/11/19	0	1
3.21	Council Public Meetings on draft "Framework"	Mon 3/25/19	Fri 4/12/19	18	15
3.22	"Planning Framework" Public Comment Period	Mon 3/11/19	Fri 4/26/19	46	35
3.23	Draft "Planning Framework" & Response to Comments	Mon 4/29/19	Fri 5/10/19	11	10
3.24	SC Review Planning Framework Response to Comments	Mon 5/13/19	Fri 5/17/19	4	5
3.25	Revise Response to Comments	Mon 5/20/19	Thu 5/23/19	3	4
3.26	Final Vote to accept Planning Framework Response to Comments	Wed 5/29/19	Wed 5/29/19	0	1

RESTORE Council FPL3/Funding Strategy Development

CONFIDENTIAL; DRAFT/DELIBERATIVE; ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION; ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

Project Lead:
Project Start Date: 3/6/2018
Display Week: 19

Blue = Member Actions; Red= Program Staff Actions; Orange= PIE Actions; Green=Grants Staff Actions

WBS	Task	Start	End	Cal. Days	Work Days
4	**Proposals (boxes 5-6)**	Mon 4/30/18	Fri 12/06/19	586	420
4.1	Update Science Review Process	Mon 4/30/18	Fri 11/30/18	214	155
4.2	Draft Data and Monitoring Standard Recommendations (includes CMAWG	Mon 4/30/18	Fri 3/15/19	319	230
4.3	Flo	eeting - Discuss Data & Monitoring Standards	Tue 4/2/19	Wed 04/03/19	1	2
4.4		Data and Monitoring Standards	Thu 4/4/19	Tue 05/07/19	33	24
4.5		pproval of Data and Monitoring Standards	Wed 5/15/19	Wed 5/15/19	0	1
4.6	Upda	mission Guidelines and Review Process	Mon 4/30/18	Fri 3/15/19	319	230
4.7	Revise	ission "Platform"	Fri 6/1/18	Fri 3/15/19	287	206
4.8	Issue RF		Mon 06/03/19	Mon 06/03/19	0	1
4.9	Proposals	lopment/Submission	Mon 06/03/19	Fri 8/30/19	88	66
4.10	Post Proposals to Web (Includes making ADA compliant)		Wed 09/04/19	Fri 9/13/19	9	8
4.11	Public Comment Period		Mon 9/16/19	Fri 11/01/19	46	35
4.12	Reviews (Act Compliance, EC, BAS)		Mon 9/16/19	Fri 12/06/19	81	60
4.13	Release Council Reviews and Response to Comments		Mon 11/04/19	Fri 12/06/19	32	25
5	**Draft FPL3/Funding Strategy (Box 7)**		Sun 6/3/18	Fri 5/29/20	726	520
5.1	Draft Outline development/approval		Sun 6/3/18	Wed 7/10/19	402	288
5.2	Writing		Thu 7/11/19	Fri 1/24/20	197	142
5.3	Funded Projects Selection		Mon 12/9/19	Fri 1/10/20	32	25
5.4	Draft Review #1		Mon 1/27/20	Fri 02/07/20	11	10
5.5	Revisions		Mon 2/10/20	Mon 2/17/20	7	6
5.6	Draft Review #2		Tue 2/18/20	Mon 2/24/20	6	5
5.7	Revisions		Tue 2/25/20	Fri 2/28/20	3	4
5.8	Council Approval of Draft FPL3/Funding Strategy		Mon 3/2/20	Wed 03/04/20	2	3
5.9	Post Draft FPL3/Funding Strategy		Fri 3/6/20	Fri 03/06/20	0	1
5.10	Regs Logistics - locations, A/V, interpreters, etc		Wed 1/15/20	Fri 2/28/20	44	33
5.11	Announcements Comment Period & Regs		Fri 3/6/20	Fri 03/06/20	0	1
5.12	Council Public Meetings on draft FPL3/Funding Strategy		Mon 3/16/20	Fri 04/03/20	18	15
5.13	Comment Period		Fri 3/6/20	Mon 4/20/20	46	32
5.14	Draft Final FPL3/Fund Strat & Response to Comments		Tue 4/21/20	Wed 5/20/20	29	22
5.15	Council review of Draft Final		Thu 5/21/20	Fri 5/29/20	8	7
5.16	Revisions		Mon 6/1/20	Wed 6/3/20	2	3
5.17	Circulate Final for Council Vote		Thu 6/4/20	Wed 6/10/20	6	5
5.18	*[Insert Rows above this one, then Hide or Delete this row]*				Sat 12/30/99	0
6	**Final FPL3/Funding Strategy (Box 8)**		Wed 6/10/20	Fri 06/12/20	2	3

DRAFT

Draft and Finalize FPL 3 Planning Framework (steps 1-4)

- Develop FPL 3 Planning Framework
  - Member-led Collaboration
  - Draft document (content, format, length TBD)
  - Council-led Public meetings, comment period
  - Revise/finalize Planning Framework; respond to Public comments
- Public Education
  - Restore Education Opportunities
  - Council-led webinars describing process
- On-going Steering Committee meetings to discuss/approve

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Proposals Submitted and Reviewed (Steps 5-6)

- Public Education (on-going)
- Update Submission Guidelines & Review Process
  - Proposals Submission Guidelines
  - Review process, including science review
  - Data & monitoring standards updates
  - Submission platform (component of RAAMS replacement)
- Develop/Submit Proposals
- Proposals Reviews
  - RESTORE Act compliance, Environmental Compliance, Budget, BAS
  - Post proposals & reviews for public availability*
- On-going Steering Committee meetings to discuss/approve all

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Draft and Finalize FPL/Funding Strategy (steps 7-8)

- Public Education (on-going)
- Draft FPL/Funding Strategy
  - Selection of projects for funding in FPL 3
  - Future Planning Framework (FPL 4+)
  - Two-rounds of Steering Committee reviews/Council staff revisions
  - Public meetings, comment period
- Final FPL/Funding Strategy
  - Public comments reviews/responses
  - Reviews/revisions to FPL/Funding strategy and Responses to Public comments
- On-going Steering Committee meetings to discuss/approve

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Potential Pinch-points

Finalizing FPL 3 Planning Framework

- 4.5 weeks between:
  - Close of public comment on FPL 3 Planning Framework (Friday April 26, 2019)
  - Council vote on final FPL 3 Planning Framework/Response to Public comments (Wednesday May 29, 2019)
- Provided for general awareness
- Achievable if document is succinct and comments are largely anticipated (collaboration efforts prior to release could help with this)

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Potential Pinch-points

Proposals Submitted and Reviewed

- Fourteen weeks between:
  - Proposals submission deadline (Friday August 30, 2019)
  - Reviews completed (December 6, 2019)
- Provided for general awareness
- Duration based upon that needed for FPL 1; possible that duration could be shortened if fewer proposals submitted

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Potential Pinch-points

Release draft FPL/Funding Strategy for Public Review

- Eleven weeks (including end-of-year holidays) between:
  - Post proposals reviews to website (Friday December 13, 2019)
  - First draft FPL/Funding Strategy provided to Steering Committee for review (Monday January 27, 2020)
  - Public release of Council-approved document (March 4, 2020)
- Includes time for Steering Committee agreement on:
  - Projects to fund in FPL 3
  - FPL 4 Planning Framework

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Potential Pinch-points

Vote on Final FPL/Funding Strategy

- Seven weeks between:
  - Close of Public comment period on the draft (April 20, 2020)
  - Council vote on Final FPL/Funding Strategy and Responses to Public Comments (June 10, 2020)
- Includes time for:
  - Review and response to Public comments
  - Revision/review/finalization of documents for Council vote
- Provided for general awareness

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Potential Pinch-points

Public Comment Periods

- **Currently, Public comment is planned to be taken on:**
  - FPL 3 Planning Framework
  - FPL 3 Proposals*
  - Draft FPL3/Funding Strategy
- **Currently set for 45 days (approximately)**
- **The public usually (always?) requests an extension**
- **Provided for general awareness**

* PE workgroup recommendation to be discussed in subsequent presentation

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GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
July 31 and August 1, 2018
Port of Gulfport Marine Research Center
Gulfport, Mississippi

Tuesday, July 31 Agenda

8:30 am – 8:40 am	**Welcome and Introductions** (Chair - Ken Wagner, Co-Chair - Johnny Bradberry, Ben Scaggs)
8:40 am – 8:45 am	**Overview of Agenda and Desired Outcomes** (Buck Sutter)
8:45 am – 10:15 am	**Member Collaboration Reports and Discussion** • Florida (8:45 am to 9:15 am) • Alabama (9:15 am to 9:45 am) • Mississippi (9:45 am to 10:15 am)
10:15am – 10:30 am	**Break**
10:45am – 12:15pm	**Member Collaboration Reports and Discussion Continued** • Louisiana (10:30 am to 11:00 am) • Texas (11:00 am to 11:30 am) • EPA (11:30 to 12:00 pm)
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	**LUNCH: On your own**
1:15 pm – 3:15 pm	**Member Collaboration Reports and Discussion Continued** • DOC/NOAA (1:15 pm to 1:45 pm) • DOI (1:45 pm to 2:15 pm) • US Coast Guard (2:15 pm to 2:45pm) • USDA (2:45 pm to 3:15 pm)
3:30pm – 5:00pm	**Mississippi Field Trip - Institute for Marine Mammal Studies**

Adjourn for the day

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Wednesday, August 1 Agenda

8:30 am – 9:30 am **Overview of Member Collaboration Reports** (Ben Scaggs, Jean Cowan)

Objectives:

- Discuss member collaboration reports, summarizing best practices, lessons learned, and potential collaborative Opportunities

Materials:

- Staff summaries prepared from Day 1

9:30 am – 10:00 am **FPL Shortfall Funding Process** (John Ettinger)

Objectives:

- Decide on a Council process for addressing potential budget shortfalls on FPL projects/programs.

Materials:

- Budget_Shortfalls_for_FPL_activities_Options

10:00am - 10:15am **Break**

10:15 am – 12:00 pm **FPL 3 Funding Strategy Schedule** (Jean Cowan, Ben Scaggs)

Objectives:

- In depth discussion of the schedule and process to get to FPL 3 in May 2020.

Materials:

- FPL 3/Funding Strategy Schedule

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm **LUNCH: On your own**

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm **RAAMS Update, Applications and Awards Status** (Kristin Smith)

Objectives:

- Update Steering Committee on FPL Application and Award Status
- Update Steering Committee on RAAMS Replacement

Materials:

- Grant/IAA Update
- RAAMS Replacement Update

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm **Role of Public Engagement Workgroup** (Keala Hughes)

Objectives:

- Discuss the critical role of the PE Workgroup in reaching the objectives of the Council's Comprehensive Plan Update and FPL 3

Materials:

- PE Workgroup Update

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm **Scales of Outcomes and Objectives** (Jean Cowan)

Objectives:

- Introduce how information provided by Steering Committee member report-outs may be used to develop outcomes and measurable objectives at appropriate scales (e.g., projects, watershed/restoration types, program).

Materials:

- *TBD*

3:15 pm - 3:30 pm **Break**

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm **Operationalizing the Treasury Proposed Rule** (Mary Pleffner/Mark Bisgeier)

Objectives:

- Discuss the operationalization of the 3% Treasury proposed rule if it is finalized as currently written.

Materials:

- 3% Admin Costs report
- 3% Admin Expense report

4:15 pm – 4:30 pm **Wrap-up**

Adjourn

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Message

From: Lacey, Pam [PLacey@aga.org]
Sent: 1/2/2018 2:59:39 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
CC: Kenney, James [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ce6ff86939e44da49d88840b2353f022-Kenney, James]
Subject: RE: Oil and Natural Gas Roundtable Invitation

Ken – Thank you for taking my call this morning and clarifying that this event will indeed be focused solely on *upstream production* issues. As AGA represents *downstream* natural gas local distribution companies (utilities), I will respectfully decline. Please keep AGA in mind if you have questions about natural gas transmission, distribution or storage issues.

Respectfully, Pam

Pamela A. Lacey | Chief Regulatory Counsel
American Gas Association
400 N. Capitol St., NW | Washington, DC | 20001
P: Ex. 6 | M: Ex. 6 | F: 202-824-9190 | placey@aga.org

The American Gas Association represents more than 200 local energy companies committed to the safe and reliable delivery of clean natural gas to more than 70 million customers throughout the nation.

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 4:28 PM
To: Lacey, Pam <PLacey@aga.org>
Cc: Kenney, James <Kenney.James@epa.gov>
Subject: Oil and Natural Gas Roundtable Invitation

Ms. Lacey,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Environmental Council of States (ECOS), and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) are cosponsoring an oil and natural gas roundtable to be held on January 23 and 24, 2018 in Denver, Colorado. As a valued stakeholder committed to responsible oil and natural gas exploration and production, you are cordially invited to participate.

At the roundtable, a small number of oil and natural gas stakeholders representing the upstream exploration and production segment will convene to share their individual expertise and experiences. Invited stakeholders will include representatives from industry, trade associations, state agencies, tribal governments, non-governmental organizations, as well as USEPA leadership and staff. As the enclosed draft agenda indicates, the roundtable will initially focus on identifying barriers that prevent the shared goal of cost-effective and timely compliance with environmental regulations. We are hopeful that these discussions will begin the process of building partnerships to achieve better compliance through thoughtful solutions achieved together with all stakeholders' points of view being considered. The roundtable will later focus on taking stakeholders' ideas and examples with the express goal of releasing the proceedings of the roundtable publicly. Please note, the facilitated roundtable discussions will not be attributed to individual stakeholders and EPA does not aim to seek consensus. Following the January roundtable, ECOS and IOGCC have agreed to continue to build on the momentum of the roundtable discussions at their respective Spring 2018 meetings.

Since space is limited, attendance is by invitation only. If you are not personally able to attend, you are encouraged to designate someone within your organization to take your seat. If you or a designee from your organization cannot attend, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can fill the vacant seat with another stakeholder.

To secure your space at the roundtable, please RSVP by ***Thursday, January 4, 2018*** to James Kenney, our Senior Policy Advisor for Unconventional Oil and Natural Gas, via email at kenney.james@epa.gov. Jim will send you a confirmation email and additional logistics. If you have any questions about the oil and natural gas roundtable, please feel free to contact Jim by email or by phone at Ex. 6

EPA appreciates your commitment to responsible oil and natural gas production and I look forward to productive discussions in January.

Respectfully,

/s/ Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]
on behalf of Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 3/2/2018 4:01:28 PM
To: Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us; trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]

Subject: Florida Stand-Up State Expenditure Plan - Member Review

Attachments: Final SSEP.pdf

Council Members:

The Gulf Consortium (the designated Spill-Impact Component entity for Florida) has submitted a "Stand-Up" State Expenditure Plan (SEP) for Chair approval/disapproval pursuant to the RESTORE Act. Unlike a standard SEP which includes projects and programs, the Stand-Up SEP seeks approval of funds for activities required to enable the Gulf Consortium to provide the necessary financial controls and administrative duties needed to manage implementation, including grant management, of all the projects contained in the Florida SEP (which is still in draft form).

The statutory 60-day review period begins today, March 2, 2018. A decision by the Chair is required by April 30, 2018. The Stand-Up SEP is attached for your review. Pursuant to the Council's SEP Guidelines, all members have until March 21, 2018, to submit comments to the Chair for consideration. Such comments should be limited to the completeness of the SEP Amendment and the four criteria described in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.2 of the SEP Guidelines. Please provide any comments you might have to John Ettinger at john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov. If you have any questions, please contact John at (**Ex. 6**

Thank you.

PS - Please remember that any member comments on the 2017 Mississippi SEP Amendment are due no later than March 6.

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

Gulf Consortium: Stand-up State Expenditure Plan for Florida

Points of contact for Gulf Consortium

The Gulf Consortium (Consortium) is the designated entity responsible for the development of the Florida State Expenditure Plan (SEP), as recognized in the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) and subsequent rulemaking. The Consortium is a public entity created in October 2012 through an Interlocal Agreement between Florida's 23 Gulf Coast counties - from Escambia County in the western panhandle of Florida to Monroe County on the southern tip of Florida - to meet the requirements of the RESTORE Act. The Consortium's Board of Directors consists of one representative from each county government. Since its inception, the Consortium has met approximately every other month and has held numerous committee meetings to develop Florida's State Expenditure Plan. The points of contact for the Consortium are as follows:

Executive
Grover Robinson, IV, Chairman
Gulf Consortium
113 S Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL, 32301
Phone: 850-922-4300
Fax: 850-201-7101
E-mail: gcrobins@co.escambia.fl.us

Administrative
Craig Diamond
Gulf Consortium Manager
113 S Monroe St
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-201-7165
Fax: 850-201-7101
E-mail: cdiamond@balmoralgroup.us

Introduction and Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this Standup State Expenditure Plan (SSEP) is to describe the activities required to enable the Consortium to provide the necessary financial controls and administrative duties needed to manage implementation, including grant management, of all the projects contained in the Florida State Expenditure Plan (SEP). The goal of the SSEP is to expedite implementation of projects in the SEP by ensuring that the Consortium is prepared to receive and effectively manage implementation grants once the SEP is approved and grants have been applied for and awarded. The SSEP will support establishment of additional cost-effective administrative and fiscal management processing structures to ensure sufficient separation of duties, internal controls, and financial integrity of the Gulf Consortium.

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The Gulf Consortium is the designated public entity created to develop and manage the implementation of the State Expenditure Plan for Florida's portion of the Spill Impact Component ("Pot 3") funds designated by the RESTORE Act (33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)).[1] The Gulf Consortium has an approved Planning State Expenditure Plan and associated implementation grant from the RESTORE Council that has been utilized to develop the SEP for Florida. The development of the SEP has involved extensive coordination with county stakeholders to develop projects, explore funding leveraging opportunities, and formulate the final SEP, which is scheduled to be submitted to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (RESTORE Council) in May, 2018.

State Certification of RESTORE Act Compliance

State Certifications of RESTORE Act Compliance

On behalf of the State of Florida, the Gulf Consortium hereby certifies to the following:

- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(I), the Stand-up State Expenditure Plan (SSEP) includes projects, programs, and activities that will be implemented within the Gulf Coast Region and are eligible for funding under the RESTORE Act.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(II), the projects, programs, and activities in the SSEP contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf Coast.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(i)(III), the SSEP conforms to and is consistent with the goals and objectives of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan adopted by the RESTORE Council.
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)(B)(i), the projects and programs that would restore and protect the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast included in the SSEP will be based on the best available science as defined by the RESTORE Act.[2]
- Pursuant to the RESTORE Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(3)(B)(ii), not more than 25% of the funds will be used for infrastructure projects for the eligible activities described in 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(i)(VI-VII).

Cross-border issues are not pertinent to the scope of this Stand-Up State Expenditure Plan, which addresses Gulf Consortium internal administrative matters only.

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[1] Affirmed by letter from RESTORE Council to the Chair of the Gulf Consortium, dated October 6, 2017.

[2] Council Guidelines on Best Available Science (Section 5.2.2) provide that consideration of BAS will not be required where it would not be meaningful, such as in connection with administrative activities. The single project of the Stand-Up SEP is intended to advance and manage the implementation of projects in the SEP that will achieve the indicated environmental and economic objectives of the RESTORE Act and will be administrative in nature.

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Development of the SSEP

The development of the SSEP involved an open and transparent process requiring identification of its need, its intent, and its scope. The process resulted in a single project consistent with RESTORE Act requirements and which will establish the financial and administrative architecture necessary for the success of the SEP. The process included four phases:

Phase 1: Identifying Need
Phase 2: Concept Formulation
Phase 3: SSEP Development
Phase 4: Agency and Public Input; SSEP Refinement

Supporting tasks occurred in each phase. The activities of each phase were informed by the following objectives:

- Ensure the most efficient path to creating the requisite administrative and financial structure and capabilities of the Gulf Consortium;
- Establish the Consortium's administrative and financial architecture in advance of submitting and receiving implementation grants for projects within the SEP;
- Via the Consortium's internal procedures, ensure that eligible projects, programs and activities included in its SEP contribute to overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast; and
- Promote funded projects to be as successful, cost-effective, and sustainable as possible.

The four-phase process was implemented in part under the Planning State Expenditure Plan approved by the RESTORE Council in May 2015 and the planning grant award approved by the RESTORE Council in June 2015, and in part with Consortium funds.[3]

Phase I: Identifying Need

Through review of the Gulf Consortium's first Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA), RESTORE Council, the Consortium Interim Manager (the Florida Association of Counties), and the Consortium Manager (The Balmoral Group) determined that the general administrative and financial controls that have been in place to date for the management of the current Planning Grant are insufficient to conform to applicable Federal requirements, and that the RESTORE Council could not release any funds to the Consortium for implementation grants until such time that adequate controls have been adopted and operating. In sum, the Consortium would be required to institute appropriate controls prior to advancing the implementation of the projects anticipated as part of the SEP.

Phase II: Concept Formulation

The concept of a "Stand-Up SEP" to establish the necessary administrative and financial architecture within the Consortium as an initial project within the development of the SEP was considered. Subsequent

[3] In September 2017, Council approved the allowability of Pre-Award costs specifically identified as associated with the SSEP grant.

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discussion with Council staff and the Consortium Executive Committee identified the possibility that such a Stand-Up SEP could be submitted separately from and in advance of the SEP.[4]

The Board selected the latter option with the stated objective of advancing the general calendar of implementation of the SEP and ensuring the Consortium's capacity to manage future projects, provide transparency to all Consortium operations and withstand audits. The Board further recognized that the success of the SEP with respect to consistency with the goals and objectives of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan developed by the RESTORE Council and the Consortium's efforts to contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast depended on successful implementation of the SSEP. The Board approved the Draft SSEP for public comment and formal agency review on November 15, 2017.

Phase III: SSEP Development

Pursuant to Board direction, the four generalized categories of the Consortium's administrative and fiscal responsibilities to be addressed by the SSEP include procurement, grant management, accounting and finance, and technical oversight (**Figure 1**). The scope (reviewed by RESTORE Council staff, DEP, FWC, and with input from Florida's SEP consultant, multiple county RESTORE Act Coordinators, and the public) identifies specific tasks under each category. Ultimately, each task will be supported by policies, procedures, and assignments of roles to ensure full compliance with Federal requirements for all implementation grants and sub-awards.

[4] The RESTORE Act provides that multiple SEPs may be submitted by an individual state.

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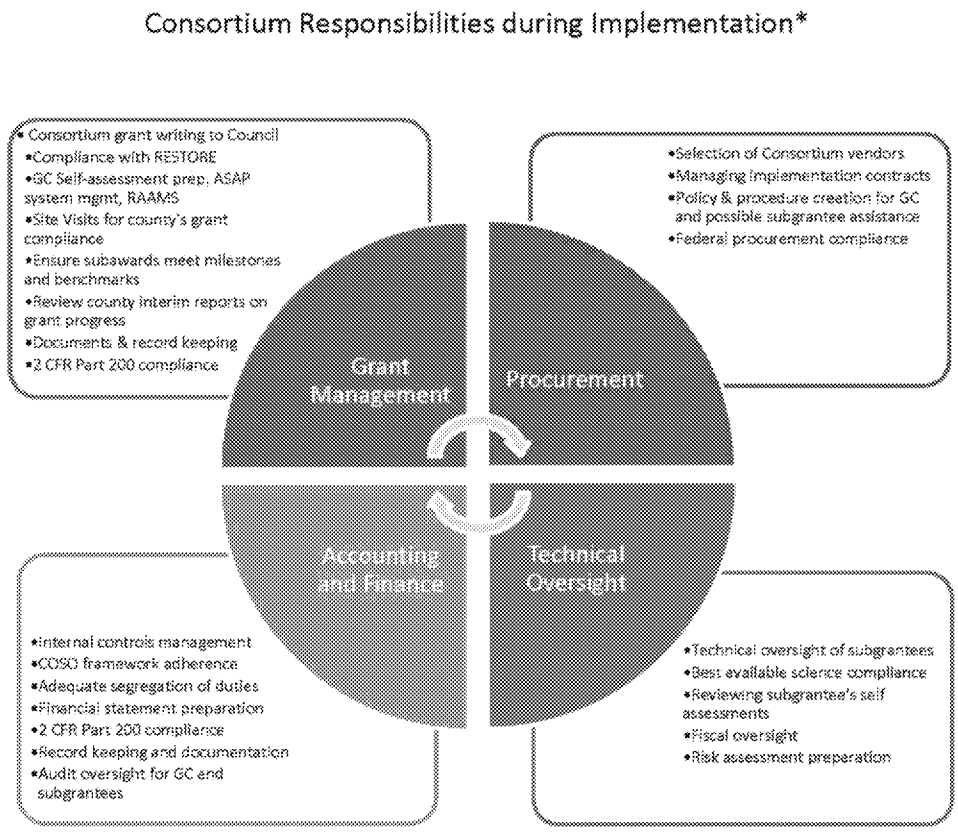
***Figure 1. Conceptual Overview of Stand-Up-SEP Content*[5]**



Phase IV: Agency Input, Public Comment and SSEP Refinement

As part of developing the Final SSEP, staff to the Consortium reached out to various parties for background information, programmatic support and input regarding SSEP format and content. Prior to finalization of the SSEP, the Consortium will have obtained input from each of the following:

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Office of the Governor
- Leon County, which has served as Fiscal Agent for the Consortium
- Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GOMURC)
- Florida Institute of Oceanography, Florida RESTORE Act Centers of Excellence Program (FLRACEP)
- RESTORE Council, Science Program

[5] The graphic refers to RAAMS; the Consortium understands this system will be replaced.

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- RESTORE Act coordinators in the 23 Florida counties
- Environmental Science Associates, the Consortium's SEP Consultant
- Langton Consulting, the Consortium's SEP Planning Grant manager
- Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, the Consortium's General Counsel
- Reedy Creek Improvement District (as an example of a multi-county special district with diverse administrative responsibilities)

The development of the Final SSEP included review of potential management and oversight structures, staffing/contracting for services, software, and costs for procurement, grant management, accounting and finance, and technical oversight (including review of grant requests, project interim and closeout reports, and the application of Best Available Science, where applicable). The Final reflects input from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and responds to issues raised by the Board and the public.

Compliance with RESTORE Act requirements for SEPs was specifically addressed as part of the agenda items and Board discussions relating to the SSEP at its May, June, September and November, 2017 and February, 2018 meetings, all duly advertised and open to the public. Compliance also was an element of the discussions about the SSEP at (teleconference) meetings of the Gulf Consortium Executive Committee, which are publicly noticed and within which public comment is also accepted.

Process Used to Verify Compliance

The compliance of the SSEP with the RESTORE Act was accomplished via both legal and technical review, which determined the SSEP to be an eligible project that conforms to Council's Comprehensive Plan. The intent, general outline, and specific content of the SSEP were evaluated relative to the applicable RESTORE Act provisions, and content was amended as needed in response to any concerns or issues raised.

Results of the Process Used to Verify Compliance

The process used to verify compliance resulted in a determination that the single project in the Final SSEP is an eligible project, will contribute to the economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf (via ensuring the success of the SEP and its own compliance with the RESTORE Act), conforms with the RESTORE Council's Comprehensive Plan, will make use of the application of best available science (where applicable) and does not violate the limitation on infrastructure projects.

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Public Participation Statement

Public outreach was completed in accordance with pertinent requirements and the Consortium's intent for transparency. Consistent with Treasury regulations, this Standup State Expenditure Plan was made available for public review and comment in accordance with 31 C.F.R. § 34.503(g). The SSEP was extensively advertised and made publicly available at the Consortium website (https://www.gulfconsortium.org/) between November 16, 2017 and January 19, 2018 (i.e., 64 days). Links to this site were provided on the DEP Portal (http://www.dep.state.fl.us/deepwaterhorizon/) and several Consortium County member homepages. All submitted comments were reviewed and incorporated as appropriate (see **Appendix**).

Financial Integrity and Program Management

The Consortium understands its fiduciary responsibilities under the RESTORE Act and is committed to maintaining the highest level of transparency and internal controls to ensure financial accountability. It is the Consortium's mission to maintain transparency in such a way that assures the public's faith and trust in the ability of the Consortium to appropriately manage and disburse funds for the SEP projects. The SSEP will allow the Consortium to build accounting and financial systems based on principles of strong and reliable financial management.

The SSEP is designed to include the following financial principles which are best practices recognized around the world by leading government and private sector organizations. The basic principles of sound financial management include, but not limited to, tight internal controls, financial transparency, segregation of duties, and independent external auditing. By integrating these processes into the administrative functions and fiduciary functions of the organization the Consortium can ensure timely, accurate, and complete reporting throughout the SEP's lifecycle.

Segregation of Duties – To maintain effective internal controls, the Consortium will properly create internal checks and balances among the entities performing contract administration and financial duties for SEP related projects, programs, and activities. The SSEP anticipates carefully assigning the functions and roles of staff with the guidance of the Board, to create a robust duty segregation hierarchy. Furthermore, the Consortium has sought to retain a fiscal agent to manage any grant funds received from RESTORE Council, instituting firewalls between approval of disbursements and access to funding.

Transparency – The Consortium is committed to maintaining transparency with the public, RESTORE Council, and other constituents for reporting on SEP related projects, programs, and activities. The SSEP seeks to put in place administrative positions that will allow frequent, detailed, and complete grant reports and financial statements for the Consortium's stakeholders.

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Independent Financial Auditing – The Consortium is subject to annual audits conducted by independent auditors which evaluate not only the presentation of financial statements but also the effectiveness of internal controls based upon widely held government standards including, but not limited to, 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the Single Audit Act of 1996.

Financial Controls

The financial controls put in place through the SSEP will allow the Consortium to reduce the risk of asset loss or misappropriation of funds, maintain compliance with the RESTORE Council's financial documentation requirements, create a uniform financial standards for member counties, ensure that financial reports and disclosures are complete and reliable, and ensure compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations. The Consortium's financial control system will contain both preemptive controls (created to prevent errors or fraud) and detective controls (designed to identify an error or fraud after it has occurred).

Project management, grant managers, and other Consortium member county staff responsible for governance will be required to apply internal control processes created by the SSEP. The processes created by the SSEP are designed to provide reasonable assurance in the reliability of project financial reporting.

The proposed financial control system includes multiple protections of public funds including:

- Procedures that provide for appropriate segregation of duties to reduce the risk of asset loss or fraud;
- Personnel training materials that ensure employees are qualified to perform their assigned duties and responsibilities;
- Defined roles for the proper employees to authorize and records financial transactions,
- Requirement that sub-recipients operate and use resources with minimal potential for waste, fraud, and mismanagement.

The Consortium's internal control system has been, and continues to be modeled in accordance with the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) internal control framework and the five inter-related components. Further, the Consortium will evaluate each of these categories on a regular basis to adjust or change policies and procedures to enhance the internal control policy:

1. **Control Environment** – The set of standards, processes, and structures that provide the basis for carrying out internal control across the organization.

2. **Risk Assessment** – The types of risks both perceived and real must be identified, analyzed, and categorized in a relevant way to manage the goals of the SEP and requirements of the Consortiums regulatory bodies.

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3. **Control Activities** – The Consortium's internal control activities include written policies, procedures, techniques, and mechanisms that help ensure management's directives are carried out in compliance with the RESTORE Act criteria.

4. **Communication and Information** – Communication is vital to effective project management, and the Consortium's financial information system has mechanisms in place to properly capture and communicate RESTORE Act project financial data at the level appropriate for sound financial management.

5. **Monitoring** – Monitoring of the internal control system will be performed to assess whether controls are effective and operating as intended.

Conflicts of Interest

Consistent with Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, conflicts of interest are situations "in which regard for a private interest tends to lead to disregard of a public duty or interest." The Consortium requires a conflict of interest affidavit to be completed by all contractors and sub-recipients to ensure that no conflicts of interest for any proposed or contracted work would affect the impartiality or quality of the work. Strict conflict of interest policies ensure that no sub-recipients or contractors are given an unfair competitive advantage. Accordingly, contracts for the General Counsel, Manager, and SEP Consultant were amended on September 27, 2017, to include provisions required by 2 C.F.R. Part 200 for all non-Federal recipients of Federal funds.

Proposed Project

Expanding the financial and administrative capabilities of the Gulf Consortium

The single project included in this SSEP involves the development of a sufficient financial and managerial structure in order to ensure the Consortium will provide the financial integrity, controls, and management duties that will be required for individual project implementation. The four primary elements of the Consortium administrative structure to be developed include: 1) grant management, 2) procurement and contract management, 3) accounting and finance, and 4) technical oversight of deliverables under contracts and grant sub-awards.

The organizational structure of the Consortium envisioned by the SSEP is outlined in **Figure 2** and **Table 2**. This structure illustrates functional roles within the Consortium rather than individual personnel or specific contractual service providers.

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Figure 2. Proposed organizational chart of administrative functions of the Gulf Consortium

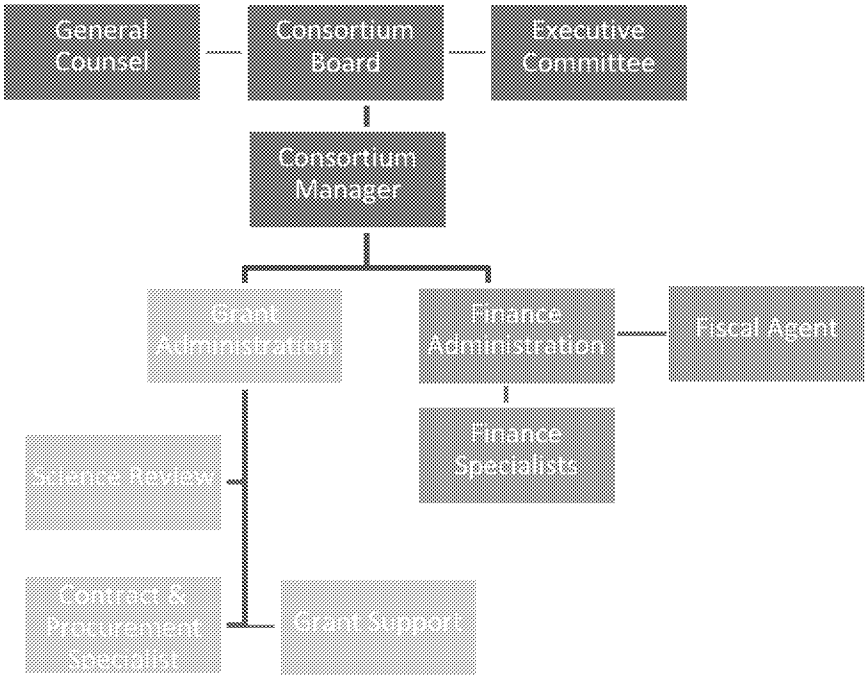

Figure 2 is organized into three primary cluster of functions: overall management as guided by the Board, financial administration, and grant management.

Table 2 recognizes that the only continuous staffing services of the Gulf Consortium are that of the Manager and the General Counsel. Consequently, select responsibilities described by **Table 1** may be contracted for, but with all contract approvals by the Board and oversight provided by the Manager.

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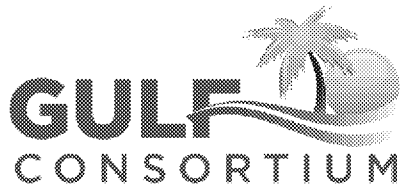

Table 1. Summary of responsibilities for administrative functional roles within the Gulf Consortium

Functional Role	Responsibilities / *Consortium Resource*
General Manager	Management and general administration of Consortium business *Manager**
General Counsel	Legal counsel, contract development and review *General Counsel**
Financial Administration	Prepare financial statements, payment requests, audit functions *Manager**
Finance Specialist	Data entry for payment requests, bookkeeping functions *Manager**
Fiscal Agent	Manages disbursements, check registers, bank statement *Pending approval, Leon County Clerk of Courts*
Grant Administration	Packages prepared grants for submission to RESTORE Council; assists County personnel (RESTORE coordinators) in grant preparation as requested; coordinates with RESTORE Council *Manager**
Grant Support	Database maintenance, grant submittal support *To be determined, as grant volume requirements dictate;* *Manager* or Contractual Grant managers during periods of high volume*
Contract Procurement	Manages contract procurement processes; *To be determined, as procurement volume requirements dictate;* *Manager* or New position, Contract Specialist,*
Science Review	Oversight of desktop reviews of prepared grant applications for BAS requirements prior to submittal to RESTORE Council; determines appropriate specialists for review *Manager**

* Under existing Consortium contracts for services

As an example, Science Review – such as for the application of Best Available Science for a particular project – may be expected to be contracted for; however, the oversight of the reviews and coordination of findings as part of required reporting to RESTORE Council would be handled through the Manager.

Procurement

The SSEP will implement procurement methods consistent with those outlined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.320. Procurement will be carried out by the Manager of the Consortium and the respective accounting and finance individuals on their team with assistance from the Consortium General Counsel. The SSEP will institute the following procurement scenarios depending on cost threshold and product or service:

1. Procurement by micro-purchases: Procurement by micro-purchase is the acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed $3,000 (or $2,000 in the case of acquisitions for construction subject to the Davis-Bacon Act). Micro-purchases may be awarded

without soliciting competitive quotations if the recipient (in this case, the Consortium) considers the price to be reasonable.

2. Procurement by small purchase procedures: Small purchase procedures are those relatively simple and informal procurement methods for securing services, supplies, or other property that do not cost more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently $150,000). If small purchase procedures are used, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources. The Consortium will consider three qualified bids as sufficient.

3. Procurement by sealed bids (formal advertising): Bids are publicly solicited and a firm-fixed-price contract (lump sum or unit price) is awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to all the material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is the lowest in price.

4. Procurement by competitive proposals: The technique of competitive proposals is normally conducted with more than one source submitting an offer, and either a fixed-price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. It is generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. A new requirement under this method is that the recipient must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and for selecting recipients.

5. Procurement by noncompetitive proposals: Procurement by noncompetitive proposals is procurement through solicitation of a proposal from only one source. 2 C.F.R. Part 200 clarified that this may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:
    a. The item is available only from a single source;
    b. The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation;
    c. The Council or pass-through entity expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the recipient; or
    d. After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.

6. Procurement by the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA): The acquisition of professional architectural, engineering, landscape architectural, or surveying and mapping services must be procured pursuant to Section 287.055, Florida Statutes.

The counties may rely on the Consortium to provide resources such as Best Available Science or other skilled professionals to assist their grant efforts. Those professionals will need to be procured at the Consortium level. The Stand-Up phase will prepare the Consortium for the following procurement scenarios depending on the level of projects that are developed enough to begin once implementation begins. **Table 2** provides expected levels of procurement activity that have been assessed; the SSEP budget has been derived based on the "Likely" Scenario.

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Table 2. Estimated Grant Management and Procurement Activity Level Scenarios under the SSEP

Estimated Volume	Fiscal Year 2018	Fiscal Year 2019	Fiscal Year 2020	Task
Maximum Volume	42	4	3	Grant Applications
	24	12	8	Procurements/Contracts
Minimum Volume	0	0	0	Grant Applications
	12	8	6	Procurements/Contracts
Likely Scenario	6	0	0	Grant Applications
	12	12	6	Procurements/Contracts

It is important to note that first year SEP activities include 42 project implementation grants (i.e., Maximum Volume). However, not all projects need be submitted immediately following affirmation by RESTORE Council that the Consortium is ready to submit project implementation grants and receive project funds. That affirmation of readiness is not expected until the latter months of SSEP implementation (**see Figure 3, SSEP Milestones**). Consequently, the budget provides for six projects during this window within the SSEP planning assistance grant.[6] The remaining first-year SEP projects may be submitted in the following 9-10 months of the first year that the Consortium is authorized to process project implementation grant submittals.[7]

Accounting and Finance

The initial Organizational Assessment submitted to the RESTORE Council highlighted areas that the Consortium can improve upon to carry out its mission related to the ultimate oversight of the SEP. The Consortium needs to have administrative infrastructure suited for the accounting and finance-related work that will need to be done in order to manage all the grants for the projects contained in the SEP. The SSEP will be used to establish that hierarchy of positions so that the Consortium has a finance and accounting structure in the background capable of handling the fiduciary responsibilities of carrying out the grant administration for the SEP.

The SSEP will give the Consortium Manager and supporting vendors the opportunity to create a cohesive administrative arm that fulfills the segregation of duties requirements for robust internal controls and also allows for effective grant management and administration. Further, the Consortium has engaged Leon County to act as fiscal agent for the Consortium so that the necessary segregation of duties objective is enhanced.

Software Requirements

RESTORE Council has previously recommended the Consortium implement a standalone grant management system dedicated to Consortium business. The existing accounting software in place with

[6] Board direction will establish the number to be submitted during SSEP implementation.

[7] Further, of the 42 first-year SEP projects, 14 are related to feasibility studies while 7 are for conceptual design. Based on discussion with RESTORE Council some of these projects may potentially be bundled into fewer grant applications.

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the Manager has been identified as Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) compliant[8], but may require upgraded licensing depending on the volume of grant activity in the early years of the implementation of the SEP. The Consortium has performed due diligence sufficient to establish a conservative budget for both possibilities (grant management software and potential license upgrading) and has estimated an appropriate scale and capacity for software to provide the functionality needed to carry out the SEP at reasonable costs.

Depending on the procurement selection, software costs for applications compatible with RESTORE Council systems will cost approximately $17,500, plus $10,000 for software license, $2,500 for software maintenance, and $5,000 for vendor provided setup and training costs. Actual costs may vary depending on availability.

Grant Management

The goals of grant management activities are to develop and submit the project-specific grants for implementation, to ensure sub-recipients (the 23 Florida Gulf Coast counties) are achieving the stated project objectives, and to comply with the RESTORE Council's policies and requirements.[9] Additional capacity within the Consortium will be developed as part of this SSEP project. There are two main pieces to this capacity building: 1) a dedicated individual will be assigned or hired to provide grant management services and to create sufficient segregation of duties, and 2) the Consortium will acquire grant management software to facilitate efficient grant preparation and project monitoring.

Sub-recipient Monitoring

The tasks involved in this project to establish sufficient capacity for sub-recipient monitoring by the Gulf Consortium include the following:

- Adapting an Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA) to be completed by the 23 Gulf Coast counties (sub-recipients) to assess the risk level of sub-recipients;
- Develop the procedures for assistance of high-risk sub-recipients; and
- Develop the procedures for financial and progress review of sub-recipient implementation projects

RESTORE Act Compliance

- Organizational Self-Assessments;
- 2 C.F.R. Part 200 compliance;

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[8] DCAA audits and pre-award surveys of government contractor assess the contractor's compliance with the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR). The FAR consists of regulations issued by Federal agencies to administer the acquisition process by which the government purchases goods and services. If a contractor is not in compliance with the FAR, they may be precluded from future government contracts or teaming arrangements with other contractors. It is also possible for DCAA to suggest to the Contracting Officer to stop payments on work that is in progress or disallow costs on completed contracts. Therefore, it is critical for contractors to comply with the FAR.

[9] Board direction is to rely on the counties to the greatest degree practicable for grant-related activity.

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- Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP); and
- Restoration Assistance and Awards Management System (RAAMS)

Technical Oversight

The goal of technical oversight is to ensure that 1) the projects serve the objectives of the RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component (Pot 3), 2) projects include Best Available Science (BAS) where relevant, and 3) project design and implementation are consistent and of sufficient quality. BAS describes science that:

- 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.

In addition to BAS, permitting (federal, state, and local), construction feasibility, and construction engineering inspection are among the tasks requiring technical oversight.[10]

The unique project types among the current list of 69 projects that may be in the SEP were reviewed in order to establish the types of technical professionals needed. The following project types describe one or more of the projects that may be included in the SEP:

- Aquaculture
- Beach Access, Coastal Access, Boat ramps, and Facilities
- Dredging
- Beach Nourishment
- Living Shorelines, Coastal Uplands, Habitat Restoration
- Reef Systems
- Wetland Hydrology
- Septic to Sewer Conversion, Sewer Expansion or Rehabilitation
- Sewer/Stormwater, Stormwater
- Education

The general groups of technical professionals needed for review at grant submittal and for evaluation after implementation have been identified on a preliminary basis for each of the above project types; the resultant classes of professionals include, at a minimum: 1) Engineering/Design, 2) Ecologists/Biologists, 3) Education Specialists, and 4) Construction Engineering Inspection. The Consortium has preliminarily identified experts for select technical oversight capacities. Technical professionals with experience and credentials in specialized fields that can be contracted for desktop review and implementation evaluation and monitoring, where appropriate, have either been identified or will be secured through a competitive procurement process.

[10] The Consortium seeks to minimize the level of BAS oversight where counties are conducting this work.

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The activities to be completed in this Stand-Up project related to technical oversight are described as follows:

1. Develop best practices protocol for meeting the technical oversight requirements of the RESTORE Council. This protocol will detail the process determining the type of technical oversight and whether technical oversight must be procured or can provided by the Manager.

2. Establish contracts with specialized Ecologists/Biologists experts for review of projects at application stage and during implementation to ensure projects are based on BAS, subject to approval. Where conflicts of interest due to prospective regulatory review would not preclude it, the Consortium plans to develop agreements for scientific review services from universities and affiliated research centers, and Federal and local environmental agencies to streamline the procurement of technical oversight services from the Ecologists/Biologists class of professionals referenced above. The contract would specify the scopes of services for different project types, the fees for services, and the timelines for desktop review and implementation assessment and/or monitoring.[11]

3. Establish contracts with groups of qualified technical professionals (Engineering/Design, Ecologists/Biologists, Education Specialists, and Construction Engineering Inspection professionals) for grant review and implementation assessment and monitoring. This effort will include the development of regionalized Requests for Proposals (RFPs) in three Gulf Coast regions to ensure local experience and to reduce travel costs for each of the four technical professional services. Within each technical professional class, scopes of work will be developed for sub-types of professionals. For example, the expected work and qualifications required from a production fisheries aquaculture expert will be different than the work and qualifications of specialist in living shorelines, but both types would be within the Ecologists/Biologists class of professionals. RFPs will be developed for each services group and will be tailored to each of the three geographic regions that will be established. Detailed review of project descriptions from the SEP will be used to identify all the sub-types of technical professionals. Existing state agency contracts for similar services have been obtained and will be used as a template for Consortium contracting.

4. Develop a data management plan to ensure consistent monitoring for biological, water quality, and other environmental data for projects requiring monitoring. This effort will establish the observational protocols and the data storage and analysis system to ensure that monitoring data is preserved and is publicly accessible. The Consortium will coordinate with Treasury staff overseeing Pot 1 funding in an effort to achieve compatibility and consistency with long-term monitoring requirements for Consortium projects.

[11] Existing NRDA contracts have been obtained and, to the extent they are applicable, may be used as a template for select Consortium contracting.

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Through the process described above, the Consortium will develop contracts with pools of available scientists and other professionals capable of efficiently providing technical oversight for grant implementation and evaluation.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERALL ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL RECOVERY OF THE GULF

By developing the administrative capacity of the Gulf Consortium to receive and manage SEP project implementation grants and all services required to ensure that such grants are carried out efficiently and in accordance with all applicable legal requirements, the SSEP will contribute to the economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf via the successful implementation of the SEP and the projects contained therein.

ELIGIBILITY AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

While administrative costs are eligible for funding in conjunction with one of the eligible activities listed in the RESTORE Act, the primary eligible activity for the SSEP is planning assistance. According to the 2015 Department of the Treasury Regulations for the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund, "planning assistance means data gathering, studies, modeling, analysis and other tasks required to prepare plans for eligible activities under 31 C.F.R. § 34.201(a) through (i), including environmental review and compliance tasks and architectural and engineering studies." Planning assistance also means one-time preparations that will allow the recipient to establish systems and processes needed to review grant applications, award grants, monitor grants after award, and audit compliance with respect to eligible activities under § 34.201 in a Multiyear Implementation Plan or State Expenditure Plan.

The SSEP is a one-time preparation to establish those administrative systems and processes needed for grant management as relates to supporting other RESTORE Act eligible activities in the SEP.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To the extent that the SSEP supports all projects in the SEP, the following Comprehensive Goals are furthered:

- Goal 1: Restore and Conserve Habitat (Restore and conserve the health, diversity, and resilience of key coastal, estuarine, and marine habitats);
- Goal 2: Restore Water Quality and Quantity (Restore and protect the water quality and quantity of the Gulf Coast region's fresh, estuarine, and marine waters);
- Goal 3: Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources (Restore and protect healthy, diverse, and sustainable living coastal and marine resources);
- Goal 4: Enhance Community Resilience (Build upon and sustain communities with capacity to adapt to short-and long-term changes); and

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- Goal 5: Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy (Enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy).

IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

The Gulf Consortium is the implementing entity for Pot 3 for the State of Florida. RESTORE Council affirmed the authority of the Consortium to implement the SEP in a letter dated October 6, 2017; the Consortium affirmed its intent to serve in this capacity on November 15, 2017. With the Governor's approval of the SSEP and transmittal to the RESTORE Council, the Gulf Consortium will be responsible for receiving the planning grant from the RESTORE Council and implementing the proposed single project, establishing the administrative and financial architecture of the Consortium. Sub-entities will include the Consortium General Counsel, Leon County Clerk of Courts, and the several technical services providers to be procured under the scope of the project.

BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE AND FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

As the SSEP is a planning initiative for administration, Best Available Science (BAS) is not directly applicable. However, the implementation of the SSEP contemplates the procurement of professionals with BAS expertise to provide review of grant requests (via sub-awards) for projects contained within the SEP for which BAS is required.

Management and implementation of the SSEP are feasible and are fully within the purview of the scope of services of the Consortium's Manager. No permits are required for the SSEP. The budget has been based on hours and costs incurred by the Florida Association of Counties for past Consortium procurements and on recent experience by the Manager. The proposed budget reflects the anticipated workload for standing up the Consortium and processing an initial cycle of SEP project implementation grants. The SSEP is a one-time initiative that will provide the structure for the Consortium as implementer for Florida for the duration of the payout of Pot 3 funds.

RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

There are no risks identified with the SSEP itself as a planning project for administration. Uncertainties remain as to whether all conditions and requirements of Treasury and RESTORE Council have been duly identified and for which SSEP tasks, actions, or roles and responsibilities have been defined. Preliminary review of the Draft SSEP by RESTORE Council has flagged no major issues. Uncertainties exist as to the actual costs for implementation (i.e., costs for specific procurements of services) and the time required to put into place all key administrative and financial functions. While the proposed funding should be adequate, implementation may take longer than estimated.

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SUCCESS CRITERIA AND MONITORING

The primary project benefit will be a fully operable administrative and financial structure for the Consortium, capable of meeting all federal requirements and withstanding RESTORE Council scrutiny and audits. Applicable metrics for success include the following:

- Approval by RESTORE Council of the SSEP
- Approval by RESTORE Council of a planning grant to implement the SSEP
- Concluding the "stand-up" process in the timeframe contemplated (8-10 months)
- Efficiently reviewing and transmitting the first cycle of SEP implementation grant applications to the satisfaction of Council
- Streamlining processes between county sub-awardees and the Consortium to expedite invoicing and reimbursements / payments

MILESTONES AND SCHEDULE

The SSEP is anticipated to require approximately eight-to-ten months to implement, from transmittal of the grant request to support implementation until work commences under the first sub-award to a county. In addition, a Gantt chart (**Figure 3**) is provided showing high level milestones for the project, and anticipated start and end dates for each in months from SSEP approval.

Figure 3. Milestones Associated with Implementation of the SSEP

	--- MONTHS FROM SSEP APPROVAL ---										
MILESTONE	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**
Develop, transmit SSEP Planning Assistance Grant Application											
SSEP Implementation Grant Application approval by Council											
Policies, Protocols and Practices developed and adopted											
Services RFPs developed, advertised											
Services agreements executed											
1st County Implementation Grant Applications forwarded to Consortium											
1st County Implementation Grant Applications forwarded to RESTORE Council and RESTORE Council Review/Approval											
1st Sub-awards executed with County											
Work Commences											
1st Project Payment Requests											
1st Project Payments Received											

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Budget/Funding

Table 3 summarizes the categories of projected expenditures for the SSEP, to be paid for with Pot 3 funds. The administrative costs for developing agenda items for Board action or approval of purchases, contracts and project implementation grant transmittal and for executing any sub-awards with counties will be funded by Consortium resources.

Table 3. Budget for the Stand-Up SEP

Cost Category	Estimated *NTE** amount:	Components:
Pre-Award costs	$45,100	Development of SSEP through transmittal to RESTORE Council
Purchase, initialization of software and licensing	$17,500	$10,000 for software license; $2,500 for annual software maintenance fee; approximately $5,000 for implementation & vendor training package
Grant/procurement software labor costs	$47,175	90 hours of training and installation; 27.5 hours of monthly input & upkeep for procurement record processing & accounting activities (255 hours total)
Services Procurement & Related Contract Activities	$76,313	Up to an average of 34 hours ($6,360) per procurement/contracting activity, based on historical hours for Consortium mgmt; estimated 12 procurement activities
Grant Bundling and Administration	$34,950	Up to 25 hours ($5,825) per grant package assembly/ administration/BAS review activity, based on historical hours for Consortium mgmt; 6 grants proposed to be covered during the implementation of the SSEP
Total	**$221,038**	

***Not-to-Exceed*; all expenditures require Board approval of Work Order prior to incurring costs**
Total costs are shown; not all costs may be incurred during the anticipated 10 month time period but have been included in an abundance of caution

Project Cost and Expected Request from Oil Spill Component Funds: $221,038

These funds will allow the Consortium to pay for the contractor costs which will build the administrative infrastructure as well as the necessary grant management software and installation of those systems.

If funding for the project has been requested from other sources, describe any additional resource:

Consortium funding has been used to support the development and administration of the Board agenda items associated with the SSEP. No other funding has been requested for the SSEP.

Partnerships/Collaboration:

The Consortium anticipates further collaboration with Florida's RESTORE coordinators and with the Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GOMURC) to refine administrative and SEP project review procedures to contain costs wherever possible.

Leveraged Resources:

None specified at this time; however, county contributions to the Consortium will complement the SSEP implementation grant with respect to Board-meeting costs through the duration of the SSEP.

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Funds Used as Non-Federal Match:
No specific matching funds are anticipated. Contributions from the member counties of the Gulf Consortium provide funding for the general administrative expenses in preparing the Board and Executive Committee agenda items for consideration of the SSEP, and for time spent with Board members and RESTORE coordinators to refine SSEP content and processes.

Other: None anticipated

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APPENDIX. Summary of Agency and Public Comments

RESTORE Act coordinators were requested to include notices and links to the Draft SSEP on their websites to expand the outreach for public comment. The following entities reported establishing such links:

- Gulf Consortium
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- Bay County
- Collier County
- Escambia County
- Levy County
- Pinellas County
- Santa Rosa County
- Wakulla County

As a result of outreach by the Consortium, the following entities provided comments:

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Bay County
- Collier County
- Escambia County
- Manatee County
- Pasco County
- National Wildlife Foundation
- RESTORE Council
- Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson

In addition to further direction from the Board, public comments were received from the following at the February 8, 2018 meeting of the Gulf Consortium:

- National Wildlife Foundation
- RESTORE Coordinator, Pasco County
- RESTORE Coordinator, Escambia County
- Prior RESTORE Coordinator, Escambia County

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All comments received and responses have been archived and remain available in their entirety on the Gulf Consortium website. In addition technical corrections and editorial suggestions from the DEP and from Council, comments were submitted regarding the following categories of issues:

- Costs to the counties for the SSEP and its anticipated components, including fiscal agent services
- Costs for long-term implementation and management of the SEP and how these are to be allocated to the counties
- What components of Consortium administration (as implemented via the SSEP) are required versus optional
- The administrative capacity of the Consortium to advance the number of SEP projects
- The distinction between procurements and grants to support the Consortium versus those to support individual counties
- The schedule for SEP implementation
- The role of the Consortium Manager and which tasks it is charged to carry out versus what will be contracted
- The procedures for competitively bidding for services for the Consortium
- The Consortium's use of parallel application platforms that could be leveraged through a Consortium-licensed site
- The use of smart contract and performance measurement systems
- How (project funding) leveraging will be handled
- The allowable length of comments

The comments presented to the Board at the SSEP adoption have been incorporated into both this Appendix and the Final SSEP.

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RESPONSES TO COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SSEP

Commenting Party	Comment	Response
DEP	Page 2, Need to update this date	Text Amended
DEP	Page 2, Here is typo: he should be the. Would also suggest noting that Council Guidelines on BAS, section 5.2.2 provides that consideration of BAS will not be required where it would not be meaningful, such as in connection with administrative activities." The project in the SSEP is administrative in nature.	Text Amended
DEP	Page 4, Should this have anything further about why approval was tabled, what happened from Sept to approval of draft, or that there was ultimately a vote to approve the draft etc.?	Text Amended
DEP	Page 6, Why is this in here? Reedy Creek is in Orange and Osceola counties.	Purpose explained in footnote
DEP	Page 6, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Text Amended
DEP	Page 8, Should this be flushed out a little more?	Text Amended
DEP	Page 11, Assume recipient is the Consortium. If suggest using Consortium rather than recipient. Same comment elsewhere in this section where term recipient is used.	Text Amended
DEP	Page 13, What is the significance on being DCAA compliant? Was this suggested by Council staff? May require further elaboration.	Purpose explained in footnote
DEP	Page 15, This should be done by ESA as part of FSEP development	Text Amended
DEP	Page 15, Which federal agencies? Might be a conflict of interest since the same agency might be doing the regulatory review at a later date	Text Amended
DEP	Page 15, What NRDA contracts are you referring to? NRDA is not subject to the same regulations as RESTORE, so there is a high likelihood that those contracts will not work as template. Recommend deleting this paragraph.	Text Amended
DEP	Page 17, need to clarify who his is Suggest rewording to: With the Governor's approval of the SSEP and transmittal to the Council,	Text Amended
DEP	Page 19, Can a further breakdown of cost be provided? Say software purchase and maintenance, contractual services, etc. Suggest looking at PSEP as an example.	Table included

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
DEP	Page 20, We guess this appendix is intended to show or describe the process the GC went through to be able to make the required certifications for the SSEP. Think the narrative on page 6 related to "verifying compliance" could be expanded a little so that this appendix and table are not needed. It adds little value unless you get comments on each subject from the responding parties, which is highly unlikely	Appendix amended
RESTORE Council	p.2, bullet 1: Replace "with" with "within"	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p.2, bullet 3: Replace "Initial Comprehensive Plan" with "2016 Comprehensive Plan."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 2, footnote 2: A "t" is missing from "...he implementation of projects..."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 3, line 1: Suggest adding "identification of" after "requiring"	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 3, third paragraph, the reference to Planning grant approved by the Council in May 2015. The Planning State Expenditure Plan was approved in May 2015 and the award was approved in June of 2016; also, the pre-award costs, which were specifically identified as associated with the anticipated SSEP grant award, have been approved as to their allowability only and are incurred at the Consortium's own risk. We recommend you remove the second part of this sentence or clarify the status of the funds.	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 4; first paragraph: Replace "Initial Comprehensive Plan" with "2016 Comprehensive Plan."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 4, First paragraph Last sentence states that the Board tabled its approval of the Draft SSEP on September 27, 2017. Do you intend to replace this sentence once the Board has approved the SSEP to provide the approval date?	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 13, last paragraph A comma appears to be missing between $17,500 and $10,000.	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 17, under "Implementing Entities" Who is referenced in the statement, "By his approval of the SSEP and transmittal to the Council..."?	Text Amended

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
RESTORE Council	p. 17, under BAS section Consider changing "As a purely administrative initiative" to a "planning initiative."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 17, under Risks and Uncertainties Consider changing "...as an administrative project..." to "... as a planning project..."	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 18, 4th bullet Consider changing "FSEP implementation grants" to "FSEP implementation grant applications", as it will be the applications that are transmitted by the Consortium	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 18, Table 3 Consider changing reference from "Implementation Grant" to "Implementation Grant Application" in 2 places	Text Amended
RESTORE Council	p. 18, Table 3 It seems a bit optimistic to anticipate work commencing the month following the submission of a grant application to the Council. Council review and award preparation processes normally take at least 60 to 90 days	Timeline Modified
RESTORE Council	Per section 5.2.5 of the Council's SEP Guidelines, a primary eligible activity must be identified for each project or program. The draft SSEP contains a discussion of eligibility on page 16, in the section entitled Eligibility and Statutory Requirements. As currently drafted, that section discusses administrative costs as the eligible activity. Although administrative costs are included in eligible activities under the Act, after reviewing the Treasury regulations we believe that planning assistance is the most appropriate primary eligible activity for the SSEP. We recommend that the Eligibility and Statutory Requirements section be revised to replace the language on administrative costs and explicitly indicate that planning assistance is the primary eligible activity for the SSEP, while also including the Treasury regulation definition of "planning assistance."	Text Amended
Bay County	As much as possible, the Consortium should adopt or adapt acceptable standards, policies, processes and data management plans developed by others rather than having to develop these with Consortium resources.	The SSEP proposes to build on county RESTORE coordinators experience.
Bay County	If Leon County agrees to continue to act as the fiscal agent, what is the projected cost? What financial software does Leon County use, and is it suitable for all Consortium financial and grant management needs? Is it also available/necessary for the counties to use?	The cost is expected to be 0.15%. The SSEP proposes no specific software package, but to select that which works best for the Consortium and its

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		reporting to Council. Common platforms will be explored.
Bay County	Is it required that the counties and Consortium hire outside consultants for Best Available Science and that the Consortium review projects for Best Available Science? Will the Council duplicate the Best Available Science review if one is done at the Consortium level? Will this be unnecessary duplication? For the Direct Component, Treasury has hired the Best Available Science expertise. These experts review the grant applications and provide comments to the applicant. Can the Council take this same approach? If the Consortium must handle Best Available Science, is it necessary to hire regional experts for the desk review? I do not believe that Florida needs to be broken into regions for this review.	The SSEP proposes the Consortium contract for BAS expertise and Board direction is to provide technical oversight services of the projects it submits at the regional level. The Consortium has coordinated previously with Council staff on how best to employ BAS reviews and to reduce costs and duplication.
Bay County	I see the SSEP as performing two main functions. One is to integrate all federal grant and RESTORE Act requirements into the financial structure and processes of the Gulf Consortium. The second, related function is to lay out the specifics as to Consortium processes to obtain and manage project funds and the costs related to that effort. The current draft SSEP falls short of this second function. In order to evaluate the draft SSEP, members of the Consortium need to know the processes and costs related to Consortium management of Spill Impact Component projects.	The SSEP proposes the general framework for the Consortium, including grant management and project accounting. Further details will be developed during implementation to ensure compliance with Council requirements. SSEP costs are included in the budget; Consortium management costs are estimated and included in an agenda item.
Bay County	Of major interest to members of the Consortium is exactly what work/tasks will be done by the Consortium infrastructure and how much will it cost. The 23 counties vary widely in their management and staff capabilities. Some will need more help than others.	The SSEP recognizes the varying capacity of the counties and proposes to contract for services that counties may use if they choose.
Bay County	The SSEP should recognize this and should list those tasks that the Consortium must do, those that each county/subrecipient must do, and then list those that could be done by either entity, depending on the capabilities and desires of each county. Counties need approximate costs of the various levels of assistance from the Consortium. Each county could pay the Consortium for the optional services by building those costs into the budget for each project.	The SSEP outlines the core functions that must be carried out at the level of the Consortium. Costs for optional services are estimated in an agenda item.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
Bay County	A sufficient level of detail of the costs to each county and the long-term management costs of the Consortium should be provided before approval of the SSEP. Not all of this information must be in the SSEP, but it is important that the Consortium members have this information prior to approving the SSEP, which is a critical step for the Consortium.	A budget has been included in the SSEP. Longterm costs are reported to the Board in an agenda item.
Bay County	Page 8 includes the following paragraph "Project management, grant managers, and other Consortium member county staff responsible for governance will be required to apply internal control processes created by the SSEP. The processes created by the SSEP are designed to provide reasonable assurance in the reliability of project financial reporting." I believe this should be "staff responsible for governance will be required to apply comply with internal control processes standards created by the SSEP. The processes standards created by the SSEP..." The Consortium should not dictate the internal processes of each county. Rather, it should set standards (derived from statutes and rules) that each county must meet. Counties are required to meet federal grant and RESTORE Act requirements for Direct Component funds. I do not see a need to set up new processes.	The SSEP will explore this issue with Council and the counties during implementation. The SSEP does not contemplate replicating or modifying processes within counties, but ensuring that those processes support Council requirements. To the extent that such processes comply with Treasury standards, the Consortium would explore acceptance by Council.
Bay County	Page 14 under "Grant Management" states: "The goals of grant management activities are to develop and submit the project-specific grants for implementation...". It is likely that most counties will want to develop the grant for their own projects, rather than this being done by Consortium management.	The SSEP anticipates most counties preparing their own grant applications.
Bay County	Page 14 under "Sub-recipient Monitoring" references "Adapting an Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA)". All 23 counties are required to conduct annual OSAs for Treasury as part of the Direct Component requirements. The Consortium should just adopt Treasury's OSA and the counties' existing OSAs should be sufficient for the risk assessment	The Consortium must use Council's OSA, which is more rigorous than Treasury's.
Bay County	Page 14 under "Technical Oversight" states: "In addition to BAS, permitting (federal, state, and local), construction feasibility, and construction engineering inspection are among the tasks requiring technical oversight." Consortium	To comply with Council requirements, the SSEP proposes that the Consortium have these capacities, if only to review the work at the county level.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
	directors should discuss how much they want to develop these capabilities at the Consortium management level, and whether this should be handled at the county project level.	
Bay County	An issue that may be beyond the scope of the SSEP but that is critical to the success of the Consortium is the continued assistance to identify and obtain matching funds for projects. This needs to be an ongoing effort, because matching funds often cannot be secured far in advance of a project's initiation.	Leveraging is beyond the scope of the SSEP itself, but the Consortium anticipates coordination with counties and updates of leveraging resources as appropriate.
Bay County	Use of GrantSolutions.gov as the RESTORE Council grant application software would make sense. This is the software Treasury is utilizing for the Direct Component grant application and management, and many of the Florida counties have learned this system. While this issue is not a part of the SSEP, this consideration should be discussed with the Council.	The SSEP proposes to explore other platforms, with Board direction
Collier County	At the November 15, 2017 Consortium meeting the Board approved a budget of for the Standup SEP of $221,038. How does that relate to the tasks that you summarized in Table 1 on page 11 of your report?	The budget of the SSEP is associated with the tasks outlined in the November Board Meeting Agenda Item 6; the tasks in the SSEP itself describe the administrative functions are that need to be established within the Consortium.
Collier County	In table 1, page 11, what is the difference of Manager and Permanent Manager?	Text amended
Collier County	What is the projected costs in total and per county for execution of the State Expenditure Plan? In my mind, that should include the $221,038 and the tasks not covered (estimated) to date in table 11. I want to be able to share with our commission an accurate picture of what the administrative costs should be for the Consortium to manage the program and have a realistic projection of the balance of the funds we will be receiving	The projected costs for the Stand-Up SEP will not exceed $9,610 per each county - a one-time cost for establishing the required administrative capacities of the Consortium as the implementing entity. The costs of implementing the SEP itself will depend on the number of projects, the types of projects and the time required to carry out the projects.
Collier County	What is the projected cost of each item in table 1?	Budget included in Final SSEP
Collier County	How will the leveraging be handled? Who and How will that be decided and when will that be presented to the Board? Will that be decided when the SEP is submitted to the State and Restore Council.	Leveraging is beyond the scope of the SSEP The counties have been provided leveraging information through the SEP and to the extent feasible would have

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		primary responsibility for identifying and securing sources and timing of non-Pot 3 funding.
Escambia	What is the SSEP cost to Escambia County?	$9,610 per county as a one-time cost for the required COSO architecture of the Consortium
Escambia	What is the cost of the fiscal agent (Leon County)?	The proposed fee is fifteen basis points (i.e., 0.15%).
Escambia	What is the long-term management cost for Consortium? What is the long-term management cost to Escambia County (each county)?	Long-term costs are variable and consist of Board and project components. The former has been $8,000 per annum for the larger counties and $2,000 for those with smaller populations. Project-specific costs may be negligible or more significant but are not expected to exceed about 3%.
Escambia	The SSEP lists four primary elements for the Consortium administrative structure: 1) Grant Management 2) Procurement 3) Accounting and Finance 4) Technical Oversight. There is concern that all four of these elements will be imposed on the counties and result in unknown costs.	The elements are required for Consortium compliance with COSO. The Consortium must have practices that meet internal control, fraud deterrence and conflict of interest rules; must provide technical oversight for all of its sub-awards; and must be able to provide contractual documentation, contract review, and technical review of all work paid by Pot 3 monies.
Manatee County	I request that the Gulf Consortium pursue alternative competitive bids for implementation of the State Expenditure Plan for the following reasons: • The current single source has not defined its qualifications for exclusive no-bid procurement • The proposed long-term contract is not clear on expenses directly impacting county project budgets • Balmoral's response regarding its capacity to efficiently process the number of projects scheduled for year one implementation indicates a significant gap, potentially adversely affecting further SEP sequencing • Other RESTORE funding systems have parallel application platforms already containing data on Florida's eligible counties which could be leveraged through a Consortium-licensed site	There is no non-competitively bid single source contract operating with the Consortium. The expense of Manager contract is spelled out in its terms as not-to-exceed, using SEP Planning Grant and county contributions to the Consortium. The Manager contract does not otherwise impact county budgets. There is no gap in capacity; there is a division between those grants to be administered under the SSEP and those moving forward. Other platforms will be explored during SSEP implementation that meet Council requirements.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
	• Other large scale smart contract and performance measurement systems with proven track records currently exist	
Pasco County	The estimated standup for staffing was based on only an anticipated 6 grants being applied for per year for the first 3 years. That number is likely overly conservative. Execution of potentially 36 different grant agreements utilizing the proposed staffing is unrealistic. Add in the anticipated 72 anticipated contracts and the workload exceeds the capability proposed. This would eventually impact the timelines for all grants.	The 6 grants are associated with the SSEP, not the first 3 years of SEP implementation. The SSEP includes funding for one additional staff person. The SSEP does not present a delay for the timelines for grants.
Pasco County	Utilizing a program that is similar to Grantsolutions.org via the GCC would be far more effective, and would put the onus on the counties to execute, thus eliminating a lot of the overhead created by using BMG as the grant administration process. Communication with Treasury to investigate this potential is encouraged. BMG could then act in a monitor role, with access to the grantsolutions.org website, and utilize the OSA already done by the county. This would save funds for projects vice using for administrative requirements	Other platforms will be explored during SSEP implementation that meet Council requirements.
Pasco County	It is imperative that seasoned grant professionals with strong experience in executing federal grants be utilized to administer this program for the GCC. Single sourcing this process is not the most effective way to find that administrative experience. I did not note that BMG had extensive grant execution experience outlined in the SSEP. Additionally, the cost of executing the grants (9 for Pasco County alone) is not laid out clearly in the proposal. This should be clear, along with the expected expenses required by the grant to execute the SEP. Agreeing with this SSEP is de facto agreeing to an Interlocal Agreement written by Balmoral Group	The cost of transmitting individual grants is estimated in the SSEP budget. No interlocal agreement is proposed outside of the SEP project Sub-awards between the Consortium and the counties.
Pasco County	In the SEP, it indicates that counties will adopt policies and procedures that support the grants, but does not say what those are. Additionally, procurement via BMG administration takes away from county policies, procedures and most importantly local businesses efforts to get involved in the process.	The SSEP does not direct county policy but proposes uniform financial standards as relate to Pot 3 funding. The SSEP proposes the use of regional contractors to support Consortium oversight of county sub-awards and does not impact county use of local contractors.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
National Wildlife Federation	Clarification is needed regarding costs (both short-term and long-term) of administering the FSEP and implementing each project contained within. It is important for the costs associated with the SSEP (and implementing the FSEP -- including accessing and managing restoration funds) to be reasonable and predictable in order to maximize RESTORE Act Spill Impact Component funds going towards restoration projects rather than administration.	The short and long-term costs of the SSEP are addressed in the supporting agenda item. The proposed administrative architecture of the Consortium is intended to minimize overhead, avoid duplication and maximize funding for the projects.
National Wildlife Federation	Numerous other areas of the Draft SSEP require additional clarification to improve transparency. One such area of uncertainty concerns the Grant Management and Procurement Activity Level of volume and schedule over the next three years. The Draft SEP includes a schedule for Project Sequencing which indicates 39 projects would be implemented in Year 1. However, the Draft SSEP would only cover 2 – 12 grant applications and 4 – 24 procurements. The SSEP appears to grossly underestimate the number of grants to be submitted to the Council. Please explain how the Manager will determine which projects get submitted and which are postponed. Please also clarify whether the advertised cost for the SSEP ($221,038) reflects the low, mid, or high number of grants and procurements.	The SSEP budget reflects the expected (Mid) number of procurements. The SSEP contemplates supporting all grants to be submitted to Council. The SSEP scope of tasks included the successful transmittal of several project grant applications as project milestone, and not as a ceiling on Consortium capacity or administration.
National Wildlife Federation	NWF also requests clarification on Segregation of Duties. The Draft SSEP indicates that authorities and roles will be carefully assigned to create a robust duty segregation hierarchy, to maintain effective internal controls, and to create internal checks and balances among the entities performing contract administration and financial duties. However, Table 1 of the Draft SSEP indicates the Manager (currently the consulting firm The Balmoral Group) will have responsibility for the majority of the Functional Roles. Figure 2 likewise indicates all grant administration (science review, procurement, grant support) and finance administration are directly controlled by the Consortium Manager, a contracted consultant. Nowhere are the Counties themselves listed as being responsible for their projects. To improve transparency, consider assigning fewer responsibilities primarily to the Manager and improve segregation of duties.	Segregation of duties refers to controls internal to the Consortium and does not relate to any roles carried out by the counties under sub-awards. The SSEP identifies the roles at the Consortium level deemed necessary by Council for the Consortium to carry out implementation of the SEP. The capacities of the counties has no direct bearing on Council's assessment of the Consortium as it (or the State) is the eligible entity, and not the counties. The various functional roles need to be effected by either the Consortium manager internal or via contracted support (e.g., the proposed role of Leon County as a fiscal agent). Regardless of who carries out such services, the Consortium manager must coordinate

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		their activity. The Consortium has opted to not hire staff and so its management is via a contractor.
National Wildlife Federation	Additional clarity is also needed for Budget/Funding. The Project Cost reflects only a total cost ($221,038), and does not include detailed budget information. To improve transparency, a final detailed budget (such as presented at the November 15, 2017 Consortium meeting), with clear timeframes should be included in the Final SSEP. The Final SSEP should also clarify that this is a "not-to-exceed" cost. Please also clarify the difference between the terms "Permanent Manager" and "Manager", or correct erroneous language	The SSEP includes a detailed budget for categories of expense, and includes a timeline of activities. The budget has always included a not-to-exceed provision as all expenses are subject to Board approval. The Permanent Manager label has been corrected for the SSEP; the title of Permanent Manager is associated with the Consortium's RFQ and contract for management services.
National Wildlife Federation	Please specifically identify which tasks must be performed by the Manager for all Counties versus which tasks could be performed by Counties that possess necessary expertise. Please also indicate the long-term costs to those Counties (for both the mandatory and optional Manager-performed tasks).	The SSEP does not address the capacities of the counties except recognizing that the Consortium may choose to assist counties when requested and with Board approval. All tasks must be able to carried out by the Consortium, whether internally under existing contracts or via contracts for additional services. The tasks addressed by the SSEP are not optional. Administrative costs have been estimated to be about 3% but will be unique to the demands of each project.
National Wildlife Federation	The Draft SSEP describes a cumbersome and likely costly process that will entail contracting with numerous professionals. NWF encourages the Manager to work more closely with the Counties and state agencies before procuring a large number of additional contractors and consultants. During Consortium meetings, the Manager has indicated they are considering working with GOMA (Gulf of Mexico Alliance) and/or GOMURC (Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative) to minimize costs. This information is not reflected in the Draft SSEP. If these entities have committed to serving in this role, please include it (with estimates of cost) in the final SSEP.	The SSEP proposes the most cost-effective means of ensuring that the Consortium has the required capacity to implement the SEP. The SSEP does not include the scope or costs for specific technical services other than that of fiscal agent, for which there is a standing relationship. The SSEP is a framework for administration; costs for administrative services to support the Consortium under this framework are estimated in the supporting agenda item. Costs for any specific contracted service are not addressed by the SSEP and will be project-specific.

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
Jessica Bibza	Commissioner Whitmore raised a question regarding the discrepancy between the number of projects in the SEP that should proceed in year 1 given Model B (n=39) vs. the number of grants and procurement/contracts listed in Table 2 under 3 different activity level scenarios	Table 2 does not determine the number of grants that may occur in Year 1, but those to be carried out under the umbrella of the SSEP implementation grant.
Jessica Bibza	My impression was that those grants and procurement in Table 2 were related to the projects in the SEP. The Manager stated that those grants and procurements in the Stand-up SEP were "just for the SSEP" and intended to set up the infrastructure with the Council (and NOT for the projects in the SEP). This is not well explained or clear from information contained in the Draft SSEP, especially since the paragraph describing that Table 2 (bottom of page 12) refers to SEP projects. If the grant applications and procurement/contracts in Table 2 are NOT related to SEP projects, please clearly and specifically articulate what they are for. Please list SPECIFICALLY what the Manager envisions there grants will cover	The procurements are specifically to support the Consortium's own activities; the "procurements/grants" are intended to provide the Consortium the necessary administrative capacity to support SEP implementation going forward.
Jessica Bibza	Please explain why are so many grants and procurements over a 3-year period needed to set up the infrastructure to implement the FSEP. If it's going to take 3 years to "set up the infrastructure" (since SSEP proposes a 3-year timeline), please address whether the FSEP projects will need to wait that length of time (3 years) to be submitted (to allow the infrastructure to be established).	The SSEP includes anticipates a 10-month window before the first project reimbursement(s) are processed and received, of which 7-8 months are expected to carry out the core tasks for standing up the required risk management processes of the Consortium. Council recommended the SSEP remain open for up to 3 years of activity in the event that SEP approval were unexpectedly delayed, or additional administrative services were identified, to avoid needing to submit another grant request.
Jessica Bibza	If it is costing $221K to SUBMIT the grants and the procurements, please explain how much it will cost for the actual work to be PERFORMED in those grants and procurements, who will be paying for it, and out of what source of funds (i.e, planning grant, county contributions, Pot 3 funds).	The SSEP is to be funded by Pot 3 funds via a planning assistance grant to be submitted to Council. The budgeted cost of SSEP work (including preparing the SSEP implementation grant) is $221,038 less the $34,950 (project-specific grants), or $176,088.
Jessica Bibza	I had expressed concern over the 2500 Character Limit for the comments via the on-line form. Imposing such a limit may greatly restrict ability of the public	The character limit was a practical consideration as comments are stored in a spreadsheet. There is no limit

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
	to provide meaningful input. My comments above – addressing just ONE issue/concern with the SSEP – used 2223 characters. Although Craig has communicated to me that I could submit longer comments via email, the other Directors, their staff, and members of the public should be afforded that same opportunity instead of being given the impression they are restricted in the length of their comments. Please update the Consortium Comment page immediately to reflect alternate means of submitting comments.	on the number of comments one can submit, and categories for. The public comment website includes a statement that longer comments can be emailed or mailed to the Consortium.
Jessica Bibza / NWF (at Board meeting)	The Final SSEP has been improved with inclusion of sub-recipient monitoring, data management plans for consistency, and a reduction of the manager role in BAS with greater reliance on the counties; however, the level of technical oversight remains too high. A recommendation is made to add the adoption of grant management policies and practices as milestones in Table 3, and the scope of Table 2 needs further consideration by the coordinators.	The level of technical oversight is based on input from RESTORE Council and the need of the Consortium to be responsible for all grant awards and sub-awards. The level of oversight is described further under "activities to be completed in this Stand-Up project." The adoption of policies and procedures (including grant management) is a milestone in Figure 3; Table 2 has been updated, and all tasks under Tables 2 and 3 are subject to Board approval
Shelly Marshall (at Board meeting)	Recommended a line item or task to include the RESTORE coordinators in the development of all processes. A concern is the ability to match county procedures and practices with that of the Consortium to reduce the need for special award conditions that thereby reduce time needed for agreement execution. Recommended hiring staff after two years to be placed within Leon County (but answer to the Board); Escambia has created such an arrangement for its Estuary program.	The SSEP focuses on internal coordination; coordination with County staff is identified in several areas of grant management and project implementation. The accompanying agenda item recognizes the ongoing need to coordinate closely with county staff to streamline processes (e.g., Success Criteria). The Board adopted a policy not to hire staff but to use contract services.
Matt Posner (at Board meeting)	More control of implementation should be provided to the counties; standard operating procedures are needed; Best Available Science review should remain at the Council level and while Consortium oversight is needed, reviews should not be redundant and should be avoided if Council approves; clarification is needed regarding "fixed" versus "optional" costs; if acceptable to Council, counties should be able to work directly with Council	The SSEP proposes that the level of oversight will depend on the scope of each project and the capacity of each county. The SSEP does not consider "optional" costs except for those counties requesting specific services to advance their projects; all other grant management and technical

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Commenting Party	Comment	Response
		oversight costs are fixed in that they are required, but may vary in hours (and costs) to carry out. It is the Consortium's understanding that sub-recipients may not work directly with Council, as sub-awardees do not work directly with Treasury under Pot 1. The Manager proposes to examine all possibilities for coordination among all parties to each grant. A footnote was added under "Technical Oversight" to clarify this intent.
Curtis Franklin (at Board meeting)	Pot 1 represented "extreme learning" for the coordinators. Guidelines were few but procedures have since been improved and work smoothly. It would be preferable for the Consortium to capitalize on these processes and avoid the prior pitfalls.	The agenda item for the SSEP clarifies that the Consortium proposes to work closely with county RESTORE Act coordinators to streamline processes and build upon prior experience. Text under "Funds Used as Non-Federal Match" affirms this intent.
Board of Directors (at Board meeting)	Include a commitment to place as much responsibility on the counties as possible to reduce administrative overhead.	"cost-effective" added to "administrative and fiscal management" under purpose of the SSEP

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00176700-00036

Message

From: Lacey, Pam [PLacey@aga.org]
Sent: 12/22/2017 9:28:20 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Automatic reply: Oil and Natural Gas Roundtable Invitation

I am out of the office Ex. 6 and AGA offices are closed for a holiday Dec. 25-Jan. 1. I will respond when I return to the office Ex. 6

If you need immediate assistance, please send a text to my mobile number.

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 7/23/2018 5:14:28 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; Alice Perry [aperry@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andrew Muench [andrew.muench@treasury.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Brandon Elsner [brandon.elsner@noaa.gov]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brie Bernik [brie.bernik@restorethegulf.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debbie Devore [debbie_devore@fws.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Denise Stafford [denise.stafford@la.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Dinane Foster [Dinane.foster@ms.usda.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Burks, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92c256c3b1b84d1eaffd0183d9992c73-Burks, Felicia]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard [grikard@mdeq.ms.gov]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim smith [ksmith@mdeq.ms.gov]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Cheatham-Strickland, Latonia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0153e074b9640f1b6aa32cfda4f4bf9-Strickland,]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Matt Mumfrey [matt.mumfrey@la.gov]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill, Thomas]; Megan Terrell

[megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Gange [Melanie.Gange@noaa.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan Crutcher [Morgan.Crutcher@la.gov]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Noah Valenstein [Noah.Valenstein@floridadep.gov]; Paige Johnson [paige@tmhcpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Rachel Horne [Rachel.horne@dep.state.fl.us]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3436a14731814d25818e4d30664fb976-Steve.Giordano@noaa.gov]; Steve Sigler [Steve.Sigler@restorethegulf.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.texas.gov]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Vida Carver [Vida.Carver@la.gov]

Subject: Steering Committee Meetings Update

Attachments: SC Members Collaboration Updates_Template.pdf

Steering Committee Members, the July 25th, 2018 teleconference is canceled. We look forward to seeing everyone in Gulfport, MS next week for our face to face meetings on July 31st - August 1st.

To ensure a productive meeting, please note the following:

-
- We look forward to hearing from each member on collaboration progress as reported through use of the templates (attached to this email for your convenience). The member report outs are important to the collaboration effort, and are the sole focus of our first meeting day. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Cowan (jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov).
-
-
- As previously discussed, the PE workgroup has a critical role in our collective efforts to meet FPL 3 (2020) milestones. Please ensure your PE workgroup member is not only attending the Steering Committee meetings, but also the follow up PE WG meeting scheduled post Steering Committee meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Keala Hughes (keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov).

The finalized agenda and presentations for the meeting in Gulfport will be provided in a separate email no later than COB Wednesday July 25.

Thank you

Thank you,

Council Staff
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
staff@restorethegulf.gov
500 Poydras Street
Suite 1117
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.restorethegulf.gov

Steering Committee Members Collaboration Updates Template

Please be prepared to provide brief summary information, to the extent that it is currently available, on the following topics at Steering Committee face-to-face meetings, starting with the July meeting. Any visual aids are encouraged (slides and/or handouts). Each member will have a maximum of 30 minutes for each report-out.

- Year 1 activities (those included in your Year 1 Work Plan); information may include:
  - Planned meetings and/or workshops
  - Completed meetings and/or workshops, including:
    - Participants
    - Outcomes
    - Next steps
  - Funding partners and/or stakeholders collaboration/engagements
  - Member to Member collaboration:
    - Cross-member collaborations (state-fed; state-state; fed-fed)
    - If you are a state member: federal technical assistance you are seeking
    - If you are a federal member: technical assistance you are offering or would like to receive from states

- Maintaining a long-view on Gulf restoration
  - Just as there needs to be a cohesive story within any one FPL, we need to consider the consistent thread between FPL 3 and subsequent FPLs
    - What thoughts do you have at this time regarding long-term "success" and how would you be able to articulate that success? This could be success for a watershed or restoration type, or for Bucket 2 funding writ large.
    - How could success be demonstrated qualitatively and/or quantitatively?
    - What may be your "so what" message 5, 10 15 years from now?

  - Path to FPL 3 Priorities; some topics may include:
    - <u>What/where:</u>
      - Existing regional plans and/or plans under development that you will be drawing upon in the development of FPL 3 proposals
      - Known watershed and/or restoration type priorities that you may be focusing your collaboration efforts on
    - <u>Why:</u>
      - Goals and objectives of any watershed and/or restoration type that you may be seeking to support with FPL funds
      - 1 or 2 potential long-term outcomes and indicators of success that you foresee from your efforts
    - Any "Gulfwide" ideas that you may propose

Message

From: Council Staff [staff@restorethegulf.gov]
Sent: 1/17/2018 9:31:35 PM
To: trina vielhauer [Trina.Vielhauer@dep.state.fl.us]; alice_perry@deq.state.ms.us [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1eae3fec7def433ca4905991754ea8b5-alice_perry@deq.state.ms.us]; Ames, Leslie A [Leslie.A.Ames@dep.state.fl.us]; andrea.berlowe@usdoj.gov [Andrea.Berlowe@usdoj.gov]; Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d1f33faaf814e98bd7aba30aab08a40-Andree.DuVarney@wdc.usda.gov]; Barbara Ambrose - NOAA Affiliate [barbara.ambrose@noaa.gov]; Ben Scaggs [ben.scaggs@restorethegulf.gov]; Bethany Kraft [Bethany.Kraft@volkert.com]; O'Hara, Beverly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=404ac265b8ed4788bebbbff3a5c2b145-Ohara, Beve]; Bjorn Johnson [bjorn.johnson@restorethegulf.gov]; Bob Gist (bgist@cce.ms) [bgist@cce.ms]; Bowie, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b01e3cbbc9684df8acb303ed47997f86-JBowie]; Bradley Ennis [bennis@balch.com]; Bridget Zachary [bridget.zachary@restorethegulf.gov]; Brown, Amie - NRCS, Washington, DC [amie.brown@wdc.usda.gov]; Buck Sutter [buck.sutter@restorethegulf.gov]; Cale, Tabitha M. EOP/CEQ [Tabitha_M_Cale@ceq.eop.gov]; Camille Covington [camille@ccellc.us]; Campbell, Ann [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b8c25a0c2fb648b6a947694a8492311e-Campbell, Ann]; Carrie Selberg - NOAA Federal [carrie.selberg@noaa.gov]; Chang, Patrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45068ffdd29e4ae699263be4219d70a0-Chang, Patrick]; Charles Sutcliffe [Charles.Sutcliffe@la.gov]; Chip Kline [Chip.Kline@la.gov]; Chris Barnes [Chris.Barnes@la.gov]; Chris Blankenship [Chris.Blankenship@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Chris Wells [cwells@mdeq.ms.gov]; Christopher Hershey [Christopher.L.Hershey@uscg.mil]; Clare Cragan [clare.cragan@sol.doi.gov]; Conzelmann, Craig [conzelmannc@usgs.gov]; Debora Mcclain [debora_mcclain@fws.gov]; Dennise Braeutigam [dennise.braeutigam@tceq.texas.gov]; Derby, Jennifer [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e1ec2e99ae5a464e8bffecc778954d82-Derby, Jennifer]; Diane Mazuca [diane.mazuca@tceq.texas.gov]; Drew Bartlett [Drew.Bartlett@dep.state.fl.us]; Enger Kinchen [Enger.Kinchen@la.gov]; Fischer, Michelle [fischerm@usgs.gov]; Galon - NRCS Washington, DC Hall [galon.hall@wdc.usda.gov]; Gareth Leonard [Gareth.Leonard@myfwc.com]; Gary Fremerman [gary.fremerman@ogc.usda.gov]; Gary Rikard (gary_rikard@deq.state.ms.us) [gary_rikard@deq.state.ms.us]; Gib.A.Owen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=315ad43a7c4746c6aeedd54bef490cab-Gib.A.Owen]; Greg Steyer [steyerg@usgs.gov]; Hank Burch [hank.burch@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Heather Young [heather.young@restorethegulf.gov]; Helen Chabot - NOAA Federal [Helen.Chabot@noaa.gov]; Herschel Vinyard [vinyardgulf@foley.com]; Homer Wilkes [homer.wilkes@ms.usda.gov]; James Chapman [james_chapman@fws.gov]; Jamie Lipsey [jamie.lipsey@restorethegulf.gov]; janet.vail@treasury.gov; Janice Lansing [janice.lansing@la.gov]; Jean Cowan [jean.cowan@restorethegulf.gov]; Jeremy Roseboom [jeremy.roseboom@restorethegulf.gov]; Jessica Henkel [jessica.henkel@restorethegulf.gov]; Jill S. Bailey [jbailey@mdeq.ms.gov]; Jiron, Dan - OSEC, Washington, DC [Dan.Jiron@osec.usda.gov]; John Ettinger [john.ettinger@restorethegulf.gov]; Johnny Bradberry [Johnny.Bradberry@la.gov]; Joshua Easton [Joshua.easton@restorethegulf.gov]; Karen.wardzinski@usdoj.gov; Keala Hughes [keala.hughes@restorethegulf.gov]; Kelly Swindle [kelly.swindle@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Kevin Reynolds [kevin_reynolds@fws.gov]; kim_smith [Kim_Smith@deq.state.ms.us]; Kristin Smith - Federal [kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov]; Laurie McGilvray (laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov) [laurie.mcgilvray@treasury.gov]; Leonard Jordan [leonard.jordan@wdc.usda.gov]; Lockwood, Amanda - OSEC [Amanda.Lockwood@osec.usda.gov]; Loren Minutoli [loren.minutoli@myfwc.com]; Magruder, DeMara [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdf8f214e77747c4acb044da64a06582-Magruder, D]; Mark Bisgeier [mark.bisgeier@restorethegulf.gov]; Mark Defley [mark.defley@ms.usda.gov]; Mary Josie Blanchard [maryjosie_blanchard@ios.doi.gov]; Mary Pleffner - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov) [Mary.Pleffner@restorethegulf.gov]; Mary Smith [mary.smith@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Walker, Mary [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Walker, Mary S.]; Mcgill, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=658c6d5fd504462594aecdb5eca57661-Mcgill,

Thomas]; Megan Terrell [megan.terrell2@la.gov]; Melanie Green [mgreen@mdeq.ms.gov]; Michael Ellis [Michael.Ellis@la.gov]; Michelle B Meyers [mmeyers@usgs.gov]; Miller, Clay [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4de9218d19f543219815da51f7685c31-CMille03]; Morgan, Eliska [Eliska.Morgan@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Nanciann Regalado [nanciann_regalado@fws.gov]; Nancy Magee [nancy.magee@ms.usda.gov]; Paige Johnson (paige@nicholsoncpas.com) [paige@nicholsoncpas.com]; patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ab96204e735c4780bcd0623fae9580b3-patti.powell@dcnr.alabama.gov]; Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal [paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov]; Phil Coram [phil.coram@dep.state.fl.us]; Pritzlaff, Craig (Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov) [Craig.Pritzlaff@texasattorneygeneral.gov]; Ragu-Jara.Gregg@usdoj.gov; Richard Seiler [richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov]; Robbie Kroger (rkroger@cce.ms) [rkroger@cce.ms]; Robertson, Lisa [Lisa.Robertson@dep.state.fl.us]; Ron Howard [ron.howard@ms.usda.gov]; Sadie Hunt [sadie.hunt@restorethegulf.gov]; Stephen Tatum [stephen.tatum@tceq.texas.gov]; Susan Rees [susan.i.rees@usace.army.mil]; Tabatha Baum [tbaum@mdeq.ms.gov]; Ted Kowalsky [ted.kowalsky@treasury.gov]; Tishia Boldene [tishia.boldene@restorethegulf.gov]; Toby Baker [Toby.Baker@tceq.state.tx.us]; Vanessa uko [vanessa.uko@restorethegulf.gov]; Will Spoon (William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov) [William.Spoon@restorethegulf.gov]

Subject: January 24, 2018, Council Vote and Steering Committee Call Agenda

Attachments: Council_Vote_and_Steering_Committee_Agenda_2018_Jan_24.docx.pdf; 2017_CPS_FPL_Final.pdf; CPS NOFA Draft 2018-1-17.pdf; Robinson_Preserve_FPL_Appendix_Amended_Final_Pending_Vote_Dec_17.pdf; Council_Record_of_Decision_Robinson_Preserve_Final_Unsigned.pdf; RESTORE Steering Committee Contacts, WDS updated 20180110.pdf

Council Members:

EPA is officially the new Chair of the Council. The Council can now vote on two items: the Commitment and Planning Support Funded Priorities List (CPS FPL) and the FPL Amendment for Robinson Preserve. Accordingly, the January 24, 2018, call will include a Council meeting to vote on these two items. Please ensure that your Council member or member voting designee is on the call to allow the vote to take place. (For the federal members, only the Chair or his voting designee need be present for a vote to take place.) Prior to conducting these two votes, we will have a Steering Committee discussion of other agenda items. Attached is the agenda for the January 24 call, along with the related attachments:

1.
2. Final CPS FPL
3.
4.
5. Draft CPS Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) (see below)
6.
7.
8. Robinson Preserve Revised FPL Appendix (provided to members in 10/2017)
9.
10.
11. Robinson Preserve Record of Decision (unsigned) (provided to members in 10/2017)
12.
13.
14. Draft member contacts list

In the interest of moving forward efficiently, staff has prepared the attached draft NOFA in connection with the CPS FPL. If the CPS FPL is approved by the Council during the January 24 call, then staff will post the final NOFA on the Council website and publish a notice of the NOFA in the *Federal Register*. As of today this draft NOFA is provided for your information only. Please note that the proposed CPS grant/IAA application period will end April 30, 2018.

We look forward to speaking with you next week. Thanks in advance for your participation in the call.

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2017 Funded Priorities List:
Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's (Council) 2016 Comprehensive Plan commits to enhancing collaboration, coordination, public engagement and the use of best available science to support a holistic approach to Gulf of Mexico restoration. This approach reflects the interconnected nature of coastal and marine ecosystems and the importance of addressing system-wide stressors to improve ecosystem function. To that end, the Comprehensive Plan sets forth a vision to guide the Council's future actions:

A healthy and productive Gulf ecosystem achieved through collaboration on strategic restoration projects and programs.

The Council will provide limited funding over five years to its members to support the aforementioned Comprehensive Plan commitments and identify the future investments that maximize achievement of Gulf-wide restoration goals. The Council will review the effectiveness of this funding at year four and consider whether extending planning and commitment support efforts beyond the five-year period is needed to continue to meet the Comprehensive Plan commitments.

The Council refers to this Funded Priorities List (FPL) as Comprehensive Plan Commitment and Planning Support (CPS). Pursuant to the RESTORE Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(2)(D)(ii)(V)(bb)), in order to disburse Council-Selected Restoration Component funding to Council members, such funding must first be approved through an FPL. Therefore, the CPS funding has been approved via this 2017 FPL. This FPL development process enabled the Council to solicit critical input from key stakeholders and the general public prior to making final decisions regarding CPS funding.

Background and Rationale

The fines and penalties arising from the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill represent a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for large-scale restoration in the Gulf of Mexico. Restoration funding in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill is administered through a variety of programs, each governed by different laws and/or procedures. These programs include the five Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) (33 U.S.C. 1321(t) and *note*) components, *Deepwater Horizon* Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA), the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF) and other funding sources.

A major challenge to Gulf-wide ecosystem restoration is coordinating efforts within each state, among Council members, among stakeholders within the Gulf region, and across funding streams. Adding to the challenge is the fact that, prior to this FPL, no designated funding stream existed to

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support Council Member efforts to plan and coordinate restoration activities under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Historically, Council members have had to rely upon general, tax-generated or appropriated funds to support their involvement in Council-Selected Restoration Component, including FPL development and the Comprehensive Plan update. The funds approved in this FPL will provide Council members with funding from the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill settlement. By supporting collaboration and leveraging among these programs, the Council will be able to produce the greatest on-the-ground restoration results possible.

To effectively and efficiently address the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan, the Council will provide funds necessary for members to:

- Strengthen ecosystem restoration proposals for future FPL(s) under the Council-Selected Restoration component of the RESTORE Act.
    - These funds will allow for the collaborative development of large-scale project and/or program submissions for potential funding through future FPL(s) to advance watershed/estuary-based efforts that were initiated in the Council's Initial FPL.
- Enhance the efficiency of future FPL development processes.
    - Investing in these CPS activities will provide for more thorough development of information on future FPL project/program proposals through the collaborative process.
    - Included in this information could be any necessary pre-submission consultations on best available science and environmental compliance.
    - Collectively, this information may result in potentially faster evaluation and funding of future FPLs.
- Facilitate long-term planning and leveraging efforts across funding streams.
    - Because funds from the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill will come in annual installments over the next 15 years, investing in collaborative planning will help the Council develop a 10-year funding strategy based upon the anticipated BP payment schedule.
    - This strategy will include identifying opportunities to leverage across funding streams, as opposed to spending each annual payment on relatively small and possibly disconnected projects.

The Council believes that investing a relatively small amount of time and resources in planning can ensure that restoration projects selected for funding will yield greater ecosystem benefits in the future.

Ensuring Fiscal Responsibility

The Council will incentivize cost savings and efficiency in the CPS effort. Accordingly, if a member does not utilize its full allocation of CPS funding then, subject to Council approval in accordance with the RESTORE Act and all other applicable laws, the Council will take such savings into account when considering that member's proposals for future restoration funding opportunities. In other words, savings in the CPS funds could be used to support specific restoration projects and programs sponsored by the Council member that achieves the savings. However, savings in planning funds will not be a criterion in the selection of future projects and programs.

Commitment and Planning Support Activities

The CPS funding will provide the necessary resources for Council members to stimulate and encourage the coordination and collaboration necessary to achieve the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan. By working closely within the Council, and among our restoration partners and the public, the Council believes it can make significant progress towards comprehensive Gulf restoration and provide substantial environmental and economic benefits to current and future generations. For example, the Council anticipates that the CPS funds will be used to collaborate with the *Deepwater Horizon* NRDA Trustees, NFWF's GEBF and/or other relevant funding programs. Specifically, the CPS funds may cover individual Council Members' costs associated with:

- Evaluating the efficacy of using multiple funding streams to fund a single large-scale restoration and/or conservation project/program beyond what could be achieved through a single funding source.
- Developing project and program concepts that may be pursued for funding in future FPL(s), thereby potentially accelerating implementation of those selected for funding. Note that CPS funds may not be used to advance specific projects and programs beyond what is needed for submission for possible FPL approval.
- Harmonizing projects and programs within a defined geographic area, including a watershed/estuary system, that are temporally and spatially aligned with ecosystem function.

Activities supported by the CPS funding will include the planning, coordination, collaboration, and pre-submission environmental compliance review[1] that will enable Council members to more effectively:

- Meet the requirements of the RESTORE Act Council-Selected Restoration Component;

[1] CPS funds do not cover preparation of environmental compliance documentation (e.g., NEPA documentation) or permit application costs. Such activities are only funded after the given project or program is approved in an FPL, and after a separate grant or Interagency Agreement is awarded.

- Meet the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan Update (see Appendix 1); and
- Address associated planning needs for developing future FPLs.

Allowable Activities

Specifically, categories of activities allowed under this CPS FPL include:

- Planning and collaboration to develop submissions and/or conceptual, pre-submission options for the next FPL. Planning activities must be reasonable and directly related to the Council-Selected Restoration Component FPL development, and could include:
    - Planning and collaboration with other Council members for joint/coordinated proposal submissions;
    - Intra- and inter-state planning with multiple state and/or federal agencies and partners to develop proposals including those requiring multiple partner contributions (e.g., with federal partners to do a project in a state);
    - Intra-member planning to develop proposals including those requiring multiple agency contributions (state and federal);
    - Technical meetings/focus groups (e.g., with other regional efforts such as but not limited to National Estuary Programs; National Estuarine Research Reserve System; National Academies of Sciences, environmentally-focused NGOs, Gulf Research Program; Council Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup; etc.);
    - Public engagement activities for the purposes of developing FPL submissions (e.g., directed stakeholder engagement, public meetings and workshops) to cover expenses such as venues, invited facilitators, speakers, translators, etc.[2];
    - Process-related activities to support development of project/program options (e.g., developing decision support structures at various levels (e.g., projects, programs, watersheds), preparing materials for collaboration activities, reviewing and addressing public comments on future FPLs);
    - Project scoping, pre-submission environmental compliance review/coordination and engagement, and technical assistance for potential future FPL projects (including Council workgroups); and
    - Collaboration and coordination among Council, NRDA, NFWF, as well as entities identified in the RESTORE Act with roles in the Spill Impact Component to support development of restoration priorities and/or development of jointly funded/implemented projects and programs.
- Staffing in support of Council-Selected Restoration Component planning, collaboration, pre-submission environmental compliance coordination, and meeting other commitments from the Comprehensive Plan;

[2] The public may include a wide and diverse array of stakeholders, such as Tribes, federal, state and local governments, private businesses, academic and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the general public.

- Preparation of proposals in accordance with FPL submission guidelines, including entry of proposals into the Council's Restoration Assistance and Award Management System (RAAMS);
- Evaluation activities to determine the impact of the Council's FPL projects/programs and inform adaptive management for future funding decisions. Activities should complement work undertaken through the Council Monitoring and Assessment Program, and could include:
    - Near-term design of an evaluation structure and process,
    - Periodic evaluations of overall Bucket 2 project/program impact at multiple scales, and
    - Development of recommendations for adaptive management.
- Financial support for Council-Selected Restoration Component outreach mechanisms (printing, website maintenance, and other similar activities);
- Travel expenses that are reasonable and directly related to the Council-Selected Restoration Component projects/programs development, including:
    - Steering Committee/Council meetings;
    - Meetings with individual Council member agencies and other potential partners to develop project concepts;
    - Meetings to support project/program planning and collaboration;
    - Participation in Council workgroups and FPL project-specific workgroups and committees;
    - Participation in training, conferences, and workshops to facilitate general collaboration among restoration practitioners and scientists and maximize use of existing expertise; and
    - Site visits to support development of reasonably viable projects/program submissions for potential FPL funding.
- Preparation and execution of Interagency Agreements, grants, and other related items required by the Council prior to implementing the scope of work covered by project-specific interagency activities. These CPS funds will not be able to be used to conduct post-award, project-specific activities. Those costs will be borne by the project itself.
- The allowable uses of CPS funding will not include engineering and design and environmental compliance activities beyond the pre-submission stage (see footnote 1, above).

With these funds, Council members will have the necessary resources to enable stronger support of collaboration activities, including:

- Collaborating on various scales, including:
    - Watershed-scale to sequence projects in alignment with ecosystem function,

including evaluation of applicability of various *Deepwater Horizon* and other funding streams to maximize the effectiveness of conservation efforts;
    - A state-scale and/or landscape-scale geographic area; and
    - Region-wide-scale for restoration planning focused on a specific resource (e.g., oysters, birds) or strategy (e.g., living shorelines).
- Providing opportunities to facilitate the formation of strategic partnerships and collaboration on innovative ecosystem restoration projects, programs, and approaches, including:
    - Public engagement opportunities that reflect the richness and diversity of Gulf Coast communities to ensure ongoing public participation in the Council's restoration efforts;
    - Focused resource and/or geographic-specific discussions with stakeholders and technical experts; and
    - Advancing the ability to achieve, assess, and report on watershed or regional outcomes (i.e., measures, developing indicators to meet Council goals and objectives)

Reporting Elements

Council members utilizing CPS funds under this FPL will provide information on the progress of their respective efforts. The primary focus of reporting is to encourage further collaboration and share best practices/lessons learned, among Council members, the broader restoration community, and the public. To that end, the following reporting elements of the CPS funding awards include:

- Semi-Annual Financial and Expenditure written reports, and annual progress summaries, submitted through the Council's RAAMS in adherence to federal financial assistance requirements (2 CFR part 200). The annual progress summaries should include, as appropriate:
    - Collaboration activities and partners,
    - Stakeholders and public engagement workshops/meetings held,
    - FPL-related Planning,
    - Lessons learned, and
    - Potential project/program concepts, which may include various scales such as:
        - Watershed, estuary or other geographic areas;
        - Specific resources (e.g., oysters) or strategy (e.g., living shorelines); or
        - Council Goal(s) and Objective(s) addressed
- Work with Council Staff to populate and regularly update project/program concepts information in the internal online project/program mapping tool. The purpose is to facilitate pre-submission collaboration between members who may have preliminary interests in similar projects or programs.

- Public-facing notifications and reports that could include:
    - Advance notifications of upcoming public meetings and other relevant activities (e.g., email blasts, web content updates)
    - Periodic updates on public meetings outcomes and planning progress (e.g., web postings of meeting agenda, summaries, participants, etc.)
    - Annual reports that describe each Council member's CPS activities and expenditures.

CPS activities will also be periodically discussed in Steering Committee meetings to foster additional collaboration and share lessons learned. During these meetings, Council members are encouraged to highlight progress and accomplishments related to this work.

Funding Amount

The Council will allow each of the 11 Council members to apply for **up to** $500,000 per year for up to 3 years and **up to** $300,000 per year for 2 years thereafter, resulting in a total of up to $23.1 million, or 1.44% of the total funds available (not including interest) in the Council-Selected Restoration Component supporting these activities, as detailed in Table 1 (below). It is important to note that, under the RESTORE Act and the US Department of Treasury's implementing regulations, only RESTORE Council members may apply for Council-Selected Restoration Component funds.

Table 1. Funding for the Commitments and Planning Support activities

Annual per member (maximum)	Annual Total Council Cap	Total 5-Year Investment Maximum based on Annual Cap	Percentage of Total Bucket 2 Funds
$500K for 3 Years	$5.5M/year for 3 years	$23.1M	1.44%*
$300k for 2 Years	$3.3M/year for 2 years		

* The 1.44% is calculated based upon total funds provided by BP and other responsible parties; it does not include interest. Therefore, the percentage will be less over time as interest is accrued.

The Council will review the effectiveness of this funding at year four and consider the need to continue the CPS beyond the five-year period. Based upon this evaluation, the Council will determine whether there is a need to undertake follow-on awards to continue this work. The timing of this review during year four is intended to avoid a lapse in funding. If the need for CPS funding extends beyond 5 years, future awards would use the same FPL amendment process requiring public notice and a formal Council vote.

Summary

The Council has a key role in helping to ensure that the Gulf's natural resources are sustainable and available for future generations. The Gulf restoration funds available now and in the future, represent an incredible opportunity and responsibility for the Council and all the stakeholders in the Gulf Coast region.

In the coming months and years, the Council will focus its efforts on collaboration—among and between members and with other restoration partners—to fully leverage available funds. Through such focused collaboration, the Council can facilitate holistic, large-scale, and coordinated restoration. The CPS funding approved in this FPL is intended to enable the Council to most effectively meet these fundamental commitments. The Council appreciates the public's interest and input on this process, and looks forward to continued engagement in the future.

Appendix 1. Council Comprehensive Plan Commitments.

Topic	Commitment	Page Number
Development of Funded Priority Lists	Take a holistic approach to restoration	13, 14
	Continue to improve Submission Guidelines	17
	The Council adopted the watershed/estuary-based approach as a strategic planning principle for future FPL development	22
	Healthy and sustainable ecosystems are essential for thriving and resilient coastal communities	23
	Encourage partnerships and additional public and private financial and technical support to maximize outcomes and impacts	23
	Identify and leverage new sources of funding to support current and future restoration work by exploring creative conservation funding	25
	The Council will refine its processes for considering public input on draft FPLs before finalizing changes to the final FPL	25
	Project evaluation and selection will be conducted in the most open manner feasible	25
	Will update and improve the process for applying BAS to FPL proposals, including exploring the use of one or more science review panels	27
Collaboration and Coordination	Sponsor and participate in meetings and workshops in 2017 and into 2018	17
	Facilitate meaningful engagement with range of stakeholders	17
	Maximize outcomes by leveraging funds and expertise	17
	Coordination and collaboration among members and our restoration partners is critical to the success of Gulf restoration	24
	Coordinate regulatory efforts across Council membership	26
Science	Decisions made pursuant to the FPL will be based on the best available science	6, 17, 27
	The Council recognizes the importance of measuring outcomes and impacts in order to achieve tangible results and ensure that funds are invested in a meaningful way	27

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
Record of Decision

Adoption of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement in Connection with Funding Approval of Robinson Preserve Wetlands Restoration Project

Introduction

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) hereby adopts the 2015 NOAA Restoration Center Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to address the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in connection with approval of implementation funds for the Robinson Preserve Wetlands Restoration project (Robinson Preserve), Florida. The Council is approving $1,319,636 in implementation funding for Robinson Preserve. The Council is also reallocating $470,910 from planning to implementation. The total amount of funding available for implementation of Robinson Preserve is $1,790,546. These funds will be used to restore 118.2 acres of coastal habitat, along with related activities in Tampa Bay. NOAA is the sponsor of the Robinson Preserve project.

Background

The Council is approving funding for the Robinson Preserve project through an amendment to the Council's Initial Funded Priority List (FPL). On December 9, 2015, the Council approved the FPL, which includes certain projects and programs approved for funding under the Council-Selected Restoration Component along with other activities the Council identified as priorities for further Council consideration and potential future funding. Activities approved for funding in the FPL are in "Category 1" and priorities for potential future funding are in "Category 2." In the FPL, the Council approved approximately $156.6 million in Category 1 activities and prioritized 12 Category 2 activities for potential future funding, subject to environmental compliance and further Council and public review. The Council included planning activities for Robinson Preserve in Category 1 and implementation activities for Robinson Preserve in Category 2.

Prior to approving an activity for funding in FPL Category 1, the Council must comply with NEPA and all other applicable Federal environmental laws. When the FPL was approved in 2015 the Council had not addressed NEPA and other laws applicable to approval of Category 2 implementation activities and funding for Robinson Preserve. However, the Council did recognize the potential ecological value of Robinson Preserve based on the review conducted during the FPL process. The Council therefore approved $470,910 in planning funds for

Robinson Preserve, a portion of which would be used to complete environmental compliance activities. As noted above, the Council placed the implementation portion of Robinson Preserve into FPL Category 2, pending the outcome of this environmental compliance work and further Council review. The estimated cost of implementation of Robinson Preserve was $1,319,636.

Robinson Preserve Project

The Robinson Preserve implementation funding approved by the Council will be used to create habitat and natural flow regimes through hydrologic connections, as well as to complete exotic and invasive vegetation removal, native planting, monitoring, community outreach, restoration practitioner education, and an inventory of potential Tampa Bay watershed hydrologic restoration projects.

The FPL describes Robinson Preserve as a project to restore 140 acres of upland and wetland habitat (85 acres of upland habitat and 55 acres of created wetland and sub-tidal habitats). The actual acreage to be restored under this FPL amendment would be 118.2 acres (57.6 acres of coastal upland habitat and 60.6 acres of wetland, open water sub-tidal, and open freshwater habitats). This acreage adjustment is the result of refinements in project design (in response to public input) and subtraction of acreage being restored through a complementary Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) restoration effort. The project design was reduced by 7 acres to balance public access interests, input from nearby residents and habitat suitability. The remainder of the acreage adjustment for Robinson Preserve was 14.8 acres, which is the amount of adjoining acreage to be restored by the EPA.

While the acreage footprint of NOAA's Robinson Preserve project has decreased, the complexity and per unit cost of the project have increased. To maintain the long-term viability of the restoration design and protect existing habitats, the scope of the restoration expanded to include more complex hydrologic connections. The expanded scope also provides added benefits outside of the restoration footprint by integrating and hydrologically interconnecting the entire 632-acre preserve. NOAA has indicated that these changes make up more than one third of the restoration implementation budget, increasing the wetland and sub-tidal creation cost per acre for the project. The total of $1,790,546 will be needed to implement this project.

Additional information on Robinson Preserve, including metrics of success, response to science reviews and more is available in an activity-specific appendix to the FPL, which can be found at https://www.restorethegulf.gov.

NOAA PEIS and Environmental Compliance

To comply with NEPA for Robinson Preserve, the Council is adopting the 2015 PEIS developed by NOAA's Restoration Center. This PEIS provides a programmatic-level environmental analysis to support NOAA's restoration activities throughout the coastal United States, including the Gulf of Mexico. The NOAA PEIS includes a programmatic-level analysis of restoration alternatives by activity type and the associated environmental consequences. In addition to providing a programmatic analysis, the PEIS can be used to cover site-specific actions, including funding awards, provided that the activity being proposed is within the range of alternatives and scope of potential environmental consequences and does not have significant adverse impacts. NOAA has determined and documented, in a NEPA Inclusion Analysis dated June 20, 2017, that the Category 2 Robinson Preserve implementation activities for which Council funding is being sought meet these criteria and that no further NEPA review is needed.

During project-specific engineering and design, Clean Water Act (CWA) permitting and public interest review and interagency regulatory review processes, there was additional analysis of site specific conditions and the effects of project-specific design alternatives. Subsequently, multiple modifications were made in response to technical evaluation, resource agency feedback and public comments in order to maximize project benefits and minimize any adverse effects. On May 22, 2017, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a CWA Section 404 permit (SAJ-2014-02406) for the Robinson Preserve project. NOAA has confirmed that this permit addresses its Magnuson-Stevens Act recommendations pertaining to Essential Fish Habitat. The permit also contains conditions pertaining to compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. In addition, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have reviewed the overall Robinson Preserve project. These reviews were conducted as part of their respective reviews of the complementary Robinson Preserve restoration project referenced above that is sponsored by the EPA and being funded separately under the FPL.

The Council has reviewed the applicable environmental compliance documentation. Based on this review, the Council is adopting the PEIS to support the approval of implementation funds for Robinson Preserve, provided that the project is implemented in accordance with the terms and conditions of the CWA Section 404 permit. This permit and the associated documentation can be found at https://www.restorethegulf.gov/funded-priorities-list. (See: Robinson Preserve Wetlands Restoration – Implementation.)

Public Comments

On August 30, 2017, the Council published a notice in the *Federal Register* seeking public comment on the proposal to amend the FPL to approve implementation funding for Robinson

Preserve. This notice also sought comment on the Council's proposal to adopt the NOAA PEIS to support the funding approval. The *Federal Register* public comment period was 30 days and ended on September 29, 2017. The Council received two comments on the proposed FPL amendment and PEIS adoption. Both commenters support the proposed FPL amendment.

Council Decision

The Council initially reviewed the Robinson Preserve proposal as part of the Initial FPL development process. The Council has subsequently reviewed the PEIS and associated environmental compliance documentation discussed above. In addition, the Council has considered the public comments discussed above. Based on these reviews, on _____, ___, 2017, the Council voted to (i) adopt the NOAA PEIS, (ii) amend the FPL by moving Robinson Preserve implementation activities from Category 2 to Category 1, (iii) approve $1,319,636 in implementation funding for Robinson Preserve, and (iv) reallocate $470,910 from Robinson Preserve planning to implementation.

The Council has authorized the Executive Director of the Council to execute this Record of Decision on its behalf.

Ben Scaggs
Acting Executive Director, Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

(Signature) _____

GULF COAST ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION COUNCIL

COUNCIL VOTE
and
Steering Committee Call
Agenda
Wednesday, January 24, 2018
1:00PM CST / 2PM EST - 2:00PM CST / 3:00PM EST

Ex. 6

Steering Committee Agenda

I. **Roll Call, Ensure Quorum for Vote** (Buck Sutter)

II. **TOPIC: Welcome New Chair: EPA** (Ben Scaggs)

III. **TOPIC: Draft Annual Report to Congress** (John Ettinger)
Objective:
- Discuss and resolve any member "show-stopper" comments.
- Review schedule, next steps.

Materials:
- N/A

IV. **TOPIC: Next Face to Face Steering Committee Meeting** (Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Initiate discussion to identify time, location and topics for next in-person Steering Committee meeting.

Materials:
- N/A

V. **TOPIC: Member Contact List and Communications** (Buck Sutter)
Objective:
- Request that each member send Council Staff their updated list of contacts: Member, Member Designee, SC Member, SC Alternate and other support (e.g., key technical, legal, public engagement staff).

Materials:
- Draft member contacts list.

Council Voting Agenda:

I. **TOPIC: Council Vote on Commitment and Planning Support Funded Priorities List** (Jean Cowan)
Objective:
- Review CPS FPL to be voted upon.
- Hold vote.

Materials:

- Final CPS FPL

II. TOPIC: Council Vote on Robinson Preserve Funding Approval (John Ettinger)

Objective:

- Review FPL amendment to be voted upon.
- Hold vote.

Materials:

- Robinson Preserve Revised FPL Appendix.
- Robinson Preserve Record of Decision (unsigned).

III. TOPIC: Other Topics

IV. TOPIC: Wrap-Up/Adjourn (Ben Scaggs)

Next Steering Committee Meeting:
February 7, 2018

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Staff Work Product – Subject to Council Approval

DRAFT

Notice of Funding Availability: Council-Selected Restoration Component 2017 Funded Priorities List for Comprehensive Commitment and Planning Support

(33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(2))

Federal Agency Name: Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council)

Funding Opportunity Title: Council-Selected Restoration Component 2017 Funded Priorities List for Comprehensive Commitment and Planning Support Financial Assistance

Announcement Type and Date: Initial; effective date xxxxxxx xx, 2018

Funding Opportunity Number: GCC-FPL-18-001

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 87.051 Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Comprehensive Plan Component Program

Funding Instrument: Grants to state Council members and interagency agreements (IAAs) with federal Council members.

Dates: Applications for project funding will be accepted until April 30, 2018.

Funding Opportunity Summary: In accordance with the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf States Act (RESTORE Act or Act), the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) announces the availability of financial assistance available through the Council-Selected Restoration Component 2017 Funded Priorities List for Comprehensive Commitment and Planning Support (2017 CPS FPL or CPS FPL[1]), including application submission requirements and review

[1] The 2017 CPS FPL was finalized in September 2017 and was officially approved by the Council in the xxxxxxx, xx, 2018 vote. The CPS FPL is available on the Council website at https://www.restorethegulf.gov/council-selected-restoration-component.

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procedures. Through awards made under the CPS FPL, the Council will provide its members with funding to enhance collaboration, coordination, public engagement and use of best available science needed to make efficient use of Gulf restoration funds resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. These awards will support the Council's commitment to a coordinated approach to ecosystem restoration, as called for in the Comprehensive Plan Update 2016: Restoring the Gulf Coast's Ecosystem and Economy.

FULL ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT

I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Program Description and Authority

Through this announcement, member agencies and states (collectively referred to as "members" throughout this notice of funding availability (NOFA)) of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council) may submit applications to fund activities to enhance collaboration, coordination, public engagement, and use of best available science under the Council-Selected Restoration Component of the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) (33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(2)). Council members are the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, the Army, Commerce, the Interior, and Homeland Security, the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the governors of the Gulf Coast States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. This announcement provides guidance to Council members on the necessary steps to submit their applications for funding.

1. Background

The fines and penalties arising from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill represent a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for large-scale restoration in the Gulf of Mexico. Restoration funding in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill is administered through a variety of programs, each governed by different laws and/or procedures. These programs include the five RESTORE Act components, Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA), the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF), and other funding sources.

A major challenge to Gulf-wide ecosystem restoration is coordinating efforts within each state, among Council members, among stakeholders within the Gulf region, and across funding streams. Adding to the challenge is the fact that no designated funding stream exists to support Council member efforts to plan and coordinate restoration activities under the Council-Selected Restoration Component. Historically, Council members have had to rely upon general, tax-generated, or appropriated funds to support their involvement in the Council-Selected Restoration Component, including the development and updates of Funded Priorities Lists (FPLs) and the updates of the Comprehensive Plan. The funds in this FPL will provide Council

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members with funding to support planning, collaboration, and leveraging efforts, with the ultimate goal of producing the most effective on-the-ground restoration results possible.

To effectively and efficiently address the commitments of the Comprehensive Plan, the Council is providing funds necessary for members to:

- Strengthen ecosystem restoration proposals for future FPLs under the Council-Selected Restoration component of the RESTORE Act.
- Enhance the efficiency of future FPL development processes.
- Facilitate long-term planning and leveraging efforts across funding streams.

2. Program Authority

The statutory authority for the CPS FPL is the Council-Selected Restoration Component of the RESTORE Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(2)).

II. Federal Award Information

The application phase is not competitive. All state Council members must apply for a grant through the Council's Restoration Assistance and Awards Management System (RAAMS) to receive funding. All federal agency Council members must submit an application in RAAMS, before the Council can enter into an interagency agreement (IAA) to provide funding to that federal agency member.

A. Funding Availability

Each of the 11 Council members may apply for **up to** $500,000 per year for up to 3 years and **up to** $300,000 per year for 2 years thereafter (a maximum of $2.1 million per Council member over 5 years), resulting in a total of up to $23.1 million between all Council members, as detailed in Table 1 (below). This represents 1.44% of the total funds available, not including interest that may be accrued, in the Council-Selected Restoration Component.

Table 1. *Funding for the Commitment and Planning Support activities*

Annual per member (maximum)	Annual Total Council Cap	Per Member 5-Year Maximum based on Annual Cap	Total 5-Year Investment Maximum based on Annual Cap
$500K for 3 years	$5.5M/year for 3 years	$2.1 M	$23.1M
$300k for 2 years	$3 3M/year for 2 years		

The Council will review the effectiveness of this funding at year four and consider the need to continue the CPS awards beyond the 5-year initial period of performance. Based upon this evaluation, the Council will determine whether there is a need to undertake follow-on awards or agreements to continue this work. The timing of this review during year four is intended to avoid a lapse in funding. If the need for CPS funding extends beyond 5 years, future awards would use the same FPL amendment process requiring public notice and a formal Council vote.

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B. **Project/Award Period**

The duration of activities to be funded under this announcement is anticipated to be no more than 5 years from the performance start date of the award or agreement. Implementation start dates will depend in part on when the member submits a complete application. It is anticipated that all performance will be complete by June 30, 2023.

C. **Type of Funding Instrument**

Subject to the availability of funds, the Council will award grants to state Council members and enter into IAAs with federal Council members.

D. **Eligibility Information**

1. **Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants are limited to members of the Council, or their administrative agents. Council members are:

- The governors of the Gulf Coast States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas; and
- The Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, the Army, Commerce, Homeland Security and the Interior; and Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

No other entity is eligible to apply under this announcement.

2. **Cost-Sharing or Matching**

There is no cost-sharing or matching requirement.

3. **Allowable Activities**

Allowable activities must be directly related to Council-Selected Restoration Component FPL development. A full list may be found in the CPS FPL, which is available on the Council's web site[2]. In summary, allowable activities may include:

- Planning and collaboration to develop submissions and/or conceptual, pre-submission options for the next FPL.
- Staffing in support of Council-Selected Restoration Component planning, collaboration, pre-submission environmental compliance coordination, and meeting other commitments from the Comprehensive Plan.
- Preparation of proposals in accordance with FPL submission guidelines, including entry of proposals into RAAMS.
- Evaluation activities, complementary to work undertaken through the Council Monitoring and Assessment Program, to determine the impact of the Council's FPL

[2] The Council web site is available at https://www.restorethegulf.gov.

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projects/programs and inform adaptive management strategies for future funding decisions.

- Financial support for Council-Selected Restoration Component outreach mechanisms relevant to planning and collaboration activities (printing, website maintenance, and other similar activities).
- Travel expenses that are reasonable and directly related to the Council-Selected Restoration Component projects/programs development.
- Preparation and execution of IAAs, grants, and other related items required by the Council prior to implementing the scope of work covered by project-specific interagency activities.

CPS funds are not available to conduct post-award, project-specific activities. Such activities are only funded after a separate grant or IAA for a project or program approved in an FPL is awarded. For example, allowable uses of CPS funds do not include engineering and design and environmental compliance activities beyond the pre-submission stage, such as preparation of environmental compliance documentation (e.g., NEPA documentation) or permit application costs.

III. **Application and Submission Information**

Please refer to the Council's Recipient Proposal and Award Guide (RPAG[3]), available at the Grants Resources webpage, for comprehensive guidance on all phases of the application submission, award and agreement, and post award processes.

A. **Address to Request Application Package**

All applications must be submitted in RAAMS. Council members can access the link to RAAMS and view related materials necessary to apply for funding through the Council website[4].

B. **Content and Form of Application**

A complete application will include all of the information below, which is entered directly into RAAMS. Application materials will include all data from required federal standard application forms and may include Council-specific supporting information and schedules. Guidance on preparing applications for CPS funding can be found on the Council's Grants Resources webpage.[5]

1. **Basic Application Data**: Information from Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Form SF-424 "Application for Federal Assistance" and associated forms.

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[3] The Council's Recipient Proposal and Award Guide is available on the Council's Grants Resources web page - https://www.restorethegulf.gov/sites/default/files/GO-RES%20RPAG%201-01%2012-21-2015.pdf.

[4] The link to access RAAMS is available on the Council's Grants Office web page - https://www.restorethegulf.gov/gcerc-grants-office.

[5] Guidance for preparing CPS applications for funding is available on the Council's Grants Resources webpage - https://www.restorethegulf.gov/gcerc-grants-office/gcerc-grants-resources.

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2. **Certifications**:
   a. Council Applicant Certifications; and
   b. Form SF-424B "Assurances – Non-Construction Programs".

3. **CPS Activities Description**, including the following information:
   a. The title of the request, i.e., "Commitment and Planning Support – [Member]", replacing the word "Member" with the state or federal member submitting the application;
   b. An abstract of the project describing the purpose/goal of the CPS activities, where activities will be located, and identifying the entity or entities that will undertake the activities;
   c. Selection of applicable Project Categories and Activities;
   d. Project Category Narratives;
   e. The total funding amount requested;
   f. Major milestones for the project, including start and expected end dates, activity-based costs, and any deliverables for each milestone; and
   g. Acknowledgement of a metric regarding the number of types of collaboration actions implemented annually. For more information on the CPS metric and associated indicators, see section V.C, *Reporting*, below.

4. **Budget documentation**, on an annual basis for the 5-year award period, including:
   a. Form SF-424A budget information.
      i. Data equivalent to that provided on the Form SF-424A "Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs";
      ii. Budget data by Form SF-424A object classes for non-Council funding that is required to complete the objectives of the activity (i.e., "co-funding");
      iii. Where the applicant will "pass through" or otherwise provide funds to one or more subrecipients, a detailed budget using object categories from the Form SF-424A for each proposed subaward that is known at the time the application is submitted; and
      iv. Any program (i.e., activity) income anticipated during the award period.

   b. Budget Narrative, supporting Form SF-424A budget information.
      i. A detailed description of the expenses listed on the budget form and how expenses address the proposed work;
      ii. Item descriptions and justifications within each applicable object class from the Form SF-424A, including salaries, fringe benefits, equipment, supplies, travel, contractors, subrecipients, and other direct costs;
      iii. Purchase versus lease justification for purchases of equipment greater than $5,000;
      iv. Where the applicant plans to procure goods and services through a contractual or subrecipient relationship, information on the proposed method of selection, period of performance, scope of work, and method(s) of accountability;
      v. A description of any leveraged or other third-party funding that is required to complete the objectives of the project/program, including the amount, source and proposed use of these funds; and

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vii. Detailed information regarding any pre-award costs requested by state applicants including a justification for each item. Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the grant award date and only with the written approval of the Grants Officer. All costs incurred before the Council awards the grant are at the recipient's risk. Costs incurred prior to the approval of the CPS FPL on October 5, 2017 are not allowable.

5. **Indirect Cost Rate Information**.
   a. A copy of the applicant's and any subrecipient's Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), if applicable.
   b. For federal members requesting overhead, general and administrative (G&A) or similar expenses, supporting documentation, if applicable.

6. **Cash Forecasting**. Forecasting of cash requirements/draws throughout the life of the award in semi-annual increments.

C. **Organizational Self-Assessment**

Each state member (or the state's administrative agent) applicant must certify and submit the Council's Organizational Self-Assessment (OSA) worksheet, available on the Grants Resources web page[6]. The worksheet must be received by the Council no later than the application submission date of the entity's first grant application to the Council.

D. **DUNS Number and System for Award Management (SAM)**

Each applicant is required to: (i) Be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) before submitting its application (www.SAM.gov); (ii) provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and (iii) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by the Council. The Council may not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Council is ready to make a federal award, the Council may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive the award. See section IV.C below for additional information on how the Council will utilize the information in SAM.

E. **Submission Dates and Times**

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 30, 2018.

F. **Intergovernmental Review**

Applications under this announcement are not subject to Executive Order 12372,

[6] The OSA worksheet is available on the Council's Grants Resources web page - https://www.restorethegulf.gov/gcerc-grants-office/gcerc-grants-resources.

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Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

G. **Funding Restrictions**

Of the amounts received by an eligible entity in a grant under this announcement, not more than three percent may be used for administrative costs (see 31 CFR 34.204). The three percent limit is applied to the total amount of funds received by a recipient under each grant. The three percent limit does not apply to the administrative costs of subrecipients. All subrecipient costs are subject to the cost principles in federal law and policies on grants. "Administrative costs" means those indirect costs for administration incurred by the eligible entity that are allocable to activities authorized under the RESTORE Act. Administrative costs do not include indirect costs that are identified specifically with, or readily assignable to, facilities as defined in 2 CFR 200.414. Additional instructions and an example of administrative cost calculations is available on the Council's Grants Resources webpage.[7]

In the application, each member is required to submit realistic annual budgets across the 5-year performance period that are consistent with the annual maximums specified in the CPS FPL and section II.A, *Funding Availability*, above. The Council expects that all CPS awards will proceed according to schedule; however, the member may carryover unexpended CPS funds between funding years to adjust for unanticipated schedule changes. While some carryover of funds is allowable, the bulk of funds may not be expended in the later funding years due to failure by the member to proceed with scheduled activities in earlier years.

H. **Other Submission Requirements**:

Applications will be completed and submitted electronically by way of RAAMS.

IV. Application Review Information

A. Risk Evaluation Criteria

At the organizational level, the Council will conduct risk assessments of first-time state applicants in order to effectively implement the statutory, regulatory, administrative, and program requirements of a potential federal award. Once an initial assessment has been made, it will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Based on the responses to this certification, the Council will review the risk posed by applicants. When an applicant is determined to pose a high risk, or when an applicant or recipient has a history of failure to comply with the general or specific terms and conditions of a Federal award, or failure to meet expected performance goals as described in 2 CFR 200.210 contained in a Federal award, or is not otherwise responsible, the Council may impose additional specific award conditions as needed.

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[7] Instructions for Calculating Allowable Indirect Costs under the 3% cap for administrative costs and examples of cost calculations are available on the Grants Resources web page - https://www.restorethegulf.gov/gcerc-grants-office/gcerc-grants-resources.

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B. **Review and Selection Process**

Upon receipt of an application through RAAMS, the Council will review the application for completeness. Once it has been determined that the application is complete, the staff will review this announcement, the application and supporting documentation, SAM, and any other information available to determine the following:

1. Whether the proposed recipient and any subrecipients are eligible for funding;
2. Whether the activity as described in the application is consistent with the CPS FPL;
3. Whether award activities are eligible and attainable;
4. Whether staff time is appropriate to perform proposed tasks;
5. Whether budget line items are allowable, allocable, and reasonable;
6. Whether budget line items are accurately calculated;
7. Whether any proposed procurement complies with applicable laws and policies;
8. Whether the period of performance requires an adjustment; and
9. Whether any special award conditions are needed.

C. **Agency Review of Information Concerning Recipient Integrity and Performance**

The Council is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) (*see* 41 U.S.C. 2313). The applicant may, at its option, review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through SAM and comment on any information about itself that a federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM. Furthermore, the Council consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants as described in 2 CFR 200.205, "Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants."

D. **Anticipated Award Dates**

After receipt of a fully-compliant application, grant awards are anticipated to be made within 45 calendar days. The Council also anticipates providing IAAs to the federal member for review and approval within 45 days of the receipt of a fully-compliant application.

V. **Award Administration Information**

A. **Award and Interagency Agreement Notices**

Official notification of funding, signed by the Council Executive Director, is the authorizing document that allows the activity to begin. Notifications will be issued to the Authorizing Official designated by the Council member for the activity.

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All recipients and non-Federal subrecipients must comply and require each of its contractors and subcontractors employed in the completion of the activity to comply with all applicable statutes, regulations, Executive Orders (EOs), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars, terms and conditions, agreements and approved applications.

B. **Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

1. The Council Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the *Federal Register* notice of November 24, 2014 (79 FR 79822; https://federalregister.gov/a/2014-27719) is applicable to this announcement.
2. The Council's Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (STCs) contained in the *Federal Register* notice of August 31, 2015 (80 FR 52478; https://federalregister.gov/a/2015-21417) are applicable to grants awarded under this announcement.
3. The Council's Interagency Agreement STCs[8] are applicable to IAAs awarded under this announcement.
4. Limitation of Liability. If any activities fail to receive funding or are cancelled because of other agency priorities, the RESTORE Council will not be responsible for application preparation costs. Publication of this announcement does not oblige the RESTORE Council to issue an award for any activity, or to obligate any available funds. Recipients are subject to all federal laws and agency policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to federal financial assistance awards.

C. **Reporting**

1. Award recipients are required to submit financial, technical progress, and performance reports. These reports are to be submitted electronically via RAAMS.

2. Council members utilizing CPS funds under the FPL will provide information on the progress of their respective efforts. The primary focus of reporting is to encourage further collaboration and share best practices/lessons learned, among Council members, the broader restoration community and the public. To that end, the following reporting elements of CPS funding include:
    - Semi-Annual Financial and Expenditure written reports, and annual progress summaries, submitted through the Council's RAAMS in adherence to federal financial assistance requirements (2 CFR part 200). The annual progress summaries should include, as appropriate:
        - Collaboration activities and partners,
        - Stakeholders and public engagement workshops/meetings held,
        - FPL-related Planning,
        - Lessons learned, and
        - Potential project/program concepts, which may include various scales such as:

[8] The Council's Financial Assistance STCs and Interagency Agreement STCs are available on the Council's Grants Resources web page - https://www.restorethegulf.gov/gcerc-grants-office/gcerc-grants-resources.

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- Watershed, estuary or other geographic areas;
- Specific resources or strategy; or
- Council Goal(s) and Objective(s) addressed.

- Work with Council Staff to populate and regularly update project/program concept information in the internal online project/program mapping tool. The purpose is to facilitate pre-submission collaboration between members who may have preliminary interests in similar projects or programs.
- Public-facing notifications and reports that could include:
  - Advance notifications of upcoming public meetings and other relevant activities;
  - Periodic updates on public meetings outcomes and planning progress;
  - Annual reports that describe each Council member's activities and expenditures.

3. Collaboration Actions and Indicator of Success: Annual performance reports will include reporting on collaboration actions. The following metric will be tracked for all CPS FPL awards: Number of types of collaboration actions implemented by the recipient annually. Each recipient will report annually on whether the following Collaboration Action Indicators have been implemented:
   - Sponsor workshops, meetings, etc., related to future FPL submissions.
   - Participate in meetings, workshops, etc., with Council members and other potential funding partners related to future FPL submissions.
   - Participate in Council meetings regarding the Council-Selected Restoration Component.
   - Participate in technical meetings/focus groups related to future FPL submissions.
   - Public engagement activities for the purposes of developing FPL submissions.
   - Development of concepts, project scoping, pre-submission environmental compliance review/coordination, and technical assistance for potential future FPL projects.
   - Process-related activities to support development of FPL project/program options (e.g., decision support structure development, preparation of collaboration materials, Council workgroup participation, public comment review).
   - Evaluation activities to determine the impact of the Council's projects/programs and inform adaptive management.
   - Preparation of proposals developed collaboratively in accordance with FPL submission guidelines, including entry of proposals into the Council's FPL Collaboration Tool or RAAMS.
   - Collaborative preparation of applications for IAAs, grants and other related items required by the Council prior to implementing project-specific interagency activities.
   - Other (a brief description will need to be provided).

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4. Reporting Periods and Due Dates:

   a. Semi-annual reporting periods will be specified in the award for the periods ending December 30 and June 30, or any portion thereof. Semi-annual financial and technical progress reports are due no later than 30 days following the end of each reporting period. A final financial report is due within 90 days after the expiration of the activity period.
   b. Annual performance and progress summary reporting periods will be specified in the award for the period ending June 30, or any portion thereof. These reports are due no later than 30 days following the end of each reporting period. A final performance and progress summary report is due within 90 days after the expiration of the activity period.

5. Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act: Applicants must also comply with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006. This Act includes a requirement for awardees of applicable federal grants to report information about first-tier sub-awards and executive compensation under federal assistance awards issued in FY 2011 or later. All awardees of applicable grants are required to report to the Federal Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS) available at www.FSRS.gov on all sub-awards over $25,000.

6. Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System: If the award will include more than $500,000 over the period of performance, applicants must also comply with the post award reporting requirements reflected in 2 CFR part 200 Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.

D. **Payments**

The reimbursement method of payment will be used, unless otherwise specified in a special award condition. Payments for grants are made through electronic funds transfers directly to the recipient's bank account and in accordance with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 3701 et. seq.) and the Cash Management Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. 6501 et. seq.). Unless otherwise provided for in the award terms, payments for grant expenditures will be made using the Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) system. Under the ASAP system, payments will be made through preauthorized electronic funds transfers in accordance with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. Payments on IAAs are managed through the Intra-Governmental Payment and Collection (IPAC) system.

VI. Agency Contacts

The contact for questions about this announcement is Kristin Smith. Her contact information is as follows: email kristin.smith@restorethegulf.gov; telephone number 504-444-3558; and mailing address Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Office, 500 Poydras Street, Suite 1117, New Orleans, LA 70130.

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VII. **Other Information**

A. **Resources**

Please refer to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Recipient Proposal and Award Guide (RPAG), for comprehensive guidance on all phases of the submission, application, and award implementation process. The Council's Grants Resources web page[9] also contains downloadable guidance, worksheets, templates and other materials.

B. **Freedom of Information Act Disclosure**

The Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552) (FOIA) and the Council's implementing regulations at 40 CFR part 1850 set forth the rules and procedures to make requested material, information, and records publicly available. Unless prohibited by law and to the extent permitted under FOIA, contents of applications submitted by applicants may be released in response to FOIA requests. In the event that an application contains information or data that the applicant deems to be confidential commercial information, that information should be identified, bracketed, and marked as "Privileged, Confidential, Commercial or Financial Information." Based on these markings, the confidentiality of the contents of those pages will be protected to the extent permitted by law. On May 22, 2015, the Council published a rule that establishes its Procedures for Disclosure of Records Under the Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act (79 FR 29539; https://federalregister.gov/a/2015-12459).

C. **Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards**.

On December 9, 2015, the Council adopted as a final rule, without change, a joint interim final rule published with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for all federal award-making agencies that implemented guidance on Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) (2 CFR part 200). The notice of the final rule (80 FR 76355; 2 CFR part 5900) is available at https://federalregister.gov/a/2015-30922. This rule brought into effect the Uniform Guidance as required by OMB for the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. The Uniform Guidance applies to awards made by the RESTORE Council. Applicants should familiarize themselves with the Uniform Guidance.

[9] The Council's Grants Resources web page contains resources for applicants - https://www.restorethegulf.gov/gcerc-grants-office/gcerc-grants-resources.

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RESTORE STEERING COMMITTEE

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Ex. 6

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Ex. 6

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Ex. 6

Ex. 6

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Ex. 6

Ex. 6

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Activity: Robinson Preserve Wetlands Restoration (Implementation)
Unique Identifier: DOC_RESTORE_001_011_Cat1
Location: Florida, Manatee County
Type of Activity: Implementation
FPL Category: 1 – Funding Approved
Cost Estimate: $1,790,546
Responsible Council Member: Department of Commerce (DOC)/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Partnering Council Member(s): Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
Originally submitted by: The DOC as a component within the proposal "Connecting Coastal Waters: Restoring Coastal Wetland Hydrology"

Executive Summary: The Robinson Preserve Wetlands Restoration project is part of the Connecting Coastal Waters (CCW) initiative NOAA would lead with partners to restore the extent, functionality, and resiliency of Gulf Coast wetlands. NOAA will work with partners to implement this project to restore 118.2 acres of upland and wetland habitat on a fallow parcel recently acquired to expand Robinson Preserve in the Tampa Bay watershed. NOAA will also work with partners to conduct monitoring of restoration outcomes and outreach and educational activities to share restoration practices and engage stakeholders.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project consists of the following.

Specific Actions/Activities: The CCW initiative would restore and enhance ecosystem resilience, sustainability, and natural defenses by reestablishing natural hydrology and connectivity between freshwater and marine habitats in priority areas across the Gulf Coast. This project will implement restoration activities, conduct monitoring to assess restoration outcomes, and engage in outreach and educational activities with restoration practitioners and stakeholders. Restoration activities will be conducted to: 1) create coastal upland, wetland habitats, and tidal creeks designed to incorporate projected near-term sea level rise; 2) create high quality estuarine subtidal habitats; and 3) restore natural hydrology linking the coastal upland, wetland, and estuarine areas. When completed, the project will provide approximately 57.6 acres of coastal upland habitat and 60.6 acres of wetland, open water sub-tidal, and open freshwater habitats, for a total of 118.2 acres of productive habitat from fallow land. Remaining portions of the expansion property not identified for restoration is dedicated to an environmental education center and other recreational facilities that would be constructed and managed by Manatee County. A monitoring plan will be implemented before and after construction to support an adaptive management approach. The monitoring plan will include pre-construction monitoring to provide baseline information, during construction monitoring to ensure the project is being implemented as designed, and post-construction monitoring to evaluate whether the project meets success criteria. Post-monitoring will be completed over 36-months following completion of restoration. Outreach and educational activities will be conducted to share restoration practices and project results.

Task 1: Planning and Local Involvement: A project team will be assembled to provide technical input and expertise during the construction and monitoring of this project. Team members will provide a multi-disciplinary approach to evaluate monitoring data and recommend any corrective actions necessary to meet restoration goals.

Deliverable 1: Project team member's list, roles, and team description.

Task 2: Implementation & Construction: NOAA or members of the project team will develop a contract statement of work, prepare bid documents, select a construction contractor, determine a schedule, and finalize construction plans. The construction task includes both the action of restoring the site and post-construction management including monitoring of the construction. Monitoring will occur before, during, and after construction to ensure work is progressing and completed as designed.

Deliverable 2.1: Statement of Work and Bid Documents.

Deliverable 2.2: Final construction as-built drawings and construction completion report.

Task 3: Monitoring and Evaluation: This task will implement a monitoring and evaluation plan developed through the project planning phase. The data collected before and after project construction will document progress toward achieving restoration project goals and objectives and inform adaptive management decision-making. Three types of monitoring will be conducted: 1) pre-implementation monitoring—providing baseline information to compare with post implementation data to determine whether the restoration is having the desired effect; 2) implementation monitoring—ensuring the project is being implemented as planned and identifies needed modifications; and 3) effectiveness monitoring—enabling evaluation of whether a project has met its objectives.

Deliverable 3.1: Semi-annual Monitoring Reports and Data Sheets.

Deliverable 3.2: Final Monitoring and Evaluation Report.

Task 4: Outreach and Education: The project team will implement the Outreach and Education Plan developed through the project planning phase in cooperation with partners and existing community groups. Strategies may include site tours, presentations, interpretive outreach materials, videos, and other efforts to share project success. Activities conducted will be documented, including copies of materials produced, and compiled into a final report.

Deliverable 4.1: Outreach and Education Report.

Task 5: Inventory of Coast Wetland and Hydrology Restoration Opportunities:
NOAA or a sub-recipient will lead a collaborative process to create a science-based inventory of coastal wetland hydrological restoration projects. The objective of the inventory is to identify projects that meet the Council's goals for ecosystem restoration within the Tampa Bay watershed focus area. This task will build upon a 2012 hydrology restoration inventory conducted by NOAA and Sea Grant and will seek to leverage compatible watershed planning efforts by local partners.

Deliverable 5.1: Inventory plan of work.

Deliverable 5.2: Inventory report and online map.

Ecological Benefits/Outcomes and Metrics: The site contains a range of important coastal wetland habitats including mangrove, salt marsh, salt barren, coastal strand hammock and maritime hammock. Robinson Preserve has undergone extensive restoration from disturbed farmland to coastal and wetland habitats, including the restoration of tidal flow within the property. In addition, the Preserve was expanded with the acquisition of a 150-acre parcel in 2012, which is the site of the proposed restoration. While significant portions of the overall Robinson Preserve are either made up of extant mangrove swamp systems or recently restored areas, 150 acres of the site (Robinson Expansion) remain in need of restoration, providing ample opportunity to enhance regional ecosystem services and bolster wildlife populations. This project will continue these restoration efforts and restore 118.2 acres of the 150-acre expansion of Robinson Preserve from mostly disturbed land to native wetland and upland habitats by re-contouring the land, followed by planting with native vegetation. The 150-acre expansion area was in agricultural production for at least five decades and has lay fallow for the past ten years. Fill was piled over large portions of the site for a golf course community before acquisition. Historical uses have allowed nuisance and exotic vegetation to overrun the majority of the site, severely limiting ecological functions. While the overall project planned by local partners involves enhancements for public access, all RESTORE funds received will be used for ecological restoration.

Measures of Success: Specific metrics to evaluate the ecological benefits and outcomes will be established in the planning phase of this project. Potential measures of success include:

Construction Verification: Construction was completed as designed. **Restoration extent:** Acres of upland and wetland habitats created/restored.
Hydrology Parameters: Water flow pattern.
Vegetation Parameters: Plant coverage (of native and invasive plant species) and survival of planted native species.

Leveraging and Co-Funding:

- **Building on prior or other investments:** This project will complement an approximately $27 million investment made by Manatee County and partners for restoration of the already established 482-acre Robinson Preserve. In addition, past investments by Manatee County to acquire and conserve the project area, which expanded the 482-acre Robinson Preserve by an additional 150 acres of adjacent lands are valued at $3.2 million dollars. This project will continue on-going restoration work and build upon the Robinson Preserve Expansion Phase 1 and Phase 2a restoration projects by Manatee County and the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The Preserve will also construct low-impact recreational facilities and a visitor's center to provide recreational and education opportunities for the community that will enhance outreach and education activities to be implemented through this project. In addition, this project will leverage the many partnerships and studies conducted for this high priority project by Manatee County, FDEP, Tampa Bay Estuary Program and Sarasota Bay Estuary Program.

Duration of Activity: 9 years.

Life of Activity: By restoring habitat within Robinson Preserve, this project will provide ecological benefits in perpetuity. Preserve staff are in place to continue the monitoring of these restoration activities and have on-going habitat management and educational programs underway.

RESPONSE TO SCIENCE REVIEWS:

Comment: External science review of the Connecting Coastal Waters proposal, which included a total of eleven projects, resulted in one all or mostly positive response and two generally positive, but with a need for more information. Reviewers requested information related to outcomes of planning, engineering, design, and permitting including, site-specific conditions, evaluation of uncertainties, risks, mitigation, measures of success, and data quality standards.

Response: This project will implement restoration activities based on detailed restoration plans, certified engineering and design, and approved permits completed by the project planning phase. The project's construction design work as well as the monitoring and evaluation plan will incorporate necessary steps to mitigate for project uncertainties and risks that have been be identified in greater detail through the permitting and environmental compliance process conducted under the planning phase (see additional information below). This project will also implement a detailed monitoring and evaluation plan developed under the planning phase that will collect data to evaluate project specific measures of success. Monitoring data collected for this project will undergo verification to ensure the quality, utility, and integrity of information collected.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

To comply with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for Robinson Preserve, the Council is adopting the 2015 PEIS developed by NOAA's Restoration Center. This PEIS provides a programmatic-level environmental analysis to support NOAA's restoration activities throughout the coastal United States, including the Gulf of Mexico. The NOAA PEIS includes a programmatic-level analysis of restoration alternatives by activity type and the associated environmental consequences. In addition to providing a programmatic analysis, the PEIS can be used to cover site-specific actions, including funding awards, provided that the activity being proposed is within the range of alternatives and scope of potential environmental consequences and does not have significant adverse impacts. NOAA has determined and documented, in a NEPA Inclusion Analysis dated June 20, 2017, that the

Category 2 Robinson Preserve implementation activities for which Council funding is being sought meet these criteria and that no further NEPA review is needed.

During project-specific engineering and design, Clean Water Act (CWA) permitting and public interest review, and interagency regulatory review processes, there was additional analysis of site specific conditions and the effects of project-specific design alternatives. Subsequently, multiple modifications were made in response to technical evaluation, resource agency feedback and public comments in order to maximize project benefits and minimize any adverse effects. On May 22, 2017, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a CWA Section 404 permit (SAJ-2014-02406) for the Robinson Preserve project. NOAA has confirmed that this permit addresses its Magnuson-Stevens Act recommendations pertaining to Essential Fish Habitat. The permit also contains conditions pertaining to compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. In addition, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have reviewed the overall Robinson Preserve project. These reviews were conducted as part of their respective reviews of the complementary Robinson Preserve restoration project referenced above that is sponsored by the EPA and being funded separately under the FPL.

The Council has reviewed the applicable environmental compliance documentation. Based on this review, the Council has adopted the PEIS to support the approval of implementation funds for Robinson Preserve, provided that the project is implemented in accordance with the terms and conditions of the CWA Section 404 permit. This permit and the associated documentation can be found at https://www.restorethegulf.gov/funded-priorities-list. (See: Robinson Preserve Wetlands Restoration – Implementation.)

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CC: Jim Thomas [jtnovusco@hotmail.com]; Daniel Hutter [daniel.hutter@spectrumbrands.com]
Subject: Speakers list, Fall meeting Corporate Roundtable
Attachments: Novr 2017 Attending list final-2.docx; Nov 14-15 2017 Agendal.docx

Thanks very much for agreeing to participate.
Please bring your presentation on a stick, if you are using visuals. We will have a laptop and projector available as well as a technician. If you need anything else , please let me know
We will normally post the presentations after the meeting on the website. If you prefer that we do not show your on the web, please let me know.
Attached is a list of attendees that I know of as of today. Attending people are indicated by a *.
Also attaching the latest agenda.
Questions : please let me know.
Thanks

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Environmental, Health, Safety & Sustainability Roundtable

November 14-15, 2017 Agenda

National Press Club – Holeman Lounge

Washington, DC

DRAFT

Tuesday – November 14, 2017

12:00 pm **Buffet lunch** – Working Lunch & Discussion

12:15 pm **Welcome and Self-Introductions**

Jim Thomas, Chairman and Moderator

Dan Hutter, Division Vice President, Spectrum Brands, Global EHS and Compliance Assurance

Antitrust Caveat

Frank Friedman, President, Frank Friedman & Associates LLC

12:20 pm **The Risk of Climate Risk**, Rachael Jonassen, PhD, Director, Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Management, Environmental and Energy Management Institute, George Washington University

1:20 pm **Break**

1:30 pm **Update: Compliance & Innovation Group**

Frank Friedman and Andrew Stewart, Sidley Austin, Washington DC

2:15 pm **Business Resiliency**

Thom Robison, Managing Director Resiliency Practice, CH2M; Jeff Snyder, Vice President, Raytheon

3:30 pm **Regulatory Update**

Ernie Rosenberg, Principal, Ernie Rosenberg & Associates

4:00 pm **Cooperative Federalism 2.0: A Deeper Look into a Rebooted EPA-State Relationship**
Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Executive Director & General Counsel, ECOS

5:00 pm **Adjourn for Libations and Dinner Zenger Room**

Dinner Speaker, Kenneth E. Wagner, USEPA,
Senior Advisor to The Administrator for Regional and State Affairs

Wednesday – November 15, 2017

7:00am **Breakfast**

7:30am **Corporate Culture Killers**
Tabitha A. Laser, CSP
President ASSE Gulf Coast Chapter
Global H&S Practice Leader, CH2M

8:30am **What you don't know about your supply chain will bite you!**
Claude Fontheim, CEO, Fontheim International, LLC

9:30am **Visual Literacy and Safety ,**
Doug Pontsler Owens Corning, Adam Levine, Toledo Museum of Art

10:30 am **Smart Sectors Program, USEPA**
Nena Shaw, Senior Advisor, Smart Sectors Program, Office of Policy, USEPA

11:15am **Corporate Member Showcase: Veolia (invited)**
Keith Oldewurtel, Senior Vice President, EHS

11:45am **Adjourn**

FUTURE MEETINGS:
April 11-12, 2018, November 13-14, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00177495-00002

Environmental, Health, Safety
& Sustainability Roundtable

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November 2017

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  Speaker: *M&A Integration and Spin-Offs; Cultural Conflict & Resolution*

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

- Ms. Phyllis Harris, Vice President, Environmental Health & Safety Compliance
  508 SW 8th Street, Bentonville, AR 72716
  Phone: Ex. 6 E-Mail: phyllis.harris@wal-mart.com

- Mr. Rich Dailey, Senior Director, Environment Health & Safety Compliance*
  508 SW 8th Street, Bentonville, AR 72716
  Phone: Ex. 6 E-Mail: rich.dailey@wal-mart.com

EHSS Roundtable

- Mr. Tom Davis, Executive Director; President, Tom Davis Associates*
  1099 22nd Street, NW, Suite 804, Washington, DC 20037
  Phone: Ex. 6 Fax: 202-776-0539, E-Mail: tsdllcdc@yahoo.com

Guests:

American Zinc Recycling (AZR)

- Mr. Ali Alavi, Senior Vice President, Corporate and Environmental Affairs*
  4955 Steubenville Pike, Suite 405, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
  Phone: Ex. 6, E-Mail: aalavi@azr.com

Frank B. Friedman & Associates, LLC

- Mr. Frank Friedman, President, Frank B. Friedman & Associates LLC*
  5630 Wisconsin Ave, Suite #205, Chevy Chase, MD 20815
  Phone: Ex. 6 Fax: 301-913-9835, E-Mail: ffriedmanEHS@earthlink.net

CH2M

- Thom Robinson , Managing Director Resiliency Practice*
  E-Mail: thom.robison@CH2M.com

Strassner Consulting, LLC*

- Mr. Kenneth Strassner, Principal, Strassner Consulting, LLC*
  6140 Weatherly Drive, NW, Atlanta, GA 30328
  Phone: Ex. 6 (C Ex. 6, E-Mail: ken.strassner@gmail.com

Environmental Council of the States (ECOS)

- Ms. Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Executive Director & General Counsel*
  50 F Street, NW Suite 350, Washington DC
  Phone: Ex. 6 E-Mail: adunn@ecos.org

Fontheim International

- Claude G.B. Fontheim, CEO, 888 17th St. NW, Washington DC 20006*
  Phone: Ex. 6 E-Mail: cgbf@fontheim.com

Rosenberg Consulting

- Ernie Rosenberg, Principal, Ernie Rosenberg & Associates*
  E-Mail: contact.ernierosenberg.com

Toledo Museum

- Mr. Adam Levine, Associate Director*
  Phone: Ex. 6 E-Mail: alevine@toledomuseum.org

Masco Corporation

- Ms. Sara Osterman, HSE Manager, *
  Phone: Ex. 6 E-Mail: sara_osterman@mascohq.com

US Postal Service

- Mr. Thomas G. Day Chief Sustainability Officer*
  E-Mail: thomas.g.day@usps.gov

George Washington University - EEMI

- Mr. Joseph Cascio, Research Professor, Co-Director, Environment & Energy Management Institute*
  E-Mail: cascio@gwu.edu

- Rachael Jonassen, PhD, Director, Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Management*
  Environment & Energy Management Institute
  Tompkins Hall of Engineering, Suite 103725 23rd St. NW
  E-Mail: rachael@gwu.edu

Sidley Austin, LLP

- Mr. Andrew Stewart, Counsel*
  1501 K St. NW, Washington DC 20005
  Phone: 2 Ex. 6 E-Mail: astewart@sidley.com

USEPA

- Mr. Kenneth E. Wagner, Senior Advisor to the Administrator For Regional and State Affairs*
  Phone: Ex. 6, E-Mail: wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

- MS Nena Shaw, Senior Advisor, Smart Sectors Program Office of Policy*
  Phone: Ex. 6, E-Mail: shaw.nena@epa.gov

- Amy Dewey, Office of Communications, *

ELI

Scott Fulton , President *

Earth & Water Strategies

- Mr. Rick Otis, Director*
  1455 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20004
  Phone: 2 Ex. 6

Message

From: Alexandra Dapolito Dunn [adunn@ecos.org]
Sent: 10/26/2017 8:41:42 AM
To: karen.crawford@nelsonmullins.com; reecemc@dhec.sc.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=514d8da796ca4e1a8c0cdf6979618732-reecemc@dhec.sc.gov]; Bob Martineau [Bob.Martineau@tn.gov]; Glenn, Trey [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c1f10fec3149420597e6581c2586e25e-Glenn, Onis]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Cory, Preston (Katherine) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bfd80b15f6d04a3ba11fc8ca3c85bc50-Cory, Kathe]; Kelley Clemons [Kelley.Clemons@tn.gov]; stephers@dhec.sc.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e70585bf0785432e92338a7e0c1d713a-stephers@dhec.sc.gov]; Margaret Campbell [margaret.campbell@troutmansanders.com]
Subject: Re: EPA Acting General Counsel seeking to join by conf call - today's ACOEL Region IV Special Program

Hi All -

Kevin Minoli - the Agency's Acting General Counsel - has offered and would be willing to dial in to this discussion to make a few points if we'd be able to accommodate.

If technology is possible to do this I am happy to try to work him in. He did a great job at ABA last week on the consent decree directive.

Please let me know your thoughts or we can discuss upon arrival. I'm on my way down this morning. I've let Kevin know we are assessing the feasibility.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 13, 2017, at 10:07 AM, Alexandra Dapolito Dunn <adunn@ecos.org> wrote:

> Hello all! Sorry for the delay in getting these possible questions to you and a more detailed outline of how we'll proceed. I hope this is helpful!.
>
> This program will be in Charleston, SC on Oct. 26 from 3-430 PM. On our prep call, we agreed to take a dialogue approach and so I'm outlining that below as your moderator.
>
> I've timed it out below and rounded up here and there - leaving time for Q&A, Let me know if this works!
>
> 300-307
>
> As moderator, Alex will open the panel and welcome everyone to the session. I will briefly introduce each of the speakers and frame up that we are 10 months into the Administration. I will note that this session is designed to give everyone a good sense of activity by the President - particularly with regard to actions involving the EPA - and what may lie ahead as we close out 2017 and go into 2018. I will mention a few key developments - the executive orders on 2 for 1 rulemaking, the Department of Commerce's recent report on regulatory streamlining for manufacturing, the Superfund Task Force, the WOTUS two step process, the EO and subsequent action on the CPP, the retention of Henry Darwin as COO and the Lean Efforts; and the general status of appointments to RAs and AAs.

I expect this will take 5-7 minutes. I'll then explain that each of the speakers as I tee them up - Ken, Trey, Bob, and Myra, will take 5-7 minutes to give an overview of their perspective of developments and next steps from where they sit and their day to day work. After that, we'll go into a moderated discussion, and that the speakers and I have a few questions that we discussed to get this discussion moving. Finally, we'll have time for audience Q&A

307-315
ALEX: Turn to Ken, Senior Adviser to the Administrator for State and Regional Affairs. Ken, you've been traveling the country meeting with states and EPA Regions. Can give us some insights into what you're hearing and talking about as you make your travels? at
KEN: SPEAKS FOR 5 or so minutes. Back to Basics agenda, streamlining, lean, cooperative federalism, strategic plan, worksharing with states etc).

315-325
ALEX: Thanks Ken, (brief comment on anything heard). Now, I'd like to turn to Trey Glenn, the first Regional Administrator named and for Region 4. Trey, you've been in the role a few months now. Can you give us some perspective from your standpoint about what's happening in the Region and what are some of your priority areas.
TREY: Might be good to touch priorities like goals, the strategic plan, organizational focus for change in the Region, Superfund, Hurricane response, and more.

325-335
ALEX: Thanks Trey, (brief comment on anything heard). Now, I'd like to turn to Bob Martineau, Commissioner of the Tennesee Department of Environment and Conservation. Bob, can you tell some of the ways the new Administration is changing how you're working in TDEC, and what some of your goals are for your state as it builds relationships with the Headqurters and Regional political leadership? What are some areas you see opportunity for change, and what improvement have you already seen?
BOB: Maybe touch on Superfund/Brownfields, Infrastructure, and cooperative federalism; oversight, innovation

335-345
ALEX: Thanks Bob, brief comment on anything heard). Myra, let me turn to you now as another Region 4 state. I'll pose a similar question to what I asked Bob, can you share some of the ways you're working with the new administration - maybe touch on storm response post Irma and water infrastructure - particularly rural infrastructure for which I know you and Ken share a passion.
MYRA: Touch on Irma response, water infrastructure, innovation in SC, expedited permitting

Thanks All, Now let's dive into a few additional areas and then open it up for Q&A.

345-405

QUESTION 1: SUPERFUND. You've all mentioned Superfund and Brownfields - a priority for EPA. What's working well with the current programs? (EACH TAKE A CRACK AT THIS). How about areas for improvement - Each take a response again. EG, SUPERFUND TASK FORCE REPORT

QUESTION 2: INFRASTRUCTURE & 404 ASSUMPTION/COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM. The Administration is on its way to launching an infrastructure program/legislative principles in early 2017. Let's talk a bit about the diverse types of

infrastructure - highways, airports, water/wastewater, energy. Each speaker pls comment on your perspective role in the infrastructure conversation. Alex will offer that states are looking at streamlined permitting and accesslerated transparency - also mention the move towards 404 assumption. Ken or Trey may wish to comment on 404 assumption and the Assumable Waters FACA. Bob and Myra can talk about expedited permitting by states; same for Trey and Ken.

QUESTION 3: BACK TO BASICS AGENDA. Administrator Pruitt has talked extensively about a back to basics agenda and the rule of law. Can each of you reflect a bit about how is a focus on Back to Basics and Rule of Law is carrying itself out in your work? Alex may mention for states the look at statutorily required approvals by EPA of state actions vs. discretionary. Alex may mention the Missouri DNR letter which expresses concern with oversight that 'exceed what is expected of a normal audit function' and routine permit scruitny that is 'over and above what is authorized in existing memoranda of agreement or other programmatic agreements.'

Q&A - 405-430

Alex will moderate open Q&A

Regards, Alex

Executive Director and General Counsel
ECOS
Ex. 6 (c)

Message

From: Alexandra Dapolito Dunn [adunn@ecos.org]
Sent: 10/13/2017 2:07:06 PM
To: karen.crawford@nelsonmullins.com; reecemc@dhec.sc.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=514d8da796ca4e1a8c0cdf6979618732-reecemc@dhec.sc.gov]; Bob Martineau [Bob.Martineau@tn.gov]; Glenn, Trey [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c1f10fec3149420597e6581c2586e25e-Glenn, Onis]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Cory, Preston (Katherine) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bfd80b15f6d04a3ba11fc8ca3c85bc50-Cory, Kathe]; Kelley Clemons [Kelley.Clemons@tn.gov]; stephers@dhec.sc.gov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e70585bf0785432e92338a7e0c1d713a-stephers@dhec.sc.gov]; Margaret Campbell [margaret.campbell@troutmansanders.com]
Subject: Suggested Dialogue Roadmap and Series of Questions for the ACOEL Region IV Special Program

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This program will be in Charleston, SC on Oct. 26 from 3-430 PM. On our prep call, we agreed to take a dialogue approach and so I'm outlining that below as your moderator.

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Q&A - 405-430

Alex will moderate open Q&A

Regards, Alex

Executive Director and General Counsel

ECOS

Ex. 6 (c)

Message

From: Tom Davis [tsdllcdc@yahoo.com]
Sent: 10/3/2017 1:59:38 PM
To: Rachael Jonassen [rachaelj@gwu.edu]; Andrew Stewart [astewart@sidley.com]; Thom/DCA Robison [thom.robison@ch2m.com]; Alexandra Dunn [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userfa6cd8fb]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]; Tabitha/HOU Laser [tabitha.laser@ch2m.com]; cgbf@fontheim.com; Doug Pontsler [doug.pontsler@owenscorning.com]; Keith Oldewurtel [keith.oldewurtel@veolia.com]
Subject: Fall meeting Corporate EHS & S Roundtable, Nov 14-15
Attachments: Nov 14-15 2017 Agendal.docx

Good morning,
Attached is the agenda for the Nov 14-15 meeting. Please review and edit as appropriate. If you have not already done so please let me have your contact information for the attendee/speaker list

Tom Davis

Tom Davis Associates

1099 22nd Street NW

Suite 804

Washington, DC 20037

Ex. 6 ***Office***

Cell

Email: tsdllcdc@yahoo.com

Follow me on *Twitter*

Connect with me on *LinkedIn*

Environmental, Health, Safety & Sustainability Roundtable

November 14-15, 2017 Agenda

National Press Club – Holeman Lounge

Washington, DC

DRAFT

Tuesday – November 14, 2017

12:00 pm **Buffet lunch** – Working Lunch & Discussion

12:15 pm **Welcome and Self-Introductions**

Jim Thomas, Chairman and Moderator

Dan Hutter, Division Vice President, Spectrum Brands, Global EHS and Compliance Assurance

Antitrust Caveat

Frank Friedman, President, Frank Friedman & Associates LLC

12:20 pm **The Risk of Climate Risk**, Rachael Jonassen, PhD, Director, Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Management, Environment and energy Institute, George Washington University

1:20 pm **Break**

1:30 pm **Update: Compliance & Innovation Group**

Frank Friedman and Andrew Stewart, Sidly Austin, Washington DC

2:30 pm **Business Resiliency**

Thom Robison, Managing Director Resiliency Practice, CH2M

4:00 pm **Update: Impact of new administration on state environmental activities and capabilities**

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Executive Director & General Counsel, ECOS

5:00 pm **Adjourn for Libations and Dinner**

Dinner Speaker, Ken Wagner, USEPA,

Wednesday – November 15, 2017

7:00am **Breakfast**

7:30am **Corporate Culture Killers**
Tabitha A. Laser, CSP
President ASSE Gulf Coast Chapter
Global H&S Practice Leader, CH2M

8:30am **Human Trafficking**
Claude Fontheim, Fontheim International, LLC

9:30am **Visual Literacy and Safety ,**
Doug Pontsler Owens Corning, Adam Levine, Toledo Museum of Art

10:30am **Corporate Member Showcase: Veolia (invited)**
Keith Oldewurtel, Senior Vice President, EHS

11:00am **Adjourn**

FUTURE MEETINGS:
April 11-12, 2018, November 13-14, 2018

Sierra Club v. EPA 18cv3472 NDCA Tier 3/4 ED_002061_00177973-00002

Message

From: Bode, Denise A (53804) [dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com]
Sent: 10/5/2017 1:57:17 PM
To: Ford, Hayley [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4748a9029cf74453a20ee8ac9527830c-Ford, Hayle]
CC: Ryan_Jackson@inhofe.senate.gov; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: HP Updated Bio.docx
Attachments: HP Updated Bio.docx; ATT00001.htm

Here is a little background on Harry. Good Oklahoma guy.

Thanks again for your consideration.
Denise

Email Disclaimer

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The information contained in this communication may be confidential, is intended only for the use of the recipient(s) named above, and may be legally privileged. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication, or any of its contents, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please return it to the sender immediately and delete the original message and any copy of it from your computer system. If you have any questions concerning this message, please contact the sender.

==========

Denise A. Bode
Partner
E dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com
T Ex. 6 | **M** Ex. 6 | **F** 202.347.1819
my bio | our firm | vCard

Harry N. Pefanis is President and Chief Operating Officer of Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. ("PAA"), and its general partner holding company Plains GP Holdings ("PAGP"), which are both listed on the NYSE. PAA is a Master Limited Partnership and is one of the largest crude oil transportation companies in North America, handling over 5 million barrels per day of crude oil and NGLs through its pipeline transportation network. PAA and PAGP have an aggregate enterprise value of approximately $25 billion.

Mr. Pefanis has held the position of President of PAA and its predecessors since 1988. Mr. Pefanis joined Plains Resources (which formerly owned 100% of PAA's GP interest) in 1983. Prior to joining Plains Resources in 1983, Mr. Pefanis was an auditor for the national accounting firm of Price Waterhouse & Co. Mr. Pefanis currently serves on the Board of PAGP as well as the Boards of the American Petroleum Institute, the Association of Oil Pipelines, the Memorial Hermann Foundation and the Advisory Board for the Price College of Business at the University of Oklahoma. He has also served on the New York Mercantile Exchange's Crude Oil Advisory Committee from 1996 through 2003. Mr. Pefanis has a BBA in accounting from the University of Oklahoma.

Message

From: Ben Grumbles -MDE- [ben.grumbles@maryland.gov]
Sent: 10/4/2017 7:28:35 PM
To: Cory, Preston (Katherine) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bfd80b15f6d04a3ba11fc8ca3c85bc50-Cory, Kathe]
CC: Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]; Wagner, Kenneth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=048236ab99bc4d5ea16c139b1b67719c-Wagner, Ken]
Subject: Re: EPA Announces Appointment of Cosmo Servidio to Region 3 Administrator

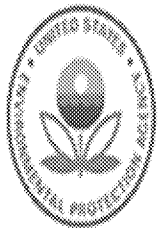
Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 3:09 PM, Cory, Preston (Katherine) <Cory.Preston@epa.gov> wrote:

> All,
>
> FYI below regarding the appointment of Cosmo Servidio to Region 3 Administrator. Please let me know if you have any questions.
>
> Regards,
> Preston Cory
>
> **K. Preston Cory**
> Special Advisor
> Office of the Administrator, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations
> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
> **Ex. 6**

From: EPA Press Office [mailto:press=epa.gov@cmail19.com] **On Behalf Of** EPA Press Office
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:51 PM
To: Cory, Preston (Katherine) <Cory.Preston@epa.gov>
Subject: EPA Announces Appointment of Cosmo Servidio to Region 3 Administrator



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

WWW.EPA.GOV/NEWSROOM

CONTACT: press@epa.gov

EPA Announces Appointment of Cosmo Servidio to Region 3 Administrator

WASHINGTON (October 4,2017) -Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt announced the appointment of Cosmo Servidio of Pennsylvania to become regional administrator for Region 3. Mr. Servidio will oversee environmental protection efforts in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Cosmo Servidio currently holds the position of director of environmental affairs for the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority in Pennsylvania where he plays a vital leadership role in one of the state's largest water and wastewater utilities. Mr. Servidio oversees operations and facility planning to help identify needed improvements to maintain essential water and wastewater services and provides oversight to ensure utilities comply with all state and federal requirements. Prior to joining Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority, Mr. Servidio served as regional director for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for the Southern Region, where he worked to ensure staff implemented the Department's priorities to improve air quality, waste management, radiation protection, remediation, conservation, safe drinking water, dam safety, and clean water programs.

Mr. Servidio also served as the chief of staff for EPA's Region 2 headquarters from 2005-2009, where he helped administer federal programs in implementing the Agency's mission in New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virginia Islands.

"Cosmo Servidio has spent much of his career providing administrative support for institutions that provide healthy environmental outcomes for the public," **said Administrator Pruitt.** "He brings federal, state, and local administrative experience working in the environmental field and will provide exceptional leadership for Region 3."

Cosmo Servidio's appointment is receiving support from across the region:

Douglas Bilheimer, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association: "We are very pleased to learn that Cosmo Servidio has been appointed to serve as director of EPA Region 3. Mr. Servidio's background at Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection and most recently with one of our largest most progressive municipal authorities will serve him well in his new responsibilities."

Austin Caperton, Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection: "I was very encouraged by my first meeting by phone with Cosmo Servidio. He is obviously experienced and qualified for the position. It was clear that he believes

in cooperative federalism and the rights of states. He is clearly in line with the current administration. But most important to me: he listened!"

Ben Grumbles, Maryland Secretary of the Environment: "Cosmo is a seasoned environmental professional who knows how to build partnerships for progress throughout our region."

Debra McCarty, Commissioner of the Philadelphia Water Department: "Cosmo Servido is an excellent appointment. He was good to work with at the PA DEP and will bring pragmatism, experience and commonsense to the EPA. I look forward to again working him in this new role to protect the environment."

Maya K. van Rossum, Delaware Riverkeeper: "Cosmo Servidio is the best choice for Regional Administrator. He is highly regarded by throughout the environmental community. This respect has been earned by the fair minded and forthright decisions and actions taken by Cosmo to implement the law and achieve the goals of community and environmental protection. Even if there was a decision Cosmo made in his role as regional director at PADEP that I didn't like or agree with, I always knew it was a decision grounded in the facts, the law and one that Cosmo truly believed was the right outcome. I might not always like the answers Cosmo gave me as a regulator, but I always knew I could trust that he was telling me the truth. That kind of integrity from a Regional Administrator is critical for success, particularly in today's political climate."

Wilmer Stoneman, Director of Commodities and Marketing, Virginia Farm Bureau: "Virginia Farm Bureau certainly welcomes this opportunity to work with Mr. Servidio to balance the needs of Virginia Farmers and the Chesapeake Bay."

Jeff Warmann, CEO and President, Monroe Energy LLC: "Cosmo's leadership is unparalleled. He has a keen ability to bring regulators and business together, ensuring that they communicate effectively and that their shared goals of protecting the environment are achieved. Cosmo and his team were readily available to answer any questions we had or to provide guidance when needed. I want to congratulate Cosmo on his appointment to Region Three Administrator; I know that he will do a tremendous job."

Rob Wonderling, President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia: "On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia we applaud the recent appointment of Cosmo Servidio as the Region III EPA Administrator. Cosmo has served our region well as a public servant and business leader who keenly understands that environmental stewardship and economic growth require consensus, collaboration, and a modern approach to policy and regulation. Cosmo has a proven track record of being a highly energetic leader and innovative leader who actively listens to all sides and perspectives related to complex environmental issues. He also has a keen eye on global trends, solid science, and macroeconomic opportunities that will serve our region and nation well in this new assignment."

<image002.png>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004

Unsubscribe

Click here to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]

Sent: 8/16/2017 2:33:29 PM

To: Rodrigues, Cecil [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4515b309fe314660b3e3069a2925f01a-Crodri06]

CC: tommy.wells@dc.gov; Garvin, Shawn M. (DNREC) [Shawn.Garvin@state.de.us]; Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Ward, Molly (GOV) [Molly.Ward@governor.virginia.gov]; david.paylor@deq.virginia.gov; austin.caperton@wv.gov; D'Andrea, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=379464cfcda84ba48904082506c2c1d3-D'Andrea, Michael]; White, Terri-A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e31831b01a414cf2a400d6399725cea0-Twhite03]; Miller, Linda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c45e851180f4f8b9868b52b0215e238-Lmille04]; Zieba, Kyle [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=62dc688377884918a554aaa55d95a574-Kzieba]; Brown, Kinshasa [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=45dee7546f134bc6877057816e30d1d7-Brown-Perry, Kinshasa]; Hamilton, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bd0a2dfbaeba48d8a8d4cbc1d7039680-Hamilton, Brian]; Ferrell, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ccaf8c895c8426e9b5c274d26b7f833-Ferrell, Mark]; Horacio Tablada -Mde- [horacio.tablada@maryland.gov]; Mandirola, Scott G [Scott.G.Mandirola@wv.gov]; Armstead, John A. [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93cd7a462484482780391e94f240902e-Armstead, John]; Yamada, Richard (Yujiro) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4c34a1e0345e4d26b361b5031430639d-Yamada, Yuj]; Blackburn, Elizabeth [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a080eb90549a453aaa6a357f5257c0b7-Blackburn, Elizabeth]; Searfoss, Renee [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df11455e026d4599ae0d6a5471f1c0a4-Rsearfos]; Ward, Vicki E. (DNREC) [Vicki.Ward@state.de.us]; Kathy Bishop [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]; Reim, Heather [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=userf6840911]; Franklin, Elsie (DEQ [Elsie.Franklin@deq.virginia.gov]; gary burdette [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user1edc1165]; Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov ['Meryem.karad@governor.virginia.gov']; Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Nitsch, Chad [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d1d117eb89ff410fb6ccd21643b34447-CNitsch]; Ebanks, Edna (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user58ea86b1]; valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov ['valerie.fulcher@deq.virginia.gov']; Ziadeh, Ramez [rziadeh@pa.gov]; Hochberg, Adriana (DOEE) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user184574b6]; Karad, Meryem (GOV) [Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov]; Reese, Leslie (DNREC [Leslie.Reese@state.de.us]; Rodan, Bruce [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Rodan, Bruce]; Radzikowski, Mary Ellen [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ac0a54e43bb4ac08276b57c5563c725-Radzikowski, Mary Ellen]; Yamada, Kazumi [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Yamada, Kazumi]; Lewis, Jacqueline [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0d9cba1195aa4c14815813f6f371ff20-Jlewis]; Purnell, Rhonda [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4a3ae0e3175a4b2c922d5ecff3d0aa5b-Rpurnell]

Subject: Re: State Secretary Mtg Update

My apologies as the logistics from gettyfeom the west coast Wednesday night would necessitate a red eye flight and fly back west that evening. It was just too much flying. I look forward to meeting again very soon. I'm sure that I will see most of you at ECOS in September.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Aug 16, 2017, at 9:18 AM, Rodrigues, Cecil <rodrigues.cecil@epa.gov> wrote:

Hello Everyone,
We have been advised that Ken Wagner, EPA Senior Advisor for Regional and State Affairs will not be able to attend the State Secretaries Meeting scheduled for August 24th, 2017. I still think it is important that we get together. Therefore, a revised agenda is attached. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my front office staff at 215-814-2900.

Thanks. Cecil

Cecil Rodrigues
Acting Regional Administrator
EPA Region III (3RA00)
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215.814.2683
IPhone:215.266.2960

<State Sec Meeting - FINAL Agenda 8-24-17.docx>

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 7/21/2017 2:21:10 PM
To: Jay Cranford [cranford@cgcn.com]
CC: Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]; Katie Mitchell [mitchell@cgcn.com]
Subject: Re: connect

No worries...I look forward to meeting Kate and Chad

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 21, 2017, at 10:20 AM, Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com> wrote:

> Ken, Kate and Chad from Noble are en route to you from CEQ. Unfortunately the rest of the group is unable to make the meeting. Kate and Chad are the substantive experts on the issue so you guys are in good hands.
>
> Thanks again for agreeing to the meeting and I hope to connect with you soon.
>
> Thanks again to you Troy. -Jay
>
> Jay Cranford
> CGCN Group
> **Ex. 6**
> www.cgcn.com
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Jay Cranford
> **Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2017 4:34:07 PM
> **To:** Wagner, Kenneth
> **Cc:** Lyons, Troy; Katie Mitchell
> **Subject:** Re: connect
>
> Perfect. Thank you!
>
> Jay Cranford
> CGCN Group
> **Ex. 6**
> www.cgcn.com
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
> **Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2017 4:33:08 PM

To: Jay Cranford
Cc: Lyons, Troy; Katie Mitchell
Subject: Re: connect

How about 10:30am? Come to the North Entrance off of 12th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania (by the Metro Stop),,,Come through Security and have them call my office phone.. Ex. 6

Ex. 6

My office suite is 3309....I will come down and meet you when called.

See you then!

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 19, 2017, at 5:28 AM, Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com> wrote:

> Thanks so much to both of you. Late morning Friday will work for us. Please let us know what time works best for you and we will be there.
>
> We'll also get our final list of attendees to you this morning. We will have 3-4 people from our end, max.
>
> Thanks again. -Jay
>
> Jay Cranford
> CGCN Group
> Ex. 6
> www.cgcn.com
>
> _____
> From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
> Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 10:55 PM
> Subject: Re: connect
> To: Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
> Cc: Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com>
>
> As it happens...I'm actually in town on Friday...late morning would work
>
> Let me know if it can work out?
>
> Ken
>
> **Kenneth E. Wagner**
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*

For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 18, 2017, at 10:50 PM, Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov> wrote:

Jay, always a pleasure!

I have added Ken to the email in the hopes that his schedule will allow for a visit.

Ken, please see Jay's below.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 18, 2017, at 5:44 PM, Jay Cranford <cranford@cgcn.com> wrote:

> Good afternoon Troy. I'm emailing to see if you could help connect me with Ken Wagner at EPA. Our client, Noble, is coming in from Denver this week and would like an opportunity to sit down with him to discuss some CO-specific ozone issues. At this point Noble has availability this Friday (7/21) morning until 11:30am. I realize this is a small window of availability but I know they would like to try to meet. If it doesn't work out this time, maybe they can try again the next time they are in town.
>
> As a side note, Noble will be meeting with the Administrator's policy team Thursday afternoon. Just want to make sure you are aware.
>
> Thanks, -Jay
>
> **JAY CRANFORD** | CGCN GROUP
> 1101 K STREET, NW, SUITE 650 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
> **Ex. 6** /cranford@cgcn.com /www.cgcn.com

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 7/19/2017 8:29:35 PM
To: Mary Jo Tomalewski [mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org]
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Mary Jo, sorry for the difficulty in getting this scheduled. I am on a flight today, and will be traveling in Idaho next Wednesday the 26th and all day on August 1 at a Superfund Site in a remote area. I think the better way is for Jay to simply call my cell phone as he is available and see if I answer or call back immediately (which I try very hard at doing.

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 19, 2017, at 8:37 AM, Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org> wrote:

> Could we get this on the calendar today?
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
> **Date:** July 18, 2017 at 9:42:19 AM EDT
> **To:** "Wagner, Kenneth" <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
> **Subject: RE: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?**
>
> Ken,
>
> I had a chance to talk with Jay this morning, and he wants to proceed with an in person meeting. I'm happy to work with your scheduler to get this on the calendar, if you could share with me their name and email address, or forward my email to them.
>
> Otherwise, I can offer the following days and times that Jay is available to meet at your office (or you are welcome to come here):
>
> - Wednesday, July 26 – between 3:00 and 5:00p
> - Tuesday, August 1
>
> I look forward to hearing from you or someone from your office. Thank you.
> MJ
>
> *Mary Jo Tomalewski*
> Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
> CropLife America
> Direct Dial Ex. 6

Mobile [Ex. 6]
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

<image002.jpg> ***How can I serve you today?***

Future Meetings
2017 Spring Regulator Conference – April 6-7, Arlington, VA
2017 Annual Meeting – September 22-27, Dana Point, CA
2018 Winter Board of Directors Meeting – March 5-7, Washington, DC
2018 Annual Meeting – September 21-26, The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

If he's in Oklahoma... I could do a call?

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: [Ex. 6]
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 14, 2017, at 3:05 PM, Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org> wrote:

> How about Friday, July 21? Jay's open all day.
>
> ***Mary Jo Tomalewski***
> Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
> CropLife America
> **Direct Dial** [Ex. 6]
> **Mobile** [Ex. 6]
> **Email** mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org
>
> <image003.jpg> ***How can I serve you today?***
>
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> **Subject:** Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?
>
> I will be at the ECOS meeting as I'm speaking so Monday won't work. Sorry

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jul 14, 2017, at 1:32 PM, Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org> wrote:

Ken,

As it happens Jay will be at a meeting at EPA on Monday at 1:00p, which should end by 2:00 or 2:30p. Are you available to meet after that meeting? Or before?

MJ

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial (Ex. 6
Mobile (Ex. 6
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

<image002.jpg> ***How can I serve you today?***

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---

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 3:56 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Jay Vroom <JVroom@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: FW: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?
Importance: High

Ken,

I misspoke – would you be available for a meeting on Monday afternoon, July 17, after 1:00p?
MJ

From: Mary Jo Tomalewski
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Ken,

Would you be available for a phone call with Jay Vroom on Monday afternoon, July 17, after 1:00p?
MJ

Mary Jo Tomalewski
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
CropLife America
Direct Dial (2[redacted] Ex. 6
Mobile (7[redacted] Ex. 6
Email mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org

From: Jay Vroom
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2017 10:48 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Re: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Thanks Ken!

I'm on business travel today through Thursday but think I can tell you about my availability the week of July 17.

I am receiving about 3 discreet international colleague groups that week and am basically tied down with them from noon in Tuesday the 18th until 5 pm on Thursday the 20th. My very best time to catch up would we Tuesday morning the 18th--and I could make it as early as you like. If that's not possible let's look at Friday?

Jay
Sent from my iPhone

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> then. Wednesday the 19th is the best

for me (probably in the afternoon). Let me know if that can work.

Hope all is well.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Jay Vroom [mailto:JVroom@croplifeamerica.org]
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2017 6:04 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Mary Jo Tomalewski <mjtomalewski@croplifeamerica.org>
Subject: Checking in, time to catch up sometime in next few weeks?

Hi Ken and happy July!

We have not talked in a while and since the second half of 2017 is now begun I thought it is timely to check in and see if we could get together in the coming weeks?

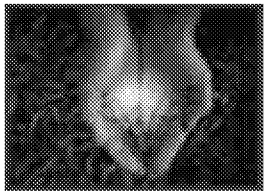
I'll be on travel for meetings next Wednesday and Thursday following the long holiday weekend but my assistant, Mary Jo, can follow up with you Wednesday to see what might be possible to converge our calendars.

Have a great holiday and enjoy the 4th!

Jay

Jay Vroom
President & CEO
CropLife America
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
2 Ex. 6 (O)

Ex. 6 (M)
Vroom@croplifeamerica.org
www.croplifeamerica.org



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> **Kenneth E. Wagner**
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
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US Environmental Protection Agency
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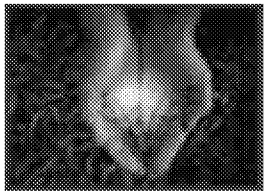
Jay

Jay Vroom
President & CEO
CropLife America
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
Ex. 6 (O)
Ex. 6 (M)
Vroom@croplifeamerica.org
www.croplifeamerica.org



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CC: Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]
Subject: Re: Many Thanks!

I never bought the born in Va bit anyway

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jun 9, 2017, at 10:59 AM, Ben Grumbles -MDE- <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov> wrote:

> Ditto on all counts. Thanks so much for your good work and close coordination. □
>
> Ben
> PS That crab is an all Maryland crab.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Jun 9, 2017, at 11:24 AM, Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> > I echo Ken's sentiments! For Baltimore boy it was a true honor to be in Government House and to meet Governor Hogan!
> >
> > **From:** Wagner, Kenneth
> > **Sent:** Friday, June 9, 2017 11:22 AM
> > **To:** Ben Grumbles <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
> > **Subject:** Many Thanks!
> >
> > Ben:
> >
> > Thanks for your hospitality yesterday. I thought it went as well as it could under the circumstances and you and Governor Hogan have our gratitude. I am looking forward to continuing to work together. By the way, your boss is an awesome guy! Truly enjoyed meeting him and seeing all the history at the Government and State Houses.
> >
> > Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: [redacted] Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Click here to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/9/2017 3:21:53 PM
To: Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]; Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]
Subject: Many Thanks!

Ben:

Thanks for your hospitality yesterday. I thought it went as well as it could under the circumstances and you and Governor Hogan have our gratitude. I am looking forward to continuing to work together. By the way, your boss is an awesome guy! Truly enjoyed meeting him and seeing all the history at the Government and State Houses.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/19/2017 6:29:59 PM
To: Ben Grumbles -MDE- [ben.grumbles@maryland.gov]
Subject: RE: Meeting

Thanks for the clarification...Acronyms are going to be the death of me!

Ken

From: Ben Grumbles -MDE- [mailto:ben.grumbles@maryland.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 1:59 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Meeting

Thanks Ken. Great meeting. One very important clarification to your email below:

Gov Hogan is seeking to become chair of the Executive Council (of the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership). That's the Council which includes the Administrator, the Governors of MD,VA, PA, DE, WV, NY, the Mayor of DC, and the chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission. It's the key organization with secretaries of environment, natural resources, and agriculture from all of the jurisdictions. That's the group meeting in Annapolis on June 8 and Governor McAuliffe will be stepping down from the chairmanship due to his term ending in 2017.

The Chesapeake Bay Commission, which is staffed by Ann, is composed of legislators and a rep from the governors offices of MD, VA, and PA. The current chair is a legislator from PA.

Greatly appreciate your time and the importance of your work ahead.

Ben
Office 4[redacted]
Cell Ex. 6

Sent from my iPad

On May 19, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:

> Ben:
>
> Thanks for taking the time to visit with me and Troy. I am excited that this is the first contact in a productive and strategic relationship. Please feel free to call my cell anytime that you think a conversation is helpful. I am sure we will talk in anticipation of your boss becoming the Chairman of the Chesapeake Bay Commission.
>
> Thanks again,
>
> Ken
>
> **Kenneth E. Wagner**
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*

For Regional and State Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Click here to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 6/8/2017 12:31:34 PM
To: Ben Grumbles -MDE- [ben.grumbles@maryland.gov]; Lyons, Troy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=15e4881c95044ab49c6c35a0f5eef67e-Lyons, Troy]; Bennett, Tate [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1fa92542f7ca4d01973b18b2f11b9141-Bennett, El]
Subject: RE: Baltimore Sun clip on today's Bay meeting, fyi

Thanks Ben! Troy and I will see you in a bit.

Ken

From: Ben Grumbles -MDE- [mailto:ben.grumbles@maryland.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2017 8:27 AM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Bennett, Tate <Bennett.Tate@epa.gov>
Subject: Baltimore Sun clip on today's Bay meeting, fyi

http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/environment/bs-md-chesapeake-bay-program-future-20170608-story.html

Hogan hosting Va. Gov. McAuliffe, other dignitaries Thursday to talk future of Chesapeake Bay Program

Gov. Larry Hogan is hosting Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe and leaders from Pennsylvania and Delaware on Thursday to discuss the future of the Chesapeake Bay Program — a federally coordinated initiative President Donald Trump has proposed eliminating.

The dignitaries are gathering at the State House in Annapolis at 12:45 p.m. for an annual meeting of the bay program's executive council.

While the event will, as usual, include updates on efforts to clean the bay and restore ecosystems, the governors and other representatives are also expected to reiterate concerns that progress could be reversed if

Trump's Environmental Protection Agency doesn't maintain its oversight of that work.

The $73 million EPA bay program, which is based in Annapolis, coordinates state-level actions to reduce the pollution that flows into the Chesapeake from across the bay watershed. It launched in 1983 with the signing of the first Chesapeake Bay Agreement by Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, the EPA and the Chesapeake Bay Commission.

Most of its budget flows to state-by-state programs. But Trump has proposed cutting it, and many other EPA initiatives, expressing a desire to transfer control from the federal government to the states. While serving as Oklahoma attorney general, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt sued the agency he now leads more than a dozen times over what he and other Republicans considered to be federal overreach.

Program supporters have argued that without the EPA's oversight and authority, there would be no way to hold jurisdictions across the bay watershed to maintaining policies aimed at limiting pollution.

While Trump's budget proposals have called for zeroing out the bay program budget, a budget deal Congress reached last month to fund the federal government through September preserved the initiative.

The bay program's executive council is expected to sign a resolution Thursday calling on Trump and Congress "to continue the current level of federal support for the Chesapeake Bay Program and the participating partners for the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, including the active, coordinating role of the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program."

Along with Hogan and McAuliffe, other participants are expected to include environmental officials from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Washington, D.C. That includes Shawn Garvin, who served as EPA's administrator for the mid-Atlantic region under former President Barack Obama and now leads Delaware's Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.

Ken Wagner, Pruitt's senior adviser for state and regional affairs at EPA, is also expected to attend.

Jay Apperson
Deputy Director, Office of Communications
Maryland Department of the Environment
Ex. 6 (mobile)

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Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/19/2017 12:44:17 PM
To: ben.grumbles@maryland.gov
Subject: Meeting

Ben:

Thanks for taking the time to visit with me and Troy. I am excited that this is the first contact in a productive and strategic relationship. Please feel free to call my cell anytime that you think a conversation is helpful. I am sure we will talk in anticipation of your boss becoming the Chairman of the Chesapeake Bay Commission.

Thanks again,

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/18/2017 7:44:47 PM
To: Ben Grumbles [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=usereb77e807]
CC: Barbery, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e219352056ea405a97c93fd9756ceb2b-ABarbery]; Kathy Bishop -MDE- [kathy.bishop@maryland.gov]
Subject: Re: Meet & Greet

Secretary Grumbles: Looking forward to meeting your this evening.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: 2[Ex. 6]
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 18, 2017, at 2:38 PM, Ben Grumbles -MDE- <ben.grumbles@maryland.gov> wrote:

> Great. Will do. Thanks.
>
> Ben
> [Ex. 6]ell
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On May 18, 2017, at 2:35 PM, Barbery, Andrea <Barbery.Andrea@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> > Secretary Grumbles, please call Andrea at **202-564-1397** when you arrive for escort to Ken's office.
> >
> > <mime-attachment.ics>

Click here to complete a three question customer experience survey.

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/18/2017 4:58:09 PM
To: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]
CC: Gunasekara, Mandy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=53d1a3caa8bb4ebab8a2d28ca59b6f45-Gunasekara,]
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

So the entrance is the right by the Federal Triangle Metro Stop off of 12th St NW between Constitution and Pennsylvania. Enter just north of the Metro escalators (North Entrance) go through Security and ask them to call 202-564-1988 and I will come and get you.

Thanks,

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Smith, Robert L. [mailto:RLSmithII@Venable.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: R5 Issue

We'll be there. Question - is the building named or is there an EPA sign?

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 5:56:06 PM
To: Smith, Robert L.
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

Yes...I can do 5-5:30pm in my office. Come to the North Entrance by the Federal Triangle Metro Stop and I will come get you. My room # is 3309

Please confirm.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988

Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 16, 2017, at 2:08 PM, Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com> wrote:

Can we meet Thursday afternoon?

From: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 1:48:40 PM
To: Smith, Robert L.
Cc: Gunasekara, Mandy
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

Wednesday does not work as I am in Annapolis for a Chesapeake Bay meeting. Thursday afternoon could work after 2pm? How long will you need?

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 15, 2017, at 1:43 PM, Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com> wrote:

Thanks Mandy.

Ken - nice to e-meet you. I represent PolyMet and we are building the NorthMet Copper and Nickel mine in MN. Might you be available to see us on Wednesday to discuss the project and some of the issues we're having with R5? Thanks.

From: Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 12:14:00 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth
Cc: Smith, Robert L.
Subject: R5 Issue

Hi Ken,
I'm connecting you with my friend Rob Smith (cc'd) who is having some issues out in Region 5 with regards to a mine. I think you would be a good place to start. Let me know if you need help from my end (or Sarah's if it involves water).

Rob, as I mentioned, Ken is the Administrator's go-to person for all things involving in the Regional Offices.

Best,
Mandy

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Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 6/19/2017 11:05:36 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: Re: In DC this week

I will check and see if he can meet. I will let you know tomorrow

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jun 19, 2017, at 5:54 PM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

> Ken
>
> Just wanted to let you know I am in route to DC right now, will be there until Thursday mid-day. If Kel happens to have some time to meet would gladly come over and say hello. I am with my trustee colleagues from the Nature Conservancy for their annual trustee summit.
>
> Look forward to talking again!
>
> *Mary Draves*
>
> Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
> Environmental Operations and Technology Center
> The Dow Chemical Company
> 1790 Building
> Midland, MI 48674
>
> Phone:
> Mobile: **Ex. 6**
> mfdraves@dow.com
> @mary_draves
> <image001.png>

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/16/2017 9:56:06 PM
To: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]
CC: Gunasekara, Mandy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=53d1a3caa8bb4ebab8a2d28ca59b6f45-Gunasekara,]
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

Yes...I can do 5-5:30pm in my office. Come to the North Entrance by the Federal Triangle Metro Stop and I will come get you. My room # is 3309

Please confirm.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 16, 2017, at 2:08 PM, Smith, Robert L. <RLSmithII@Venable.com> wrote:

> Can we meet Thursday afternoon?
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
> **Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 1:48:40 PM
> **To:** Smith, Robert L.
> **Cc:** Gunasekara, Mandy
> **Subject:** Re: R5 Issue
>
> Wednesday does not work as I am in Annapolis for a Chesapeake Bay meeting. Thursday afternoon could work after 2pm? How long will you need?
>
> Kenneth E. Wagner
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> *For Regional & State Affairs*
> **US Environmental Protection Agency**
> Office: 202-564-1988
> Cell: Ex. 6
> wagner.kenneth@epa.gov
>
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>
> > Thanks Mandy.
> >
> > Ken - nice to e-meet you. I represent PolyMet and we are building the NorthMet

Copper and Nickel mine in MN. Might you be available to see us on Wednesday to discuss the project and some of the issues we're having with R5? Thanks.

From: Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 12:14:00 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth
Cc: Smith, Robert L.
Subject: R5 Issue

Hi Ken,
I'm connecting you with my friend Rob Smith (cc'd) who is having some issues out in Region 5 with regards to a mine. I think you would be a good place to start. Let me know if you need help from my end (or Sarah's if it involves water).

Rob, as I mentioned, Ken is the Administrator's go-to person for all things involving in the Regional Offices.

Best,
Mandy

****
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Sent: 5/8/2017 3:05:31 AM
To: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: Re: Invitation to Tour Dow Remediation Sites in Michigan

Mary:

Thanks for reaching out. I, indeed, would love to tour the site. I reached out to Rich Gold on Thursday because I misplaced many of the business cards I received during the AROW meeting, so your invitation is timely. I will look at the date this week and, hopefully, confirm.

Thanks again for the invite.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 7, 2017, at 1:37 PM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/30/2017 4:21:12 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
Subject: Re: Visit

I think you mentioned that someone from Region 5 will attend the viewing of the site...I think that's good as I do not want to be seen as interfering.

Thanks

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 26, 2017, at 1:26 PM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

> Ken
>
> Just checking in to see if you have made your travel plans.
>
> Thanks!
>
> Mary
>
> **From:** Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
> **Sent:** Friday, May 19, 2017 3:08 PM
> **To:** Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com>
> **Cc:** Deziel, Dennis (DR) <DRDeziel@dow.com>
> **Subject:** RE: Visit
>
> Mary:
>
> Hope all is well. Following up on our call of last week hoping to see if the 15th of June would work for you?
>
> Please let me know as I am excited to see the site and hear of the successes between you and Region 5.
>
> Ken
> **Kenneth E. Wagner**
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> *For Regional and State Affairs*
> **Environmental Protection Agency**
> **202-564-1988 office**
> Ex. 6 **cell**

wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

From: Draves, Mary (M) [mailto:MFDraves@dow.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 1:15 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Cc: Deziel, Dennis (DR) <DRDeziel@dow.com>
Subject: Visit

Ken

Just checking in to see how you are doing on narrowing a date for a possible visit.

We will look forward to having you come see our site!

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone:
Mobile: **Ex. 6**
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves
<image001.png>

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 6/16/2017 1:29:09 PM
To: Mapes, Cathy (CJ) [CJMapes@dow.com]
Subject: Re: Thanks for your time!

Cathy:

It was a great visit. You have a great team and thoroughly enjoyed the Superfund Site visit and the R&D tour. The history of Dow is really a mirror of modern environmentalism so I found it fascinating. Mostly, I enjoyed the discussion about your experiences with the agency and how we can all work to make it more user-friendly while empowering and achieving better environmental outcomes and still creating jobs.

I look forward to further discussion and hearing more about your experiences with our regional offices.

Thanks again,

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Jun 16, 2017, at 8:07 AM, Mapes, Cathy (CJ) <CJMapes@dow.com> wrote:

> Ken,
>
> Thanks again for your visit to Midland yesterday. As you can tell, we're all pretty proud of what we do and we're excited about the future. We'd love to have you visit our Freeport site as well as your schedule allows. I promise the barbeque will beat the turkey wraps you almost got to eat yesterday!
>
> I'd also like to enlist your assistance with our flare enforcement as discussed yesterday. If there's anyone specific we should be calling on, please let me know. In the meantime, I also have an action for you to provide feedback on the
> Regional offices. Since I have several direct reports that interact with Regional offices on a routine basis, I will reach out to them for their thoughts. I'll send along a summary within a few days. As noted, we have the highest level of activity with Regions 5 and 6 due to the locations of our largest manufacturing sites, so I would expect that feedback to be more substantial than that for other Regions.
>
> Again, thanks for your time yesterday.
>
> ---
> Best regards,
>
> **Cathy Mapes**
> EH&S and Sustainability Director

Latin America & North America
Global Regulatory Services,
EH&S Auditing & Compliance
The Dow Chemical Company
Tel. Ex. 6
E-mail: cjmapes@dow.com

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
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To: Smith, Robert L. [RLSmithII@Venable.com]
CC: Gunasekara, Mandy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=53d1a3caa8bb4ebab8a2d28ca59b6f45-Gunasekara,]
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

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Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

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>
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>
> **From:** Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>
> **Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 12:14:00 PM
> **To:** Wagner, Kenneth
> **Cc:** Smith, Robert L.
> **Subject:** R5 Issue
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>
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> Mandy
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Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/15/2017 5:44:56 PM
To: Gunasekara, Mandy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=53d1a3caa8bb4ebab8a2d28ca59b6f45-Gunasekara,]
CC: RLSmithII@Venable.com
Subject: Re: R5 Issue

Hi Rob:

I would be happy to assist. Lots of tight windows as I was in Region 8 and three states last week. I am taking the train to Region 3 tomorrow am and may have some time I could speak. Let me know if that might work.

Ken

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 15, 2017, at 12:14 PM, Gunasekara, Mandy <Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov> wrote:

> Hi Ken,
> I'm connecting you with my friend Rob Smith (cc'd) who is having some issues out in Region 5 with regards to a mine. I think you would be a good place to start. Let me know if you need help from my end (or Sarah's if it involves water).
>
> Rob, as I mentioned, Ken is the Administrator's go-to person for all things involving in the Regional Offices.
>
> Best,
> Mandy

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/12/2017 5:32:43 PM
To: Draves, Mary (M) [MFDraves@dow.com]
CC: Deziel, Dennis (DR) [DRDeziel@dow.com]
Subject: Re: Visit

Mary: I am working on the June 9 date, It I have been in Region 8 (and 3 states) all week so haven't had time to work on my travel schedule. I will try to find something with you this Monday

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
U S Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 12, 2017, at 11:16 AM, Draves, Mary (M) <MFDraves@dow.com> wrote:

Ken

Just checking in to see how you are doing on narrowing a date for a possible visit.

We will look forward to having you come see our site!

Mary Draves

Global Director, Environmental Remediation and Restoration
Environmental Operations and Technology Center
The Dow Chemical Company
1790 Building
Midland, MI 48674

Phone:
Mobile: Ex. 6
mfdraves@dow.com
@mary_draves
<image001.png>

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 4/7/2017 10:58:41 PM
To: Rose, Scott [srose@jw.com]
Subject: Re: New Contact Info

2nd or 3rd

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional and State Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-1988 office
Ex. 6 **cell**
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Apr 7, 2017, at 5:58 PM, Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com> wrote:

We may be there for a week in late June up to the 4th or 5th of July. When will you arrive?

J. Scott Rose | San Antonio Managing Partner
112 East Pecan Street | Suite 2400 | San Antonio, TX | 78205
O: Ex. 6 | http://www.jw.com/JScott_Rose/
<image002.jpg>

From: Wagner, Kenneth [mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 5:49 PM
To: Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com>
Subject: Re: New Contact Info

Over the 4th to the 10th of July...you

Kenneth E. Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
For Regional & State Affairs
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-1988
Cell: 2 Ex. 6
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On Apr 7, 2017, at 6:45 PM, Rose, Scott <srose@jw.com> wrote:

Totally awesome. Got get 'em.

And we need to meet up in FL. Let me know when are going to be there this summer.

J. Scott Rose
San Antonio Managing Partner
Jackson Walker LLP
2400 Weston Centre
112 East Pecan Street
San Antonio, TX 78205
Ex. 6 (o)
(c)
srose@jw.com

On Apr 7, 2017, at 5:27 PM, Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:

> Scott:
>
> Wanted to get you my new contact information as I have had a small career change. Hope all is going well with you. If I can ever be of help, or you make it to DC, I would love to see you. I believe you have my personal cell as well.
>
> Ken
>
> Kenneth E. Wagner
> *Senior Advisor to the Administrator*
> *For Regional & State Affairs*
> **US Environmental Protection Agency**
> Office: 202-564-1988
> Cell: Ex. 6
> wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

JW
Jackson Walker LLP

Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 4/4/2017 6:58:41 PM
To: Barfield, Blake [Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com]
Subject: RE: EPA waiver letter

Thanks,

I have passed along to my Policy colleagues.

Ken

-----Original Message-----
From: Barfield, Blake [mailto:Blake.Barfield@HollyFrontier.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 2:15 PM
To: Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: EPA waiver letter

Ken -

FYI on the enclosed

Thanks
Blake

--
Blake D. Barfield
Director, Government Affairs
The HollyFrontier Companies
2828 N. Harwood, Suite 1300
Dallas, TX 75201
Ex. 6
blake.barfield@hollyfrontier.com

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Message

From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/23/2018 4:23:38 PM
To: Bode, Denise A (53804) [dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com]
Subject: Re: Call

Cell

Kenneth Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
Regional & State Affairs
Office of the Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20001

(202)564-1988 office
Ex. 6 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 23, 2018, at 11:22 AM, Bode, Denise A (53804) <dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com> wrote:

> Perfect, your office number? D
>
> Denise A. Bode
> Partner
> E dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>
> T Ex. 6 | M Ex. 6 F 202.347.1819
> [/Users/denisebode/Library/Containers/com.microsoft.Outlook/Data/Library/Caches/Signatures/signature_1748885160]
>
> my bio<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/dc/lawyer/denise-bode/> | our firm<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/> | vCard<http://www.michaelbest.com/People/Denise-Bode.vcf>
>
> From: Kenneth Wagner <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>
> Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 12:19 PM
> To: Denise Bode <dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>
> Subject: Re: Call
>
> Sure...2:15pm?
> Kenneth Wagner
> Senior Advisor to the Administrator
> Regional & State Affairs
> Office of the Administrator
> US Environmental Protection Agency
> 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
> Washington DC 20001

(202)564-1988 office
Ex. 6 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov<mailto:wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>

On May 23, 2018, at 11:12 AM, Bode, Denise A (53804) <dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>> wrote:
Ken, would you have a minute for a chat today? D

Denise A. Bode
Partner
E dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com><mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>
T Ex. 6 | M Ex. 6 F 202.347.1819
[/Users/denisebode/Library/Containers/com.microsoft.Outlook/Data/Library/Caches/Signatures/signature_1756398501]

my bio<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/dc/lawyer/denise-bode/> | our firm<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/> | vCard<http://www.michaelbest.com/People/Denise-Bode.vcf>

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From: Wagner, Kenneth [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=048236AB99BC4D5EA16C139B1B67719C-WAGNER, KEN]
Sent: 5/23/2018 4:19:34 PM
To: Bode, Denise A (53804) [dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com]
Subject: Re: Call

Sure...2:15pm?

Kenneth Wagner
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
Regional & State Affairs
Office of the Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20001

(202)564-1988 office
Ex. 6 cell
wagner.kenneth@epa.gov

On May 23, 2018, at 11:12 AM, Bode, Denise A (53804) <dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com> wrote:

> Ken, would you have a minute for a chat today? D
>
> Denise A. Bode
> Partner
> E dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com<mailto:dabode@michaelbeststrategies.com>
> T Ex. 6 | M 405.818.1775 | F 202.347.1819
> [/Users/denisebode/Library/Containers/com.microsoft.Outlook/Data/Library/Caches/Signatures/signature_1756398501]
>
> my bio<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/dc/lawyer/denise-bode/> | our firm<http://www.michaelbeststrategies.com/> | vCard<http://www.michaelbest.com/People/Denise-Bode.vcf>

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