Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund Overview

April, 2014
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

**Who we are**

- Chartered by Congress in 1984
- 30 member Board appointed by Secretary of the Interior
  - Includes FWS Director & NOAA Administrator

**What we do**

- Sustain, restore and enhance the nation’s natural heritage
- Facilitate collaboration among public agencies & the private sector
- Ensure accountability and transparency of conservation investments

**How we do it**

- Leverage public funding with private money – average 3:1
- On-the-ground conservation projects through grant making
- Administration of legal settlements and mitigation funds
- 20+ years & over $128 million in Gulf conservation investments
Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund: Key Provisions of Plea Agreements

• Funding: NFWF to receive a total of $2.54B:
  o $1.27B for barrier island & river diversion projects in Louisiana
  o Remaining funds allocated by formula:
    ▪ 28% each for Alabama, Florida, Mississippi ($356M/state)
    ▪ 16% for Texas ($203M)

• Purpose: Fund projects that remedy harm to the type of natural resources (habitats, species) that were affected by the spill

• Consultation: with State resource agencies, FWS and NOAA

• Timeline: Funds to be paid over a 5-year period
## Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund: Payment Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Payment (in millions of dollars)</th>
<th>Louisiana</th>
<th>Alabama</th>
<th>Florida</th>
<th>Mississippi</th>
<th>Texas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 2013</td>
<td>$158.00</td>
<td>$79.00</td>
<td>$22.12</td>
<td>$22.12</td>
<td>$22.12</td>
<td>$12.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2014</td>
<td>353.00</td>
<td>176.50</td>
<td>49.42</td>
<td>49.42</td>
<td>49.42</td>
<td>28.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2015</td>
<td>339.00</td>
<td>169.50</td>
<td>47.46</td>
<td>47.46</td>
<td>47.46</td>
<td>27.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2016</td>
<td>300.00</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td>42.00</td>
<td>24.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2017</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2018</td>
<td>894.00</td>
<td>447.00</td>
<td>125.16</td>
<td>125.16</td>
<td>125.16</td>
<td>71.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,544.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,272.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$356.16</strong></td>
<td><strong>$356.16</strong></td>
<td><strong>$356.16</strong></td>
<td><strong>$203.52</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*BP = $2,394M*

*Transocean = $150M*

- $511 million has been received to date
- More than half the funds to be received in yrs 4 & 5
Program Implementation

- Consultation with state and federal resource agencies
  
  **State agencies:**
  - Alabama – Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
  - Florida – Fish & Wildlife Cons. Comm. & DEP
  - Louisiana – Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
  - Mississippi – Department of Environmental Quality
  - Texas – TXPWD, GLO and TCEQ

  **Federal agencies:**
  - NOAA
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- States establishing websites for submission of projects
- NFWF to facilitate consensus on project slate
Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund: Governance Flow Chart

Coordination w/ RESTORE & NRD

- Federal Agencies
- State Agencies
- NGOs, Local Governments & Others

**Project Identification**

- Preliminary Project List
- NFWF Staff Review
- Federal Agency Consultation
  - FWS
  - NOAA

NFWF Gulf Committee Review

Consensus

**Project Implementation**

- Reporting/Monitoring
- Court/DOJ Updates

NFWF Board Approval

Note: In accordance with the plea, NFWF retains final authority to select projects. Procedures subject to NFWF Board approval and may be modified.
Project Selection Criteria

Required (per plea agreements):
- Remedy harm to the type of natural resources (habitats, species) affected by oil spill
- Projects must occur within Gulf states and waters and be within reasonable proximity to impacts, as appropriate
- Infrastructure only as necessary to restore or protect natural resources
- Louisiana funds only for barrier island and river diversion projects included in the Master Plan

Other:
- Alignment with restoration plans such as under RESTORE
- Science-based, measurable outcomes
- Cost-effective and potentially leveraged to maximize impact
- Reasonable expectation regarding permit approval
Overarching Goals and Focal Areas

1. **Restore and Conserve Coastal Habitat**
   - Barrier islands & beach/dune habitat
   - Coastal marsh
   - Coastal bays & estuaries

2. **Enhance Populations of Priority Living Resources**
   - Oysters
   - Gulf Coast birds
   - Red snapper & reef fish
   - Sea turtles
   - Marine mammals

- Intended to guide project selection and monitor outcomes
- Priorities will be refined over time based on planning
Current Projects

- **Initial Projects Announced November 2013**
  - 22 projects selected in the five Gulf states
  - Total obligation in 2013 of over $112 million dollars
  - Project contracting and implementation underway

- **2014 Announced Projects:**
  - On April 3, NFWF awarded an additional $144.5 million to Louisiana for the construction of an additional 7.5 miles of restored barrier island (Caminada Headland)

- **In aggregate, these projects will:**
  - Protect, restore or enhance significant acres of wetland habitat
  - Facilitate restoration of barrier island & beach/dune habitat
  - Advance priority river diversion projects to benefit coastal Louisiana
  - Protect nests for priority beach-nesting birds in Florida and Mississippi
  - Increase sea turtle hatchlings by reducing light pollution
  - Restore significant acreage of oyster reef
Next Steps and Future Projects

- **Timeline: 2014 and Beyond**
  - NFWF received 2nd payment in January/February 2014
  - Winter/Spring 2014 – States carry out public engagement and project solicitation
  - Spring/Summer 2014 – Proposal submission, review and negotiation
  - Fall 2014 – Final project slate review and approval
  - 2015 and beyond is expected to follow a similar annual cycle, with opportunities to consider other timely project needs
Contacts

Tom Kelsch
Sr. Vice President, Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund
Thomas.Kelsch@nfwf.org

Tanner Johnson
Director, Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (LA, TX)
Tanner.Johnson@nfwf.org

Mike Sharp
Director, Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (AL, FL, MS)
Michael.Sharp@nfwf.org