Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill
NRDA Early Restoration Public Meeting
January and February 2012
Tonight’s Objective

To receive your comments on the proposed projects included in the Draft Phase I Early Restoration Plan
Presentation

- NRDA Overview
- Early Restoration Background
- Draft Phase I Early Restoration Plan
- Proposed Phase I Early Restoration Projects
- Public Comment Period
NRDA Overview
(Natural Resource Damage Assessment)
NRDA Under OPA

- Oil Pollution Act of 1990
- OPA NRDA Regulations, 15 CFR Part 990
NRDA Objective

To make the environment and public whole for injuries to natural resources and services resulting from an incident involving a discharge or substantial threat of discharge of oil.

15 CFR § 990.10
DWH NRDA Trustees

State Trustees

Alabama
- Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Geological Survey of Alabama

Mississippi
- Department of Environmental Quality

Florida
- Department of Environmental Protection
- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Louisiana
- Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA)
- Oil Spill Coordinator’s Office
- Department of Environmental Quality
- Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- Department of Natural Resources

Texas
- Commission on Environmental Quality
- Parks and Wildlife Department
- General Land Office

Federal Trustees

Department of Commerce
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Department of the Interior
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Land Management
Stages of NRDA

1. Pre-assessment
2. Injury Assessment and Restoration Planning
3. Restoration Implementation
Public Involvement

- NRDA 101 Public Meetings (Fall and Winter 2010)
- PEIS Public Scoping Meetings (Spring 2011)
- Early Restoration Project Solicitation Meetings (Summer 2011)
- Ongoing updates via websites, email notifications, etc.

http://www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon/index.cfm
http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/
Early Restoration
Early Restoration Overview

- $1 billion Early Restoration agreement
- Early Restoration allows restoration projects to begin prior to NRDA completion
- Injury assessment will continue while Early Restoration planning is under way
$300M for state sponsored restoration projects selected by DOI and NOAA

$500M split equally among Gulf State Trustees

$200M split equally among Federal Trustees
Selection Process and Criteria
Overview

- Oil Pollution Act (OPA) Regulations
- Early Restoration Framework Agreement Criteria
- Other practical considerations
Oil Pollution Act Criteria

- Cost
- Return injured resources and lost services to baseline
- Compensate for interim losses
- Likelihood of success
- Prevent future injury from incident
- Avoid collateral injury from restoration implementation
- Benefits more than one resource and/or service
- Public health and safety
Framework Agreement Criteria

- Make environment and public whole through restoration and/or compensation
- Address one or more specific injuries
- Restore resources, habitats and services of natural resources to the same or similar to those injured/lost
- Not inconsistent with long-term restoration
- Feasible and cost effective
Practical Considerations

Taken into account as appropriate:

- Prompt provision of benefits
- Diverse projects addressing array of resources
- Use of types of restoration with predictable cost and likely success
- Ready for implementation
Project Selection Process

Early Restoration Framework Agreement

- Ongoing Public Submissions
- Trustee-led Public Meetings

Project Screening

Public Comment

Process Continues

Negotiation

Drafting of NEPA and Early Restoration Plan

Project Implementation and Monitoring
Draft Phase I Early Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment Overview

- Alternative A: No Action – Natural Recovery

- Alternative B: Proposed Early Restoration Projects
  - Each proposed project has been evaluated separately
  - All or any combination of proposed projects may move forward based on public input
Draft Phase I Early Restoration Plan
Proposed Action

**ALABAMA PROJECTS**
- Dune Restoration/Beach Mouse Habitat
- Marsh Island

**LOUISIANA PROJECTS**
- Oyster Cultch Project
- The Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation Project

**FLORIDA PROJECTS**
- Public Boat Ramp Enhancement & Construction Project
- Dune Restoration Project

**MISSISSIPPI PROJECTS**
- Oyster Cultch Restoration Project
- Artificial Reef Habitat

[Map of coastal regions with project locations indicated]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Project Title</th>
<th>Est. Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation – NRDA Early Restoration Project</td>
<td>$13,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana Oyster Cultch Project</td>
<td>$14,874,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi Oyster Cultch Restoration</td>
<td>$11,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat</td>
<td>$2,600,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marsh Island (Portersville Bay, AL) Marsh Creation</td>
<td>$9,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama Dune Restoration Cooperative Project</td>
<td>$1,145,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Boat Ramp Enhancement Construction</td>
<td>$4,406,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida (Pensacola Beach) Dune Restoration</td>
<td>$585,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Cost for Phase I Proposed Projects</strong></td>
<td><strong>$57,212,483</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed Project: DOI

Alabama Dune Restoration Cooperative Project

Proposed Restoration:
55 acres of primary dune habitat

Resources Benefitted:
Coastal dune and beach mouse habitat in Alabama

Estimated Cost: $1,145,976
Proposed Project: Louisiana

Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation – NRDA Early Restoration Project

**Proposed Restoration:**
Approximately 104 acres of marsh creation

**Resources Benefitted:**
Brackish Marsh in the Barataria Hydrologic Basin

**Estimated Cost:** $13,200,000
Proposed Restoration:
Approximately 850 acres of cultch placement on public oyster seed grounds; construction of improvements to an existing oyster hatchery

Resources Benefitted:
Oysters in Coastal Louisiana

Estimated Cost: $14,874,300
Proposed Restoration: 1,430 acres of cultch restoration

Resources Benefitted: Oysters in Mississippi Sound

Estimated Cost: $11,000,000
Proposed Project: Mississippi

Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat

**Proposed Restoration:**
100 acres of nearshore artificial reef

**Resources Benefitted:**
Near shore habitat in Mississippi Sound

**Estimated Cost:** $2,600,000
Proposed Project: Alabama

Marsh Island (Portersville Bay) Marsh Creation

**Proposed Restoration:**
Protecting 24 existing acres of salt marsh; creating 50 acres of salt marsh; 5,000 linear feet of tidal creeks

**Resources Benefitted:**
Coastal Salt Marsh in Alabama

**Estimated Cost:** $9,400,000
Proposed Project: Florida

Florida Boat Ramp Enhancement and Construction

Proposed Restoration:
Four boat ramp facilities

Resources Benefitted:
Human Use in Escambia County, Florida

Estimated Cost: $4,406,309
Proposed Project: Florida

Florida (Pensacola Beach) Dune Restoration

Proposed Restoration: 20 acres of coastal dune habitat

Resources Benefitted: Coastal Dune Habitat in Escambia County, Florida

Estimated Cost: $585,898
Next Steps

- Public comment period closes on February 14, 2012
- Trustees consider all public comments received
- Trustees finalize approved projects with BP
- The final ERP/EA will include:
  - Agreed upon projects
  - Summary of public comments and Trustee responses
  - NEPA analysis for each project
- Project implementation begins
Early Restoration Public Meetings

- Jan. 11 - Ft. Walton Beach, FL
- Jan. 12 - Pensacola, FL
- Jan. 17 - Gautier, MS
- Jan. 18 - Gulfport, MS
- Jan. 19 - Bay St. Louis, MS
- Jan. 23 - Mobile, AL
- Jan. 24 - Gulf Shores, AL
- Jan. 26 - Galveston, TX
- Jan. 31 - Houma, LA
- Feb. 1 - Chalmette, LA
- Feb. 2 - Belle Chasse, LA
- Feb. 7 - Washington, D.C.
To Submit Your Comments

 Make oral comments tonight.
 Type comments into our computers at information tables.
 Submit written comments tonight or mail them in.
 Visit our website at:
  www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov

 **Deadline for comments is Feb. 14, 2012**
The purpose of tonight’s meeting is to receive your comments on the proposed projects included in the Draft Phase I Early Restoration Plan.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
P.O. Box 2099  
Fairhope, AL 36533  

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov  

Deadline for comments is Feb. 14, 2012