RESTORE ACT UPDATE

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TOPICS

- RESTORE Act Overview
- Status of Litigation
- Federal Council Composition
- Treasury Rules
- Status of Funding Pots 1, 2, 3
FUNDING POTS

August 2014 Update

Clean Water Act

RESTORE Act

20% to Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund

80% Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund

Local Fund - 35%
Directly to 23 Counties

Pot 1

Federal Fund - 30%
Gulf Coast Restoration Council

Pot 2

State Fund - 30%
Florida Consortium

Pot 3

Monitoring, Research - 5%

Pots 4 & 5

Council members submitted projects for available Transocean $200M; Draft Funded Priorities List later in 2015.

Modified from FAC

Treasury issued Interim Final Rule: August 2014
STATUS OF LITIGATION
TRIAL PHASES – NONJURY

Phase 1. Feb 25, 2013 – April 17, 2013
- Who is to blame?
- How to divide liabilities? (BP 67%, Transocean 30%, Haliburton 3%)

- How much was spilled?
  3.19 million barrels (ruled Jan 2015)
  Max fine: 3.19M x $4,300/barrel = $13.7 billion
  Ruled Gross Negligence (thus $4,300/barrel)

- How much does BP owe?
FEDERAL COUNCIL

- RESTORE Act established Federal Council as independent entity
- Responsible for 60% of funds (Pots 2 & 3)
- Released Initial Comprehensive Plan (Aug 2013)
  - Provides framework for restoration efforts
  - Establishes Council’s goals & process to fund projects & programs
  - Projects/programs based on best available science
FEDERAL COUNCIL COMPOSITION

- 5 Governors or their Appointees
- 6 Federal agency heads
  - Chair, Department of Commerce
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of the Army
  - Environmental Protection Agency
  - Department of Homeland Security
  - Department of the Interior
FEDERAL COUNCIL - GOALS

1. Restore and Conserve Habitat
2. Restore Water Quality
3. Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources
4. Enhance Community Resilience
5. Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy
DIRECT COMPONENT (POT 1)

- Multiyear Implementation Plans (MYIPs)
  - Interim final Treasury Rules Effective Oct 14, 2014
  - Can be phased, incremental, and revised
  - Assistance from County “Working Group”

- Grant funds can be sub-awarded by counties
  - Sub-recipients will have same grant restrictions as grant awardees
DIRECT COMPONENT
COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

• Project selection & ranking process
  – County-Working Group collaborative effort (Jan-May 2014)
  – Approved by BCC May 2014

• County website established for project ideas & project proposals (www.pinellascounty.org/restore/)
  – Project idea portal opened July 2014
  – Project proposal portal opened Nov 6, 2014 – Feb 6, 2015

• 17 projects submitted to County for MYIP
  – 12 from cities, 2 from County, 2 from USF College of Marine Science and 1 from Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP)
DIRECT COMPONENT
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

• Spring 2015
  – Working Group & County staff to select & rank projects
  – County staff to draft MYIP

• Summer 2015
  – 45-day public review of MYIP
  – BCC approval of MYIP (summer 2015)

• Fall 2015 – Treasury Approvals
  – MYIP
  – Project-specific grant applications
FEDERAL PLAN (POT 2)
GULF COAST RESTORATION COUNCIL

• Phase 1 project submittals accepted Aug 8 – Nov 17, 2014
• Each of 11 Council members could submit up to 5 projects
• $150-$180 M available Gulf-wide

Florida’s Federal Council Plan Submittal

• Florida picked 5 projects from >1200 submissions to FDEP’s online project portal
• 14 Pinellas County projects eligible
  – No Pinellas projects picked for Federal Plan
EPA’s Federal Council Plan Submittal

- One submittal included ~$2M for each of 7 Gulf National Estuary Programs including TBEP
- TBEP received 25 projects ($11.3M) from the 7 Policy Board member governments
- Pinellas submittal
  - Ft. De Soto Park Ecological Enhancement Recirculation Phase II
    - County requested $250,000 of $1.5 M project
STATE FUND
SPILL IMPACT COMPONENT (POT 3)

- State Expenditure Plan (SEP)
- 23-member Gulf Consortium submits SEP to Federal Council
- 2-year planning effort by consultant to be completed by Jan 2017
QUESTIONS