

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Strategy Development

Bryon Griffith, Deputy Director

Angela Bandemehr, Tribal Coordinator

Conference Call
August 1, 2011

Dial in number: 866-299-3188
Access code: 202-564-1427

Agenda



- Welcome and Introductions (Bryon Griffith)
- Presentation (Bryon Griffith and Angela Bandemehr)
- Questions, feedback and discussion (All)
- Next Steps (Bryon Griffith)
- Close of Meeting

Background



- Focus on Gulf due to Deepwater Horizon (DWH) spill
- Executive Order 13554, October 5, 2010:
 - “To effectively address the damage caused by the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, address the longstanding ecological decline, and begin moving toward a more resilient Gulf Coast ecosystem, **ecosystem restoration is needed.**”
 - Establishes Task Force (TF) to develop a Restoration Strategy
- DWH NRDA independent but informed by TF

About the Task Force



- To deliver a restoration strategy for the Gulf Coast by October 4, 2011
- Made up of 11 Federal Agencies, White House offices and five Gulf States
- Chair: Lisa P. Jackson
EPA Administrator
- Vice-Chair: Garret Graves
State of Louisiana



Tribal Engagement



- The task force is directed to:
 - “Communicat[e] and engag[e] with States, tribes, local governments, other stakeholders in the Gulf Coast region, and the public on ecosystem restoration, as well as other aspects of Gulf recovery, including economic recovery and public health efforts;”
 - “Communicate with affected tribes in a manner consistent with Executive Order 13175;”
 - Task Force and technical working groups may include tribal representatives.



Strategy Development Schedule:

Week Beginning:	February				March				April				May				June				July				August				September				October															
	1st	7th	14th	21st	28th	7th	14th	21st	28th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	12th	19th	26th	3rd	10th	17th	24th									
					TF Mtg. New Orleans								TF Mtg. Mobile								TF Mtg. Houston / Galveston								TF Mtg. Biloxi												Strategy to the President							

Pensacola Start-up

STEP 1: Establishing Broad & Effective Stakeholder and Tribal Engagement

STEP 2: Review Of Current Work

STEP 3: Discussion Document Development

Synthesis of Stakeholder Input

Final Strategy Development

PRIORITY AREAS ESTABLISHED

- Enhance Community Resilience
- Restore and Conserve Habitat
- Restore Water Quality
- Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources

Gulf Strategy Background Document released

Gulf Strategy Draft (release date TBD)

Tribal Consultation and Coordination Process



- Process follows EPA's Tribal Consultation Policy
- Mechanisms include:
 - EPA Tribal Portal:
www.epa.gov/tribal
 - Background information
 - Documents
 - Submit comments (web, email, post)
 - Face-to-face meetings
 - Conference calls
 - Webinars



Tribal Consultation Process Timeline for Strategy and Beyond:



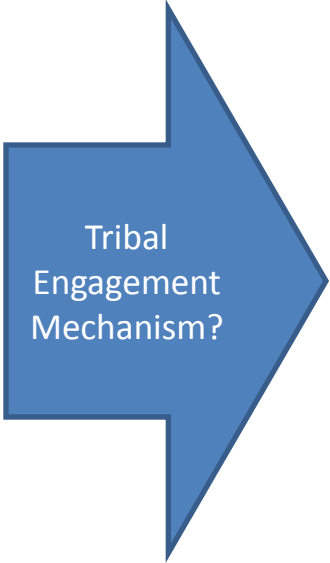
April			May				June				July				August			September				October								
1th	18th	25th	6th	9th	16th	23rd	30th	6th	13th	20th	27th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	5th	12th	19th	26th	4th	10th	17th	24th		
			TF Mtg. Mobile								TF Mtg. Houston / Galveson									TF Mtg. Biloxi							Strategy to the President			

June 1: Webinar

July 19: Webinar

Sept 30: Final Comments Due

Face-to-Face Coordination and Consultation Meetings



Gulf Strategy Background Document released

Gulf Strategy Draft (release date TBD)



Gulf Strategy Proposed Restoration Priority Areas and Primary Focus



- **Enhance Community Resilience**
 - science-based decision tools and supporting techniques
 - effectively support communities and connect them with other programs, such as health and economic recovery services
- **Restore and Conserve Habitat**
 - improve the effectiveness of state and federal conservation and navigation management, develop habitat conservation and restoration strategies, and take actions that consider the varying, and sometimes competing, needs
- **Restore Water Quality**
 - use careful science-based review and innovative approaches to enhance water quality
- **Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources**
 - promote resource management that focuses on the needs and functions of the ecosystem as a whole

Gulf Strategy

Foundational Elements



- Science-Based Adaptive Management
- Community Engagement, Outreach and Education
- Regional, State and Local Implementation Efforts
- International Collaboration
- Consultation and Coordination with Tribes



Key Questions

- What are the “big ideas” or major outcomes that need to be accomplished or undertaken as part of this strategy?
- What key policy changes are needed to improve the processes needed to support restoration?
- What new programs and actions (state, federal, and private) are needed?
- What would “success” look like and how should it be measured and reported?
- How can the supporting strategies be most effective?
(adaptive management, international coordination, tribal consultation and coordination, and engagement framework)



Questions, feedback and discussion

Next steps



- Summary of comments to be posted on EPA Tribal Portal (www.epa.gov/tribal)
- Hold additional meeting/conference call in September

Close of Meeting

Bryon Griffith

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A sea turtle is resting on a sandy beach. The background shows waves breaking on the shore under a sunset sky. The turtle is dark-colored and is facing towards the right side of the frame.

Thank You!