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## Public and Non-Governmental Organizations Session

Commenter's Affiliation	Comment
Academia	Fixed assets from open Gulf to the marsh. Put monitoring into the Gulf of Mexico. Monitoring is important. A glider system would have helped during the spill. Need these in place now for the future.
NGO	Would like land acquisition to be a part of the restoration process. Bird habitat needs to be preserved. Can we get funds for land acquisition? Funding is the most important factor in acquiring land. Resources are what it takes to purchase land. Did not know of any policy issues that prevented land acquisition.
Federally-Recognized Tribe	The restoration process does not stop at the coast line, the ecosystem goes farther inland than the Gulf shore. Consider upland property in the restoration process. Our reservation is on the head waters of the Perdido River. Look closer at existing programs. Some are under funded. Incentive is a solution. Land swaps may be useful. Lets prepare for the next tragedy.
NGO	Would like an integrated process where all the organizations work together along with the public in the restoration process. Need development of a comprehensive division: conservation, restoration, etc. Restoration should go beyond spill and beyond Gulf shoreline. Work with people at the local level.
Business and Industry	Wants a safe harbor in Bayou Labatre area. Recent storms have taken a lot of docks and boat moorings down. Need dock restoration. Wants the Task Force to consider it as part of the process.



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Business and Industry	<p>Many fisherman and boats have moved away. Thinks that this will continue unless the restoration process helps them restore the coastal area. Economy is compounding this problem. Alabama processes 30% of Gulf seafood, lands 15%. Put commercial fisherman to work on restoration projects. Use the fisherman in the restoration process. Keeping the fisherman working is important while the restoration process continues.</p>
Academia	<p>Balance, resilience, communication all rolled up into good science. Need safe harbors. <b>Balance</b> between NRDA, the ecosystem, and the communities. <b>Resilience:</b> communities not sustainable in long-term. <b>Communication:</b> Lack between groups is a problem. Don't want an Alaskan type advisory council. Need a process to communicate. All decisions must be grounded in <b>science</b>.</p>
NGO	<p>Beach renourishment is important to consider in the restoration process. Beaches are a big part of Florida's economy. Sand removal in Deep Water Horizon spill response a problem. There are still tar mats at Perdido, Pensacola Beach. Safe removal is an issue. Response organizations saying the technology does not exist. Premature to renourish the beach now, since much of the oil is still not accounted for. Clean sand that will be re-oiled a waste. Where will the new clean sand come from?</p>
NGO	<p>Monitoring and tissue sampling are important. Prioritize projects, economic and ecological benefits most important. Need a Gulf that functions as a whole.</p>

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NGO	Agencies are inconsistent in how they present data and confuses the public. Communicate the results in a way the general public can understand. Need public education at the community level. For long term success we need input from the general public. Without them this restoration process will never succeed without full public participation.
NGO	Address the stressors that cause the problems in the first place. If we restore the area and do not fix the issues that caused the problems in the first place we would be back in the situation we are in now.
NGO	Task Force misnamed. Restoration is not possible since the oil will keep coming back. In time of stress, the infection will return. We have hydrocarbon herpes. Conditions were already deplorable. Improper management before the oil spill caused most of the problems. No amount of technical expertise can help since leases continue to be granted. Strip mining in Wyoming is a sign that this will be business as usual. We must get away burning fossil fuels. We are ruining the planet. We must address this. Therefore restoration is a mistake. Instead, we must change our ways. Harvesting tourists is better and will bring jobs. The free market will fail us just like in Russia.
NGO	Need a citizen review committee. The group associated with Gulf of Mexico Program is a good model: sea food, tourism, etc. Have them review the May 6th Task Force documents.
NGO	Went to DC with Women of the Storm and asked for 80% of CWA award for restoration. Funds should come back to the states that were affected economically and environmentally.



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NGO	Locals should help in the restoration. We need to hire the out of work fishermen. The Task Force should come up with a tool kit for restoration to make the area whole again, so that the locals can be used in the process.
NGO	All of the projects need to be sustainable. 100/1000 project can provide long term sustainability and make shoreline more resilient to hurricanes. Need resiliency so we can handle a storm, not just prepared for a storm.
NGO	Clean Water Act fines and Deep Water Horizon settlement per state? Lots of ideas on restoration. Who gets to decide what projects get done?
NGO	Some of the restoration funds should be used to build wind farms in the Gulf and move away from oil and fossil fuels.
Academia	Oyster farming is needed.
Academia	Resilience can be used for restoration and that existing natural resources can be used for restoration. Could be policy impediments. The Task Force should try policy change in the restoration process.
NGO	Can we create conditions that won't lead to what we had before? Let's use the money and infrastructure to build wind turbines and tidal pool generator systems.



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NGO	Big issue is Louisiana will get all the money because they have the biggest environmental problem. The money won't be enough. Alabama was hit hard and needs support. The impact was to the economy. We need environmental restoration, but the economic impact was our biggest hit.
NGO	Would like to see waste water treatment facilities addressed by the Task Force.
General Public	Would not like to see the funds from the oil spill to be used for waste water treatment facilities. These are everyday issues that we should have been addressing already.
General Public	Need some kind of offset. Damages to be assessed by CWA structure. If a wetland loss, would mitigate in kind. A policy constraint is to go out of kind: some of the restoration funds should be used for preservation. To offset the water quality impacts/issues, supports land preservation, set aside unique lands.
Academia	I need to warm up to offsets. Ex-Gannets third most injured bird in spill. They nest in Canada. I know I need to embrace offsets.
NGO	Some of the impediments are the policies now in place. Using the word "environmental issues" seems to be a big problem in the funding arena for local governments. Land is managed at local level, local ordinances, etc. Can we create an incentive at the local government level to encourage restoration, to get by existing ordinances? They are more into economics, not ecosystems.
General Public	We can get by huge land-based impediments. Ex-dams being torn down in the west to help fish populations.



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NGO	Walton Foundation survey-most people believe improving environment will improve economy. Restoration in 3 Mile Creek will help poor community. Dauphin Island causeway needs improving and is shovel ready, from an environmental improvement view.
NGO	We have a serious storm water issue throughout the Gulf which will impede restoration.
General Public	Key Outcome: Preserve livelyhood of unique culture. Community development projects that exist 20 years from now.
General Public	The Gulf is the largest drainage area in the US, needs to be addressed and factored into the restoration process.
General Public	Need community development projects that involve the people that live here.
NGO	Process outcome. Let people see a draft of the Task Force strategy so that they can provide input before final draft.
Academia	Measure preservation against sea level rise or other chronic stressors
NGO	Can't concede climate will change. Need renewable industries.
Academia	Look at alternatives from Gulf resources, besides fossil fuels. Move away from the fossil fuel and oil process to reach sustainability.
General Public	Alternative energy sources should be developed in the gulf region.
General Public	Alabama has water quality issues (many agree).



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General Public	Alabama has wetlands/marsh/submerged aquatic vegetation issues (many agree).
General Public	Alabama has beach renourishment issues (many agree).
General Public	Alabama has sediment issues (many agree).
General Public	Alabama has fisheries and habitat issues (many agree).
General Public	Alabama has infrastructure and regional wastewater treatment issues (many agree). Current county facilities not all operating by same standards.
General Public	Whats up with the dolphins? Commisioner met with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Alabama Governor. NOAA was dealing with dolphins pre-spill. Not unique to Alabama. NOAA and Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) put up a gag order. Can't promote Gulf sea food. Why is the data not forthcoming? Need to publish what we know now. Data is data.
General Public	UME occurred before spill and they did not declare. Tying samples into Department of Justice lawsuit. Now we are clamped down.
Academia	The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 needs to be changed.

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