

# RESTORE BUCKET 2 PLANNING

PUBLIC MEETING

DECEMBER 2018

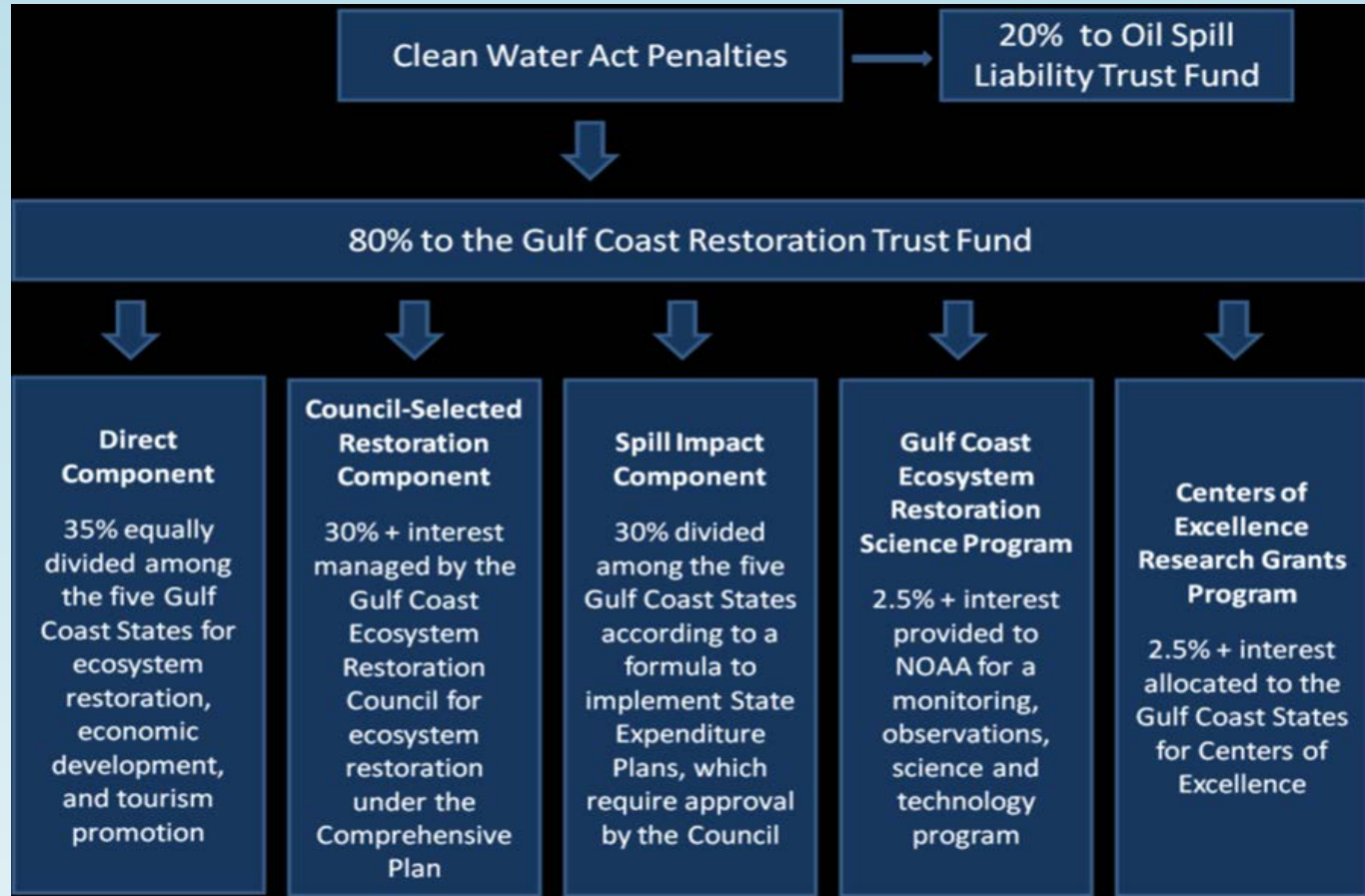
# INTRODUCTION

- We are here today to hear from you about what you consider are the priorities for our Texas Gulf Coast.
- I want to provide some context and background on what we will be doing to receive federal RESTORE grant funds in Texas.
- As Governor Abbott's appointee to the RESTORE Council that oversees the RESTORE Act, I am working with my Council colleagues to determine how these funds will be distributed.

# FEDERAL RESTORE ACT

- With passage of the RESTORE Act in 2012, Congress established the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Fund).
- 80% of civil and administrative penalties resulting from the DWH oil spill assessed under the Clean Water Act are deposited to the Fund.
- Fund Purpose: ecosystem restoration; economic recovery; and tourism promotion in Gulf Coast region.

# RESTORE TRUST FUND USES



# RESTORE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO TEXAS

An estimate of the amount of federal Trust Fund money that is expected to be available to Texas:

## Bucket 1 - \$373 million

- Currently available: approximately \$97 million
- BP settlement payments from 2019 thru 2031: \$277 million

## Bucket 2

- Currently available: Texas is to receive \$26.3 million
- BP settlement (paid from 2017 thru 2031): \$1.6 billion to be distributed by the Council on a competitive basis to the Gulf states and federal Council members

# RESTORE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO TEXAS

An estimate of the amount of federal Trust Fund money that is expected to be available to Texas:

## Bucket 3 - \$121.5 million

- Currently available: approximately \$32 million
- BP settlement payments from 2019 thru 2031: \$89.9 million

## Bucket 5 - \$26 million

- Currently available: \$8 million
- BP settlement payments from 2019 thru 2031: \$18 million

# BACKGROUND

- Today we are focusing on grant funds associated with the Council-Selected Restoration component of the Act, referred to as Bucket 2.
- For this current effort approximately \$350 million of Bucket 2 funds are expected to be available for distribution to the five Gulf states.

# BUCKET 2 PROCESS

To determine the distribution of these funds, the Bucket 2 planning process involves:

- developing a Planning Framework Document, or PFD; and
- based on that approved PFD, adopting the Funded Priorities List, or FPL 3, which will include specific project proposals.



# PLANNING FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT

## What is the Planning Framework Document?

- It is a document that presents information on priorities that will determine the types of project proposals to include in the next Funded Priorities List, FPL 3.
- It will also outline the discussion of a ten-year funding strategy, including future FPLs and the long-term distribution of Bucket 2 funds.

# RESTORE GOALS & CRITERIA

Priorities in the PFD, as well as project proposals in the FPL must be consistent with RESTORE goals and criteria.

## RESTORE Goals:

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

# CRITERIA

## RESTORE Bucket 2 Criteria:

- Contributes to restoring and protecting the natural resources
- Includes large-scale operations
- Restores long-term resiliency of the natural resources
- Addresses elements included in existing Gulf Coast State comprehensive plans

# PLANNING FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT

- Beginning in 2019, I will participate in discussions with my RESTORE Council colleagues to determine priorities to be included in the Planning Framework Document
- My discussions with the Council will focus on:
  - input from various work groups;
  - feedback from public meetings such as these;
  - discussions with other Gulf states; and
  - consultation with the Office of the Governor.

# PLANNING FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT TIMELINE

- March 2019: RESTORE Council Steering Committee approves a draft PFD
- Mid-March thru April 2019: draft PFD is posted for public comment
  - It is important that each of you submit comments on the draft PFD to ensure that the interests of Texas are considered.
- May 2019: RESTORE Council approves the final PFD

# NEXT STEPS

## FUNDED PRIORITIES LIST (PFD)

- Upon approval of the PFD, a list of project proposals that address the PFD priorities will be developed . For this effort I will seek additional input from:
  - various work groups; and
  - the community through public meetings.
- In consultation with the Governor, a final list of project proposals will be submitted from Texas to the RESTORE Council for consideration.

# SIGNIFICANT FPL RELATED DATES

Significant dates associated with the next Funded Priorities List, FPL 3:

- August 30, 2019: deadline for Council Steering Committee members to submit our list of project proposals
- March 6 thru April 20, 2020: draft FPL 3 posted for public comment on the Council and Texas RESTORE web sites
- June 2020: final FPL 3 adopted by the Council Steering Committee

# FUNDED PRIORITIES LIST (FPL)

- Under the previous FPL, TCEQ received Bucket 2 grant funds totaling approximately \$18.5 million for four projects.
- An additional \$7.8 million was also awarded for projects in Texas that are being managed by various federal agencies.
- Four projects managed by TCEQ:
  - ✓ Bahia Grande
  - ✓ Bayou Greenways
  - ✓ Matagorda Bay
  - ✓ Beneficial Use





## Bahia Grande

*Land Acquisition of 1,998  
acres*

*\$4,378,500*

*Located in Cameron  
County*

*Grant Recipient: The  
Nature Conservancy*



# Bayou Greenways

*Land Acquisition of 80 to  
100 acres in Clear Creek  
Greenway*

*\$7,109,000*

*Located in Harris  
County*

*Grant Recipient:  
Houston Parks Board*





# Matagorda Bay

*Land Acquisition of  
approximately 6,500 acres*

*\$6,012,000*

*Located in Brazoria and  
Matagorda Counties*

*Grant recipient: Texas  
Parks and Wildlife  
Department*



By Philip Smith  
Galveston Bay Foundation  
April 25, 2016

# Beneficial Use

*Planning Grant for the  
Beneficial Use of Dredged  
Material*

*\$968,000*

*Located in Jefferson and  
Galveston Counties*

*Sub-recipient: Texas  
General Land Office*

# MOVING FORWARD

- Today's public meeting is the first step in developing our state's coastal priorities and receiving grant funds for project proposals.
- At this time, I would like to introduce Dr. Jim Gibeaut from the Harte Research Institute. He will present information on the current state of our Gulf Coast.
- He will also present an opportunity for you and other members of the public to provide input on the priorities that you believe should be addressed through RESTORE Bucket 2.

FOR UPDATES

[www.restorethetexascoast.org](http://www.restorethetexascoast.org)

[www.restorethegulf.gov](http://www.restorethegulf.gov)