

**DWH Trustee Council
1/8/18 Conference Call Summary**

Attendees:

TX	AL	DOI	NOAA
Robin Riechers	Chris Blankenship	Mary Josie Blanchard	Chris Doley
James Murphy	Amy Hunter	Kevin Reynolds	John Catena
	Patti Powell	Debora McClain	Craig O'Connor
			Mike Peccini
LA			
Alyson Graugnard			
			DOJ
	FL	EPA	
MS	Gareth Leonard	Mary Kay Lynch	
Chris Wells			
Gary Rikard			
Teri Wyly		USDA	
		Homer Wilkes	

Discussion Item 1: Report Outs

- a. The AL TIG has been active on a number of fronts. The Osprey project construction occurred in late 2017 and the Point aux Pines project is at 30% design. The implementation agreements are nearly complete for the projects in Restoration Plan #1. The TIG is also focusing on drafting Restoration Plan #2 which includes approximately 22 projects for \$34.5 million and covers all the ecological restoration types assigned to the AL TIG.
- b. The FL TIG is having an in-person meeting this week to finalize the Early Restoration Phase V.2 Coastal Access Plan. The public comments are being incorporated and the final plan is expected to be released to the public in March. The FL TIG has identified an additional parcel that would utilize the remaining Phase V funds and would be Phase V.3. The FL TIG is in the initial stages of restoration planning for their first post-settlement plan. This plan will include four restoration types and be approximately \$50 million. They hope to have a draft out in late June or early July. The FL TIG is also overseeing 56 project components that are in various stages. Both FWC and FDEP received clean audit reports from the 2017 audits.

The TX and OO TIGs will give their report outs on the next TC call.

Discussion Item 2: 2018 Trustee Council Public Meeting Scheduling

- a. Discussion: Discussion of timing for the 2018 TC. The summer months (June, July, August) had the most agreement from the Trustees. If the meeting is held in June or July then the chair will match with the location.
- b. Decision: Location will be Mississippi and the meeting will be in June, July or August
- c. Action Items:
 1. The LAT will research locations and dates and will get back to the TC with options.

Other Business

- a. Updated AR Business Rules – This will be revisited on the February call.
- b. Mid-Year Publishing of new projects on Gulf Spill Restoration – This will be revisited on the February call.
- c. End of Year Reporting – This reporting cycle is just beginning and trainings have started for DIVER. The TC will review the web story and the final reports in April. The timeline will be circulated via email in the next few days. The information will be released to the public on April 20.
- d. Approval of 2017 call notes – Deadline of Jan 22 EOD. TIG support will email the Trustees.
- e. FYI the MAM page is on the TC website
- f. Next call is Monday, February 5.

**DWH Trustee Council
2/5/18 Conference Call Summary**

Attendees:

TX	AL	DOI	NOAA
Robin Riechers	Chris Blankenship	Mary Josie Blanchard	Chris Doley
James Murphy	Amy Hunter	Debora McClain	John Catena
Don Pitts	Jane Calamusa	Ashley Mills	Craig O'Connor
			Laurie Rounds
LA			
Alyson Graugnard		EPA	
Billy Plauché		Mary Kay Lynch	DOJ
	FL	Gale Bonanno	
MS	Gareth Leonard		
Chris Wells	Leslie Ames	USDA	
Gary Rikard	Amy Raker	Homer Wilkes	
Teri Wyly		Ron Howard	

Discussion Item 1: Report Outs

- a. The TX TIG has been busy with project implementation and planning. They have agreements underway to do sea turtles work in 2018 on the TX coast and in Mexico. The TIG is starting implementation on the 13 projects (\$46 million) from their first restoration plan. The TIG is focusing their attention on the land acquisition project at Follets Island and a Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) acquisition. They are also focusing on the McFaddin NWR Beach Ridge project which would bring together different funding streams to complete a 17-mile tract of beach construction. TX is wrapping up the final audit report on funds received for 2017 and the report showed no issues.
- b. The OO TIG is planning to release a notice to initiate restoration planning on Wednesday. The notice will include that the TIG will be developing two OO plans:
 - o A DOI-led plan (RP1) for birds and sturgeon with a release date of summer 2018; and
 - o A NOAA-led plan (RP2) that covers remainder of the restoration types (mesophotic and deep benthic, fish, sea turtles, marine mammals) with a targeted release date of before the end of 2018.

The notice will also include some additional details on the project types. The OO TIG will begin project development, a comprehensive guidance document for the TIG, outreach to the public, and coordination with the other TIGs. The group discussed the

approach and prioritization for the various restoration types. The OO TIG will be joining upcoming TIG calls to coordinate and for RP2 they plan on holding additional stakeholder outreach. For example, for the fish project the OO TIG is planning to talk to the Gulf States Fishing Commission and the Fisheries Management Council among others. The notice will be posted on the federal register as well as distributed as a web story and an email blast.

- c. Action Item: The link will also be circulated to all the TIGs once it is posted.

The MS TIG and Cross-TIG MAM will give their report outs on the next TC call.

Discussion Item 2: 2018 Trustee Council Public Meeting Scheduling

- a. Discussion: Discussion of timing for the 2018 TC. Potential dates are June 13 and 14, July 11 or 12 or July 18 or 19 for a meeting in Gulfport, MS. Discussion.
- b. Decision: The TC meeting will be held on July 19.
- c. Action Items:
 - 1. TIG support will move forward with meeting logistics.

Other Business

- a. Mid-Year Publishing of new projects on Gulf Spill Restoration – This will be revisited after the annual reporting occurs.
- b. End of Year Reporting – This is underway and the Trustees are completing their project reporting. In the second week of April the TC review and web story review will start.
- c. Next call is Monday, March 5.

**DWH Trustee Council
3/5/18 Conference Call Summary**

Attendees:

TX	AL	DOI	NOAA
Robin Riechers	Patti Powell	Mary Josie Blanchard	Craig O'Connor
James Murphy	Jane Calamusa	Debora McClain	Melissa Carle
	Amy Hunter	Ann Hijuelos	
		Kevin Reynolds	
LA			
Alyson Graugnard		EPA	
		Gale Bonanno	DOJ
	FL	Mary Kay Lynch	
MS	Gareth Leonard		
Chris Wells	Leslie Ames	USDA	
Teri Wyly	Gil McRae	Ron Howard	
		Nancy Magee	

Discussion Item 1: Report Outs

- a. The MS TIG is kicking off implementation of the three projects in their first restoration plan. A press release to announce a sign-up deadline to participate in the program for the Upper Pascagoula Nutrient Reduction Project (\$4M) was released in early February. The Trustees are working on other parts of the project and may initiate a second outreach at the end of March. The Grand Bay Land Acquisition and Habitat Management Project (\$6M) is in the process of its first land acquisition. Management activities are also being planned on approximately 2,000 acres and baseline monitoring is expected to begin this year. The Graveline Bay Project (\$11.5M) team is looking at acquiring properties. There are also several early restoration projects that are ongoing including the Phase IV Living Shorelines and Reefs Project which is in the conceptual design process. For the Hancock County Project (Early Restoration Phase III) two of the five phases are complete.
- b. The Cross TIG MAM circulated documents for the Trustee Council to review, including a table with recent Cross TIG Mam activities, including the release of the MAM Manual V1.0 in January. The Ocean Conservancy sent a letter thanking the Trustees for the release of the MAM manual and requested organizing workshops and/or webinars to help contractors implement items in the manual. The Cross TIG MAM will discuss that request. In late December the MAM held an in-person meeting to plan 2018 activities. Cross TIG MAM members also presented at the GoMOSES conference in New Orleans earlier this year. The group will compile all the questions they received at the conference. Members of the Cross TIG MAM were asked to participate in the RESTORE council Monitoring and Assessment workgroup

which meets quarterly. The TC had a preliminary discussion of options for when the first programmatic report should be developed, what it should contain, and the process to develop it.

Action Items: The Cross TIG MAM would like to follow up on the programmatic report topic on the next TC call. Request for Trustees to prepare responses to the questions (written or verbal) in advance of the April 2 call.

The LA and RW TIGs will give their report outs on the next TC call.

Discussion Item 2: 2018 Trustee Council Public Meeting

- a. Discussion: Update on logistics for the July 19 meeting.
- b. Decision: The meeting and room block logistics are confirmed. The room block link will be distributed this week. There are a few other TIG meetings that same week. The RW TIG will consider the TC public meeting their annual meeting and will also have an internal meeting the morning of July 19. The OO TIG will meet on July 17th and 18th. After the annual reporting is complete the meeting materials will be developed and circulated for review.
- c. Action Items:
 1. TIG support will circulate the reservation link for the room block.

Other Business

- a. End of Year Reporting – It is currently the Trustee reporting time period. The TIGs will receive the reports for review on March 24 and will have until April 6. The consolidated information, web story and other items will be available for the TC in April.
- b. Update on questions from the General Accounting Office (GAO) –The GAO has posed a series of questions to the federal NRDA Trustees. The questions are general questions about the Trustees as well as about the restoration activity selection process, the use of settlement funds, coordination of restoration activities with other entities, and outcomes of evaluation and records. The meeting is scheduled for the 13th.

Action Item: TIG support will circulate the GAO questions to the TC.

- c. Next call is Monday, April 2.