

Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program (FLCERGP)



Funders' Panel: *Centers of Excellence and Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative*

Marine Mammals Commission Workshop, NOLA,
April 8, 2015

Andrew Shepard, FL CERGP Director

Deepwater Horizon Spill Penalties:

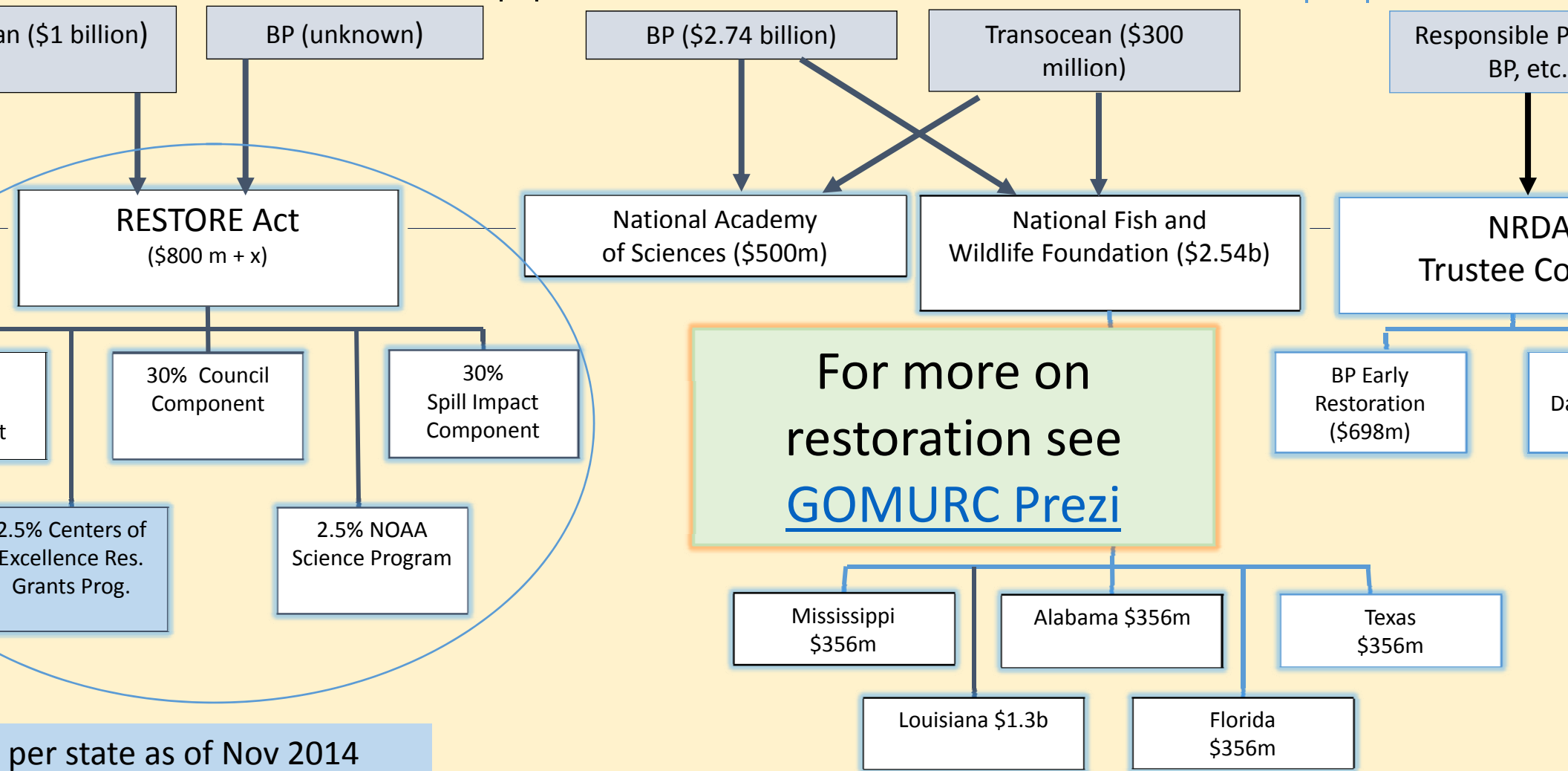
PUNITIVE

REMEDIAL

Civil Penalties

Criminal Penalties

Natural Resources



per state as of Nov 2014

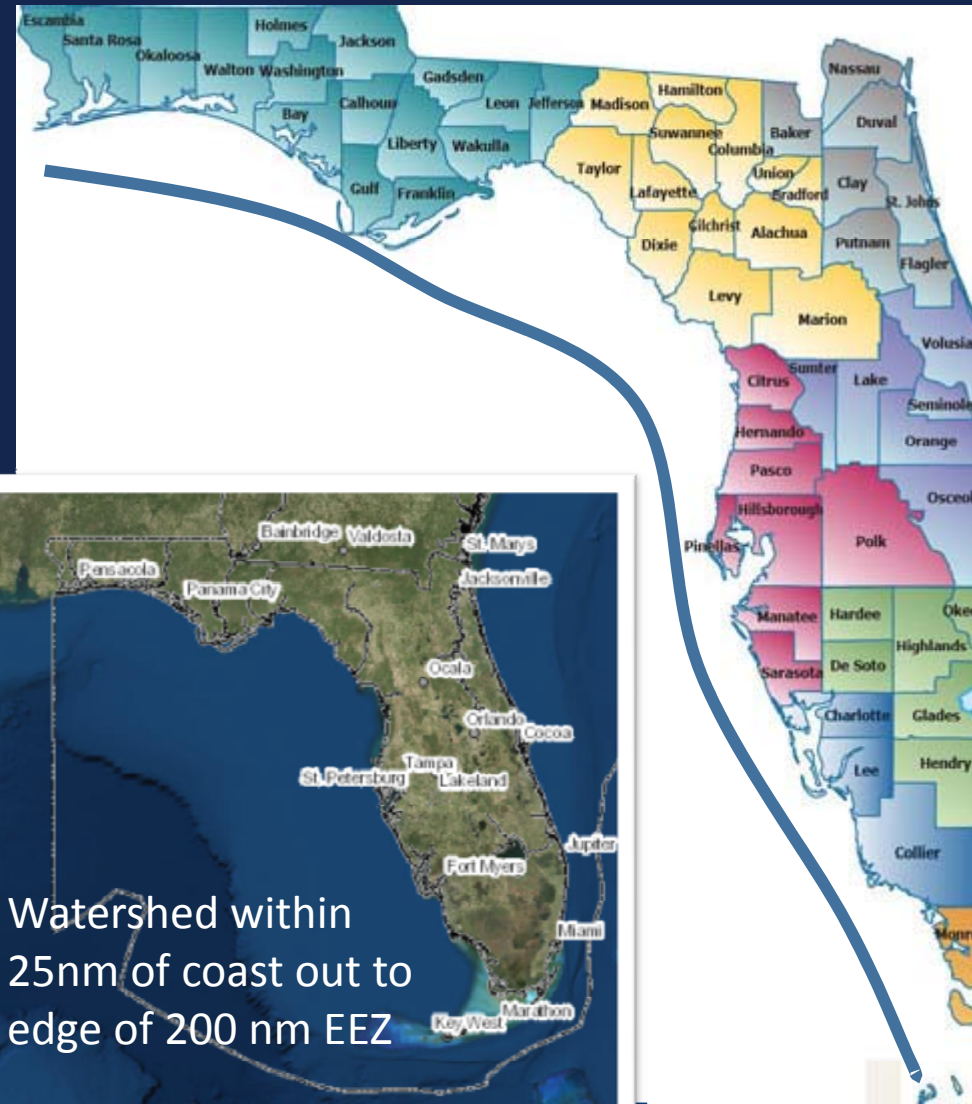
Treasury Administers RESTORE Act Components 1 a

[RESTORE Act Web site](#)-- requirements

include:

competitive grants to nongovernmental entities and consortia, including public and private institutions of higher education

research, science, technology, and monitoring in the Gulf Coast Region relevant to at least one eligible discipline; determined after 45 days of public scoping. . .

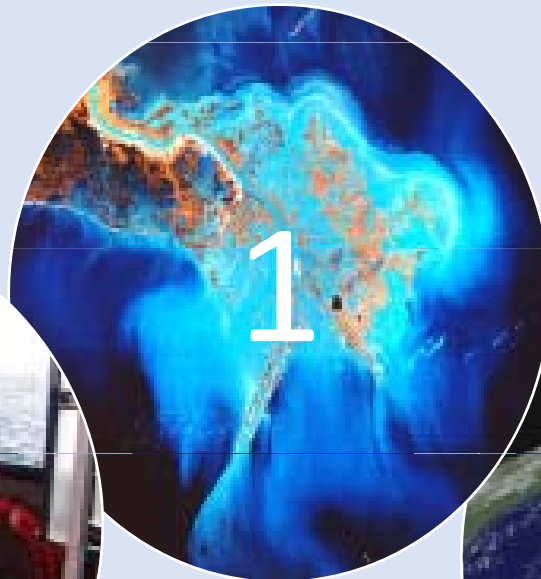


Watershed within
25nm of coast out to
edge of 200 nm EEZ

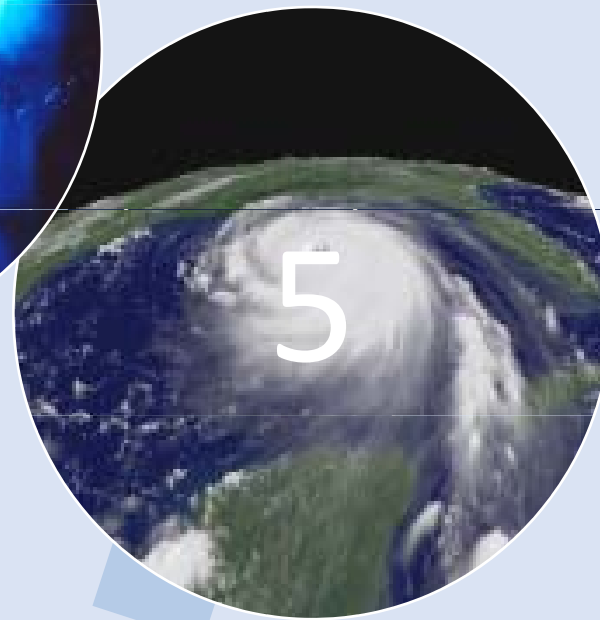
Coastal and deltaic sustainability, restoration and protection, including solutions and technology that allow citizens to live in a safe and sustainable manner in a coastal delta in the Gulf Coast Region

FLCERGP PRIORITY DISCIPLINES:

Commercial fisheries
Wildlife
Ecosystem
Research and
Monitoring in the
Gulf Coast Region



SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY
MONITORING



Comprehensive
observation,
monitoring,
mapping of the
Gulf of Mexico
ocean and
coastal
ecosystem

Offshore energy development,
Energy research and technology
to improve the sustainable and safe
development of energy resources in
the Gulf of Mexico



Sustainable and resilient
growth, economic and
commercial development in
the Gulf of Mexico

FLCERGP Plans for 2015-2017 (Transocean funds):

Grants (\$2.5M): RFP # FLCERGP-2015-01, Discipline # 2-- *Coastal fisheries and wildlife ecosystem research and monitoring in the Florida Gulf Coast Region;*

PROPOSAL DEADLINE MAY 20, 2015

RFP questions answered via FAQs on [FLCERGP web page](#) or email to fio@usf.edu

Collaborative and Rapid Response funds:

Partner with other restoration programs on Discipline #5 (ecosystem monitoring); respond to requests

Future RFPs: Discipline #1 (resilient coasts)

Rules & Policies
(R&P)

1/16/15

Request for Proposals
(RFP)

2/2/15

Letter of Intent (LoI)

3/2

Final Proposal (FP)

5/20/15

AWARDS 7/1/15

Status of other States' CERGPs:

K: [2 Centers of Excellence](#) designated: consortium led by UH focused on discipline 3 (safe energy); and TAMU-C leads consortium that will address other 4 disciplines

A: Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, [RFP #: 503-14-08](#), closed Jan. 6; [The Water Institute of the Gulf](#) designated pending application

L: AL [Gulf Coast Recovery Council](#), scoping complete Feb. 2, reviewing comments on draft [RFP](#); expect RFP to come out for another 45 days followed by selection

S: [MDEQ public scoping](#) for draft RFP, comments were due Mar. 23

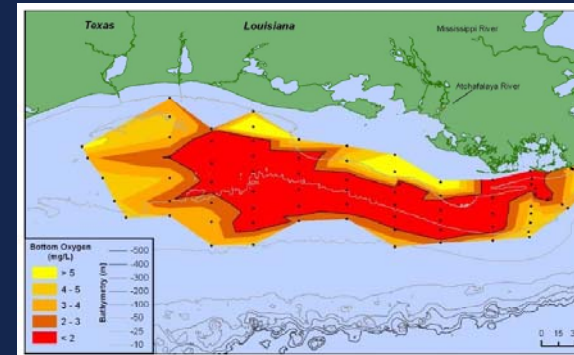


Figure 2. Oxygen concentrations in bottom-water across the Louisiana-Texas coast, 23-28, 2013. Data source: N.N. Rabalais, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, R.E. Turner, Louisiana State University; funded by NOAA, Center for Sponsored Programs and Services Research.



Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative:

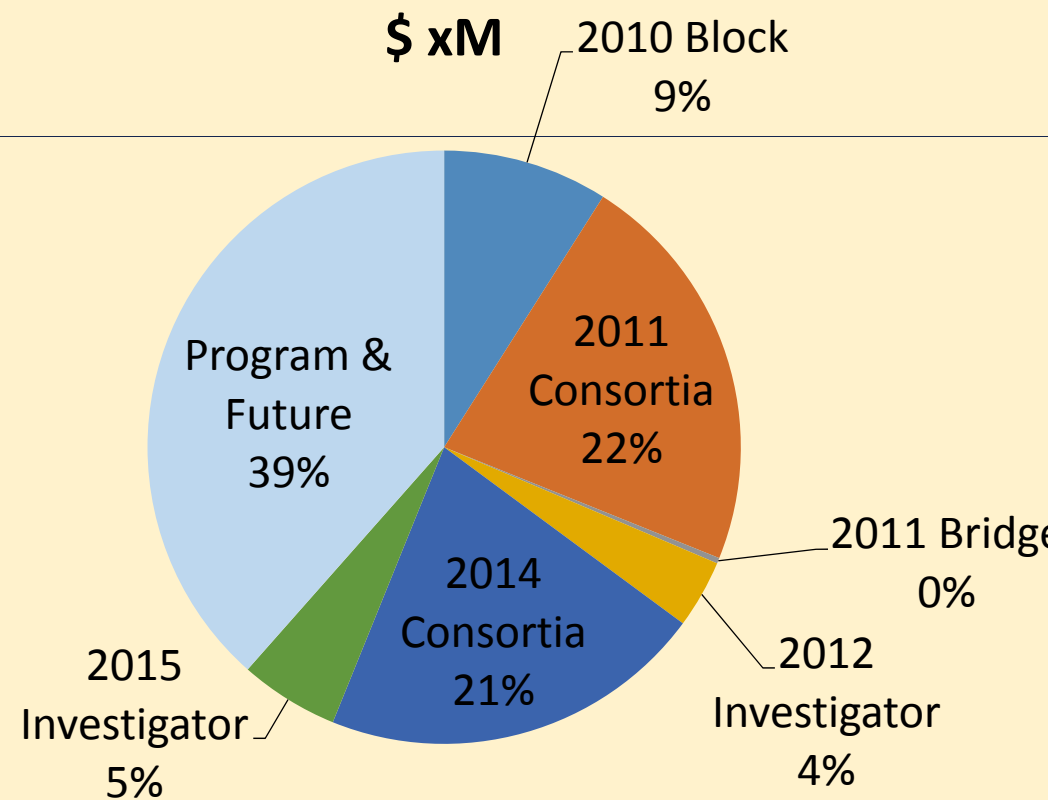


- Vision-- Improve society's ability to **understand, respond to and mitigate the impacts of petroleum pollution** and related stressors of the marine and coastal ecosystems, with an emphasis on conditions found in the Gulf of Mexico. Knowledge accrued will be applied to restoration and to improving the long-term environmental health of the Gulf.
- Mission-- **Independent research program** designed to study the impact of the oil spill and associated response on the environment and public health in the Gulf of Mexico”
 - [GOMRI Master Agreement](#)

GOMRI Funding:

- \$500M over 10 years; began Sep 2010 with rapid response “block grants”

Program \$ include support for annual
Gulf Spill/Ecosystem Science Conferences
and data management
2015 Conference included special
session, Monitoring Status and Trends of
Long-Lived Marine Vertebrates as a
Measurable Indicator of Restoration and
Long-Term Health of the Gulf of Mexico
Ecosystem (P. Plotkin, moderator)



GOMRI Marine Mammal Research:

Projects: 2010 FIO Block Grant to [Worthy et al.](#), spill impacts on bottlenose dolphins off FL panhandle

[Publications](#): from GOMRI list-- 452 publications, 3 on marine mammals

→
consortium: *Littoral Acoustic Demonstration Center - Gulf Biological Monitoring and Modeling ([LADC-GEMM](#))*, U. of LA-Lafayette; expertise in “*marine acoustics, biology, physics, engineering, mathematics, and computational predictive modeling to equip scientists with an understanding of how the regional marine mammal population in the Northern Gulf of Mexico (GoM) has been affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill.*”

→ small teams in review?



Gulf Research Initiative Information and Data Center ([GRIIDC](#))

...data and information legacy that promotes continual scientific discovery and public awareness of the Gulf ecosystem.”

services for data submission, archival, access and interoperability.

g., Worthy, Graham, Randall Wells, and Shannon Martin. 2014. [Western Florida handle Fish Isotopes \(2010-2011\)](#); $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ratios and nutritional characteristics for putative prey species of bottlenose dolphins.

