Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Research and Monitoring Meeting:
Funding Opportunities in the Gulf

GULF ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT FUND
Topics

- Scope of the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF)
- How the GEBF considers marine mammals
- What you need to know about the process
$2.554 billion from BP and Transocean to:
- Conduct or fund **projects**
- Remedy harm, or reduce or eliminate risk of future harm, to **Gulf coast natural resources**
- Where there has been injury to, destruction of, loss of, or loss of use of resources **resulting from the Macondo oil spill**
- **Consult** with State resource managers, USFWS, and NOAA
- **Maximize environmental benefits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Payment (in millions of dollars)</th>
<th>Louisiana</th>
<th>Alabama</th>
<th>Florida</th>
<th>Mississippi</th>
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<td>Apr. 2013</td>
<td>$158.00</td>
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*BP = $2.394M
Transocean = $150M*
GEBF and Marine Mammals

1. **Restore and Conserve Coastal Habitat**
   - Barrier islands & beach/dune habitat
   - Coastal marsh
   - Coastal bays & estuaries

2. **Enhance Populations of Priority Living Coastal and Marine Resources**
   - Oysters
   - Gulf Coast birds
   - Red snapper & reef fish
   - Sea turtles
   - Marine mammals
Critical Process Points

- April
  - States submit pre-proposals

  - June
    - Full Proposals Invited

  - July
    - Full Proposals Due

  - November
    - NFWF Board of Directors
      - Makes Funding Decisions
Critical Process Issues

• In general, research and monitoring is not a plea compliant activity unless there is a specific benefit to a resource impacted by the spill.
  – Most likely linkage to marine mammals is improved management capability (e.g. stranding networks reporting data to standardized gulf-wide database)
• Regional activities are possible, but costs must be allocated to specific states.
• State submittal of a pre-proposal in April initiates consideration for funding (in some states, grantee then takes responsibility for full proposals).