

**DWH Trustee Council
10/3/22 Conference Call Summary**

Attendees:

TX	AL	DOI	USDA
James Murphy	Chris Blankenship	Mary Josie Blanchard	Ron Howard
Michael Cave	Amy Hunter		Jon Morton
	Jane Calamusa		
LA	Chandler Williams		
Maury Chatellier	Jaime Miller		EPA
		NOAA	Mary Kay Lynch
	FL	Chris Doley	Gale Bonanno
	Gareth Leonard	Aileen Smith	Tim Landers
MS		Natalie Matthews	
Chris Wells			LAT
Bradley Ennis			Holly Herod

Discussion Item 1: Report Outs

- a. LA TIG: The LA TIG released its Mid Barataria Plan #3.2 in late September concurrent with the Army Corp’s release of the FEIS. The RP and FEIS will be considered by the Trustees before a ROD is issued. Other recent restoration plans include the Final RP #8 which includes two construction and two engineering and design projects. The Draft RP #7.1 was released with one restoration project, the Terrebonne HNC Island Restoration Project, as a preferred alternative. The schedule puts this final restoration plan out to the public around Thanksgiving. The goal is to start construction following next year’s bird nesting season.

The LA TIG also has a great deal of construction activity going on. The LA TIG held their annual meeting as a webinar in the early afternoon of September 8 in conjunction with the RP #7.1 meeting which was well attended.

- b. RW TIG: The RW TIG has been working on drafting and approving project implementation plans for the projects approved in the first restoration plan. The TIG has completed eight out of the 11 projects and are working on the final three implementation plans.

The AL and FL TIGs will give their report outs on the next TC call.

Discussion Item 2: Standing Cross-TIG MAM Update

- a. Discussion: No updates.

Discussion Item 3: LAT Items

a. Discussion:

- Future TC Annual Public Meetings – The group discussed options during last month’s call. A decision is requested on the November call.

Action Items:

1. Think about these options in advance of the November call. Will aim to reach consensus decision.
 2. An email will be circulated with decision points.
- Annual Reporting for CY22 – The schedule is being developed for CY22 annual reporting and emails with additional dates will be circulated soon. Key dates include:
 - Early October: Communicate schedule with TC, TIGs, and Project Managers
 - January 2, 2023: Data entry opens
 - April 14, 2023: Trustee project data input complete
 - May 19, 2023: TIG review period ends
 - May 31, 2023: Publication
 - Request for annual admin cost estimate from Trustees by COB on 10/28. This request will be sent via email.

Other Business

- a. Aileen Smith is moving on from *Deepwater Horizon* work and will be taking a different position within NOAA.
- b. The next regularly scheduled TC call is scheduled November 3.

**DWH Trustee Council
11/7/22 Conference Call Summary**

Attendees:

TX	AL	DOI	USDA
Robin Riechers	Chris Blankenship	Mary Josie Blanchard	Ron Howard
James Murphy	Amy Hunter	Nanciann Regalado	
Angela Schrift	Jane Calamusa		
	Jaime Miller		EPA
	Chandler Williams		Mary Kay Lynch
LA		NOAA	Gale Bonanno
Maury Chatellier	FL	Rachel Sweeney	Tim Landers
	Gareth Leonard	Natalie Matthews	Hugh Sullivan
MS	Lisa Robertson		Lenny Bankester
Chris Wells			
Bradley Ennis			LAT
Valerie Alley			Holly Herod

Discussion Item 1: Report Outs

- a. AL TIG: The AL TIG gave an update on several recreational use projects. The Fort Morgan Pier project from their first restoration plan was recently completed and now has new decking, educational signage, turtle-friendly lighting, and complies with ADA-accessible fishing guidelines. A ribbon-cutting event is scheduled for November 18. The Bayfront Park project is also making good headway. The TIG has completed the construction of shoreline improvements on the water side of that project. The land side piece of the project is still in engineering and design. The Gulf State Park Pier was damaged in Hurricane Sally. A review is occurring now to ascertain the full extent of the damage. In the meantime, the pier is partially open.

- b. FL TIG: The FL TIG approved their first MAM project, Coastal Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Mapping of Florida Gulf Coast. The project will update the regional ESIs, produce cartographic products, and develop a publicly available ESI website. The updated ESIs will better inform restoration, oil spill response planning, and damage assessment efforts.

The FL TIG also released a solicitation for project ideas for its third restoration plan earlier today. This solicitation was originally planned for earlier this fall, but was postponed to due Hurricane Ian.

The FL TIG will hold its annual public meeting as a webinar with public comment on December 15.

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

Discussion Item 2: Standing Cross-TIG MAM Update

- a. Discussion: Hugh Sullivan (EPA) is the new federal co-lead of the Cross-TIG MAM. The Restore America’s Estuaries (RAE) summit is taking place December 4-8 and the Cross TIG MAM will give the presentation the TC approved last week. The group will also be holding an in-person meeting at the RAE summit to discuss ongoing Cross-TIG MAM tasks and well as have a joint meeting with folks from RESTORE.

Discussion Item 3: LAT Items

- a. Discussion:
 - Future TC Annual Public Meetings – The group discussed the format (in person, virtual, hybrid) for the 2023 TC Annual Meeting. That meeting is typically held in June or July. The 2023 meeting would be held in Mississippi. The group discussed the potential for additional public meetings or Trustee meetings that could take place in conjunction with the public meeting depending on topics. The group discussed whether any targeted community engagement could take place in conjunction with a standard meeting.

Decision:

1. Will move the decision on this topic to the December TC call.

Action Items:

1. Send potential agenda topics/community engagement opportunities to Holly and TIG Support by November 23. The TC will review these ideas on the December call to determine if an in-person meeting is warranted for the Annual Public meeting.
 2. MS will give an update to the TC on their hybrid summit (being held later this week) on the December TC call.
- Programmatic Review After Actions – Holly is consolidating feedback from the program review small team and will get recommendations to the TC when it is ready.
 - Request for annual administrative cost estimate from Trustees by COB on November 18. This request was sent via email and reminders will be circulated as needed. Note this is different than how you want to split your annual deposit. The LAT will seek TC approval of the estimate on the December TC call.
 - Call Note Approvals – Please review the call notes on Sharepoint. The notes from 2022 will be uploaded to the administrative record in early 2023.

- Annual Reporting for CY22 – The trainings will be coming up over the next few months. Please encourage staff to attend the relevant sessions.

Other Business

- a. The next regularly scheduled TC call is scheduled December 5.

DWH Trustee Council 12/5/22 Conference Call Summary

Attendees:

TX	AL	DOI	USDA
Robin Riechers	Chris Blankenship	Mary Josie Blanchard	Ron Howard
James Murphy	Jaime Miller	Michelle Eversen	
Shannon Love	Jane Calamusa	Nanciann Regalado	
	Emily Seale		EPA
	Chandler Williams		Mary Kay Lynch
LA		NOAA	Gale Bonanno
Maury Chatellier	FL	Chris Doley	Tim Landers
	Lisa Robertson	Natalie Matthews	Lenny Bankester
MS	Amy Raker	Laurie Rounds	
Chris Wells	Nadia Martin		
Bradley Ennis			LAT
Valerie Alley			

Discussion Item 1: Report Outs

- a. **TX TIG**: The TX TIG hosted its annual meeting in November. They held in-person meetings in both Corpus Christi and Galveston. Each meeting included an open house, a formal presentation, then a question and answer session with representatives from each of the Trustee agencies answering questions from the audience.

In terms of project updates, the Texas Rookery Island project is underway and the Dickinson Bay Bird Island construction is now complete. They are now planting native vegetation and then will move into the monitoring phase. The McFaddin Beach and Dune Restoration project is well underway to restore 17 miles of Gulf shoreline. So far about 3 miles of sediment has been placed.

- b. **OO TIG**: The OO TIG is working on RP3 for birds and is currently reviewing the draft plan which is expected to be released for public comment in early March 2023. The plan includes seven preferred alternatives for seabird restoration in the Caribbean and the north eastern Atlantic. The OO TIG is happy to provide more information to the TC or other TIGs if there is interest in learning more details.

The OO TIG has also been developing MAM activities and a presentation the OO TIG gave to the RW TIG was shared with this group prior to today's call. The OO TIG is working on seven MAM activities and is likely to approve one to develop a conceptual model to develop open ocean restoration progress indicators later this year, with the

remaining activities being finalized in early 2023. Web stories will accompany the release of the MAM activities.

Earlier this year the OO TIG approved a three-year MAM activity to conduct offshore surveys to collect data on the distribution and abundance of seabirds and oceanic mammals that will start fieldwork next year.

The OO TIG is also continuing to implement projects from Restoration Plans 1 and 2. Of note, the sea turtle nesting habitat projection project in the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge has made good progress of acquiring priority parcels. This project includes state and other partners such as GEBF and the conservation fund.

The OO TIG held its annual public webinar on October 6 and materials are available on the Gulf Spill Restoration website. The webinar included a well-attended session focused on engagement techniques being used by the Restoring Common Loons project.

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

Discussion Item 2: Standing Cross-TIG MAM Update

- a. Discussion: The Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) summit is taking place this week and many of the Cross-TIG MAM members are in attendance. The Cross-TIG MAM will use that as an opportunity to hold an in-person meeting to discuss planning for next year's programmatic review and general data management topics.

Discussion Item 3: LAT Items

- a. Discussion:
 - Recap of the MS Restoration Summit on November 10 – The annual summit went well and was attended by more than 85 people plus online participation via Facebook Live. The meeting also included student engagement from a local high school. Overall, the hybrid approach was successful. They did some targeted radio and TV promotion (local news) of the event. The summit has grown each year as more projects are ongoing and more project sponsors and partners attend and staff booths at the open house.
 - Future TC Annual Public Meetings – The group discussed the format for the 2023 TC annual meeting including full in-person, full virtual, or hybrid options.

Decision:

1. The 2023 TC annual public meeting will be held in a virtual format.

Action Items:

1. Trustees will aim to get targeted feedback from stakeholders to gather information about preferred format of the meeting for future years.
 2. The group will consider going back to an in-person or hybrid meeting in 2024 as well as consider whether an in-person TC working session could be useful in the future.
 3. Additional aspects of the 2023 meeting will be discussed on the next TC call.
- Programmatic Review After Actions – An update will be provided on the next TC call.
 - Approval of annual admin cost estimate from Trustees.
Decision: AL, MS, FL, LA, TX, DOI, EPA, NOAA, USDA approve of the 2023 annual admin cost estimates.
 - Call Note Approvals – Please review the call notes on Sharepoint. The notes from 2022 will be uploaded to the administrative record in early 2023.
 - Additional DIVER field – An update will be provided on the next TC call.

Other Business

- a. The next regularly scheduled TC call is scheduled for Monday, January 2 but will be pushed back a week to January 9.
- b. Calendar appointments for 2023 calls will be sent shortly.
Action Item: Send in any adjustments to the distribution list via email.