From: Ren Lohoefener
To: Noreen Walsh
Subject: Re: Gulf information
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 12:09:33 PM

That is what I thought, I certainly had not understood that it was a permanent reprogramming but it was good to hear. Do you know how much it was?

rl

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 10, 2015, at 2:07 PM, Noreen Walsh <noreen_walsh@fws.gov> wrote:

> Just to be clear - to me it was not news that ES provided funds to us this year, just news that it was considered a permanent reprogramming.
> thanks,
> Noreen
>
> Noreen Walsh
> Regional Director
> Mountain-Prairie Region
> U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
>
> On Apr 10, 2015, at 10:01 AM, Ren Lohoefener <ren_lohoefener@fws.gov> wrote:
>
>> FYI
>>
>> Sent from my iPhone
>>
>> Begin forwarded message:
>>
>>> **From:** "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
>>> **Date:** April 9, 2015 at 4:02:37 PM EDT
>>> **To:** Ren Lohoefener <ren_lohoefener@fws.gov>
>>> **Subject: Re: Gulf information**
>>>
>>> Yes, it was. I'm putting together a table of all the funding we've provided. Just thought you would also like to see the original requests on all of these. I assume you have the grouse one. Do you need the NCTC one too? It was provided at the last Directorate meeting, but I can send it to you.
>>>
>>> On Thu, Apr 9, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Ren Lohoefener <ren_lohoefener@fws.gov> wrote:

got it thanks. Gary said End Sp. was funding a portion of sage grouse, which seemed to be news to R6, so that will be something we need to sleuth.

Thanks
Ren

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 9, 2015, at 3:46 PM, "Nolin, Chris" <chris_nolin@fws.gov> wrote:

> Here's the original Gulf request.
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Cynthia Dohner** <cynthia_dohner@fws.gov>
> Date: Fri, Jul 25, 2014 at 4:15 AM
> Subject: Gulf information
> To: Nolin Chris <Chris_Nolin@fws.gov>, Guertin Steve <Stephen_Guertin@fws.gov>, Ashe Dan <d_m_ashe@fws.gov>, Gould Rowan <R_W_Gould@fws.gov>
> Cc: Oetker Mike <michael_oetker@fws.gov>, Walker Linda <Linda_d_walker@fws.gov>, Reynolds Kevin <Kevin_Reynolds@fws.gov>, Tuggle Benjamin <Benjamin_Tuggle@fws.gov>, Nicholopolus Joy <joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>
>
> Good Morning,
>
> Please see the information below as requested by Chris (hope this helps). Please do not hesitate to call or let me know if you needs things clarified or need additional information.
>
>> The majority of (if not all) restoration funds coming from DWH-related settlements, including the RESTORE Act, Gulf

Environmental benefit fund (NFWF) and NRDA will be directed to the five gulf states and other locations with resources impacted by the DWH oil spill. The FWS will not receive funds from these sources to provide the necessary engagement (e.g., section 7 consultations or regulatory review - FWCA, NEPA , etc) in the overall gulf restoration effort. We believe that some of these funds will be directed toward FWS fish and wildlife priorities (e.g., NWR land acquisition/easement, or coastal bird conservation), but even if gulf funds are allocated for FWS or State projects that benefit our priorities, little or no funding will be provided for staff needed to implement the project. However, the billions of dollars currently in the gulf (and billions more are expected) for restoring the Gulf of Mexico over the next decade will significantly impact the day-to-day operations of the FWS and its responsibilities to manage and protect our trust resources in the Gulf. The FWS is uniquely positioned to engage with local, regional and national decision-makers and provide our experience and expertise to their direction of Gulf restoration resources on the landscape.

BP ONLY pays for work directly associated with

DWH-NRDAR, including salaries and associated expenses for employees working on the DWH case, fish and wildlife assessments, the early restoration effort, and the long term restoration. Additionally, BP will NOT pay for the cost to prepare for the litigation or to litigate any phases of the case.

None of these BP reimbursement funds cover the extensive commitment that the FWS has made to participate and prepare for comprehensive gulf-wide restoration. In addition to the existing staff we have working on Restore, NFWF and NAWCA implementation, additional resources are needed to cover increased workload associated with 1) environmental compliance and permitting; 2) scientific information (e.g., assimilation of sea level rise data into landscape planning) needed for landscape planning and design, coastal bird strategy, etc.; 3) coordinated land conservation; 4) habitat restoration; and 5) communications. This additional workload is above and beyond our DWH-NRDA responsibilities and as such BP funds cannot be used to pay for these efforts. The workload from the restoration dollars has increased dramatically and will continue over the next few years. Without additional resources, the

FWS could become the bottle neck that prevents the restoration effort going forward effectively and efficiently.

See note below from the gulf restoration office request and attached spreadsheets. I think this information can help further demonstrate our existing commitment and expectations of future investment needs for the Gulf.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Cynthia Dohner** <cynthia_dohner@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 12, 2014 at 7:44 PM
Subject: Gulf restoration office request
To: Gould Rowan <R_W_Gould@fws.gov>
Cc: Tuggle Benjamin <Benjamin_Tuggle@fws.gov>, Oetker Mike <michael_oetker@fws.gov>, Nicholopolus Joy <joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>, Ashe Dan <d_m_ashe@fws.gov>, Guertin Steve <Stephen_Guertin@fws.gov>

Rowan,

Attached is the information you requested for the development of a Gulf Restoration Office to coordinate FWS Gulf Restoration activities

across FWS Regions and FWS Programs. We have ensured that the proposal is realistic and accurately portrays our true resource needs in order to have the capacity to lead Gulf restoration.

Significant funds are now coming on-line as a result of settlements and agreements arising from the unprecedented DWH disaster.

The FWS has capacity to address its DWH NRDA responsibilities through the 2010 establishment of the Fairhope, AL Field Office and the DOI Case Management Team.

Additionally, we invested in the long-term commitment of coordinated Gulf Restoration when we hired three new senior staff in 2011 to coordinate DOI and FWS efforts.

Since that time, we have also created a significant cross-regional gulf infrastructure to align efforts across Regions 2, 3, 4 and 6 as well as the establishment of the Gulf Team with representatives from FWS HQ and many of the programs like Migratory Birds, Fisheries, Ecological

Services, Refuges, and Science Applications. The sum total of the Service's current commitment is over $3 million dollars. (See attached Existing Gulf Efforts Table). However this current level of commitment is not sufficient, and some of it is not sustainable. For example, significant environmental compliance workload is expected to start in the next 3 months with an exponential workload increase as funds become available in the Restore Trust Fund once Treasury regulations are finalized.

Gulf Restoration was recently recognized as one of Director Ashe's "Too Big To Fail" initiatives. This request recognizes that over the course of the next decade the FWS will be directly involved in influencing the distribution of billions of dollars of settlement funds to restoration activities in the Gulf Coast watershed. Additional capacity is needed to dedicate to this unprecedented opportunity to ensure that FWS trust resources benefit from the results and that a gulf-wide, landscape scale effort, based on the

best science, is implemented.

Following the model we articulated in our Vision, we believe that in order to be effective we must take a watershed approach to Gulf restoration and we must actively engage the expertise of all our FWS programs. We are proposing to build from our highly-effective cross-regional/cross-program Team and engage existing capacity in our field offices around the Gulf. In many activities, existing staff in our Programs can be re-directed to perform the necessary gulf restoration activities. However, in some cases, new positions are needed to help support the increased workload anticipated but we are not proposing the creation of a new, separate program office. We will have a senior-level manager who will coordinate and collaborate across programs and regions but will have limited supervisory control. An org chart depicting the structure for the proposed gulf restoration office is attached.

The Additional Gulf Support needed table is a prioritized list of new positions or new

funding needed to cover existing positions to address increasing workload (e.g., NFWF Fund and Restore Trust Fund). It is a realistic representation of what we believe is necessary to fully engage all our regions and programs in gulf restoration.

This request was developed jointly by Regions 2 and 4. Please let Ben or me know if you need any additional information or have any questions. Thanks for considering this request.

Best -

cindy

<ADDITIONAL GULF SUPPORT NEEDS 021214.docx>

<Existing Gulf Support 021214 pm version.docx>

<Gulf Program org chart 2-12-14 Version 2 draft.pptx>

--
Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service

703-358-2343 desk
202-760-0835 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: BPHC
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803