



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & NEXT STEPS

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# OVERVIEW

- Elements of Grant Funding
- Sources of Grant Funding
- State-Administered Grant Programs (TX)
- Federal & Other Programs
- Current Funding Opportunities
- Resources



# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- Comprehensive Planning Efforts
  - Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration (RESTORE) Council Initial Comprehensive Plan & Funded Priorities List
  - USACE's Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Feasibility Study
  - USACE's Coastal Texas Protection & Restoration Feasibility Study
  - GLO's Coastal Resiliency Master Plan
  - National Estuary Programs
    - Galveston Bay Estuary Program
    - Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program

# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- What makes a grant application successful?
  - Projects that are
    - Outcome based
    - Cost effective
    - Leveraged
    - Partnered
  - Grantees that
    - File excellent grant applications
    - Manage grants well
    - Monitor results and show outcomes

# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- How does an applicant create an appealing project?
  - **Consult** with advisors to learn how to obtain grant
    - Borrow techniques from successful grantees
  - **Plan** project well in advance
    - An idea is not a project!
    - Use internal resources to develop goals & outcomes
    - Write detailed, realistic budget
  - **Develop collaborative relationships** with natural resource agencies & NGOs
    - NOAA, USFWS, EPA, USACE, TPWD, TCEQ, GLO
    - Galveston Bay Foundation, Nature Conservancy, etc.
  - **Participate** in estuary programs (GBEP, CBBEP)



# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- Who else should be included in project planning?
  - **Advisors** – Consult and engage with
    - Natural resource agencies, estuary programs, grant writers
    - Experts -- academics, designers, engineers, etc.
  - **Stakeholders** – Partner with skilled stakeholders with similar interests
  - **Funders** – Leverage projects by obtaining as many funding sources as possible
  - **Public** -- Solicit public input when appropriate
    - Applicants should show public input into planning
    - Funders want projects that are widely supported & well vetted

# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- What if the project may take several years?
  - **Scale** projects
    - Portion of a larger project may be appropriate
  - **Phase** projects
    - Develop phased funding strategies
    - Break lengthy projects into sequential phases (e.g., engineering & design could be Phase 1, construction could be Phase 2)
  - **Complete** projects in a timely manner
    - Funders like results within a reasonable time period
    - Scale & phase projects so that “end result” is achieved soon

# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- Why do projects need monitoring?
  - **Be accountable** for project's success by including monitoring
    - Most environmental grants require monitoring
    - Funders want accountability to report results to those providing funds (e.g., Congress, state lege, foundation backers)
  - **Budget** for monitoring and outcome reporting in project planning
  - **Report problems** to grant managers in a timely manner
  - **Include adaptive management** in project planning
    - If monitoring shows project not achieving goals, provide means to alter project to achieve success
    - Important because of changes in climate, relative sea level rise, etc.



# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- How does an applicant create an excellent application?
  - **Follow** instructions carefully and fully
  - **Write** application to echo funder's goals
  - **Produce** attractive, professional looking applications
  - **Get** letters of support
    - Show broad-based support that demonstrates leveraging
    - Consider providing draft LOS to make it easier for supporters
  - **File** application on time and per instructions
  - **Follow up** inquiries or contacts from the funder
  - **Make it easy** for the funder to do your project!

# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- What's so important about grant administration?
  - **Comply** with grant requirements
    - Federal grant compliance can be challenging
    - State grants are often federal pass-through grants, so federal compliance standards apply
    - Consequences for noncompliance can be severe
  - **Ensure** that entity has needed administrative capabilities
    - Funders want grantees that can comply with grant terms
    - Show skill and experience in grant compliance in application



# ELEMENTS OF GRANT FUNDING

- What's important about a funding opportunity?
  - Who is the funder (Feds, State, other)?
  - What are the eligible activities (habitat restoration, land conservation, coastal resiliency)?
  - Who are the eligible applicants (gov'ts, agencies, universities, NGOs)?
  - What are the total awards, # of awards, length of awards?
  - Is a match required?
  - What are the letter of intent (LOI) & application deadlines?

# SOURCES OF GRANT FUNDING

- In General
  - State administered programs (TX)
    - Coastal Erosion Planning & Response Act (CEPRA) funds
    - Coastal Management Program (CMP) grants
    - Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) funds
  - Federal programs (USACE, NOAA, USFWS)
  - Foundations
    - National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
  - Other
    - Estuary programs

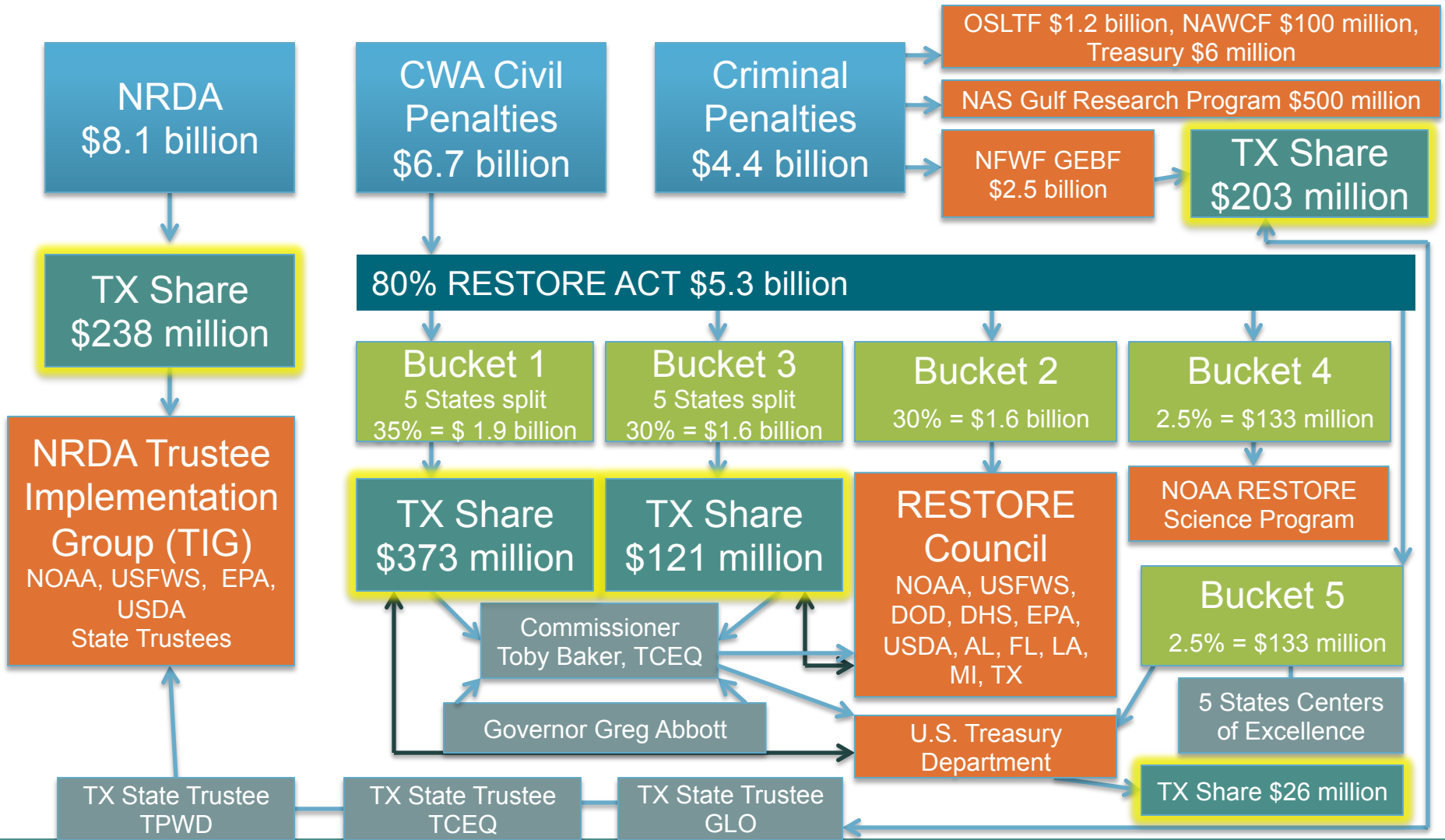


# SOURCES OF GRANT FUNDING

- Deepwater Horizon (DWH) Oil Spill
  - Oil Pollution Act liability for environmental damages
    - Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Trustees
  - Clean Water Act civil penalties – RESTORE Act
    - RESTORE Council
      - › Fed members: DOC (NOAA), DOI (USFWS), EPA, USDA, DHS, DOD
      - › State members: AL, FL, LA, MI, TX
    - U.S. Treasury Department
  - Criminal penalties
    - NFWF Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF)
    - National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Gulf Research Program



# TX FUNDING FROM DEEPWATER HORIZON



# STATE ADMINISTERED GRANT FUNDING (TX)

- RESTORE Bucket 1 (Direct Component)
  - Projects for environmental restoration & economic recovery in the Gulf Coast region
  - No match required, funds can match federal funds
  - TCEQ closed RFGA for up to \$56 million in April 2016
  - Comm. Baker & Gov. Abbott will choose projects
  - Draft list of projects expected by early fall 2016
  - Final list must be approved by Treasury Department
  - Additional rounds of Bucket 1 over the next 15 years
  - <https://www.restorethetexascoast.org/civil-penalties-funding-gulf-restoration-restore-act/>



# STATE ADMINISTERED GRANT FUNDING (TX)

- RESTORE Bucket 3 (Spill Impact Component)
  - Projects for environmental restoration & economic recovery in the Gulf Coast region
  - Must be consistent with RESTORE Council's Comprehensive Plan (emphasis on environmental restoration)
  - TCEQ may issue RFGA in early 2017
  - Comm. Baker & Gov. Abbott will choose projects
  - Final list must be approved by RESTORE Council
  - Additional rounds of Bucket 3 over the next 15 years
  - <https://www.restorethetexascoast.org/civil-penalties-funding-gulf-restoration-restore-act/>





# STATE ADMINISTERED GRANT FUNDING (TX)

- CEPRA Program, GLO
  - Funded by TX legislature on a biennial basis
  - Can be used for coastal erosion response projects and related studies
  - GLO solicits project ideas and makes awards biennially
  - Match required
    - 25% for beach renourishment projects
    - 40% for other projects and studies
- <http://www.glo.texas.gov/coast/grant-projects/cepra/index.html>



# STATE ADMINISTERED GRANT FUNDING (TX)

- Texas CMP Grants, GLO
  - Funded by CZMA grants from NOAA
  - Total funding usually about \$1.5 million annually
  - Can be used for wetlands restoration and soft shoreline stabilization, oyster reefs & related planning
  - Cannot be used for hard shoreline armoring
  - GLO has annual calls for grant proposals usually in spring
  - Match required
    - 25% cash match
    - 50% match if in-kind services included
- <http://www.glo.texas.gov/coast/grant-projects/cmp/index.html>



# STATE ADMINISTERED GRANT FUNDING (TX)

- GOMESA, GLO & Coastal Counties
  - Funding from federal offshore oil & gas revenues in Gulf
  - Can be used for coastal restoration & hurricane preparedness (same purposes as CIAP)
  - Phase I (2007 through 2016)
    - AL, MI, LA & TX and coastal counties get allocation of income from a few Gulf producing tracts
  - Phase II (2017 through 2055)
    - States & counties get allocation of income from most of Gulf
    - TX and its coastal counties likely to get \$20-100 million annually
  - No state plan yet for Phase II funding
  - <http://www.boem.gov/Revenue-Sharing/>



# FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING

- USACE – Feasibility studies, WRDA funding
- NOAA
  - Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grants
  - <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/funding/index.html>
- USFWS
  - CIAP Program no longer funding projects
  - Wetlands grant programs
    - Nat'l Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants
    - N. American Wetlands Conservation Grants (NAWCA)
  - <https://www.fws.gov/grants/programs.html>

# FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING

- RESTORE Bucket 2 (Council-Selected Component)
  - Administered by RESTORE Council
  - Council implements Comprehensive Plan & Funded Priorities List
  - Projects should restore the Gulf Coast ecosystem
  - Total of \$1.6 billion available over next 15 years
  - Only Council members can apply (TX Comm. Baker)
  - TX received about \$21 million of first round of Bucket 2 funding
  - Next round of projects likely by 2018
- <https://www.restorethegulf.gov/council-selected-restoration-component>

# FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING

- RESTORE Bucket 4 (NOAA RESTORE Science Program)
  - NOAA administers science program with advice from Council members
  - Some grant funding awarded, no current opportunities
  - <https://restoreactscienceprogram.noaa.gov/funding>
- RESTORE Bucket 5 (State Centers of Excellence)
  - Treasury grants submitted by states (Comm. Baker)
  - Texas has 2 consortiums
    - TAMU-CC, lead – Texas One Gulf -- <http://www.texasonegulf.org/>
    - Univ. of Houston, lead – Subsea Systems Institute -- <http://www.uh.edu/uh-energy/research/subsea-institute/>



# OTHER GRANT FUNDING

- NFWF
  - GEBF
    - Funding from DWH criminal penalties
    - Plea agreement allocated restoration funds to the five Gulf States
    - Allocations made for years 2013 through 2018
    - Awards made by NFWF in consultation with federal & state natural resource agencies (NOAA, FWS, TPWD, TCEQ, GLO)
    - Can be used to restore and conserve habitat
    - 2018 allocation for Texas will be about \$71 million
    - TPWD will ask for project ideas for 2018 allocation in December 2016
- <http://www.nfwf.org/gulf/Pages/GEBF-Texas.aspx>

# CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY - NRDA

- NRDA DWH BP Settlement
  - Federal & State NRD Trustees will develop restoration plan for \$46.7 million by spring of 2017
  - Another \$124.8 million will be available over 15 years
  - Will consider project ideas submitted by August 31, 2016 to NOAA NRDA or Texas RESTORE website
  - Eligible projects will –
    - Restore habitat
    - Restore water quality (nutrient reduction / nonpoint source)
    - Restore oysters
  - Engineering & design for projects also eligible
- [http://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/enviroconcerns/damage\\_assessment/deep\\_water\\_horizon.phtml/](http://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/enviroconcerns/damage_assessment/deep_water_horizon.phtml/)





## CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY - NOAA

- NOAA NMFS “**FY2016 Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grant**” Program (Proposals due 8/16/16)
  - Habitat restoration & ecosystem resiliency projects that reduce risks for coastal communities
  - **Project must be approved by state governor**
  - Total \$8.5 million available
  - Applicants may request from \$100,000 -- \$2 million in federal funds
  - Match required – 1/3 of total project cost
  - Project must start within 24 months of award
- <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/funding/coastalresiliency.html>



# CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY - NAS

- NAS Gulf Research Program -- **“Enhancing Resilience & Well-Being in Gulf Region Coastal Communities”** Grant Program (LOI due 10/5/16)
  - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation providing 50% of funding
  - Focusing on research into human dynamics that influence a community’s ability to respond to adverse events
  - Encouraging development of research-informed strategies & practices to strengthen community resiliency
  - Total \$10 million available, 3-6 awards anticipated
  - <http://www.nationalacademies.org/gulf/grants/rwjf/index.htm>

# FUTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- Gulf of Mexico Alliance
  - Fall 2016 opportunity for small coastal resiliency projects (up to \$50,000)
- <http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/announcements/funding/>



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITY RESOURCES

- RESTORE the Texas Coast --  
<https://www.restorethetexascoast.org/>
- Grants.gov -- <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html>
- Gulf of Mexico Alliance –  
<http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/announcements/funding/>
- U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit – Funding Opportunities --  
<https://toolkit.climate.gov/content/funding-opportunities>
- NOAA Habitat Conservation Applicant Resources --  
<http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/funding/applicantresources.html>
- USFWS Financial Assistance Programs –  
<https://www.fws.gov/grants/programs.html>





Questions/Discussion