



The State of the Gulf and a Common Vision for its Future Monday, December 5, 2011

7:00 **Breakfast**

8:00 Welcome and Introduction to Summit

Dr. Flavius Killebrew, President/CEO, Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
Dr. Larry McKinney, Executive Director, Harte Research Institute (HRI)

8:30 *First State and Federal Strategy to Restore the Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem*

Ms. Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator and Chair of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem
Restoration Task Force, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

9:00 *Challenges to Assuring the Health of the Gulf of Mexico*

Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere
and Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

9:30 *National Ocean Policy and the Gulf of Mexico*

Ms. Nancy Sutley, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)

10:00 **Break**

10:30 *The Gulf Alliance, A Partnership for the Future of the Gulf*

Dr. Bill Walker, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
(MDMR)

11:00 *Connecting the Droplets: How freshwater conservation benefits the Gulf*

Ms. Laura Huffman, Director, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) of Texas

11:30 Close of morning session

11:45 **Lunch**

The Gulf of Mexico: A Vision for the Future

Dr. Sylvia Earle, Chair, Harte Research Institute Advisory Board

1:00 *The Gulf of Mexico and the Energy Security of the USA*

Mr. Greg Smith, President, Shell Pipeline Company LP

1:30 *Building the Science Base for the Future Gulf*

Dr. Bill Hogarth, Interim Director, Florida Institute of Oceanography, University of
South Florida

2:00 *The Gulf of Mexico - A Shared Ecosystem*

Dr. Antonio Díaz de León, Director General of Environmental Policy, Regional and
Sectoral Division, SEMARNAT- Mexico

2:30 Break



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3:00 **Panel: Defining a Healthy Gulf of Mexico.**

Led by The Nature Conservancy.

Session Chair, Dr. Jorge Brenner, Associate Director of Marine Science, TNC

A healthy Gulf is the goal of all restoration efforts, but it needs to be a common goal shared by all. An objective of the Summit is to find that common denominator of defining a healthy Gulf. This session will be based on the NGO - led *Strategy of Restoring the Gulf*. There will be breakout sessions to allow participant input.

Presentation by Ms. Cindy Brown, Director, Gulf of Mexico Program, TNC

Moderated by Ms. Kacky Andrews, Director, Oceans and Coasts Program, TNC

Dr. Phil Levin, Program Manager, Ecosystem Science, NOAA

Dr. Matt Lindsay, President, Mather Economics, LLC

Mr. Minor Sinclair, U.S. Regional Director, Oxfam America

6:00 Close of afternoon session

6:00 **State of the Gulf of Mexico Summit Reception**

**Restoration, Policy and Economic Frameworks to Assure the
Future Gulf**
Tuesday, December 6, 2011

7:00 **Breakfast**

8:00 *Focusing on The Real Drivers of the Gulf's Future*
Dr. Quenton Dokken, President/CEO, Gulf of Mexico Foundation (GOMF)

8:20 **Panel: Implementation of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration
Task Force Plan**

*Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (GCERTF) Background and Strategy
Development*

Mr. John Hankinson, Executive Director, GCERTF

How Science was Brought in to Inform the Strategy

Presentation by Dr. Alyssa Dausman, Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

The plan will be the blueprint for restoring and maintaining a healthy and productive Gulf of Mexico. Taskforce leaders will report on status of the final report and implementation plans and issues.

Moderated by Mr. Bryon Griffith, Deputy Director, Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force

Ms. Helen Young, Deputy Commissioner, Texas General Land Office

Ms. Alice Perry, Assistant Director, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Ms. Patti Powell, State Lands Director, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Dr. John Harding, Chief Scientist, Northern Gulf Institute

Mr. Kris Van Orsdel, Senior Policy Analyst, Ocean Conservancy

Mayor Randy Roach, City of Lake Charles, Louisiana

9:45 **Panel: Mitigating and Adapting to Global Sea Level Rise in the Gulf of Mexico**

Moderated by Mr. Valsin A. Marmillion, Managing Director, America's WETLAND Foundation

Ms. Sidney Coffee, Senior Advisor, America's WETLAND Foundation

Dr. Robert Twilley, Vice President of Research, University of Louisiana Lafayette

10:15 **Break**

10:30 **Panel: The Importance of the Clean Water Act, NRDA and Other Legislative
Initiatives for Ecosystem Restoration in the Gulf**

Moderated by Dr. Richard McLaughlin, Marine Policy & Law Chair, HRI

This panel will examine the Clean Water Act, NRDA and a wider set of policy initiatives as potential sources of funding for existing and future ecosystem restoration efforts in the Gulf of Mexico.

Restoration, Policy and Economic Frameworks to Assure the Future Gulf

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Dr. Pete Peterson, Alumni Distinguished Professor, University of North Carolina
Mr. Adam Kolton, Senior Director, Congressional and Federal Affairs, National Wildlife Federation
Dr. Susan Rees, Program Manager, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile
Mr. Garret Graves, Director, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, State of Louisiana
Dr. Robert Haddad, Chief, Assessment and Restoration Division, NOAA

12:00 Close of morning session

12:15 **Lunch**

Federal Regulatory Perspective on Future Oil and Gas Development in the Gulf of Mexico

Ms. Marcilynn A. Burke, Acting Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, U.S. Department of the Interior

1:30 **Panel: Policy Implications for Coastal and Ocean Management in the Gulf of Mexico**

Moderated by Ms. Sally Yozell, Director of Policy, Senior Advisor to NOAA's Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere

The session will explore the opportunities and challenges of applying certain National Ocean Policy (NOP) components to the coastal and marine ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico. Panelists will discuss how the NOP framework can be applied to benefit regional issues and concerns about possible implementation.

Mr. Paul Kelly, Energy & Ocean Policy Consultant
Ms. Karma Leyland, Vice President of Environment, Health and Safety, Baryonyx Corporation
Mr. Jack Belcher, Co-Managing Director, National Ocean Policy Coalition
Ms. Susan Kaderka, Regional Executive Director, National Wildlife Federation
Mr. Phil Bass, State Policy Coordinator for EPA, Gulf of Mexico Alliance
Ms. Kate Zultner, Planning and Policy Coordinator, General Land Office

3:00 **Break**

3:30 **Panel: A Healthy Gulf Economy for the 21st Century**

Introduction and the Productive Value of the Gulf of Mexico

Moderated by Dr. David Yoskowitz, Socio-Economics Chair, HRI

Shipping and Port Operations in the Gulf of Mexico: Challenges and Opportunities

Mr. John LaRue, Executive Director, Port of Corpus Christi Authority

Leveraging State and Federal Assets for Public Work Initiatives

Mr. Henri Boulet, Executive Director, LA 1 Coalition

Restoration, Policy and Economic Frameworks to Assure the Future Gulf

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Future Oil Gas Development in the Gulf of Mexico
Mr. Clint Moore, Member, FGBNMS Advisory Council

The Human Dimensions of Marine Protected Areas
Dr. Jeffrey Wielgus, Consultant, Ocean Conservancy

Interim Report of the Committee to Study the Impact of the Macondo Oil Spill on Ecosystem Services
Dr. Kim Waddell, Senior Program Officer, National Academy of Sciences

5:30 Close of afternoon session

5:30 Social and cash bar

6:30 **CEO Roundtable Dinner (all participants are invited to attend)**
Moderated by Mr. Raul Rodriguez, Harte Research Institute Advisory Board

A perspective from business and industry: Issues, challenges and opportunities affecting the future economic and environmental sustainability of the Gulf of Mexico.

Agriculture

Dr. Katherine Smith, Vice President of Programs and Chief Economist, American Farmland Trust

International Business

Ms. Eva Fernandez, Head of Strategic Alliances, FEMSA Foundation, Mexico

Recreational Fisheries

Mr. Patrick Murray, President, Coastal Conservation Association

Seafood

Mr. Jim Gossen, President/CEO, Louisiana Foods

Tourism

Mr. Keith Overton, CHA, President, Tradewinds Island Resort

Science in Support of the Future Gulf Wednesday, December 7, 2011

- 7:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 *Focusing Science on the Issues Driving the Gulf's Future*
Dr. Larry McKinney, Executive Director, HRI
- 8:15 *Linking Science and Restoration in the Gulf of Mexico*
Dr. Suzette Kimball, Deputy Director, USGS
- 8:45 *Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative - Transition from Response to Coordinated Research*
Dr. Mike Carron, Director, Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GRI)
- 9:15 *DWH Oil Spill Principal Investigators One Year Update Workshop*
Dr. Paul Sandifer, Senior Science Advisor to the Administrator, NOAA
- 9:45 Break
- 10:00 **Panel: Metrics to Assess Gulf Health Session**
Moderated by Dr. Wes Tunnell, Associate Director and Biodiversity and Conservation Science Chair, HRI
- Foundations of a Gulf Report Card Monitoring Need*
Dr. Ann Jochens, Research Scientist, Department of Oceanography, Texas A&M University
- Framework for Environmental Sensitivities Characterization through Application of Ecosystem Services*
Dr. Sandra Werner, Research Scientist, ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company
- Wetland Assessments of Coastal Restoration Efforts Using Multi-Metric Indices*
Dr. Greg Steyer, Ecologist, U.S. Geological Survey
- 11:00 Close of morning session
- 11:15 **Lunch**
Keynote Speaker
Mrs. Laura Bush, Former First Lady
- 1:00 **Panel: A Report Card for the Gulf of Mexico**
Moderated by Dr. Wes Tunnell, Associate Director and Biodiversity and Conservation Science Chair, HRI
- Once defined, how do we measure success in moving to the goal of a healthy Gulf? HRI has developed a Report Card Leadership Team to develop a Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem Report Card.



Science in Support of the Future Gulf Wednesday, December 7, 2011

The Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem Report Card Initiative

Dr. Larry McKinney, Executive Director, HRI

Dr. Wes Tunnell, Associate Director and Biodiversity and Conservation Science Chair, HRI

A Comprehensive Scientific Framework for a Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem Health Report Card

Dr. Mark Harwell, Principal Partner, Harwell Gentile & Associates, LC

Dr. Jack Gentile, Principal, Harwell Gentile & Associates, LC

Gulf of Mexico Report Card Prototype and Future Directions

Dr. Bill Dennison, Vice President for Science Applications, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Dr. Heath Kelsey, Program Manager, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

2:15 **Panel: Cooperative Science in the Gulf – Building a better mousetrap**

NOAA-Shell Collaboration to Enhance Meteorological and Oceanographic Observations in the Gulf of Mexico

Moderated by Dr. Louis Brzuzy, Marine Scientist and Regulatory Specialist, Shell Exploration and Production Company

The Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring (GEM) Program: A Proposal for Sustaining Long-term Research and Monitoring in the Gulf of Mexico

Mr. Stanley Senner, Director of Conservation Science, Ocean Conservancy

Getting Our Act Together: How the Scientific Community Can Come Together to Support the Gulf of Mexico

Dr. Shelby Walker, Office of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, NOAA

Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem Program

Dr. Porfirio Álvarez, Chief Technical Advisor, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Deepwater Horizon: Cooperative Natural Resource Damage Assessment Program Status

Ms. Robin Bullock, Director of Environmental Science and Natural Resources Damages, BP

Gulf of Mexico Fisheries

Dr. Steve Bortone, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council



Science in Support of the Future Gulf Wednesday, December 7, 2011

4:00 **Panel: Integrating Science, Policy and Restoration in a Future Gulf**

Led by Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GOMURC).

Moderated by Dr. Chris D'Elia, GOMURC Chair, Professor and Dean of the School of the Coast and Environment, Louisiana State University

The oil spill and the BP Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GRI) stimulated the formation of a new research alliance, the Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GOMURC), which involves all five Gulf States encompassing over 65 collaborating research universities. This session will begin with a brief description of GOMURC, its formation, its mission and its aims. The session will then consider how GOMURC and its members can: advocate more effectively for stable and adequate research funding for the Gulf of Mexico; build research collaborations; identify emerging issues of scientific interest and public concern; and work together to implement integrated, comprehensive and enduring coastal observation systems.

Alabama Dr. John Valentine, Executive Director, Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Florida Dr. Bill Hogarth, Interim Director, Florida Institute of Oceanography, University of South Florida

Louisiana Dr. Chris D'Elia, GOMURC Chair, Professor and Dean, Louisiana State University

Mississippi Dr. David Shaw, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, Mississippi State University

Texas Dr. Larry McKinney, Executive Director, HRI

6:00 Close of afternoon session



Defining the Broader Future of the Gulf Thursday, December 8, 2011

7:00 Breakfast

8:00 *Undoing the Past and Planning the Future*
Dr. Quenton Dokken, President/CEO, GOMF

8:15 **Panel: Conservation and Restoration in the Gulf of Mexico**
Moderated by Mr. Ryan Fikes, Deputy Director, GOMF

Comparing Mexico and U.S. policy, law and management, including an analysis of State and Federal policy and regulatory programs that are intended to provide protection to coastal habitats in the Gulf of Mexico.

Ms. Jordan Diamond, Staff Attorney and Deputy Director of the Ocean Program,
Environmental Law Institute
Ms. Alejandra Serrano-Pavon, Environmental Lawyer and Southeast Regional
Director, Mexican Center for Environmental Law

9:00 **Panel: Tri-national Cooperation and Management of Offshore Oil and Gas
Development and Spill Response - Implications for Restoration and
Ecosystem Health**
Moderated by Dr. Lee Hunt, Chief Executive, International Association of Drilling
Contractors

The format of the session will be a hybrid of presentation and moderated panel discussion. The focus will be on determining the best methods of improving tri-national cooperation in managing offshore oil and gas development in the Gulf of Mexico to better protect the marine environment.

Mr. Dan Whittle, Senior Attorney and Cuba Program Director, Environmental
Defense Fund
Dr. Evelia Rivera Arriaga, Secretary, Environment and Sustainable Development,
State of Campeche, Mexico
Mr. Ian Hernández, Vice President, O'Brien's Response Management

10:30 Break

Defining the Broader Future of the Gulf

Thursday, December 8, 2011

10:45 **Panel: Partnerships for a Sustainable Gulf of Mexico**

Moderated by Dr. Quenton Dokken, President/CEO, GOMF

Partnerships and collaborations involving business and industry, NGOs, government agencies, and the public are essential to building and implementing utilization and management strategies to ensure a healthy and sustainable economy and environment.

Mr. Clint Moore, Member, FGBNMS Advisory Council

Mr. Ted Venker, Conservation Director, Coastal Conservation Association

Mr. Michael Long, Regulatory Affairs, Shell

12:15 Close of morning session

12:30 **Lunch**

Science-based Decision Making in Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration

Dr. Alan Thornhill, Chief Environmental Officer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

2:00 **Concluding Session: Stepping Stone Meetings and the Future**

The stepping stone meetings preceding the Summit will result in a number of documents recommending actions to achieve Summit goals. The Summit will complement and add to those earlier efforts. Together they will provide the foundation for future actions by participants and supporting organizations to advance the Summit vision of an ecologically and economically healthy Gulf of Mexico. This concluding session will be an opportunity for participants to share what they have learned over the course of the previous days. It will be breakout sessions with smaller groups to facilitate discussion and will review both summit and stepping stone outputs to help outline a strategy for moving forward.