

The Alabama TIG, which is composed of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the NOAA, Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, selects and implements restoration projects under the Alabama TIG's management authority in accordance with the Consent Decree. The Final PDARP/PEIS, ROD, Consent Decree, and information on the DWH Trustees can be found at <https://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-planning/gulf-plan>.

Background

In September 2018, the Alabama TIG completed the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Alabama Trustee Implementation Group Final Restoration Plan II and Environmental Assessment: Restoration of Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats; Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands; Nutrient Reduction (Nonpoint Source); Sea Turtles; Marine Mammals; Birds; and Oysters (RPII/EA). Twenty restoration projects were selected for implementation; one of which was *Enhancing Capacity for the Alabama Marine Mammal Stranding Network*. That project has been successfully implemented utilizing Marine Mammal Restoration Type funds identified in the DWH Consent Decree.

Overview of the Alabama TIG Supplemental RPII/EA

The Trustees are now proposing to commit additional funds to marine mammal restoration in Alabama. In the Draft Supplemental RPII/EA, the Alabama TIG analyzes a reasonable range of two project alternatives and, pursuant to the NEPA, a No Action Alternative. Those alternatives include:

- Enhancing Capacity for the Alabama Marine Mammal Stranding Network Project Extension (preferred); and
- Reducing Illegal Feeding of Bottlenose Dolphins Project (non-preferred).

Funding to implement either alternative ultimately selected by the Alabama TIG would come from the Alabama Mammal Restoration Type Allocation. The total estimated cost to implement the Preferred Alternative is \$1,881,237 and would utilize the remaining allocation of Alabama TIG Marine Mammals restoration funds.

Next Steps

After the public comment period ends, the Alabama TIG will consider

and address all substantive comments received before making a final decision on which, if any, alternative to fund and implement. A Final Supplemental RPII/EA and Finding of No Significant Impact, as appropriate, identifying the selected alternative will be made publicly available.

Administrative Record

The Administrative Record for the Draft Supplemental RPII/EA can be viewed electronically at <https://www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon/adminrecord> under the folder 6.5.3.2.

Authority

The authority for this action is the OPA of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*), its implementing NRDA regulations found at 15 CFR part 990, and the NEPA of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), its implementing regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508.

Dated: March 12, 2024.

Carrie Diane Robinson,

Director, Office of Habitat Conservation, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Sunshine Act Meetings

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETINGS:

Mississippi River Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m., April 8, 2024.

PLACE: On board MISSISSIPPI V at City Front, New Madrid, Missouri.

STATUS: Open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: (1) Summary report by President of the Commission on national and regional issues affecting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Commission programs and projects on the Mississippi River and its tributaries; (2) District Commander's overview of current project issues within the Memphis District; and (3) Presentations by local organizations and members of the public giving views or comments on any issue affecting the programs or projects of the Commission and the Corps of Engineers.

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m., April 9, 2024.

PLACE: On board MISSISSIPPI V at Mud Island Park, Memphis, Tennessee.

STATUS: Open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: (1) Summary report by President of the

Commission on national and regional issues affecting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Commission programs and projects on the Mississippi River and its tributaries; (2) District Commander's overview of current project issues within the Memphis District; and (3) Presentations by local organizations and members of the public giving views or comments on any issue affecting the programs or projects of the Commission and the Corps of Engineers.

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m., April 10, 2024.

PLACE: On board MISSISSIPPI V at City Front, Greenville, Mississippi.

STATUS: Open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

(1) Summary report by President of the Commission on national and regional issues affecting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Commission programs and projects on the Mississippi River and its tributaries; (2) District Commander's overview of current project issues within the Vicksburg District; and (3) Presentations by local organizations and members of the public giving views or comments on any issue affecting the programs or projects of the Commission and the Corps of Engineers.

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m., April 12, 2024.

PLACE: On board MISSISSIPPI V at City Front, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

STATUS: Open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

(1) Summary report by President of the Commission on national and regional issues affecting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Commission programs and projects on the Mississippi River and its tributaries; (2) District Commander's overview of current project issues within the New Orleans District; and (3) Presentations by local organizations and members of the public giving views or comments on any issue affecting the programs or projects of the Commission and the Corps of Engineers.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Mr. Charles A. Camillo, telephone 601–634–7023.

David B. Olson,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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