



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-10010-48-OW]

Notice of Availability of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Louisiana Trustee

Implementation Group Final Supplemental Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Cypremort Point State Park Improvements Project Modification and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal and State natural resource trustee agencies for the Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group (Louisiana TIG) have prepared the Final Supplemental Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Cypremort Point State Park Improvements Project Modification (Final Supplemental RP/EA). The Final Supplemental RP/EA describes and, in conjunction with the associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), selects the modified Cypremort Point State Park Improvements (Cypremort Improvements) project considered by the Louisiana TIG to compensate for recreational use services lost as a result of the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill.

ADDRESSES: *Obtaining Documents:* You may download the Final Supplemental RP/EA and FONSI at any of the following sites:

- <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov>
- <http://www.la-dwh.com>

Alternatively, you may request a CD of the Final Supplemental RP/EA and FONSI (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). You may also view the document at any of the public facilities listed at <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov>; check with each facility for their hours of operation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- Louisiana – Joann Hicks, 225-342-5477
- EPA – Douglas Jacobson, 214-665-6692

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Louisiana TIG evaluated project alternatives under criteria set forth in the OPA natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) regulations and evaluated the environmental consequences of the alternatives in accordance with the NEPA. The selected project is consistent with the restoration alternatives selected in the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill Final Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan/Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PDARP/PEIS). The Federal Trustees of the Louisiana TIG have determined that the implementation of the Final Supplemental RP/EA is not a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the context of the NEPA. They have concluded a FONSI is appropriate, and, therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. This notice informs the public of the approval and availability of the Final Supplemental RP/EA and FONSI.

Introduction

On April 20, 2010, the mobile offshore drilling unit *Deepwater Horizon*, which was being used to drill a well for BP Exploration and Production, Inc. (BP), in the Macondo prospect (Mississippi Canyon 252–MC252), experienced a significant explosion, fire, and subsequent

sinking in the Gulf of Mexico, resulting in the release of an unprecedented volume of oil and other discharges from the rig and from the wellhead on the seabed. The *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill is the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history, discharging millions of barrels of oil over a period of 87 days. The Trustees conducted the natural resource damage assessment for the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*). Under the OPA, Federal and State agencies act as trustees on behalf of the public to assess natural resource injuries and losses and to determine the actions required to compensate the public for those injuries and losses. The OPA further instructs the designated trustees to develop and implement a plan for the restoration, rehabilitation, replacement, or acquisition of the equivalent of the injured natural resources under their trusteeship, including the loss of use and services from those resources from the time of injury until the time of restoration to baseline (the resource quality and conditions that would exist if the spill had not occurred) is complete.

The *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill Trustees are:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
- U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), as represented by the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), on behalf of the U.S. Department of Commerce;
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA);
- State of Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), Oil Spill Coordinator's Office (LOSCO), Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ),

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), and Department of Natural Resources (LDNR);

- State of Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality;
- State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Geological Survey of Alabama;
- State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and
- State of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, General Land Office, and Commission on Environmental Quality.

On April 4, 2016, the Trustees reached and finalized a settlement of their natural resource damage claims with BP in a Consent Decree approved by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Pursuant to that Consent Decree, restoration projects in the Louisiana Restoration Area are chosen and managed by the Louisiana TIG. The Louisiana TIG is composed of the following Trustees: CPRA, LOSCO, LDEQ, LDWF, LDNR, EPA, DOI, NOAA, and USDA.

Background

The original scope of the Cypremort Improvements project was evaluated in the Louisiana TIG Final Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #4: Nutrient Reduction (Nonpoint Source) and Recreational Use (RP/EA #4), which was published in the **Federal Register** at 83 FR 34571 on July 20, 2018. As proposed in the RP/EA #4, the project would entail a variety of park enhancements including beach restoration, marsh boardwalk and trail construction, road and jetty repairs, and replacement of the breakwater system that helps protect the park's recreational

beach. Following completion of the RP/EA #4, the Louisiana Office of State Parks was successful in securing other non-NRDA funding to construct the breakwater system that was originally proposed as a component of the Cypremort Improvements project. The Louisiana TIG prepared a Draft Supplemental Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Cypremort Point State Park Improvements Project Modification (Draft Supplemental RP/EA) to inform the public about potential modifications to the Cypremort Improvements project and to seek public comment. A Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental RP/EA was published in the **Federal Register** at 85 FR 21852 on April 20, 2020. The Louisiana TIG hosted a public webinar on April 28, 2020, and the public comment period for the Draft Supplemental RP/EA closed on May 20, 2020. The Louisiana TIG considered the public comments received on the Draft Supplemental RP/EA, which informed the Louisiana TIG's analyses and selection of the modified Cypremort Improvements project in the Final Supplemental RP/EA. A summary of the public comments received and the Trustees' responses to those comments are included in Section 6 of the Final Supplemental RP/EA.

Overview of the Final Supplemental RP/EA

The Final Supplemental RP/EA evaluates modifications to the Cypremort Improvements project and considers three action alternatives, consistent with the purpose and need of the original project. Alternative A includes the components of the original Cypremort Improvements project that were approved for funding but are not currently completed: improvements to an existing rock jetty, beach reclamation, construction of a marsh boardwalk and trail, and road and parking lot repairs. Alternative B includes the same components as in Alternative A as well as additional improvements at Cypremort Point State Park: a recreational vehicle campground with

approximately 30 new paved pull-through campsites with sewer, water, and electrical tie-ins, two mobile bathhouses with sewer, water, and electrical tie-ins, and a boat dock/fishing pier.

Alternative C includes the same components as Alternative B but eliminates the mobile bathhouses. In the Final Supplemental RP/EA, the Louisiana TIG selects project Alternative B: Expanded Restoration and Recreation Improvements with Mobile Bathhouses. The estimated total cost of the selected project, as modified, is \$4.48 million. In the Final Supplemental RP/EA, the Louisiana TIG presents to the public its plan to continue the process of restoring recreational use services lost in the Louisiana Restoration Area as a result of the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. Additional restoration planning for the Louisiana Restoration Area will continue.

Administrative Record

The documents comprising the Administrative Record for the Final Supplemental RP/EA and FONSI can be viewed electronically at <https://www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon/adminrecord>.

Authority

The authority for this action is the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*), its implementing NRDA regulations found at 15 CFR part 990, and the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*).

Benita Best-Wong,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water.

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