



Gulf Oil Spill

Economic Recovery

Task Force

Monthly Report

June 11, 2010

Prepared by:

**Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development,
Executive Office of the Governor**

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TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Chris Hart, Director Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development	Cynthia R. Lorenzo, Director Agency for Workforce Innovation
Leonard Bemby, Representative Florida House of Representatives	Jerry McDaniel, Director Governor's Office of Policy and Budget
Dale A. Brill, President Florida Chamber Foundation	Dawn Moliterno, President & CEO Walton Area Chamber of Commerce
Jerry Cartwright, State Director Small Business Development Center Network	Nelson Mongiovi, Director of Marketing & Development Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Oliver Darden, Chairman Gulf Coast African American Chamber of Commerce	Jimmy Patronis, Representative Florida House of Representatives
Mario di Gennaro, Commissioner Monroe County Board of Commissioners	Durell Peaden, Senator Florida Senate
Carol Dover, President & CEO Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association	Grover Cleveland Robinson, Chairman Escambia County Board of Commissioners
Lisa Echeverri, Executive Director Department of Revenue	Sarah "Sam" Seevers, Mayor City of Destin
Ted Forsgren, Executive Director Coastal Conservation Association	George H. Sheldon, Secretary Department of Children and Families
David Halstead, Director Division of Emergency Management	Michael W. Sole, Secretary Department of Environmental Protection
Frank Herhold, Executive Director Marine Industries Association of South Florida	Bill Stewart, Deputy Chief of Staff Attorney General's Office
Michael Horner, Representative Florida House of Representatives	Chris Thompson, President & CEO VISIT FLORIDA
Amber Hughes, Financial & Economic Advisor Office of the Chief Financial Officer	Steve Uhfelder, Partner Uhfelder and Associates
Taunya James, President Franklin County Seafood Workers Association	Eugene "Nick" Wiley, Executive Director Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Alfred "Al" Lawson, Senator Florida Senate	Robert F. Zales, President National Association of Charter Boat Operators

EXECUTIVE ORDER

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 10-101

(Establishing the Gulf Oil Spill Economic Recovery Task Force)

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2010, an explosion on the mobile drilling rig Deepwater Horizon, which was operated by BP Exploration & Production, Inc. ("BP"), occurred approximately 130 miles southeast of New Orleans, Louisiana. As a result, the rig sank on April 22, 2010; and

WHEREAS, as of April 28, 2010, the United States Coast Guard estimated that the well was releasing approximately 200,000 gallons per day; and

WHEREAS, the resulting oil spill ("Oil Spill") in the Gulf of Mexico is at least 600 square miles in areal extent and expanding, and oil continues to spill from the well as efforts to stop the discharge have failed and may not succeed for an extended period of time; and

WHEREAS, the Oil Spill threatens Florida's businesses and industries; and

WHEREAS, the potential economic losses to Florida businesses and industries may be great; and

WHEREAS, such affected businesses and industries include, but are not limited to, businesses near the coast, the fishing industry, the wholesale trade industry, the retail industry, the tourism industry and the manufacturing industry; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that the State assist efforts by Florida businesses and industries to minimize the adverse economic effects of the Oil Spill.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHARLIE CRIST, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws and Constitution of the State of Florida, issue the following Executive Order, effective immediately:

Section 1.

The Gulf Oil Spill Economic Recovery Task Force (the “Task Force”) is hereby created to facilitate efforts by Florida businesses and industries in recovering from the loss of business and revenues due to the Oil Spill. The Task Force shall continue in existence until its objectives are achieved, but not later than May 11, 2011, unless extended by further executive order.

Section 2.

The responsibilities of the Task Force shall include the following:

- a. Coordinate state agencies’ efforts to assist affected businesses and industries
- b. Monitor BP’s efforts in providing financial relief to impacted businesses and industries, including but not limited to its claims processes
- c. Coordinate processes and efforts to gather economic loss data and industry economic indicators
- d. Ensure through a marketing plan, that the vitality of the business and tourism industries continue to prosper
- e. Develop a web site to disseminate information and to communicate with businesses and industries

Section 3.

The Task Force shall provide a written report to the Governor outlining its accomplishments every 30 days. The Chair shall regularly communicate with the Governor’s Office and the Director of the Division of Emergency Management.

Section 4.

The Task Force will consist of members appointed by the Governor. Members shall serve a term that commences on the day of the appointment. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and the Governor may fill any vacancy that occurs. Membership of the Task Force shall reflect a broad spectrum of interested

parties, including, but not limited to:

- a. The Director of the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development or his designee
- b. The Secretary of the Department of Children and Families or his designee
- c. The Director of the Division of Emergency Management or his designee
- d. The Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife Commission or his designee
- e. The Director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or her designee
- f. The Governor's Director of the Office of Policy and Budget or his designee
- g. The Executive Director of the Department of Revenue or her designee
- h. A representative of Visit Florida
- i. A representative of the Small Business Administration
- j. A representative of the League of Cities
- k. A representative of the Association of Counties
- l. A representative of a local chamber of commerce
- m. A representative of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association
- n. A representative of the National Association of Charterboat Operators
- o. A representative of the seafood industry

Section 5.

From the members appointed, the Governor will appoint a Chair. The Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.

Section 6.

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Task Force is authorized to call upon any State agency, department, division, or office to supply such data, reports, or other information as it deems reasonably necessary to achieve its objectives. Each agency, department, division, or office of the State under the control of the Governor is authorized and directed, and all other agencies are requested, including the Attorney General, the Chief Financial Officer and the Commissioner of Agriculture, to cooperate with the Task Force and provide it with such information, personnel and assistance as necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Executive Order.

Section 7.

Members shall serve without compensation from the State; however, any member who is an employee of a state agency within the purview of the Governor shall be reimbursed for travel expenses by his or her respective agency. To the extent allowed by Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, any member who is an employee of a state agency not within the purview of the Governor or any member who is not an employee of a state agency may be reimbursed for travel expenses at the discretion of his or her agency.

Section 8.

The meetings of the Task Force shall be noticed and open to the public.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this _____ day of May, 2010.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

Home to 1,221 miles of coastline, 7,000 lakes and 11,000 miles of rivers and streams, and more than four million acres of coastal and aquatic natural preserve, Florida's peninsula has long relied upon the economic and quality of life benefits of its pristine natural environment. Further, the state is home to numerous industries that work on, in or near our coastal waters. Whether it is the more than 80 million tourists who come here for vacation, or the \$18.9 billion impact created by our marine boating sector, or the 12,000 jobs that support our commercial fishing industry, Florida's \$744 billion economy is inherently linked to the health of our fisheries and natural resources that for so long have blessed us. These businesses, as well as the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of Floridians, have been living in a state of turmoil since the unprecedented events at Deepwater Horizon on April 20th.

In response to the numerous challenges our coastal communities have faced as a result of the continuous and real threat of long-term impacts to our economy, Governor Crist announced on May 11th the formation of the Governor's Gulf Oil Spill Economic Recovery Task Force. Gathering for its first public meeting on June 9th, the thirty-member task force spent extensive time being briefed on the latest data regarding environmental impact, operational efforts of the State Emergency Response Team, harm incurred by local fish and wildlife populations, official state tourism marketing response plans, processing procedures for economic loss claims, and business assistance available through federal and state programs. In addition, given the diverse professional backgrounds of the members, each member was charged with employing their vast experience and expertise in a coordinated effort so that Florida businesses and families are provided every opportunity to receive assistance and maintain their business operations.

Moving forward, these members are tasked with developing working groups on specific issues outlined in the original Executive Order, gathering and tracking data detailing economic loss to impacted areas of the state, seeking transparency and expediency in regards to the claims processes, providing outreach to various business and interest groups that have been impacted by the current situation in the Gulf of Mexico, ensuring a communications and marketing strategy to assist the viability of the tourism industry and related businesses, and delivering recommendations to the Governor on ways in which the State can do all that is in its power to ensure that its citizens are provided with every opportunity to recover economic loss from the responsible party. These priorities will be tracked in future monthly reports.

MONTHLY RESULTS

Monthly Results

During its first month of inception, the Governor's Oil Spill Economic Recovery Task Force has produced the following results:

- Screening and selection of task force membership
- Planning, organizing and hosting first official public meeting
- Preparing in-depth member briefing notebooks. (Details of briefing notebooks are included in appendix.)
- Identifying specific working groups to address priority issues impacting Florida's businesses and families
- Finalizing agenda and task-specific goals for next meeting
- Establishing proposed dates for all public meetings of the task force through the end of 2010.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations

At this time, information gathering and task delegation is the top priority of the membership. In order to provide effective and efficient recommendations, accurate and timely information must first be produced and analyzed. Recommendations will be detailed in future monthly reports.

APPENDIX

Appendix

The following pages include all information provided in the task force members' briefing notebooks.