

Business Council Update



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**Management Committee Meeting
Gulf of Mexico Program
Biloxi, MS**

August 23, 2007

- Gulf of Mexico Restoration & Protection Act**
- Business Council Program and Alliance Support**
- Industry Monitoring Data**

Gulf of Mexico Restoration & Protection Act

Overview

- ❑ **S.1126:** A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to expand and strengthen cooperative efforts to monitor, restore, and protect the resource productivity, water quality, and marine ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico.
 - ❖ EPA to include separate budget line item for Program Office \$10MM-FY'08, \$15MM-FY'09, and \$25MM-FY'10 to FY'12.
- ❑ **Sponsor:** Sen Lott, Trent [MS], Sen Cochran, Thad [MS] and Sen Landrieu, Mary L. [LA]
- ❑ **Our Contribution:** Letters of Support to Respective Governors and Congressional Delegation, Trade Organization Support

Gulf of Mexico Restoration & Protection Act Summary

- ❑ It is a Very Well Written Bill
- ❑ Has Been a Long Time Coming
- ❑ Timing Is Right – U.S. Ocean Action Plan – GOM Alliance
- ❑ Need Underlined by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita



Gulf of Mexico Business Council

- Strong Support for GOMA
- Participation on Focus Groups
- Participation through the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP) and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Opportunities
- Potential Match Challenge Funding/In Kind Services
- Gulf Guardian Award

Industry Monitoring

- Current Measurements
- Nutrient Data
- Mercury Monitoring