



## FACT SHEET

### **WHO WE ARE**

**For the Bayou** is a grass-roots organization started in San Francisco by Louisianans in 2008 with a mission to restore and protect Louisiana's wetlands and wildlife and to aid and assist in the humanitarian needs of its citizens in the event of a disaster. Our current mission has also been expanded to assist in humanitarian and environmental assistance of neighboring Gulf Coast communities. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All directors and officers of the organization are non-paid volunteers.

### **RESPONSE PLAN TO GULF OIL DISASTER**

1) **Fund-raising:** We are supporting benefits that raise monies for the Gulf Coast region for: a) emergency support for the fishermen/mariners/residents that depend on these wetlands and waters for their livelihood, b) wildlife assistance and coastal wetland restoration. 2) **Education & Advocacy:** We will communicate to the nation the emergency humanitarian needs of the people that live and work in these wetlands and waters and depend on this environment as a way of life. We will educate people about the importance and role of our wetlands and waters to wildlife, people and the planet. Our wetlands host a spectacular array of wildlife including an abundance of our *nation's seafood, rare plant life, avian habitat to migratory and resident birds, and habitat to a variety of endangered and exotic marine creatures*; they are a *natural nursery* and act as a *natural filtration system* for our oceans; they are *home to one of American's most unique and distinctive cultures and people*. Since the explosion of the BP Deepwater Horizon Drilling Rig on April 20, 2010 and lack of containment of the gushing oil into the Gulf of Mexico, we need to act quickly and precisely to clean up and restore these vitally important and ecologically rich coastal wetlands, barrier islands and coastline in the Gulf of Mexico.

### **FUNDING/ALLOCATION PLAN**

Through an on the ground needs assessment in coastal communities, we have identified both the needs and delivery mechanism to meet the needs of both the people and the environment. 100% of the monies raised are directly allocated to: 1) address humanitarian needs of fishermen/mariners/residents with businesses/families dependent on fisheries, wetlands, coastal waters 2) the unified organizational efforts in Louisiana and the Gulf Coast for wildlife assistance, clean up and restoration of the wetlands, barrier islands and coast. *More detailed information and a copy of this plan can be provided upon request.*

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are needed in the Gulf Coast disaster response and include: wildlife response, coastal restoration, trained mental health volunteers, adult education programs, legal assistance and others as additional needs develop with time. For the Bayou can assist volunteers in directing them to the proper agency or training program.

### **WHEN & WHERE**

Please see our "Events" page on our website for updated event information or contact us directly if interested in hosting a benefit: [info@forthebayou.org](mailto:info@forthebayou.org).

### **WHAT WE NEED**

- Financial contributions
- Sponsorships and partnerships with companies interested in brand or product promotion
- Donations of goods or services for our benefits, auctions and raffles
- Volunteers
- Call to Action - We need concerned citizens to write their politicians and to encourage President Obama to consider Louisiana and the Gulf Coast as a top priority for emergency funds for humanitarian and environmental needs