

**Financing** Green / Grey Coastal Infrastructure Industry Perspective

Greg Biddinger Natural Land Management, LLC

## Mission

- Provide sense of corporate acceptance of green or nature-based solutions to address business challenges
- Present the drivers and benefits that motivate corporate investment in green Infrastructure (GI)
- Provide an overview of corporate planning processes and their timing which effect individual and partnership investment

## **Industry History with GI**











- Industry has been exploring green infrastructure > 30 Years
- Principally opportunistic operational applications
- Interest significantly Increasing in last 10 years
- 2013 –Joint white paper reviews key conclusions and recommendations

# 2013 – Joint White Paper on GI

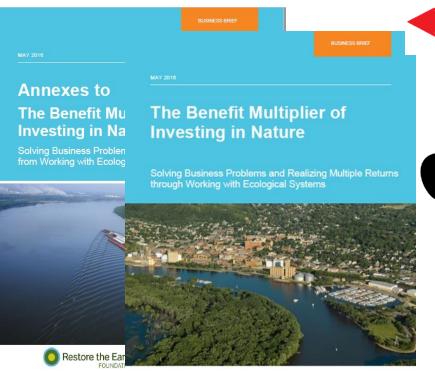
#### **Conclusions on GI**

- Essential element in portfolio of solutions
- Often provide financial advantages
- Offers overlooked opportunities
- Leverages existing natural resources
- Resist environmental shocks

#### **Recommendations to Industry**

- Employ more comprehensive footprint analysis to compare green with grey alternatives
- Assess co-benefits of green
- Pilot technology and engage with external experts and partners
- Develop internal skill sets build a "fit for purpose " capability

# Corporate Engagement - Case Studies



Restore the Earth





- 2015 BSR Business Briefing
- Business investing in nature-based solutions
  - Operational challenges
  - Supply Chain security
  - Real estate management
  - Wide range of companies examples international and cross sector participation

So many examples needed an annex Tipping point from practice leaders to active followers







## WBCSD: Natural Infrastructure for Business



#### **Business Drivers**

- Access to Resources
- Regulatory requirements
- Changing climate
- Severe weather
- Stakeholder interests

- In a business context "only" saving nature for nature's sake does not work
  - BUT Valuation Of ES and Nat Cap influential
- Green Infrastructure solve pressing business challenges effectively adds co-benefits
- Business case for Natural Infrastructure
  - Cost competitive investment
  - Performance can appreciate over time
  - Cheaper to maintain
  - Climate adaptive
- Benefits typically flow beyond business and impact communities in which they operate

http://www.naturalinfrastructureforbusiness.org/

### **Business is interested in Green Infrastructure!**

- Business is interested
- Has experience using Green infrastructure
- Willing to proceed alone or in partnerships
- Some examples follow



# Louisiana's Sinking Coast Is a \$100 Billion Nightmare for Big Oil

The state can't pay, so someone has to. And the water keeps rising.

August 17, 2016 – www.Bloomberg.com/news

- Subsidence, sea level rise and lack of sediment input creating risk
- Facilities (e.g. pipelines) exposed to collisions and extreme weather
- Risk of equipment damage and spills
- Access to resources lost as they sink

# Coastal Louisiana provides a useful microcosm to explore

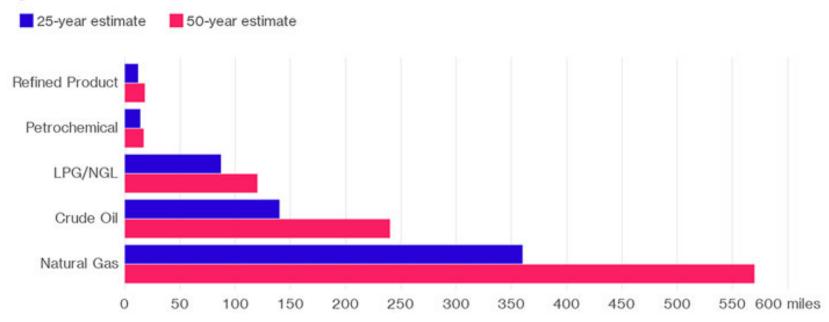
- Business drivers
- Project examples



Members of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority walk over pipeline on the beach at Por Fourthon, site of the Caminada Headland Beach and Dune Restoration project.

#### Louisiana Pipelines at Risk From Coastal Erosion

More than 600 miles of pipeline in the state could be exposed to open water in the next 25 years.



Source: Louisiana State University and Rand Corporation study, based on infrastructure inventory and valuation data from the LSU Center for Energy Studies.

Bloomberg 👨



## **Shell Pipeline - Erosion Control Pilot**

- Pipeline risk from exposure to marine traffic, tidal currents and extreme weather
- Shell Pipeline Company partnered with TNC, CH2M, LDNR and USACE
- Hybrid solution living Shoreline & oyster reefs
- Gabions filled /covered with sediment and vegetation
- Coir Logs filled with rocks, coconut and oyster shells for Oyster reefs building
- Pilot results used to consider expanded effort



Living shoreline technologies to improve coastal resiliency

http://www.naturalinfrastructureforbusiness.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Shell\_NI4BizCaseStudy\_CoastalPipeline.pdf

## **Conoco Phillips And Ducks Unlimited Partnership**

- Loss of Coastal Marsh habitat for ducks also threatens O&G Infrastructure and Lafourche parish hurricane levy
- Installing vegetated terraces in shallow open waters cost-effective restoration and protection
- Terraces decrease wind and wave energy
- Goal is to demonstrate this technology so it can be incorporate in Louisiana State Coastal Master plan

Bayou L'Ours - Lafourche Parrish, LA



# Americas Wetland Foundation GIWW Restoration Project

#### **Investment Partners**

- Conservation AWF, NFWF, DU
- **Business** CITGO, Shell, ConocoPhillips, Chevron, Community Coffee
- Government USACE, State of LA, Gulf Inter-coastal Canal Association
- Private Land owners Delta Farms



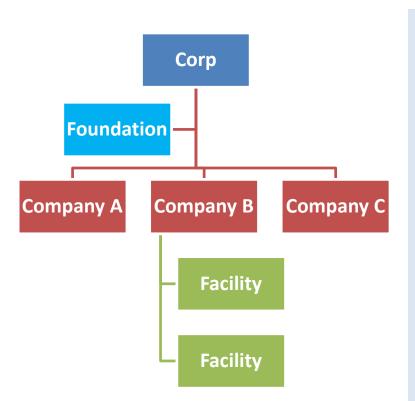
- Vegetated EcoShield TM recycled plastic matric with infused vegetation used to stabilize 4 miles on Gulf Inter-coastal waterway
- Helps protect energy assets, secure seafood and recreational waterways, provide habitat and provide storm surge protection



#### How could the private sector not support such an initiative!

- Community of (Best)Practice To Protect coastlines
- Promotes both Green and Gray approaches
- Affordable, integrated, resilient solutions
- Protecting communities and ecosystem

## Where Do Funds Come From?



## Philanthropy

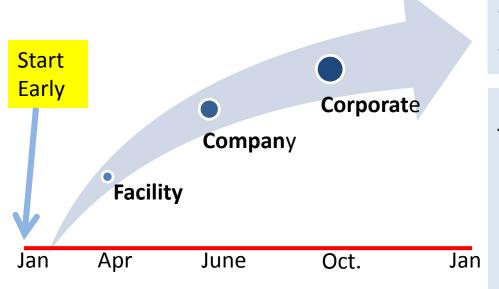
- Corporate Foundation (\$\$\$\$'s)
- Donations at company and facility (\$\$\$\$'s)

## External Program Funding

- Typically funded by business
- Capital Project Funding
  - Company Large scale
  - Facility Local scale

## When Should I Ask For Funds?

## **Annual Planning**



#### **Plan Output**

- Revenue targets
- Operating expense budget
- Major project capital budget
- Minor project capital budget

#### **Plan Timing**

- Developing Project ideas for next year start first 1<sup>st</sup> Q preceding year
- Start conversation 18-24 months before you need funds

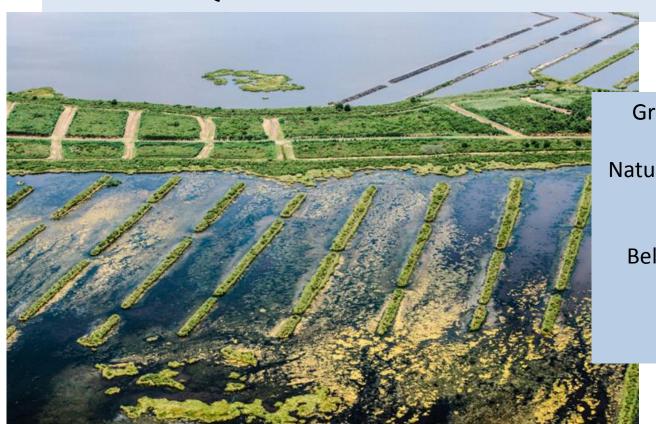


CONSERVATION FUND

- Why are there no Industry sponsors listed?
- Could SAGE engage the industry engineering societies to advance awareness of best practices?

Approaches demonstrated as cost-effective, adaptive, timely and accepted by regulators will be used by industry

# Questions or Reactions?



Gregory R. Biddinger, Ph.D.

Managing Director

Natural Land Management, LLC

62 Northport Ave.
Belfast, Maine , 04915-6105
713-203-0066
gbiddi@gmail.com