

Transcript: August 3 Gulf of Mexico dead zone media briefing

WEBVTT

89 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:58:59.429 --> 01:59:02.969

good afternoon everyone we're going to go ahead and get started we have

90 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:02.969 --> 01:59:07.589

Our 4 panelists moving into the presenters.

91 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:07.589 --> 01:59:14.069

Designations that we're going to go ahead and get started. I would like to welcome everyone.

92 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:14.069 --> 01:59:17.489

And my name is, I am the CO director.

93 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:17.489 --> 01:59:23.099

The northern Gulf Institute, which is located in a space center on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

94 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:23.099 --> 01:59:27.299

Northern golf Institute, or is a cooperative Institute with Noah.

95 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:27.299 --> 01:59:31.709

Although and now are both hosting this event I will be your moderator today.

96 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:31.709 --> 01:59:39.869

Today's teleconference is on the measured size of the Gulf of Mexico, dead zone and efforts to predict and mitigate its effects.

97 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:39.869 --> 01:59:43.319

Just a few logistical details to share with the group.

98 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:43.319 --> 01:59:52.769

And then we will get started after I introduce the panelists, they will each provide statements

and then we will open it up for Q and a, from the press only.

99 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:52.769 --> 01:59:56.339

Everyone will be in listen mode only until the Q and a.

100 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

01:59:56.339 --> 02:00:03.209

To mitigate any background noise during Q and a please indicate in the comment section on the right.

101 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:03.209 --> 02:00:11.129

Um, hand of your screen that you have a question, or by raising your hand, and the button is at the bottom of your screen.

102 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:11.129 --> 02:00:16.589

we will not recognize or unmute we will recognize it on mute and the order that they are received

103 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:16.589 --> 02:00:22.379

This event is being recorded, and if you have any objections, you should disconnect at this time.

104 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:23.969 --> 02:00:27.659

If you have any follow up questions or need additional information.

105 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:27.659 --> 02:00:33.629

You can submit them to Sheila dot MS. state dot edu.

106 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:33.629 --> 02:00:37.289

And we're putting that email address in the comment section.

107 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:38.309 --> 02:00:42.779

I will make sure your questions are answered in return your questions directly.

108 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:44.129 --> 02:00:52.649

Noah has posted the news release how to highlighting this year's cruise results along with

additional information useful to this press group.

109 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:00:52.649 --> 02:01:00.149

It can be found at dot Gov on the left at the news and features section under latest news releases.

110 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:00.149 --> 02:01:06.839

And I'm providing that link in the comments section as well. All right.

111 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:06.839 --> 02:01:11.729

So, I really appreciate everyone coming again. Let's go ahead and get started. I'm going to introduce.

112 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:11.729 --> 02:01:16.769

Our panelists and then introduce them in their order, but they'll provide their statements.

113 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:24.689 --> 02:01:35.129

1st, we have doctor Nancy, she is a research professor at LSU, Louisiana State University in Louisiana, University of marine consortium.

114 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:35.129 --> 02:01:40.859

She is the chief scientist on the survey Cruz, that studies hypoxia and its effects in the gulf.

115 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:42.059 --> 02:01:49.859

Dr, Stephen 3rd is the director of increased national centers for coastal erosion science at national service.

116 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:49.859 --> 02:01:53.789

He is the no representative for the hypoxia task force.

117 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:01:55.319 --> 02:02:03.839

And next we have Bruno, he is the deputy assistant director in the office of water at the Environmental Protection Agency.

118 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:02:05.849 --> 02:02:10.289

And lastly, we have Mr Mike nag secretary of agriculture.

119 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:02:10.289 --> 02:02:13.829

At the Department of agriculture land, stewardship.

120 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:02:13.829 --> 02:02:18.899

For the state of Iowa, and he is the CO chair for the hypoxia task force.

121 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:02:20.699 --> 02:02:34.044

So with that these are our panelists, we're going to start the comment section from each Panelist and then we'll of course, we'll open up the floor and make sure we provide plenty of time for the press to ask, uh, the panelists as a whole questions,

122 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:02:34.374 --> 02:02:40.974

or an individual panelists just please identify, uh, how you want your question answered. So we'll start with our statements.

123 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:02:41.219 --> 02:02:44.879

And Dr, rabelais will be leading off Nancy.

124 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:02:44.879 --> 02:02:53.819

All right, thank you, Paul and by the way he said I could have a little bit of extra time. Absolutely. I'm re, I'm.

125 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:02:53.819 --> 02:02:59.849

as paul mentioned the chief scientist among many other volunteers

126 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:02:59.849 --> 02:03:04.589

That were on the cruise on the this last week.

127 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:04.589 --> 02:03:08.819

Where we map the area of low oxygen.

128 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:08.819 --> 02:03:14.339

Which is also called hypoxia and also called the desmosome.

129 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:15.359 --> 02:03:21.329

Once again, I have to report that the size of the low oxygen area.

130 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:21.329 --> 02:03:24.629

Is what I would call unusual.

131 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:26.369 --> 02:03:40.649

The cutoff for lo, oxygen that affects living resources is 2 milligrams per liter or parts per 1 Million at this point animals that can play. Will.

132 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:40.649 --> 02:03:44.219

And those remaining are compromised.

133 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:44.219 --> 02:03:47.399

Or dead besides this summer.

134 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:47.399 --> 02:03:51.599

Was 3300 square miles that's a.

135 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:51.599 --> 02:03:58.109

A rounding, which is 1 of the smaller mapped areas since we began.

136 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:03:58.109 --> 02:04:01.529

These no sponsored cruises in in 980.

137 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:01.529 --> 02:04:11.429

Uh, but it's also 2 times larger than the environmental go of the hypoxia task force, which we'll hear more about.

138 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:11.429 --> 02:04:18.629

After a while the area of this summer stretched from the Mississippi River Delta.

139 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:18.629 --> 02:04:25.529

What about the outflow of the of river and not any further?

140 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:25.529 --> 02:04:32.399

The area to the East was much larger than the non existent area to the West.

141 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:32.399 --> 02:04:37.199

Uh, and some of the stations on the eastern area, we're.

142 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:37.199 --> 02:04:41.069

Close the anoxia, which means no oxygen.

143 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:41.069 --> 02:04:44.339

The reason for this year is low.

144 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:44.339 --> 02:04:47.579

Lower size in my.

145 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:47.579 --> 02:04:57.989

Um, studied opinion is the typically low average summer flow of the Mississippi River.

146 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:04:57.989 --> 02:05:03.659

Beginning in late June and continuing through the timing of our cruise.

147 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:03.659 --> 02:05:11.129

The normal sequence is high blow in the spring that helps generate high biomass.

148 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:11.129 --> 02:05:21.359

Which probably happened the sinking of this carbon to the lower water column and its consumption by bacteria that decompose it.

149 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:21.359 --> 02:05:29.339

and hypoxia is usually present offshore from april through september and it peaks in the summertime

150 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:29.339 --> 02:05:34.919

With the much lower flow.

151 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:36.479 --> 02:05:43.739

Um, see the area, the, the amount of fresh water that came in.

152 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:43.739 --> 02:05:47.699

Is much less of course, and it.

153 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:47.699 --> 02:05:54.119

Does not generate the layering of the system, which we call stratification.

154 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:54.119 --> 02:05:59.099

And the usual stratification separates well.

155 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:05:59.099 --> 02:06:03.239

Oxygenated surface waters from oxygen depleted.

156 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:06:03.239 --> 02:06:07.709

Bottom waters there was also.

157 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:06:07.709 --> 02:06:12.599

Less suspended settlements, which means the water was clear.

158 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:06:12.599 --> 02:06:17.369

And that should have supported higher by the plankton biomass.

159 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:06:17.369 --> 02:06:21.659

But the low discharge also delivered.

160 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:06:21.659 --> 02:06:24.989
Minimum nutrients, nitrogen and phosphorus.

161 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:06:24.989 --> 02:06:28.199
That support the.

162 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:06:30.629 --> 02:06:36.239
The reason, I mean, the result of that is that West of the.

163 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:06:36.239 --> 02:06:40.229
There was basically no stratification.

164 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:06:40.229 --> 02:06:48.209
With surface to bottom uniform conditions in salinity temperature and dissolved oxygen.

165 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:06:50.789 --> 02:06:57.989
The waters off Louisiana, this July from the Mississippi River Delta to about.

166 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:06:57.989 --> 02:07:02.339
Like or exceptionally clear.

167 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:07:02.339 --> 02:07:05.759
With little elbow, biomass.

168 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:07:05.759 --> 02:07:11.999
Warmer temperatures, which hold less dissolved oxygen.

169 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:07:11.999 --> 02:07:17.549
Tom wins typically 510 minutes unheard of.

170 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:07:17.549 --> 02:07:21.839
Well, for most of these cruises com waters.

171 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:07:21.839 --> 02:07:28.109

no storms and not even the same thunderstorms that were occurring on shore

172 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:07:28.109 --> 02:07:33.059

In other words, it was perfect cruising conditions.

173 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:07:33.059 --> 02:07:39.689

It was quite pleasant, except for the low auction values we encountered.

174 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:07:39.689 --> 02:07:47.789

This year's smaller size combines with years with higher than average predicted. hypoxia.

175 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:07:47.789 --> 02:07:55.439

Generate knowledge on the complex, physical and biological processes in the offshore ecosystem.

176 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:07:55.439 --> 02:07:59.309

And this gives us an opportunity to learn more about.

177 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:07:59.309 --> 02:08:07.799

And usually large, unusually small and continuing so called usual areas of low oxygen.

178 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:08:07.799 --> 02:08:12.239

In the northern Gulf of Mexico influenced by the Mississippi River.

179 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:08:13.289 --> 02:08:17.219

And I think I'll stop there. Thank you.

180 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:08:17.219 --> 02:08:20.519

Did you talk to up next.

181 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:08:20.519 --> 02:08:26.159

You have Steve would know doctor. 3rd.

182 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:08:26.159 --> 02:08:29.459
Okay, we're, I'm muting you for a 2nd.

183 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:08:29.459 --> 02:08:37.259
Good afternoon everyone my name is Steve and I'm the director of the National centers for coastal oceans science.

184 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:08:37.259 --> 02:08:46.109
Our agency Noah has a congressional mandate to address hypoxia through the harmful algae bloom and hypoxia researching controls.

185 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:08:46.109 --> 02:08:51.539
So, this statute guides our hypoxia research in the United States.

186 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:08:51.539 --> 02:08:58.319
The Mississippi River, Gulf of Mexico watershed, nutrient Taskforce also known more.

187 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:08:58.319 --> 02:09:04.559
Succinctly as the hypoxia task force is codified in that statute.

188 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:09:04.559 --> 02:09:10.229
And we'll be discussed in more depth by my colleagues from the in state of Iowa, shortly.

189 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:09:11.339 --> 02:09:15.209
As a member of the hypoxia task force, Noah has 3 roles.

190 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:09:15.209 --> 02:09:23.429
1st, we support research to characterize the magnitude and extend to the hypoxic them as Dr. gravelly. Just discussed.

191 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)
02:09:24.509 --> 02:09:30.059
2nd, we develop quantitative models to predict the extent of the hypoxic.

192 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:09:30.059 --> 02:09:36.029

And 3rd, we develop models to determine the impacts of hypoxia.

193 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:09:36.029 --> 02:09:40.289

Ecologically and economically important living marine resources.

194 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:09:40.289 --> 02:09:43.709

So those 3 activities.

195 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:09:43.709 --> 02:09:48.059

Combine to enable managers the hypoxia task force.

196 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:09:48.059 --> 02:09:52.529

And other partners to have the ability to make science based decisions.

197 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:09:52.529 --> 02:09:57.059

On how to mitigate the impacts of hypoxia on the Gulf ecosystem.

198 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:09:58.199 --> 02:10:04.199

No, 1 supports the annual hypoxic zone measurement, which is the key metric as Dr said.

199 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:04.199 --> 02:10:08.339

For monitoring the long term change in the hypoxic zone size.

200 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:08.339 --> 02:10:13.229

And is what is used by the hypoxia task force to monitor progress.

201 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:13.229 --> 02:10:19.379

For the long term goal of reducing the dead zone to approximately 1900 square miles.

202 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:19.379 --> 02:10:24.839

The data set dates back to 185 and now contains 36 annual measurements.

203 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:24.839 --> 02:10:29.609

Across a wide range of conditions, as it was mentioned.

204 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:29.609 --> 02:10:34.769

This year's size was approximately 3275 square miles.

205 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:34.769 --> 02:10:38.249

Which resulted in a new 5 year average.

206 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:38.249 --> 02:10:41.489

Of 4,280 square miles.

207 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:41.489 --> 02:10:44.699

That is a reduction of 20.

208 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:44.699 --> 02:10:52.709

From last year, the significant production in the 5 year average is the result of this year's below average measurement.

209 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:52.709 --> 02:10:57.029

Replacing the all time high 2017 measurement.

210 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:10:57.029 --> 02:11:01.379

In the 5 year calculations, however, as was mentioned.

211 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:01.379 --> 02:11:06.569

The current 5 year average is still more than 2 times larger than the goal setting.

212 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:06.569 --> 02:11:16.769

Or, by the hypoxia task force earlier this year, in June, no, provided an ensemble forecast for the size of the hypoxic zone that predicted.

213 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:16.769 --> 02:11:21.179

An average zone of approximately 5,400 square miles.

214 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:21.179 --> 02:11:25.199

The annual forecast is generated by a suite of newer run models.

215 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:25.199 --> 02:11:30.689

And is based on nutrient loading data, provided by the U. S. Geological Survey for the month of May.

216 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:30.689 --> 02:11:34.799

And typical weather patterns between the time the forecast is made in June.

217 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:34.799 --> 02:11:39.659

And when the annual crews occurs in late July or early August.

218 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:39.659 --> 02:11:47.429

The difference between the predicted, and the measured size emphasizes the role that the Mississippi River nutrient run off and weather patterns.

219 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:47.429 --> 02:11:51.179

Having controlling the magnitude of the hypoxic zone.

220 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:51.179 --> 02:11:54.299

And reflects inherit uncertainty and all modeling efforts.

221 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:11:54.299 --> 02:12:01.169

The models have a solid track record of predicting the size of the dead zone under average weather in mixing conditions.

222 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:01.169 --> 02:12:09.899

For this year we forecast an average dead zone, because the Mississippi River discharge and nutrient loading in late spring. We're very close.

223 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:09.899 --> 02:12:17.699

To historical averages the forecast issued in early June assumes typical weather precipitation

and river discharge patterns.

224 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:17.699 --> 02:12:26.039

However, as Dr said, the river flow was significantly lower than average in late June and for the whole month of July.

225 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:26.039 --> 02:12:30.539

Which likely contributed to the hypoxic zone being smaller than forecast.

226 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:30.539 --> 02:12:35.819

However, the measure size still fell within the uncertainty range for the models.

227 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:35.819 --> 02:12:38.969

Which factors in some of the inherent environmental variability.

228 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:40.409 --> 02:12:47.309

The hypoxic zone leads to have a net loss or several ecologically and economically important species.

229 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:47.309 --> 02:12:51.899

Major commercial fisheries can be disrupted because they occur at the same time in place.

230 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:51.899 --> 02:12:58.589

As the hypoxic, so fish, shrimp, crabs and others can swim out of the area.

231 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:12:58.589 --> 02:13:02.339

But less mobile animals are stressed are killed by the low oxygen.

232 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:02.339 --> 02:13:08.009

Research suggests that there are long term effects on populations and food webs for mobile species.

233 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:08.009 --> 02:13:12.749

These effects result in economic consequences for the fisheries they support.

234 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:12.749 --> 02:13:16.409

And include nonlethal impacts on reproduction and growth.

235 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:16.409 --> 02:13:19.859

Enhanced pronation due to displacement from habitat.

236 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:19.859 --> 02:13:22.859

And longer transit times for fishing vessels.

237 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:22.859 --> 02:13:29.219

To reach harvest locations no, it's ongoing investments to better. Understand the long term impacts.

238 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:29.219 --> 02:13:34.829

And to incorporate this information into integrated models that can connect to watershed activities.

239 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:34.829 --> 02:13:43.079

With the downstream impacts to coastal ecosystems, these results are being synthesized into a special journal issue to be published early next year.

240 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:43.079 --> 02:13:47.429

And newly developed fishery management tools that will be made available.

241 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:47.429 --> 02:13:51.269

To the management community, the an interactive web based interface.

242 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:51.269 --> 02:13:57.179

This year for the 1st time scientists from Noah fisheries in North Carolina State University.

243 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:13:57.179 --> 02:14:01.529

Again, using experimental model to better understand where shrimp could be found.

244 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:14:01.529 --> 02:14:06.839

Relative to the hypoxic zone, we're excited to see how that works throughout this season.

245 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:14:06.839 --> 02:14:10.829

Without all conclude, thank you.

246 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:14:10.829 --> 02:14:18.389

Thank you Dr, fair next. We have Mr Bruno pick it with the Environmental Protection Agency.

247 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:14:18.389 --> 02:14:21.929

Mr. Peggy we have unmuted. You go ahead.

248 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:14:22.584 --> 02:14:32.874

Thank you. Can you hear me? Yes, we can. Great. I really appreciate it. I just want to say, thank you for inviting everyone to come today.

249 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:14:32.874 --> 02:14:44.304

That the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico is a persistent challenge and each year we're out there looking at it and I wanted to thank you, Nancy and your team.

250 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:14:44.759 --> 02:14:52.469

For providing us with this important measurement data to assess our progress. We very much appreciate the work. You do.

251 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:14:52.469 --> 02:15:05.879

Smaller dead zones encouraging, but we still have much work to do to meet targets set out by the hypoxia task force. And we understand that the reasons behind the reduction are complex and involve the factors that Nancy.

252 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:05.904 --> 02:15:16.974

Just articulated my boss assistant administrator for epa's office of water, radical Fox Co chairs, the task force with Secretary nag through the task force.

253 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:16.974 --> 02:15:29.934

We've been working to reduce nutrient pollution that feeds the dead zone for decades. We remain committed to our goal of reducing the 5 year, average aerial, extent to the dead zone to less than 5,000 square kilometers by 2035.

254 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:30.294 --> 02:15:35.784

and now, because the bipartisan infrastructure law signed by President. infrastructure law signed by president

255 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:35.879 --> 02:15:41.669

In last November, we believe our efforts are getting a much needed boost.

256 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:41.669 --> 02:15:48.509

This summer a Fox joined secretary nag in Iowa to announce that we're accelerating our efforts.

257 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:48.509 --> 02:15:52.499

Using the money in the bipartisan infrastructure law funding.

258 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:52.499 --> 02:15:57.419

With this funding will be able to significantly expand and enhance.

259 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:15:57.419 --> 02:16:07.439

The capacity of states to improve water quality in the Gulf, and throughout the Mississippi river basin and collaboration with our agricultural and community partners.

260 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:16:07.439 --> 02:16:11.729

This bipartisan infrastructure law funding is historic.

261 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:16:11.904 --> 02:16:25.944

Much larger than states have been used to receiving in the past, and these funds will allow our states to make progress implementing nutrient reduction strategies to reach our 2035 goal and restore water quality in the Gulf.

262 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:16:25.944 --> 02:16:27.324

quality in the gulf

263 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:16:29.094 --> 02:16:36.594

Epa remains committed to working with states to target high priority watersheds that benefit disadvantage, communities, renewing state,

264 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:16:36.624 --> 02:16:46.494

developed work plans to implement golf hypoxia program funds and conducting annual reviews that evaluate progress towards the bipartisan requirement.

265 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:16:46.494 --> 02:16:57.804

I can say that I've had conversations with each of the state secretaries that have been involved with the golf hypoxia task force. And I am excited about the programs that.

266 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:16:57.989 --> 02:17:01.589

In place to help, reduce our nutrient loading.

267 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:01.589 --> 02:17:07.709

In the golf look, we all have a role to play and reducing our excess nutrients.

268 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:07.709 --> 02:17:12.209

Feeding the hypoxic zone, and we're all coming to the table.

269 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:12.209 --> 02:17:16.829

States like our partner secretary nag a federal family.

270 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:16.829 --> 02:17:24.329

From Noah to EPA, and the important research is doing the on the ground or should I say in the water.

271 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:24.329 --> 02:17:27.509

Work that informs these essential efforts.

272 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:27.509 --> 02:17:31.799

Every year, Noah shares the hypoxic own measurement.

273 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:31.799 --> 02:17:35.669

But this year feels special because we have resources.

274 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:35.669 --> 02:17:43.469

To accelerate, the important work of partners have been conducting all along and I look forward to future progress. We're going to make together.

275 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:43.469 --> 02:17:48.059

To reduce the dead zone and better support the families and economies.

276 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:48.059 --> 02:17:53.819

That rely on this iconic water body. Thanks so much for letting me join you today and.

277 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:17:53.819 --> 02:17:57.359

Appreciate the work that nancy's doing. Thank you.

278 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:17:58.739 --> 02:18:12.324

A, and, uh, closing out our panelists is secretary Mike, Nate, from the state of Iowa, and then we'll open up for Q, and a, I encourage the press attending to start thinking of their questions.

279 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:18:12.354 --> 02:18:16.344

Uh, we want to make sure we allow plenty of time to answer them. Go ahead.

280 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:16.649 --> 02:18:24.059

Secretary name, so thank you and good afternoon. I'm pleased to be able to join you and my role as secretary and.

281 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:24.059 --> 02:18:28.169

Agriculture for the state of Iowa, but also as Co chair of the.

282 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:28.169 --> 02:18:36.239

hypoxia task force and thanks for thanks for being with us to visit about this important topic and announcement today.

283 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:36.239 --> 02:18:46.889

My my comments will focus mostly on what's happening in the states in terms of implementing strategy is getting work done. You've heard great analysis of of the measurement itself.

284 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:46.889 --> 02:18:50.129

And then I'll defer to my colleagues on on on the.

285 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:50.129 --> 02:18:55.169

Technical aspects of that the water quality is extraordinarily important.

286 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:55.169 --> 02:18:59.999

Issue and I've heard that there's so many stakeholders working together.

287 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:18:59.999 --> 02:19:09.209

To mitigate that hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico. I think context is so important in this discussion. So we have to again remember the Mississippi River.

288 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:09.209 --> 02:19:15.179

2nd, 1, just North America flowing more than 2300 miles connecting. All are part of 30.

289 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:15.179 --> 02:19:20.909

1 States the drainage basin spans 1.2 Million square miles.

290 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:20.909 --> 02:19:26.519

Hundreds of millions of dollars worth of goods that are shipped through the port of New Orleans every year.

291 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:26.519 --> 02:19:30.689

I think this is just serves as a great reminder of all of those.

292 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:30.689 --> 02:19:34.079

You have a vested interest in protecting this working river.

293 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:34.079 --> 02:19:40.889

And that we've got to balance commerce and water quality and ensure the ability to live work and play.

294 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:40.889 --> 02:19:44.849

All across the region, so I was 1 of the 12.

295 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:44.849 --> 02:19:48.359

States in the base in that participates in the Gulf of Mexico.

296 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:48.359 --> 02:19:57.269

I talked to a task force working to take on the challenge of reducing nutrient laws in Iowa.

297 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:19:57.269 --> 02:20:03.419

Um, and in many states, we're working to develop dedicated funding sources to help us.

298 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:03.419 --> 02:20:07.589

Not just build, but sustain the momentum that we need to see.

299 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:07.589 --> 02:20:18.419

To see progress across the basin, we're collectively focused on implementing our state based science driven, nutrient reduction strategies that we need. Of course, that matters locally.

300 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:18.419 --> 02:20:22.589

In our local communities, improving water quality, but also, we know.

301 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:22.589 --> 02:20:29.759

That are unique landscapes, tie us to each other and that the work we do locally matters downstream.

302 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:29.759 --> 02:20:38.879

For example, in Iowa, this past year we exceeded now 350 different public and private partners statewide and we're moving.

303 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:38.879 --> 02:20:49.589

Ahead with new or next phase projects with world stakeholders, but also with some of our major population centers, like in Cedar Rapids, and the city of Des Moines.

304 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:49.589 --> 02:20:53.279

Ohio Ohio it's funded 20 projects.

305 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:20:53.279 --> 02:21:00.209

Wastewater infrastructure projects, they're providing county wide grant assistance in 9 counties for.

306 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:00.209 --> 02:21:06.149

Home sewage treatment system repairs in the Ohio river basin. This will all reduce nutrients.

307 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:06.149 --> 02:21:11.729

Loss and other pollution, Indiana, Indiana just recorded in the last couple of weeks.

308 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:11.729 --> 02:21:15.119

A record number of cover crops that have been planted in their states.

309 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:15.119 --> 02:21:19.349

Of course, we know that cover crops can play a key role in keeping.

310 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:19.349 --> 02:21:23.519

Are valuable soil in place. These are just a couple of the.

311 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:23.519 --> 02:21:27.239

Success stories that we really believe need to be shared.

312 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:27.239 --> 02:21:33.269

Across the States, and we're all working to scale up and accelerate the adoption of practices.

313 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:33.269 --> 02:21:36.299

And, of course, we need to build that momentum.

314 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:36.299 --> 02:21:39.599

And we know that that will pay dividends in years to come.

315 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:39.599 --> 02:21:44.369

We've got dedicated conservation professionals who go to work every single day.

316 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:44.369 --> 02:21:52.079

Making new connections developing community based projects they're implementing conservation practices actually on the ground.

317 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:52.079 --> 02:21:56.819

And I want to thank them for their passion and their dedication to that, even in the last couple of years.

318 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:21:56.819 --> 02:22:01.709

When everything's been challenging difficult, they have stayed on track.

319 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:01.709 --> 02:22:07.319

We know the changes on the landscape will lead to positive changes in the water.

320 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:07.319 --> 02:22:13.319

And again, those positive changes, not only affect us locally, but also, in watershed.

321 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:13.319 --> 02:22:18.989

For our neighbors downstream our efforts in Iowa and elsewhere have.

322 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:18.989 --> 02:22:23.069

Allowed us to attract public and private partners.

323 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:23.069 --> 02:22:28.079

There's been additional federal funding, both from EPA and USDA.

324 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:28.079 --> 02:22:34.529

You know, and Bruno mentioned just a couple of months ago I enjoyed the opportunity to welcome the minutes.

325 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:34.529 --> 02:22:38.789

Assistant administrator box to Iowa, we were able to jointly announce that.

326 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:38.789 --> 02:22:44.729

5 years 60 Million dollar investment on the part of EPA working with the States, and we are grateful.

327 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:44.729 --> 02:22:48.929

Epa and other partners who provide that much needed support this is.

328 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:48.929 --> 02:22:55.589

Federally supported locally led, and it's critically important that we have the flexibility to tailor those dollars.

329 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:22:55.589 --> 02:23:01.649

Appropriately in each state, no one's annual measurements of the hypoxic zone.

330 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:01.649 --> 02:23:08.789

It's just 1 of the ways that we can evaluate our efforts. And again, you've heard some very good analysis on that.

331 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:08.789 --> 02:23:15.689

Here's the bottom line we've got more work to do. It's going to take significant funding. It's going to take more technical.

332 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:15.689 --> 02:23:22.799

Resources construction capacity and flat out. We need more cities businesses, farmers. Landowners.

333 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:22.799 --> 02:23:26.819

Of all kinds to say, yes, I'm ready to do more.

334 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:26.819 --> 02:23:33.149

To protect our soil and water, and we should also respect the fact that you've already heard it now a couple of times.

335 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:33.149 --> 02:23:38.609

But we know the technology evolves, our knowledge evolved so we've got.

336 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:38.609 --> 02:23:46.769

To continuously be innovating and learning and testing and driving new science based practices new.

337 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:46.769 --> 02:23:51.719

Partnerships new ways to finance all of this.

338 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:51.719 --> 02:23:56.489

It will allow us to have an even greater impact on our shared resources. So.

339 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:23:56.489 --> 02:24:06.689

Again, I just want to think all of the partners who work with us in this state of Iowa, I should mention also our partners that I would Department of natural resources.

340 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:24:06.689 --> 02:24:09.689

An Iowa State University, the 3 principal.

341 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:24:09.689 --> 02:24:16.169

Partners of the IoT nutrient reduction strategy, but I know that is happening across the state of the basin as well.

342 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:24:16.169 --> 02:24:20.849

It's only by working together that we can accelerate and scale up our efforts. Thanks.

343 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:24:23.489 --> 02:24:27.989

Thank you secretary, Nate, we appreciate it and we appreciate all the panelists statements.

344 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:24:27.989 --> 02:24:40.109

Um, very beneficial information from, from each of you, and just have to say it's really a wonderful panel. When you actually have the scientists, the policy makers, the enforces all together.

345 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:24:40.109 --> 02:24:47.789

It really shows that, um, we have what what it takes to tackle on such a problem and, and the press is part of that, of getting it out and making sure that.

346 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:24:47.789 --> 02:24:52.289

People understand what's going on and and how it's being executed in the science.

347 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:24:52.289 --> 02:24:57.869

It's being investigated, so we appreciate, um, the panelists as well as, as the press and.

348 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:24:57.869 --> 02:25:02.969

And at this point, I invite the press to ask questions. So, like, I mentioned.

349 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:25:02.969 --> 02:25:17.849

When we began, feel free to raise your hand, or write your question in the comments section and I will do my very best to identify those in order and make sure that we try to fit everyone in. And the allowable amount of time.

350 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:25:18.204 --> 02:25:19.494

So 1st question

351 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:25:36.174 --> 02:25:40.644

1st, question have is from March looks fine feel free to go ahead.

352 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:25:40.949 --> 02:25:49.709

Okay, can you place the money that's in the bipartisan infrastructure law? For.

353 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:25:49.709 --> 02:26:01.559

Uh, neutral reduction into some sort of context with the amount of money that has been spent on projects since the beginning of the task force.

354 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:26:05.039 --> 02:26:09.749

Trying to get an idea of how big that those dollars really are.

355 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:26:11.699 --> 02:26:15.359

So, I think I, I'm hearing that that that.

356 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:26:15.359 --> 02:26:21.029

Question is directed toward EPA is that correct? The federal funding that was mentioned that correct?

357 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:26:21.029 --> 02:26:25.139

Well, whoever's in charge of the federal funding yeah.

358 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:26:26.969 --> 02:26:30.689

Sure. Mr. did you hear the question.

359 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:26:32.999 --> 02:26:36.929

Yes, I did 1st of all. Um.

360 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:26:36.929 --> 02:26:42.869

I know that the millions of dollars, 12 dollars 1Million that's available for golf. hypoxia work.

361 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:26:42.869 --> 02:26:46.349

And the task force is more than any single.

362 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:26:46.349 --> 02:26:59.639

Year's submission to the state for golf. hypoxia work. I cannot at the present time, given the information in front of me tell you what the total.

363 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:26:59.639 --> 02:27:03.359

That was provided by the federal government over the history of the.

364 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:27:03.359 --> 02:27:12.749

hypoxia task force has been, but I can tell you this. This is the single, biggest amount at any 1 time.

365 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:27:12.749 --> 02:27:16.739

Is there a way of describing it as in, in terms of.

366 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:27:16.739 --> 02:27:21.149

Is significance beyond, you know, a single year.

367 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:27:21.149 --> 02:27:31.499

I, I mean, it's still signed, I'm 60 Million dollars still doesn't seem like a heck of a lot of money when, when you're talking about the number of states that you're trying to put this into.

368 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:27:32.034 --> 02:27:44.514

Yeah, I, it is hard to compare it given the I don't have the total dollar figures that have been spent so that I can't give you that answer.

369 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:27:44.514 --> 02:27:52.404

I just will have to get back to you to provide you that information. And that's why the.

370 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:27:53.399 --> 02:28:00.179

The best thing that I can say is it is the single biggest federal contribution in the history of the.

371 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:28:00.179 --> 02:28:05.369

In the program and Mike, I don't know if you have anything else you would add.

372 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:28:06.384 --> 02:28:20.664

Yeah, I can jump in here and I'll defer Bruno to you on the, you know, the federal piece, and the historical perspective there but here's I can give you, as I mentioned in my comments. I know that states and again, this is each state is unique.

373 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:28:20.934 --> 02:28:24.804

They've got unique abilities to fund the 2 different mechanisms, you know.

374 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:28:25.079 --> 02:28:33.989

In the state of Iowa we are, we're providing, you know, my budget that I would Department of bank and land stewardship for soil and water conservation work.

375 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:28:33.989 --> 02:28:39.719

You know, on the order of 42 Million dollars per year, which we then leverage with.

376 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:28:39.719 --> 02:28:51.659

Work that our DNR does and what's the USDA and so, you know, it's just the 1 Million dollars per year that's coming over. The next 5 to EPA is it's small.

377 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:28:51.659 --> 02:28:59.729

As a percentage basis of our total funding, but what it does and I think this is the part that what I appreciate about the way this funding is coming.

378 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:28:59.729 --> 02:29:04.379

Is there is flexibility for the states to.

379 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:04.379 --> 02:29:13.409

To use these dollars as if they're looking for a step change if they need to do some more research some more.

380 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:13.409 --> 02:29:19.379

Uh, you know, providing the scientific basis for their strategy, or maybe they're trying to establish a measurements.

381 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:19.379 --> 02:29:24.569

Program or how are they going to report that or maybe they're trying to test out a new.

382 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:24.569 --> 02:29:33.839

Practice or new approach these dollars sort of can sit aside from your your your existing funding and allow you to do some discovery.

383 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:33.839 --> 02:29:37.799

And, and really be step change and and again, that will look differently.

384 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:38.184 --> 02:29:53.094

bruno mentioned and he'd know better than i mean you had a chance to visit with each of the different state leads these projects will look different that's good we wanted that kind of flexibility that's something that the states have been asking for so you know we're going to be focused

385 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:53.094 --> 02:29:58.494

on you know funding conservation agronomists to work with farmers and retailers and

386 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:29:58.769 --> 02:30:07.139

Try to incorporate conservation into agronomic recommendations, but that's just where we are with our approach. Others will do.

387 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:30:07.139 --> 02:30:14.369

Uh, different things that are meaningful to them. So that's maybe the other way to think about these dollars is it can create.

388 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:30:14.369 --> 02:30:17.579

An opportunity to really have a step change in the state.

389 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:30:17.934 --> 02:30:28.794

Yeah, Mike, I would just say, that's exactly right the benefit of this program isn't just the dollars, but the flexibility that the states have to use the money,

390 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:30:28.794 --> 02:30:40.614

in a way that works to either put in place innovative programs or bolster programs that have been real success stories in the state in different states have different success stories.

391 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:30:40.614 --> 02:30:47.574

Mike just mentioned Indiana and the cover crops. The record number of cover crops. They've been they've put in place.

392 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:30:47.579 --> 02:31:00.269

Indiana's really focused on that. And so for Indiana that will help with that kind of thing and other states will have other strategies and that that's the beauty of the funding, you know, all too often funding.

393 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:31:00.269 --> 02:31:15.059

Is narrowly focused. This is, let's let the states use their creative power to come up with effective ways to address nutrient pollution and support that. And so I think that's the real benefit of the dollars here.

394 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:31:15.059 --> 02:31:19.859

And just a quick follow up. It is there.

395 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:31:19.859 --> 02:31:31.649

Some sort of, uh, metrics system that EPA is using may be using type data to determine how effective.

396 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:31:31.649 --> 02:31:36.809

These and other projects actually are at reducing.

397 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:31:36.809 --> 02:31:40.529

Nutrients segment by segment through the.

398 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:31:40.529 --> 02:31:47.459

A reservation well, I want to say data collection in terms of effectiveness of the different.

399 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:31:47.459 --> 02:31:52.559

Projects that put in is sometimes part of the funding mechanism that.

400 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:31:52.559 --> 02:31:56.339

States are interested in figuring out which.

401 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:31:56.339 --> 02:32:05.574

Projects are more effective in specific areas and, and some of what we'll fund through this from my conversations with a variety of states,

402 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:32:05.574 --> 02:32:13.374

it's been that monitoring that helps us understand the effectiveness of different in different places.

403 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:32:13.404 --> 02:32:26.244

So, yes, there are mechanisms and states are at the forefront of using those monitoring mechanisms to judge the effectiveness and then adjust their programs.

404 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:32:26.339 --> 02:32:34.559

And again, another area where flexibility is key to ensuring that we make progress for nutrient reduction.

405 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:32:34.559 --> 02:32:48.359

Okay, but again, is there someplace where EPA is gathering all of that information that is so that it's available to the public to see, uh, segment by segment what the effects of this stuff is.

406 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:32:49.619 --> 02:33:00.474

Is working with the states to ensure that the monitoring mechanisms they put in place are publicly available in different places and states have different links to it.

407 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:33:01.464 --> 02:33:08.544

And EPA makes and ensure that that information is publicly available as it receives it as well.

408 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:33:10.379 --> 02:33:18.089

Thank you thank you. Okay next we have a a question put in the comments section by.

409 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:33:18.089 --> 02:33:22.109

Shannon McKenna hey, I will read the question and and unmute.

410 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:33:22.109 --> 02:33:25.229

This, and then on deck.

411 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:33:25.229 --> 02:33:29.459

Uh, we have Chris Clayton who will be next, so the question.

412 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:33:29.459 --> 02:33:33.749

Find this kind of, hey, is what are some specific examples.

413 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:33:33.749 --> 02:33:38.399

Of projects that have reduced nutrients getting into the river.

414 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:33:40.499 --> 02:33:45.359

Well, well, well, I'll let Mike.

415 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:33:45.359 --> 02:33:50.849

Jump in on this, but I will add that Mike mentioned a variety of areas where there been.

416 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:33:50.849 --> 02:33:56.370

There are effective programs in Indiana, for example, the use of cover crop.

417 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:33:56.370 --> 02:34:01.290

Is an effective way to reduce nutrient loadings to rivers but Mike.

418 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:01.290 --> 02:34:09.030

There are probably projects that you can mention in your state too, where there have been successful in terms of addressing.

419 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:10.050 --> 02:34:16.980

Right. And so again I and I can't get into specifics about other states, but I would encourage and this is something that we do.

420 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:16.980 --> 02:34:31.050

Encourages States to be States need to do a better job of talking about the successes and the progress that they're making and they do in their in their own ways. Each state has a nutrient reduction strategy.

421 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:31.050 --> 02:34:38.490

Each of those strategies lays out practices that those states are going to be implementing based on their unique landscapes. And so.

422 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:38.490 --> 02:34:42.300

That's what really drives the action in in states.

423 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:42.300 --> 02:34:47.970

It's true that in a state, like, I will talk about us, you know, when we.

424 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:47.970 --> 02:34:51.180

Developed our strategy looked at point sources and then.

425 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:51.180 --> 02:34:54.720

Point sources together, urban and rural together. We didn't want.

426 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:34:54.720 --> 02:35:00.780

You know, to have 1 group saying, pointing at the other thing, it's all you and vice versa. This had to be a.

427 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:00.780 --> 02:35:07.320

A joint strategy, and again, why we work together with the Department of natural resources. I would state university.

428 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:07.320 --> 02:35:13.110

And the 3 principles, leaders of the strategy in Iowa to ensure that we're looking across.

429 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:13.110 --> 02:35:17.310

The whole the whole spectrum and so for us.

430 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:17.310 --> 02:35:21.000

We're heavily focused on management practices, like, cover crops.

431 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:21.000 --> 02:35:25.620

Traditional conservation practices, like terraces and buffer strip.

432 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:25.620 --> 02:35:30.180

Looking at educated practices, like each nitrate reducing wetlands.

433 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:30.180 --> 02:35:35.550

Buyer after saturated buffers, improving our nutrient management recommendations.

434 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:35.550 --> 02:35:44.070

That come out of Iowa State University. These are all things that again, the scientific basis of our strategy says that when you implement.

435 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:44.070 --> 02:35:47.700

A practice like, cover crops UC resulting.

436 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:47.700 --> 02:35:53.100

Nutrient reduction, and by counting those practices, we know that we are.

437 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:53.100 --> 02:35:57.330

Making progress and so our focus recently has been all about.

438 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:35:57.330 --> 02:36:02.010

We've moved through the phase of demonstrating the effectiveness of those projects.

439 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:36:02.010 --> 02:36:05.670

Now, it's about implementation and scaling up so.

440 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:36:05.670 --> 02:36:11.550

Those are some examples, at least from from Iowa, but there are many others and also ways that.

441 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:36:11.550 --> 02:36:14.820

Point to non point are connecting and working together.

442 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:36:14.820 --> 02:36:20.580

To leverage the resources as well. So that's just a sampling, but there would be of many other examples.

443 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:20.580 --> 02:36:27.630

And Mike, just to add on to that, I would just say for those who've asked about well, can you help us.

444 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:27.630 --> 02:36:31.260

With what specific things are going on in different states.

445 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:31.260 --> 02:36:35.460

Epa releases a report to Congress.

446 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:35.460 --> 02:36:45.660

And it's called the Mississippi River Gulf of Mexico, watershed nutrients, task force, report to Congress, and the latest ones on our website. So it.

447 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:45.660 --> 02:36:53.070

Outlines a variety of things that are happening regarding this, including what each state is doing.

448 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:53.070 --> 02:36:56.280

In terms of their nutrient reduction strategy.

449 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:56.280 --> 02:36:59.610

And the tools and efforts are putting in place. So.

450 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:36:59.610 --> 02:37:07.440

That's a really good place to see from an overall perspective. The work that's being done to address nutrients.

451 "Janet McConnaughey" (941395968)

02:37:07.440 --> 02:37:15.300

Through the golf hypoxia check if all of this is.

452 "Janet McConnaughey" (941395968)

02:37:15.300 --> 02:37:20.130

Is going on, why is it that the reduction is, do.

453 "Janet McConnaughey" (941395968)

02:37:20.130 --> 02:37:23.400

To a sluggish river, rather than.

454 "Janet McConnaughey" (941395968)

02:37:23.400 --> 02:37:26.730

To efforts on the ground.

455 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:37:30.870 --> 02:37:36.570

I think that the, that the report about the.

456 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:37:36.570 --> 02:37:50.970

Reduction in flow helps is good news, but also it, it's 1 of several factors that can influence. And 1 of the things Nancy said when she spoke was that it's a complex system.

457 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:37:51.535 --> 02:38:06.055

And it's not saying that we're not making progress. It's saying that there are a number of factors that go into the size of the hypoxic zone and she mentioned a number of them and some of those.

458 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:38:06.480 --> 02:38:13.920

Are have big effects on the size of the hypoxic zones but that also doesn't mean that the, the.

459 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:38:13.920 --> 02:38:22.170

The 114,000 acres of grass, waterways or terraces or.

460 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:38:22.170 --> 02:38:30.990

Settlement control basins or other things are not having an effect. It just shows that the, the complex nature.

461 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:38:30.990 --> 02:38:41.340

Of the sides of the hypoxic cells Thank you very much questions.

462 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:38:41.340 --> 02:38:45.120

Next we have risk Clayton.

463 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:38:49.770 --> 02:38:54.210

We might have lost. Mr. he's coming back.

464 "Chris Clayton" (744284928)

02:38:54.210 --> 02:39:02.190

And on 3rd, I, my questions were answered there. I was wondering about how do you distinguish the.

465 "Chris Clayton" (744284928)

02:39:02.190 --> 02:39:08.340

The nutrient reduction practices versus simply lower river flows.

466 "Chris Clayton" (744284928)

02:39:08.340 --> 02:39:13.680

Um, and how do you want to quantify those, uh, distinctions.

467 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:39:13.680 --> 02:39:19.590

And part of the quantification effort is in the edge of field monitoring.

468 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:39:19.590 --> 02:39:34.440

It's done when you put in a or or in certain locations you put in a monitoring as well, that helps you assess the impact that that has had in terms of reducing nutrient reductions.

469 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:39:37.680 --> 02:39:42.570

Thank you thank you.

470 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:39:42.570 --> 02:39:48.390

Okay, so next we have a question, um, let's see.

471 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:39:48.390 --> 02:39:52.680

It states as a journalist from Florida's Gulf Coast.

472 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:39:52.680 --> 02:40:02.010

You can tell me if our state is participating, can you tell me if it stays participating in any of the

research or community based mitigation projects?

473 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:40:02.010 --> 02:40:07.980

Besides our shrimp fleet, how the dead zone might affect Florida's economy.

474 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:40:09.300 --> 02:40:14.490

This this might be direct either toward Dr.

475 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:40:14.490 --> 02:40:18.420

I can address that question.

476 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:40:18.420 --> 02:40:31.375

The from nyla, none of our currently funded research for modeling efforts on the northern golf. hypoxic zone are going to Florida based institutions.

477 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:40:31.405 --> 02:40:40.105

We run a competitive grant process for those awards. And currently, we are not supporting any researchers in Florida as a result of that.

478 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:40:40.710 --> 02:40:54.060

However, we have other areas of hypoxia and other harmful algae bloom events that we are investigating. And we do have a rather large research project.

479 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:40:54.060 --> 02:40:57.570

Funding multiple researchers in the state of Florida looking at.

480 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:40:57.570 --> 02:41:01.230

Nutrients inputs.

481 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:41:01.230 --> 02:41:10.110

Role in Florida, red tide, and we have also in the past looked at the hypoxic zone that forms off of.

482 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:41:10.110 --> 02:41:21.360

The Florida shelf often in association with red tide. So we do fund work on a hypoxia in the state of Florida. That is a geographically distinct area from this northern Gulf zone.

483 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:41:22.470 --> 02:41:26.430

Thank you. I'd like to clarify that was.

484 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:41:26.430 --> 02:41:33.300

The question by miss Amy Bennett Williams of the new news press in Fort Meyers, Florida.

485 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:41:33.300 --> 02:41:38.280

This Williams do you have any additional questions or follow ups for your initial.

486 "2397711589" (1011203328)

02:41:38.280 --> 02:41:42.660

I know, and that's I was ungrateful that.

487 "2397711589" (1011203328)

02:41:42.660 --> 02:41:45.840

Was answered and I will look at.

488 "2397711589" (1011203328)

02:41:45.840 --> 02:41:49.170

Some of those other projects as well. So I appreciate it.

489 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:41:49.170 --> 02:41:56.490

Thank you, it looks like we have a secondary question from Mark.

490 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:41:56.490 --> 02:41:59.490

The 1st report, ask the question. Go ahead. Mark.

491 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:41:59.490 --> 02:42:10.890

All right, Mark, go ahead and try it now.

492 "Mark Schleifstein" (678004480)

02:42:10.890 --> 02:42:20.280

Yeah, no, I, I was just putting the link to those congressional reports in the chat. Don't have a question.

493 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:42:20.280 --> 02:42:25.680
Okay all right. I don't see any hands up or questions.

494 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:42:25.680 --> 02:42:30.930
In the chat feel free to enter those in. We have.

495 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:42:30.930 --> 02:42:35.040
A few minutes left over.

496 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:42:35.040 --> 02:42:40.560
Oh, oh, this is Nancy. I do have a comment.

497 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:42:40.560 --> 02:42:44.310
Towards the Florida issue.

498 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:42:44.310 --> 02:42:52.680
Go ahead Dr. as mentioned, there are harmful of the.

499 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:42:52.680 --> 02:42:55.680
Especially West Coast.

500 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:42:55.680 --> 02:43:07.770
And several of them may lead to hypoxia in the bottom waters. So any efforts to study the connections of those 2 will be very welcome.

501 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:43:07.770 --> 02:43:12.420
Thank you thank you.

502 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:43:12.420 --> 02:43:16.350
Opening the floor.

503 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:43:17.430 --> 02:43:21.870
Any more questions.

504 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:43:21.870 --> 02:43:26.460

All right last call.

505 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:43:26.460 --> 02:43:30.420

All right, so Dr, put up another link.

506 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:43:30.420 --> 02:43:39.900

In the comments section, I will leave this up a little bit longer after the meeting end. So if anybody wants to grab links or anything like that in the comment section.

507 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:43:39.900 --> 02:43:45.510

Please feel free to and again, if you have additional questions or need clarifications.

508 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:43:45.510 --> 02:43:52.770

On any responses that were provided please send those questions or request to the email.

509 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:43:52.770 --> 02:43:58.050

In the chat section, which is Sheila state dot edu.

510 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:43:58.050 --> 02:44:04.680

And I will personally make sure that they're distributed to the correct people. And the response is given back to you in a timely manner.

511 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:44:04.680 --> 02:44:09.840

So, again, 1 more, try any other questions before we concluded.

512 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:44:09.840 --> 02:44:16.830

This is Bruno ticket from EPA. I just like to.

513 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:44:16.830 --> 02:44:22.380

Just re, emphasize the.

514 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:44:22.380 --> 02:44:29.160

That that the annual report that EPA does conduct.

515 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:44:29.245 --> 02:44:43.375

Regarding the work of the golf hypoxia task force is very useful and identifying specific practices that are put in place in different states, different strategies as well as outcomes as a result of that.

516 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:44:43.405 --> 02:44:55.315

So, for the reporters that are seeking to understand better in particular states action, if they're in the golf, I think this will be very useful information.

517 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:44:59.070 --> 02:45:02.580

Thank you. Mr. and I put a link to it in the chat.

518 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:45:02.580 --> 02:45:06.030

Terrific Thank you.

519 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:45:07.440 --> 02:45:18.540

All right, well, with no more questions, I feel free to conclude this press event. We, we, thank everyone for. Oh, we do we have a question just popped up. Hang on here.

520 "Steve Thur" (1714641152)

02:45:24.540 --> 02:45:35.880

This is this is a question.

521 "Hill, Clay" (3323769856)

02:45:35.880 --> 02:45:42.510

From miss, do you feel that the river not human action?

522 "Hill, Clay" (3323769856)

02:45:42.510 --> 02:45:48.030

Is the main driver of this year's.

523 "Hill, Clay" (3323769856)

02:45:48.030 --> 02:45:52.410

Small zone this is directed toward doctor rambling.

524 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:45:53.910 --> 02:46:05.010

Yes, I would say.

525 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:46:05.010 --> 02:46:09.060

Get down size, but rather it's.

526 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:46:09.060 --> 02:46:22.830

Whether sorry to interrupt, hang on, Nancy. You were cut off just would you mind? Starting over? I apologize. There's a little interference. Just go ahead and start over. Okay. Okay. About human action. I think I heard.

527 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:46:22.830 --> 02:46:27.450

That, uh, human action.

528 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:46:27.450 --> 02:46:36.360

Did not really contribute anything to the lowest size, but instead it's weather.

529 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:46:36.360 --> 02:46:43.860

Possibly climate change that led to the drought in the Mississippi river basin.

530 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:46:43.860 --> 02:46:52.590

Especially after the end of May, now, I know some places got flooded, but others were.

531 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:46:52.590 --> 02:46:58.200

Still particularly dry, and the Mississippi river flow was down.

532 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:00.390 --> 02:47:03.480

Thank you.

533 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:03.480 --> 02:47:10.110

This is Mike. Mike I'd like to add in here so.

534 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:10.110 --> 02:47:18.030

I think it's important that we continue to have a long view of this. So, I think what, what we, I

hope we take away from this, is that.

535 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:18.030 --> 02:47:22.260

There are a lot of variables, and a lot of factors that go into the size of the.

536 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:22.260 --> 02:47:27.270

hypoxic loan each year we should remember that when it is.

537 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:27.270 --> 02:47:35.610

Unusually low and unusually large, and it's completely discount the work that's being done on the part of the States and.

538 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:35.610 --> 02:47:43.020

Communities and partners all across the base and I think I think that would be unfortunate because there is a significant amount of.

539 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:43.020 --> 02:47:48.450

Of work and so again, I think, let's have a, I would encourage a longer review. That's why we talk averages.

540 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:48.450 --> 02:47:56.700

It's why we talk about improving models and observations made. So I won't argue with the analysis that's been.

541 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:47:56.700 --> 02:48:01.530

Given by our experts today, but I think we can't completely discount.

542 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:01.530 --> 02:48:05.550

The incredible amount of work and effort that's being put in by.

543 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:05.550 --> 02:48:09.150

By folks all throughout the base and to move us in the right direction and.

544 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:09.150 --> 02:48:12.180

And build momentum on, on getting things done.

545 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:12.180 --> 02:48:16.800

It's 1 of the measurements, it's 1 of the indicators that we can use.

546 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:16.800 --> 02:48:23.160

The other 1 to look at is progress being made by the States against their nutrient reduction strategy goals.

547 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:23.160 --> 02:48:29.340

And we know that this is a longer term effort than a sustained effort that's needed.

548 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:29.340 --> 02:48:32.370

Again, which is why you're saying a 5 year funding cycle.

549 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:32.370 --> 02:48:37.050

On the part of EPA and states really looking to sustain their efforts. So.

550 "Call-in User_3" (82334208)

02:48:37.050 --> 02:48:42.300

I, I just want to add that that context there from my perspective. Thank you.

551 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:48:44.220 --> 02:48:55.950

Right. Mike, this is Nancy. I agree with all of that. And I appreciate all the efforts to reduce nutrients and I think it's up to the citizen public to also.

552 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)

02:48:55.950 --> 02:49:00.660

Is there consumptive habits that might also help us.

553 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:49:02.640 --> 02:49:05.640

Hello.

554 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:49:05.640 --> 02:49:11.520

Okay all right. Let's see. Anymore.

555 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:49:11.520 --> 02:49:14.730
Last minute questions before we conclude.

556 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:49:19.920 --> 02:49:24.240
This is Nancy. I truly appreciate. Please press.

557 "Nancy Rabalais" (676395520)
02:49:24.240 --> 02:49:29.190
Conferences by telephone, I think they've been very helpful.

558 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:49:29.190 --> 02:49:33.450
Well, thank you. Absolutely.

559 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:49:33.450 --> 02:49:38.850
It's a, it's a productive group and, like I said, we have scientists, policymakers, enforcers. It's.

560 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:49:38.850 --> 02:49:44.940
It's important that we're all together speaking on the issues. And when you think about how difficult the this issue is.

561 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:49:44.940 --> 02:49:56.100
You have staple policies, federal policies, state practices, federal practices, science. It's, uh, it's quite a diverse group and the press is part of it trying to.

562 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:49:56.100 --> 02:50:03.930
Help everybody understand and identify the problems, because it is so complex. So I really do want to thank everyone for their time.

563 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:50:03.930 --> 02:50:07.020
Our panelists for, for providing so much information.

564 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)
02:50:07.020 --> 02:50:10.500
And the pointed to answers to the questions from the press.

565 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:50:10.500 --> 02:50:13.680

We hope the press got what they.

566 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:50:13.680 --> 02:50:20.130

We're looking for with this press release, uh, we want to thank Noah for allowing the or the Gulf Institute to to.

567 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:50:20.130 --> 02:50:27.450

Conduct a, and, and Co host this event, and we hope to see, uh, further questions, and I will circle back in a timely manner.

568 "Mickle, Paul" (2631868160)

02:50:27.450 --> 02:50:32.850

As I promised before, so with everyone have a terrific day and thank you for attending.

569 "Bruno Pigott" (800702720)

02:50:32.850 --> 02:50:36.570

Thank you.