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Sierra Club urges strong action on any oil spill settlement

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By

On Monday, Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune wrote a **letter** to President Barack Obama urging his administration to make sure that settlement over the oil spill take "strong action" to deter future bad behavior and ensure that adequate money is available to restore the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem.

The group recommends creating a fund for natural resource damages, a fund with at least \$10 billion for restoring Gulf ecosystems, levy at least \$20 billion as an equivalent to Clean Water Act penalties for gross negligence for environmental projects, allow the government to re-open the settlement for at least 30 years to guard against unforeseen damages and create a citizens advisory council.

The Sierra Club also says that projects must place ecosystem restoration over economic development as a priority.

The Sierra Club's letter echoes many of the sentiments expressed by the Gulf Restoration Network in its Jan. 26 letter to President Obama.

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