

Protect Florida's Beaches

<http://protectfloridasbeaches.org/>



Eric Draper
Audubon of Florida
(850) 224-7546
edraper@audubon.org

Two Ways to Approach Drilling Debate

- The risk to Florida's environment and coastal economy are not worth the questionable benefits, *OR*
- It is a dubious scheme advanced by secretly funded interests to gain control and speculate on resources held in trust for the public.

What do you think?

Oil Drilling in Florida?

The Claimed Benefits Don't Even Come Close to Outweighing the Risks. No Deal!

Florida's coastal economy generates \$562 billion per year

Tourism generates \$65 billion per year

Oil drilling will not generate comparable economic benefits

But it would impact existing coastal and ocean economies.



Thunder Horse platform after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. It was just brought back online this year. Photo from MMS.



Oil spills take years and hundreds of millions to clean up – local economies suffer

Credible Information on Florida's Ocean and Coastal Economic Activity



Phase II
Facts and Figures
Florida's Ocean and Coastal Economies Report
Judith Kildow, Principal Investigator
Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
June 2008

<http://www.floridaoceanscouncil.org/reports/economies.htm>

Florida's Tourism Based Economy Vs. Dirty, Dangerous, Ugly



- People will not come to Florida's beaches and spend money in our communities if this is what awaits them.
- Many people will not come to Florida's beaches and spend money in our communities if they even think that this is what awaits them.

The Drillers Unsupported Claims

State Revenue

Gas Prices

**Energy
Independence**

Polls

Safety



The Core Economic Claim

Alabama, Texas, Louisiana and Florida average 45 jobs per million barrel annual production equivalent at an average wage of \$125,000 per job.

3 billion barrels =

- 6,750 permanent jobs
- \$843.7 million in annual wages
- State revenue from royalties and severance payments of 20% of or \$2.25 billion per year.

Can this be true?

Highly Unlikely

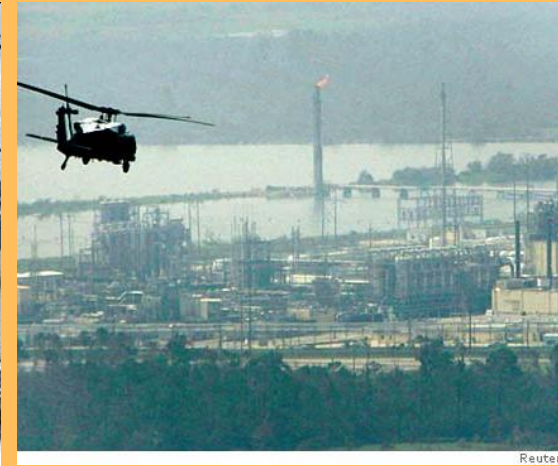
Florida Constitution

- Budget must be balanced
- Cannot appropriate based on speculative income
- Would take years to ramp up production
- State revenue would lag
- Claims of benefits to state budget cannot be supported
- Why the bogus claims?

Port Arthur, Texas



AP / Rick Bowmer



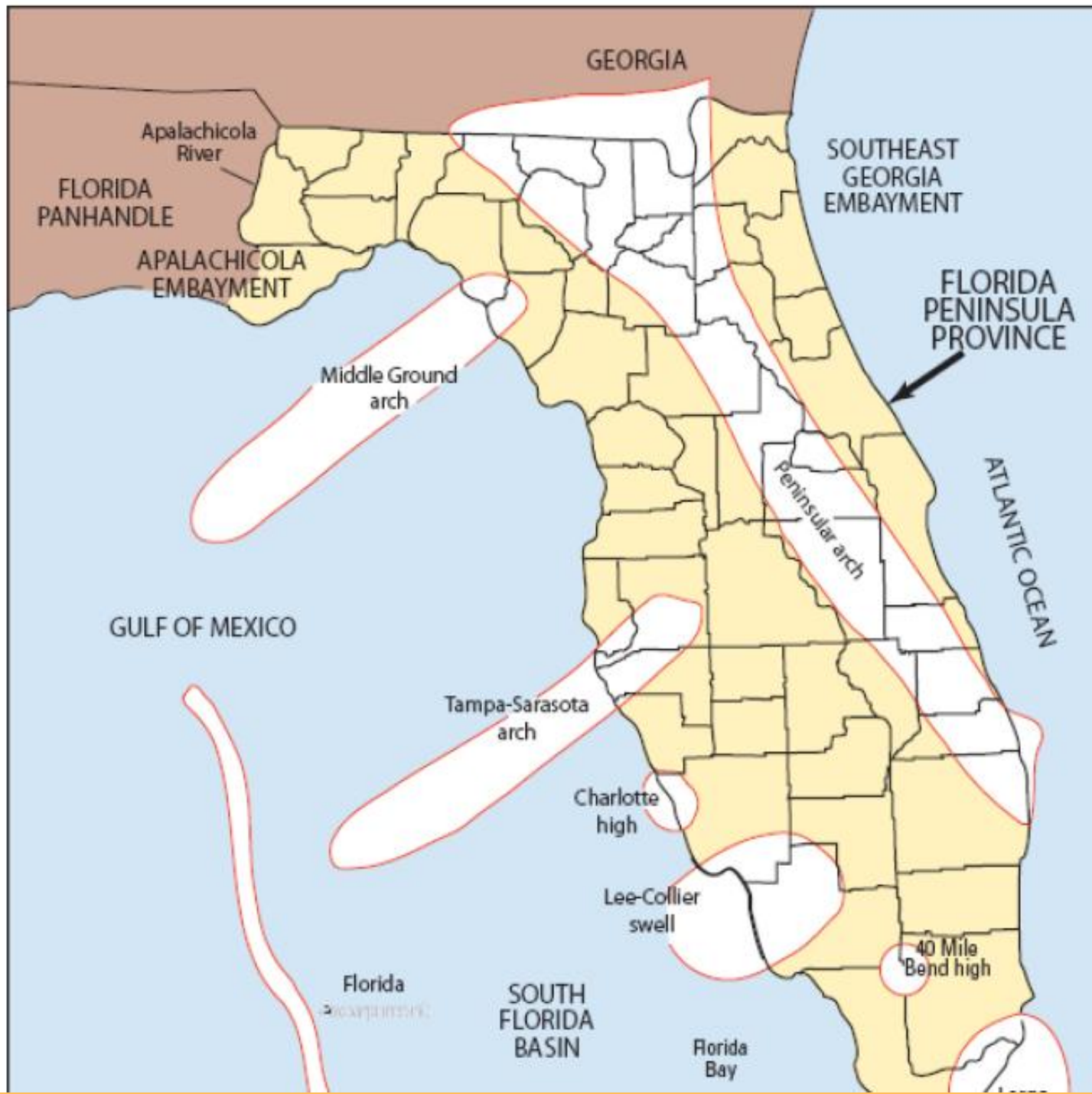
Reuters



How Much?

1, no...
3, no...
9, no...
18 bbl?

**No
One
Knows**



Oil Drilling Is Not a Windfall



- Paying to clean up spills and leaks is not good for the economy.
- In fact, cleaning up a ton of oil can cost over \$150,000. Who pays for that?



Having so much yellow could put Florida in the red.

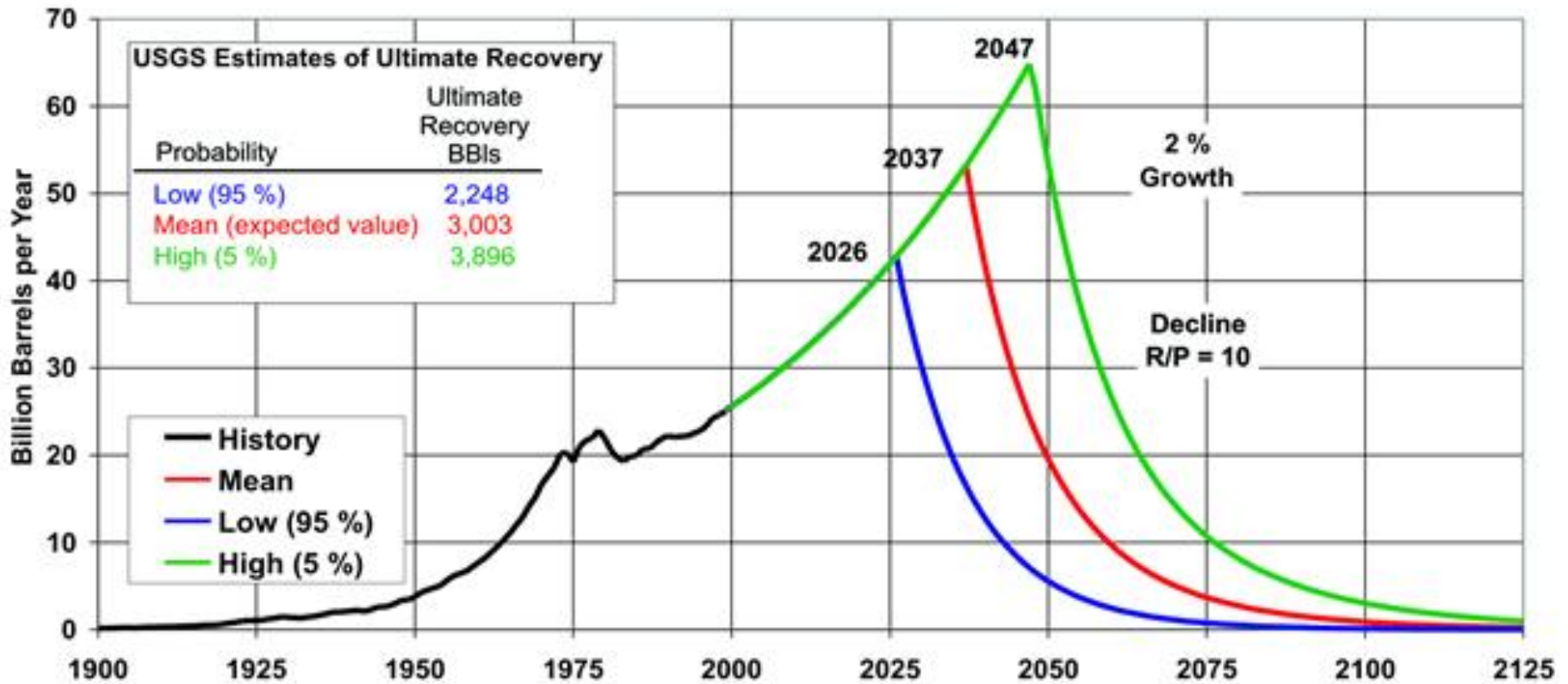
Gas Prices by State

- Florida \$2.41
- Texas \$2.29
- Louisiana \$2.32
- Alabama \$2.28
- Georgia \$2.28

Energy Independence?

Florida might add a drop in the world bucket

Figure 2. Annual Production Scenarios with 2 Percent Growth Rates and Different Resource Levels (Decline R/P=10)



Recent poll showed only 25% strong support for drilling nearshore.

SEEMAN Editorial Cartoons



"IF THE ELECTION WERE HELD TODAY, WHICH CANDIDATE WOULD I BE WRONG ABOUT YOU VOTING FOR?"

Can Drilling and Pipelines, Processing and Transportation Be Safe as Drillers' PR Machine Claims?



Hurricanes



Human Error



Hubris



The “New” Technology Is Not Safe



- West Atlas rig just installed in the past few years, was supposed to be the ultimate expression of the safety of new drilling technology.



- Earlier this summer, the Gulf of Mexico experienced a 60,000 gallon pipeline leak. Drilling in Florida would bring thousands and thousands of miles of pipelines and increasing levels of risk and potential disaster.



Galveston, Texas Dirty, Dangerous, Ugly



Does Florida Have Laws and Rules for Environmental Impacts for Drilling in Coastal Areas

- Who will write the new rules and laws?
- How long will that take?
- How will Florida deal with land use changes – more preemptions?
- DRI exemptions for ports?
- Major changes in state policy

Potential Views from Hotel Rooms



If drilling is allowed in Florida's waters, this could be the new tourism poster.



Imagine what this view would do to real estate values.

Welcome to Clearwater



AP / Rick Bowmer



Reuters



This Does Not Need To Be Florida's Future



The Machine on the Other Side

50 + lobbyists

Millions in PR

Millions in contributions

Buying off interest groups with promised appropriations



What is the Real Story?

Speculators will buy leases
and sell shares on world
market – *next Ponzi scheme?*



RESOLUTION NO. 08-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF OFF SHORE OIL DRILLING IN THE GULF OF MEXICO IN AREAS OTHER THAN THOSE ALREADY APPROVED FOR OIL LEASING AND OIL EXPLORATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Congressional ban of offshore oil drilling, which has been in effect since 1981, was put in place to reduce the chances of environmental damage from oil spills and to protect the tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional ban states that no funds may be expended by the Department of the Interior for the conduct of offshore preleasing, leasing and related activities placed under restriction in the President's moratorium statement of June 12, 1998, in the areas of northern, central, and southern California; the North Atlantic; Washington and Oregon; and the eastern Gulf of Mexico, south of 26 degrees N latitude and east of 86 degrees W longitude; and

WHEREAS, the US Energy Department's forecasting arm has said opening of the Pacific, Atlantic and eastern Gulf of Mexico regions to drilling would not have significant impact on domestic crude oil prices before the year 2030; and

WHEREAS, tourism accounts for one-third of our budget revenues statewide and 96% of those visitors cite the beaches as an influential factor in their decision to visit Florida; and

WHEREAS, tourist tax collection statewide exceeded \$513,385,000.00 in FY 2007 and more than 91,000 Floridians are employed in businesses that directly or indirectly support tourism; and

WHEREAS, the area with the potential for the greatest risk of environmental damage is the eastern part of the Gulf of Mexico, off the western coast of Florida; and

WHEREAS, environmental specialists contend the major risk from drilling platforms is the wastewater they routinely discharge which contain drilling fluids and heavy metals including mercury; and

WHEREAS, according to oil industry data, an oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico can dump up to 90,000 tons of drilling fluid and metal cuttings over its lifetime. These contaminants accumulate in the marine food web and could reasonably be expected to contaminate local beaches and have a negative effect on the environment and tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the difference in the risk of impact from drilling for oil as opposed to natural gas; and

NO WAY!



THEY SHOULD SAVE IT
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

THE BEACH OR
THE OIL?

BOTH.

