



Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group

Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment: Birds and Sturgeon

Public Webinar
October 16 and 17, 2018

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov



Webinar Participation

- Make sure to turn off your computer's microphone and speakers.
- Use the "Question" box if you are having technical issues hearing or seeing the material.
- We are not taking questions or comments on the Draft Restoration Plan through this webinar.



The screenshot shows a GoToWebinar window with a menu bar (File, View, Help) and a globe icon. Below the menu bar is a vertical toolbar with icons for audio, chat, and help. The main content area is divided into two sections: "Audio" and "Questions".

Audio Section:

- Computer audio (unselected)
- Phone call (selected)
- Dial: +1 (631) 992-3221
- Access Code: 744-106-541 #
- Audio PIN: 1 #

Questions Section:

X	Question	Asker

OO Restoration Area - Draft Restoration Pl...
Webinar ID: 113-950-795

GoToWebinar



Today's Agenda

- Open Ocean TIG
- DWH NRDA settlement and programmatic restoration plan
- Draft Open Ocean TIG RP1/EA: Birds and Sturgeon
- Next steps



OPEN OCEAN TRUSTEE IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

Draft Restoration Plan 1 and
Environmental Assessment:
Birds and Sturgeon

OCTOBER 2018





Open Ocean TIG



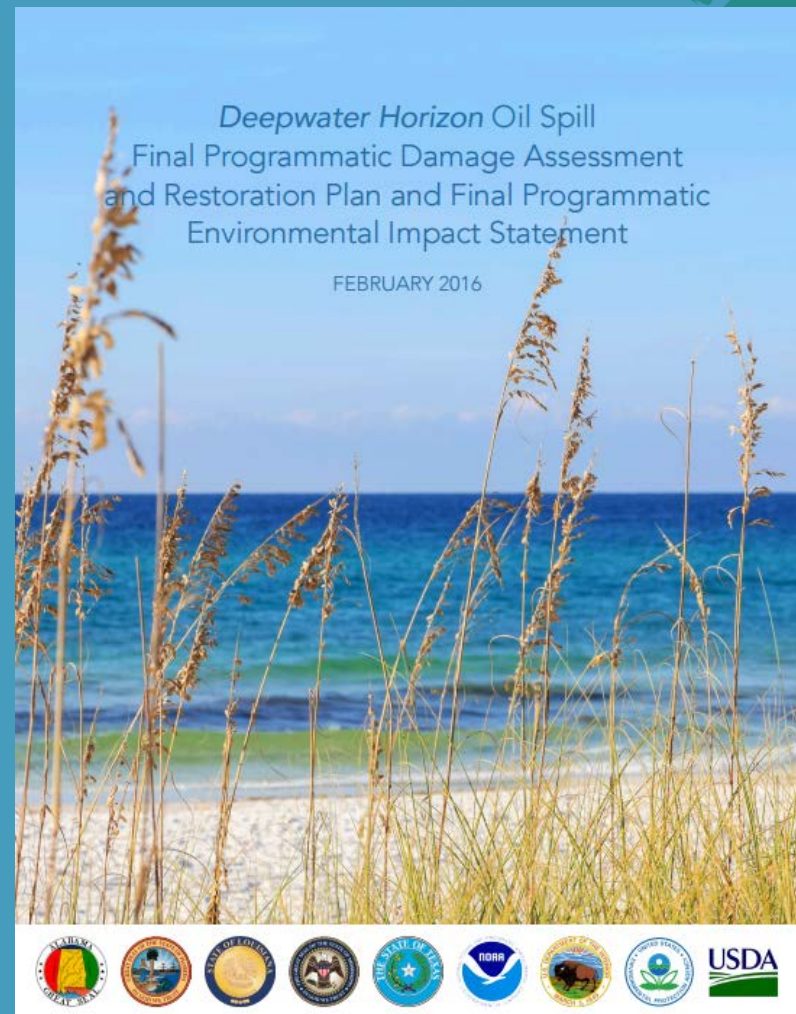
NOAA	USDA	EPA	DOI
Laurie Rounds	Ron Howard	Gale Bonanno	Ashley Mills

BP Settlement

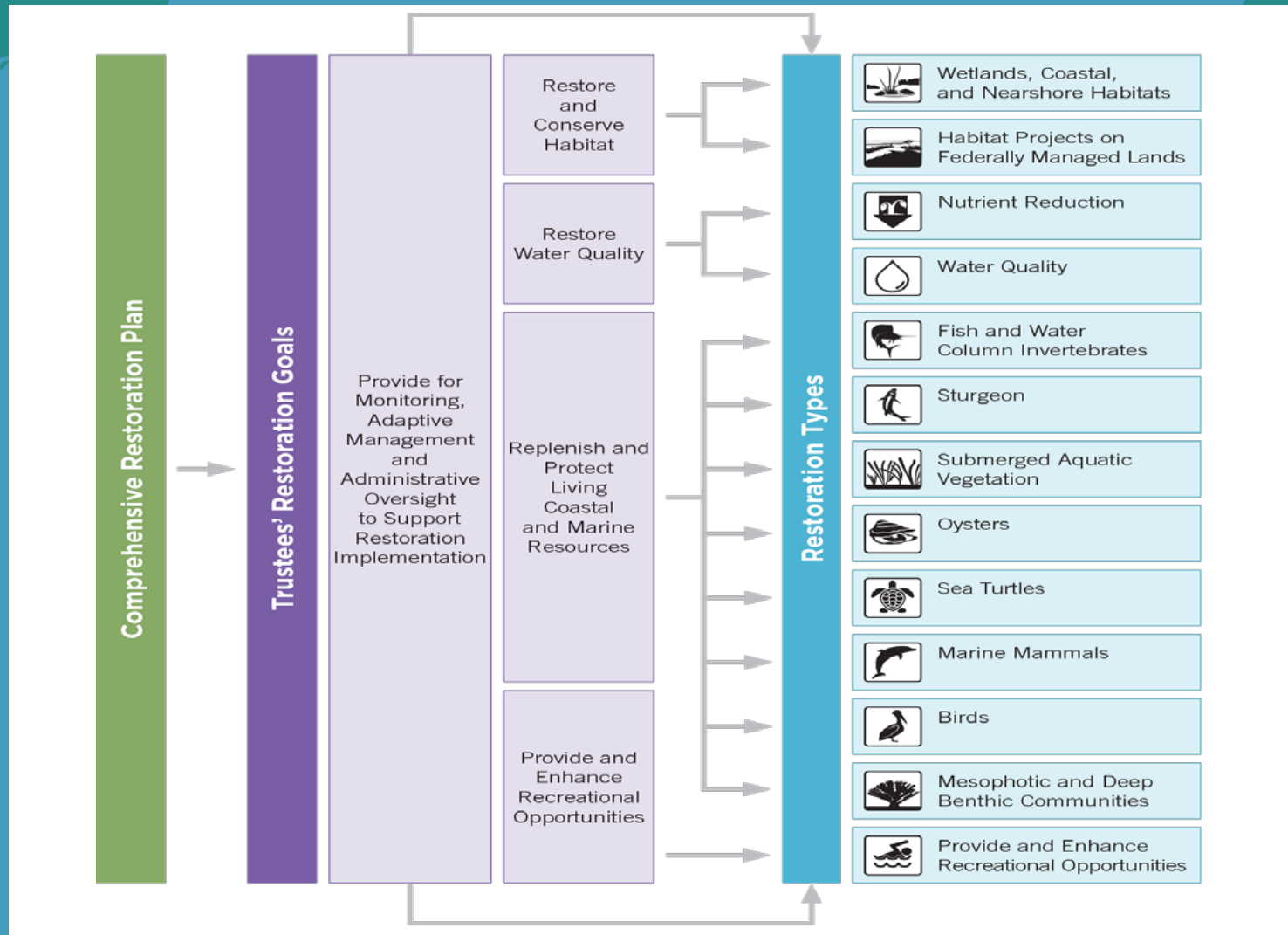
- **Civil Settlement: 2016**
- **NRDA Portion of Settlement: \$8.8 billion**
 - Restore and Conserve Habitat: \$4.7 billion
 - Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources: \$1.8 billion
 - Restore Water Quality: \$0.4 billion
 - Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities: \$0.4 billion
 - Monitoring, Adaptive Management, Administrative Oversight: \$1.5 billion

Trustees' Programmatic Restoration Plan

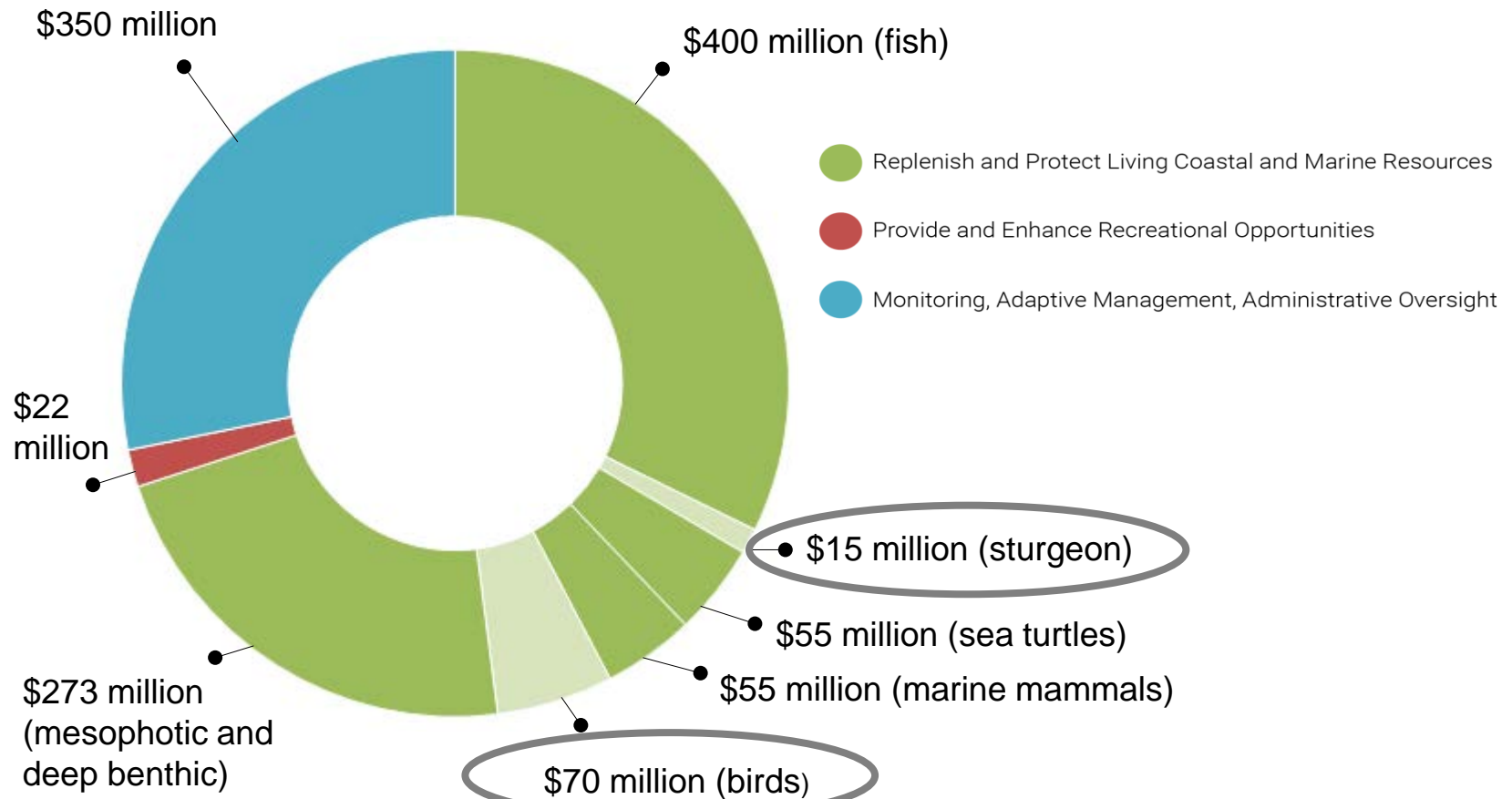
- **Damage assessment :** injuries to natural resources and services
- **Restoration:** ecosystem approach and science-based adaptive management



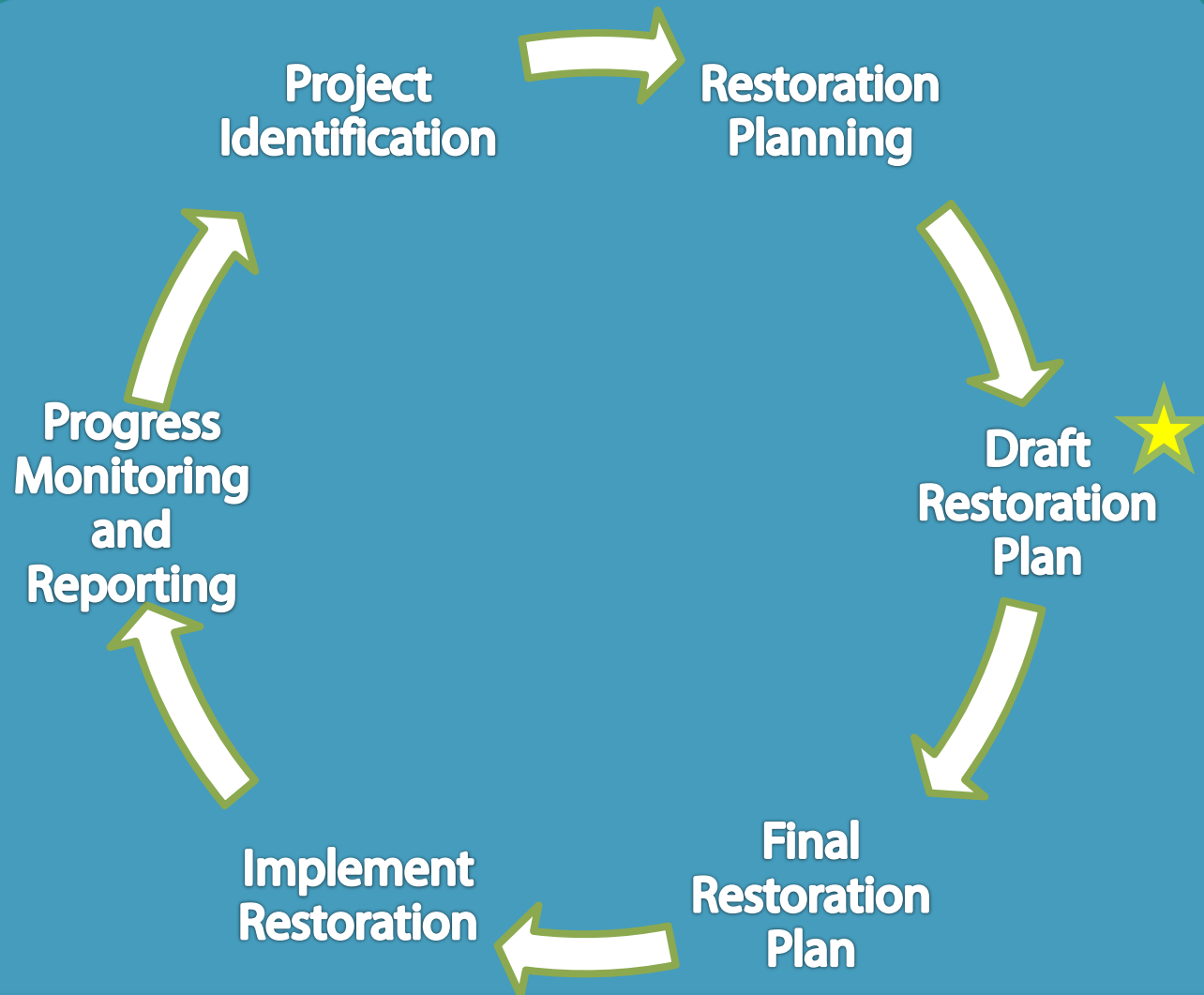
Overview of the Programmatic Restoration Plan



Open Ocean Restoration Area Funding Allocation



TIG Restoration Planning Cycle





Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment: Birds and Sturgeon

OO TIG Draft RP 1 Overview

- Focus - birds and sturgeon restoration types
- Robust screening to determine reasonable range of alternatives
- Evaluates alternatives under both OPA and NEPA
- Proposes funding 2 bird alternatives and 1 sturgeon alternative



OPEN OCEAN TRUSTEE IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

Draft Restoration Plan 1 and
Environmental Assessment:
Birds and Sturgeon

OCTOBER 2018



Restoration Goals for Birds

- Facilitate additional production and/or reduced mortality
- Restore or protect habitats on which injured birds rely
- Restore injured bird species where actions provide the greatest benefits

Bird Migration Flyways



Restoration Goals for Sturgeon

- Restoring and protecting Gulf sturgeon by improving access to spawning areas
- Increasing the reproductive success of Gulf sturgeon



Project Screening Process

Stage of Screening	Criteria/Factors Considered
Initial Screening	<p>Project ideas removed if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• had insufficient information for evaluation• are required by local, state or federal law• are already funded• duplicate other project idea(s)
Consistency Screening	<p>Project ideas moved forward if consistent with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• one or more PDARP Programmatic Goals• one or more PDARP restoration types in draft RP1/EA• Birds Strategic Framework

Project Screening Process

Stage of Screening	Criteria/Factors Considered
Oil Pollution Act Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost• Meets Trustees' goals and objectives of returning injured natural resources and services to baseline and/or compensating for interim losses• Likelihood of success• Prevents future injury and avoids collateral injury• Benefits more than one natural resource and/or service• Effect on public health and safety
Additional OO TIG criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complies with applicable laws and regulations• Supports existing regional or local conservation efforts or plans• Is capable of providing long-term, sustainable ecological or public benefits without continuous funding into the future• Is time critical• Offers opportunities for external funding and/or collaboration

Reasonable Range of Alternatives

Birds

- Restoration of Common Loons in Minnesota
- Restoration of Black Terns in North Dakota and South Dakota
- Restoration of American White Pelicans on the Upper Mississippi River
- Restoration of Black Terns in the Upper Midwest

Sturgeon

- Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Spawning Habitat, Habitat Use, and Origins of Juvenile Sturgeon in the Pearl and Pascagoula River Systems
- Riparian and Coastal Conservation to Restore Spawning and Juvenile Habitat for Gulf Sturgeon

OO TIG Draft RP 1/EA

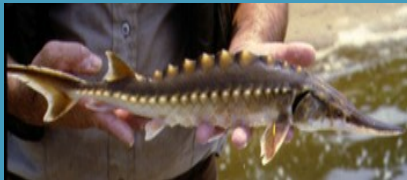
Three preferred alternatives



Restoration of Common
Loons in Minnesota



Restoration of Black Terns in
North and South Dakota



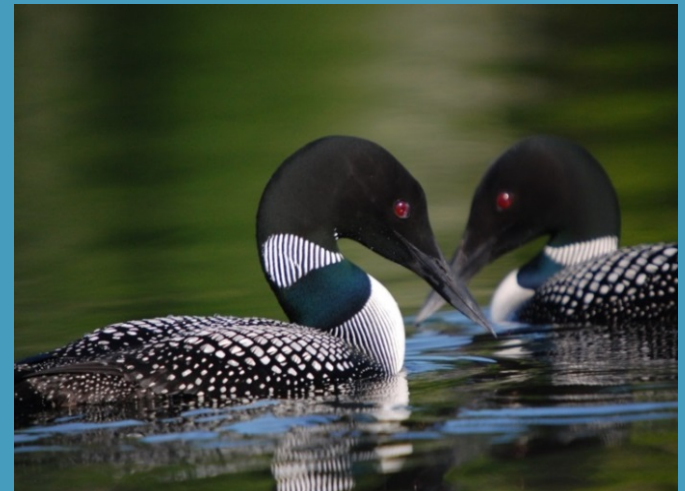
Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon
Spawning Habitat, Habitat Use, and Origins
of Juvenile Sturgeon in the Pearl and
Pascagoula River Systems

Restoration of Common Loons in Minnesota, USA

Reduce mortality and increase reproductive success through:

- Acquisition/easements of lakeshore nesting habitat
- Providing artificial nesting platforms in targeted lakes
- Reducing exposure to lead-based fishing tackle

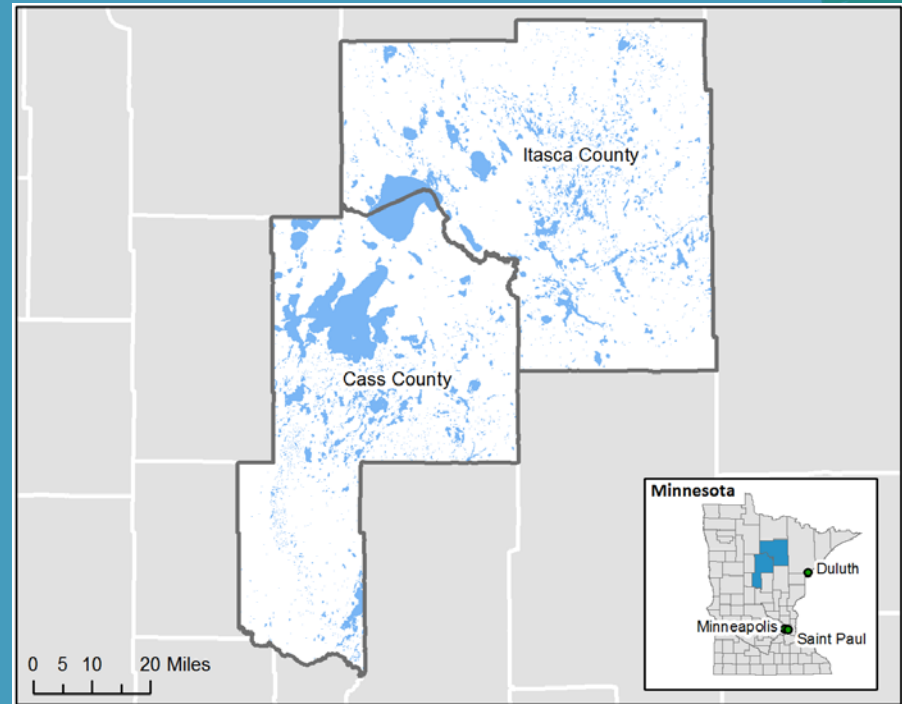
Estimated Cost
\$7.52 M



Restoration of Common Loons in Minnesota, USA



Cass County, MN Lakes



Waterbody Location in Cass and Itasca Counties, MN.

Restoration of Black Terns in North and South Dakota

- Protect wetland and grassland habitat to enhance and improve breeding site selection and foraging conditions for black terns in North and South Dakota Prairie Pothole Region.
- Establish conservation easements on a voluntary basis with participating landowners.

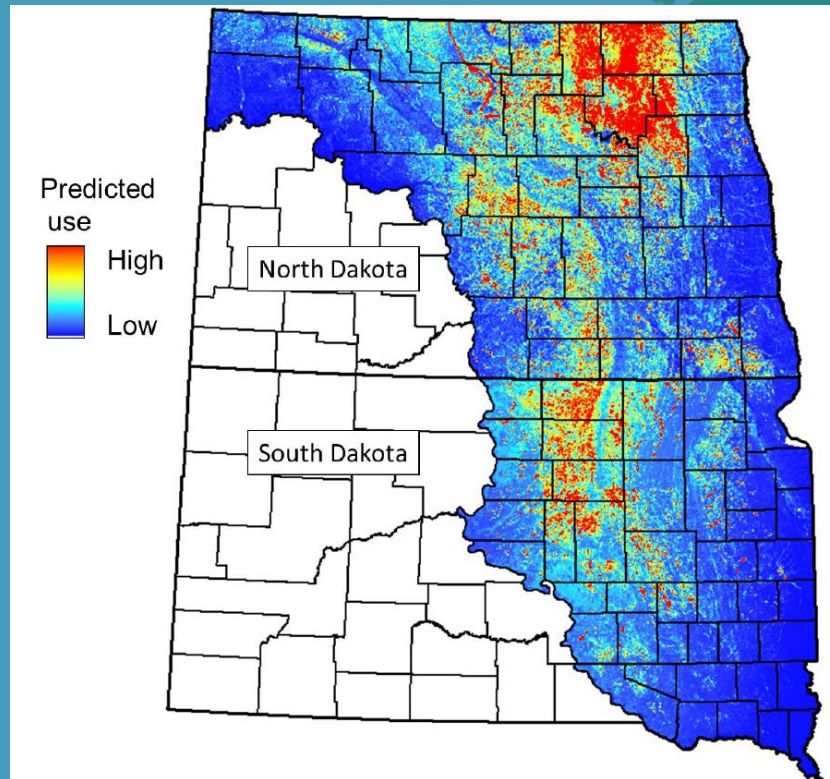
Estimated Cost
\$6.25 M



Restoration of Black Terns in North and South Dakota



Prairie potholes in North Dakota



Map: Example of HAPET Predicted Use of Landscapes by Black Tern in ND and SD.

Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat in the Pearl and Pascagoula River Systems

- Identify and characterize potential spawning habitat
- Describe habitat accessibility and patterns of habitat use during spawning periods
- Determine river of origin for juvenile sturgeon
- Synthesize data needed to evaluate and prioritize sturgeon spawning habitat restoration

Estimated Cost
\$2.15 M



Wildlife biologists weigh an adult sturgeon

Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat in the Pearl and Pascagoula River Systems



Gulf sturgeon spawning habitat

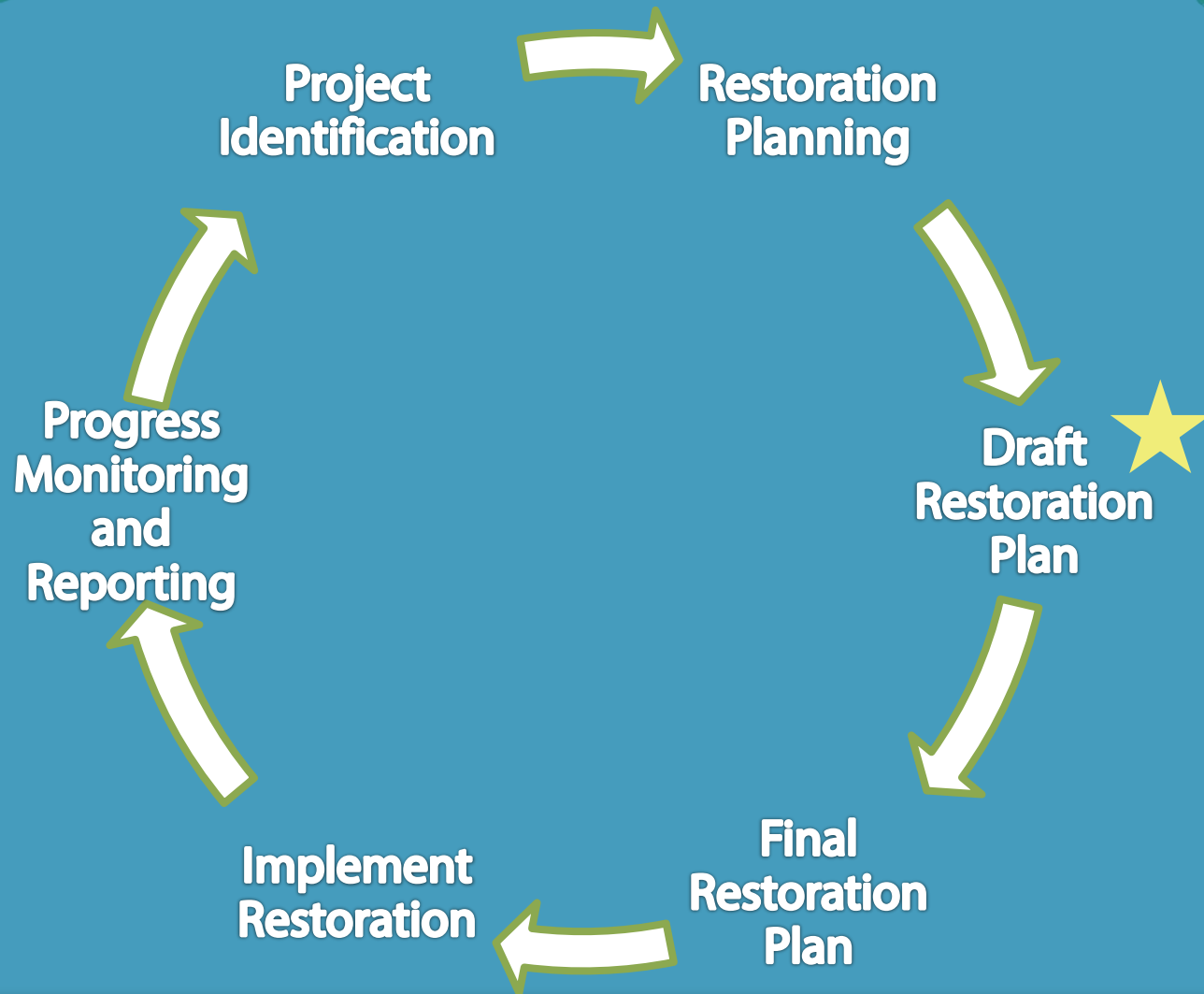


Map: Project area highlighting reaches targeted for spawning habitat mapping (yellow areas within blue river systems) that encompass roughly 1,500 stream kilometers in both the Pearl and Pascagoula river systems.



Next Steps

TIG Restoration Planning Cycle



Submit Your Comments

Comments may be submitted these two ways:

Online

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/open-ocean

By U.S. Mail to

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

P.O. Box 49567, Atlanta, GA 30345

Comment deadline is November 9, 2018

Upcoming Events

The OO TIG Annual public webinar will be held in November 2018.

The OO TIG Draft Restoration Plan 2 and Environmental Assessment is anticipated to be released in early 2019.

OO TIG information is available at:
www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov



Thank you