



Deepwater Horizon

Natural Resource Damage Assessment & Restoration

Trustee Council

2024 Annual Public Meeting

Today's Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
- Trustee Council Update
- Restoration Area Updates
- Your Comments



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Gulf Spill Restoration website. At the top, the title "GULF SPILL RESTORATION" is displayed alongside logos for NOAA, EPA, and USDA. Below the title is a navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, How We Restore, Restoration Areas, Data, and Story Archive, along with a search bar. The main content area features a large underwater photograph of coral reefs. A blue overlay box on the image contains the text "March 26 Public Webinar: Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities Restoration" and a "Learn more" button. Below the image is a "Restoration Areas" section with icons and labels for Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, RegionWide, and Open Ocean. At the bottom, a green box contains the text "VISIT US ONLINE" followed by "Go to www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/ for the latest information about restoration projects, monitoring and adaptive management, and more."

Trustee Council Representatives



ALABAMA
Chris
Blankenship



FLORIDA
Gareth
Leonard
(Chair)



LOUISIANA
Glenn
Ledet Jr.



MISSISSIPPI
Chris
Wells



TEXAS
Robin
Riechers



DOI
Mary Josie
Blanchard



EPA
Mary Kay
Lynch



NOAA
Chris
Doley



USDA
Ronald
Howard

Trustee Council Update



Trustee Council Responsibilities

- Fiscal oversight
- Monitoring and Adaptive Management direction
- Administrative Record
- Coordination and oversight of the groups below



Alabama

*Trustees for
Alabama*

NOAA
DOI
EPA
USDA



Florida

*Trustees for
Florida*

NOAA
DOI
EPA
USDA



Louisiana

*Trustees for
Louisiana*

NOAA
DOI
EPA
USDA



Mississippi

*Trustee for
Mississippi*

NOAA
DOI
EPA
USDA



Texas

*Trustees for
Texas*

NOAA
DOI
EPA
USDA



Open Ocean

NOAA
DOI
EPA
USDA



Region- wide

All Trustees

Ecosystem Approach

Beaches and Other
Recreational Uses



Marsh and Other
Nearshore Habitat

Birds



Beach Habitat

Sea Turtles

Fish and Water
Column Species

Marine Mammals

Deep-sea
Communitites



© 2015 NOAA. Illustration by Kate Sweeney
Adopted from the 2016 *Deepwater Horizon* Final Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan and Final Programmatic
Environmental Impact Statement; Figure 1.5-1

Source: Programmatic Restoration Plan

Restoration Timeline



APRIL 2010
Oil Spill

APRIL 2011
\$1B Early Restoration
Agreement with BP

APRIL 2016
Settlement Adds
\$7.8B in Natural
Resource Damages

April 2010 – April 2016
Early Restoration



Restoration Timeline

More than **\$5.23 billion**
allocated to more than
350 restoration projects
to date

TODAY
June 2024

2017-2031

Trustees Receive Settlement Payments Every April
Trustees Release Annual Reports Every Year
Restoration Planning and Implementation and Monitoring

Restoration Timeline



Continued implementation and monitoring of restoration projects



2032 - beyond
Payments from BP end,
but the work continues

Restoration Area Updates



Accomplishments



In 2023 the Trustee Implementation Groups collectively finalized **1 Restoration Plan** and updated or approved **11 Monitoring Activities**

More than
350
projects
approved
to date

The Trustees have collectively approved approximately
\$5.23 Billion
to fund restoration projects



In 2023
posted more
than **50**
webstories

Highlight Reel



Deepwater Horizon
Restoration Highlights
2024



Alabama Restoration Area
Chris Blankenship
Alabama Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources

Alabama Funding Update



Amount committed for projects and activities as of March 2024

\$185 million

Total allocation

\$295 million

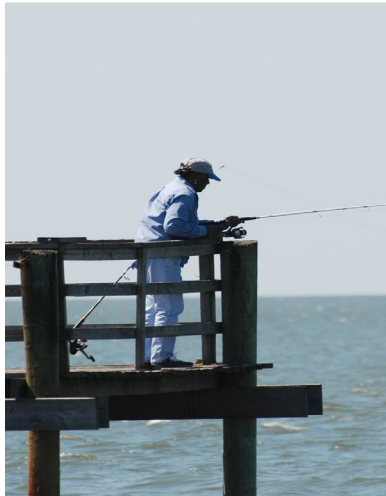


\$215 million in settlement funds received from BP to date

43 projects approved



What We've Been Up To



32

Projects in progress

Currently drafting Restoration Plan IV and Environmental Assessment for Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats; Oysters; Birds; Nutrient Reduction; and Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities



Supplemental Restoration Plan II and Environmental Assessment: Marine Mammals to be released this summer



Held the Alabama TIG's annual public meeting (via video recording) in December

Featured Project



Dauphin Island Ecotourism

What's Next?



Sea Turtle Nest Productivity



Bird Stewardship



Oyster Grow-Out



Florida Restoration Area

Sarah Ketron

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Florida Funding Update



Amount committed for projects and activities as of May 2024

\$265 million

Total allocation

\$680 million



\$424 million in settlement funds received from BP to date

73 projects approved



What We've Been Up To



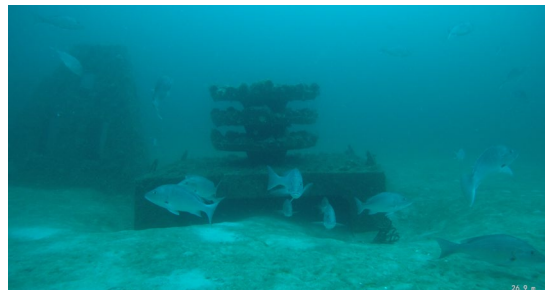
59

projects in progress

14

projects completed or closed

Finalizing the Florida TIG's third restoration plan, which is focused on water quality.



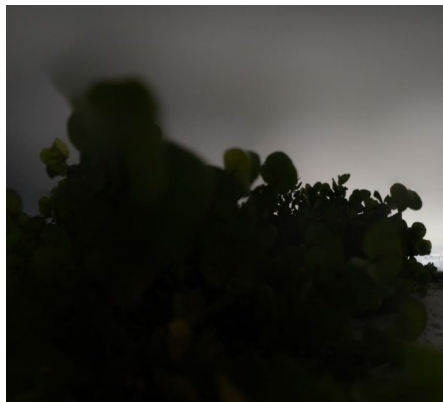
3,729

artificial reefs deployed across 44 permitted areas



Held the Florida TIG 2023 annual public meeting on December 7

Featured Project - Evaluating Orientation Response of Sea Turtle Hatchlings to Physical Cues on Nesting Beaches



What's Next?



- Implementation and monitoring of early restoration, RP1, RP2, planning, and MAM projects
- Finalizing RP3/EA: Water Quality
- Annual public meeting in late 2024



Louisiana Restoration Area

Maury Chatellier

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Funding Update



Amount committed for projects and activities as of March 2024

\$3.85 billion

Total allocation
\$5 billion



\$2.8 billion in settlement funds received from BP to date

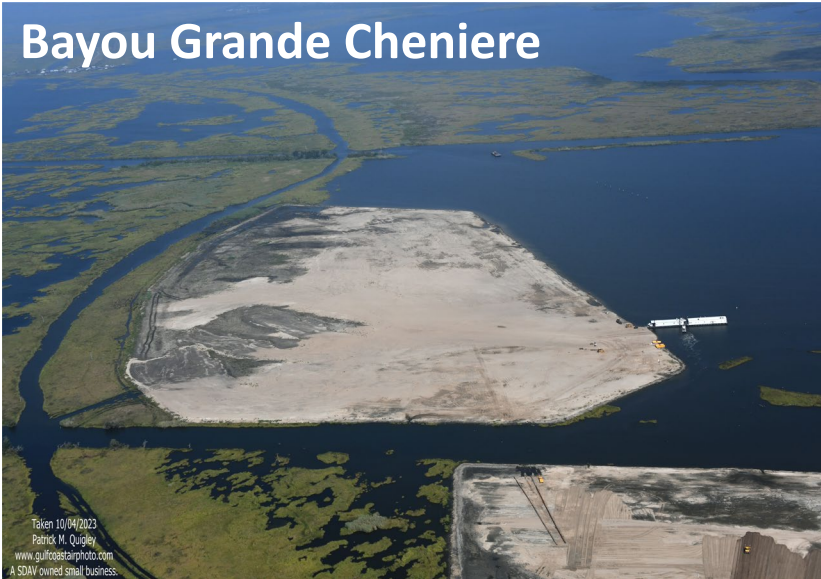
73 projects approved



What We've Been Up To



Bayou Grande Cheniere



Began construction of the Mid Barataria Sediment Diversion

Opportunity for Preliminary Public Engagement, Restoration Plan #9: Chandeleur Islands Restoration



Cypremort Park Improvements

Featured Project



Large-Scale Barataria Ridge and Marsh Creation Project

Taken July 26, 2023

Patrick M. Quigley

www.gulfcoastairphoto.com

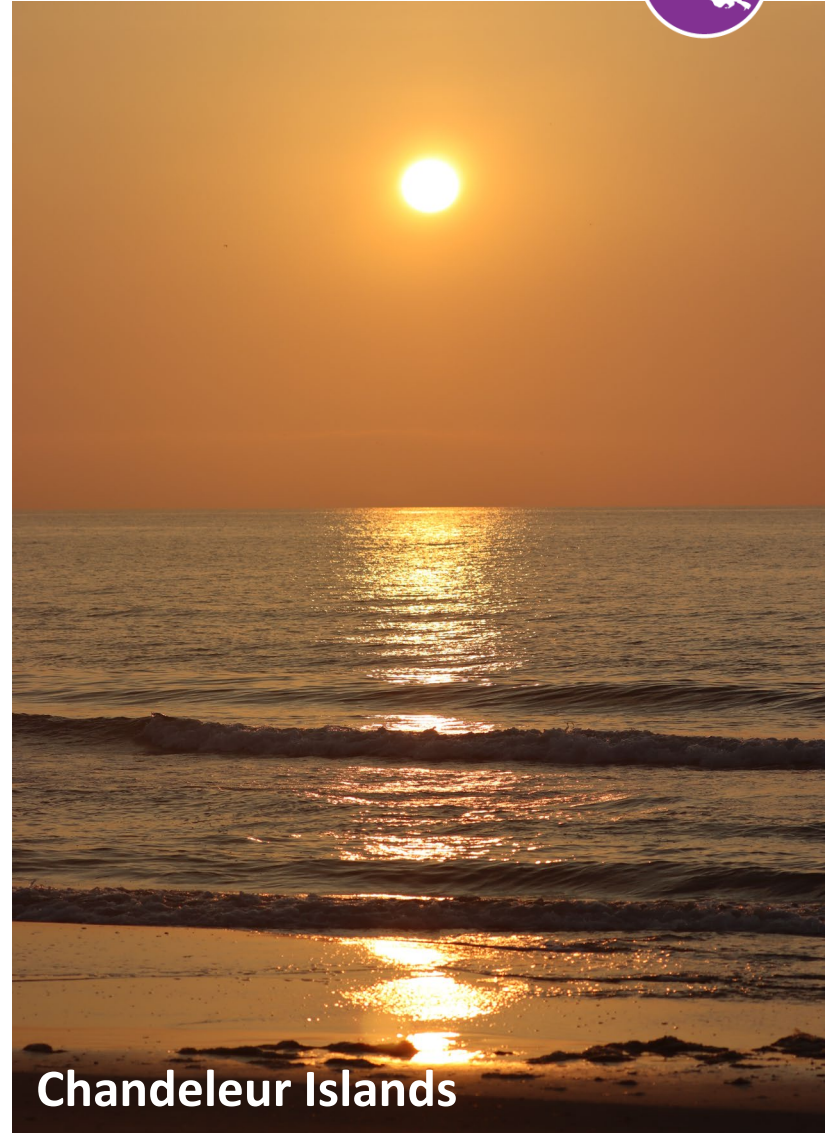
A SDAV owned small business.

What's Next?



HNC Bird Island

**New Restoration
Planning
Opportunities**



Chandeaur Islands



Mississippi Restoration Area

Chris Wells
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality



Funding Update



Amount committed for projects and activities as of May 2024

\$216 million

Total allocation

\$295 million



\$216 million in settlement funds received from BP to date

27 projects approved



What We've Been Up To



Final MS TIG Restoration Plan 4/Environmental Assessment released in January 2024



22

Projects in progress

The 7 new RP4/EA projects include the following Restoration Types:



Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats



Nutrient Reduction



Recreational Opportunities



Held the Mississippi TIG's annual public meeting last November as part of the Mississippi Restoration Summit

What's Next?



- Continue restoration project implementation and monitoring.
- Hold Annual Meeting and Mississippi Restoration Summit in the fall of 2024.
- Restoration planning for next plan, which is slated for publication in spring 2025.



Land Acquisition and Habitat Management





Texas Restoration Area

Robin Riechers
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Texas Funding Update



Amount committed for projects and activities as of May 2024

\$150 million

Total allocation

\$238 million



\$175 million in settlement funds received from BP to date

34 projects approved



What We've Been Up To



25
Projects
in progress

4,568
Acres of habitat
preserved



9
Completed projects



Featured Projects



Bahia Grande Hydrologic Restoration



Pierce Marsh



Featured Projects



Breeding Bird Stewardship Project



Photo: American Bird Conservancy or Houston Audubon Staff

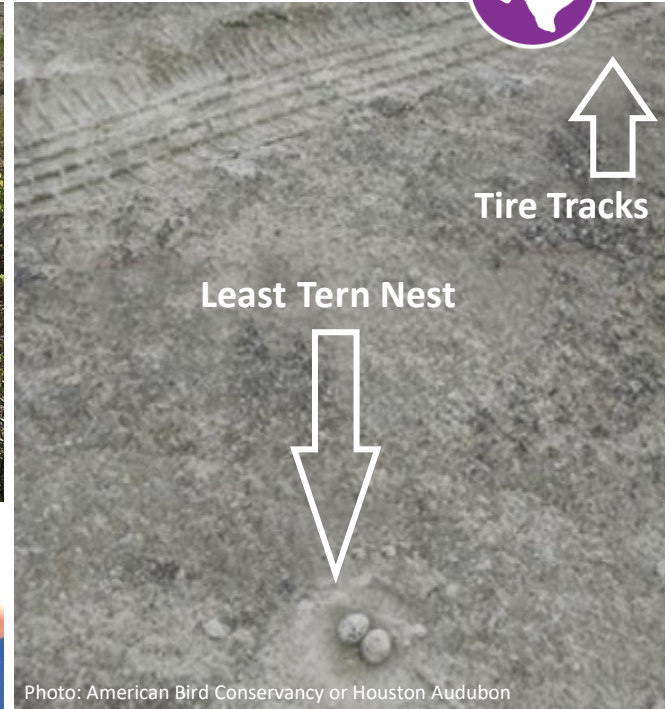


Photo: American Bird Conservancy or Houston Audubon



Photo: Woody Woodrow/USFWS



Photo: American Bird Conservancy or Houston Audubon

What's Next?



**Restoration Plan and
Environmental Assessment #3**



Open Ocean Restoration Area

Laurie Rounds

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Open Ocean Funding Update



Amount committed for projects and activities as of May 2024

\$414 million

Total allocation

\$1.2 billion



\$679 million in settlement funds received from BP to date

45 projects and planning activities approved



What We've Been Up To

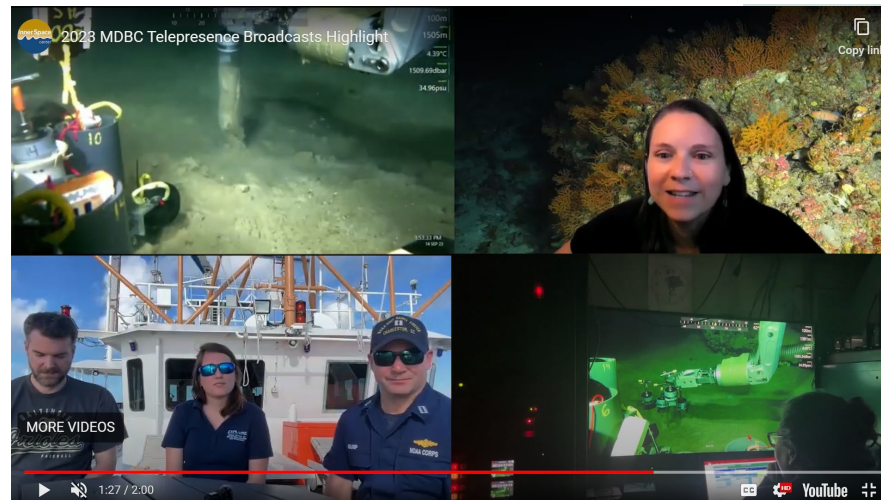


130+

courtesy inspections on shrimp vessels for devices to reduce fish bycatch

4,200

sightings of marine mammals and sea birds during Gulf surveys



750+

people joined 13 live streaming events during expeditions to restore deep-sea habitat

Featured Restoration: Birds



What's Next?



Marine Mammals

Fish and Water Column Invertebrates



Seabirds

Sea Turtles

The background of the slide is a photograph of two surveying tripods on a dark field at night. The sky is filled with stars. The tripod on the right has a bright red light on top. A dark, wavy shape is visible in the upper part of the image, and a purple shape is on the right side.

Regionwide Restoration Area

Erin Plitsch, Department of the Interior
Jaime Miller, Alabama Department of
Conservation and Natural Resources

Funding Update



Amount committed for
projects and activities
as of March 2024

\$156 million

Total allocation

\$350 million



\$198 million in settlement funds received from BP to date

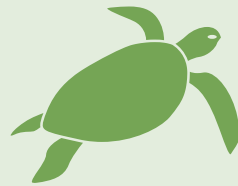
15 projects and planning activities approved

What We've Been Up To



3,115

light fixtures
updated to sea
turtle friendly
lighting



State and Federal Trustees have
been coordinating on the
**Restore and Enhance Sea Turtle
Nest Productivity** project.

Pilot Town Land Acquisition

conveyed to Bon
Secour National
Wildlife Refuge
by ADCNR to
restore and
conserve bird
habitat.



Featured Project



AVIAN DATA MONITORING PORTAL

Project Information

Data Management

Dashboard

Data Explorer

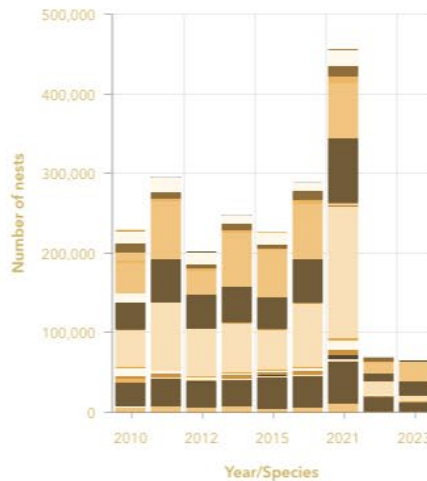
Survey and Dotting Protocols

Future Directions

Filters

- Year
All
- State
All
- GeoRegion
All
- Colony
All
- Species
All
- Watershed (HUC8)
All

Total nests observed

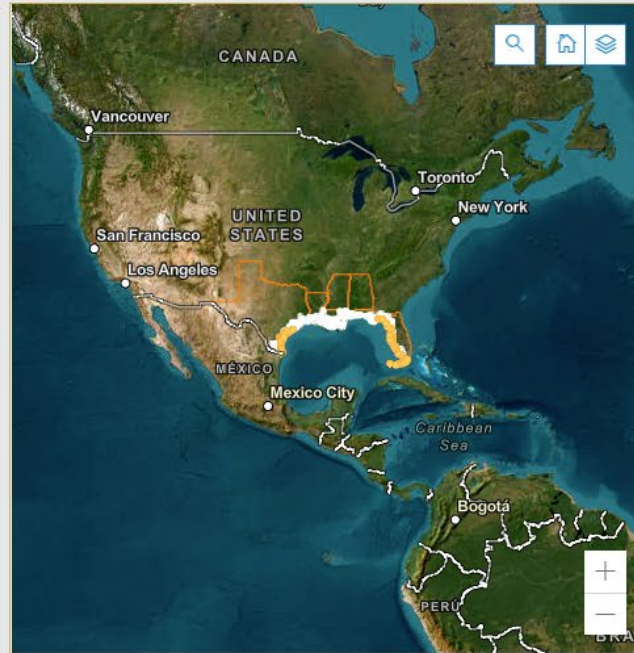


Year/Species

- American Oystercatcher
- American White Pelican
- Anhinga
- Black Skimmer
- Black Tern
- Black-crowned

Total nests

Total birds



Earthstar Geographics | Esri, TomTom, FAO, NOAA, USGS | Powered by Esri

Total nests observed
2,076,926

Total birds observed
2,754,409

Photos

Survey date: 6/10/2010
Colony: 3 Rooker Key
Species: White Ibis
Number of birds: 24
Number of nests: 24
Links

High Resolution Image
Screenshot Image



Survey date: 6/10/2010
Colony: 3 Rooker Key
Those are the first 50 photos that meet the selections made. If you are looking for a specific photo, please modify the filters.

Note:
The total number of nests or birds observed displayed on this dashboard are calculated using a formula based on the survey year and counting categories used. For detailed

<https://avianmonitoring.com>

What's Next?



- Continue implementation and monitoring of two Early Restoration projects to benefit sea turtles
- Continue implementation and monitoring for the 11 projects approved in Restoration Plan 1
- Discuss / identify current and future Region-wide priorities

An aerial photograph of a vast wetland landscape. A winding waterway, possibly a bayou or marsh stream, flows through the center of the image, surrounded by dense green and brown vegetation, including tall reeds and marsh grasses. The terrain is flat, and the water reflects the sky. The overall scene is a natural, undisturbed wetland environment.

We'd Like to Hear From You

Trustee Council Representatives



ALABAMA
Chris
Blankenship



FLORIDA
Gareth
Leonard
(Chair)



LOUISIANA
Glenn
Ledet Jr.



MISSISSIPPI
Chris
Wells



TEXAS
Robin
Riechers



DOI
Mary Josie
Blanchard



EPA
Mary Kay
Lynch



NOAA
Chris
Doley



USDA
Ronald
Howard

Verbal Comments

- All attendees are muted automatically
- Please enter your audio PIN if you plan on speaking via phone – you will be unmuted by staff at the beginning of your comment
- Enter your name in the questions box to request a speaking slot

The screenshot shows the GoToWebinar interface. The 'Audio' section has 'Computer audio' selected with a radio button, and 'Phone call' is unselected. Below this are fields for 'Dial: ###-###-####', 'Access Code: ###-###-####', and 'Audio PIN: ##'. A red arrow points from a callout box to the 'Audio PIN' field. Below the 'Audio PIN' field is a dropdown menu set to 'United States' and a link 'Problem dialing in?'. The 'Questions' section has a text input field containing '[Enter a question for staff]' and a 'Send' button. A red arrow points from a callout box to this input field. At the bottom, it says 'Multi sessions different registrants' and 'Webinar ID: 357-351-315' with the GoToWebinar logo.

If you call into the webinar with a phone, do not select computer audio.

If you use a phone and wish to make a comment you will need to enter your personal audio PIN in order to speak.
(Computer users do not need to enter a PIN.)

To communicate with staff, type questions here.



Get the latest **news updates** from
the *Deepwater Horizon* Trustees

Sign Up Now

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov

Thank You and Check Out Our
Website for the Latest News