

## Monitoring and Adaptive Management Manual to Support Integrated Ecosystem Restoration for the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill

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Department of Interior

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### Contributors

### Cross-TIG MAM Work Group

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## Deepwater Horizon Settlement Allocation

\$20.8 B

#### up to \$8.8B for Natural Resource Damage

- Includes \$1B for Early Restoration (partially paid)
- Includes up to \$700M to address future unknown conditions

#### \$5.5B

for Clean Water Act civil penalties

- \$4.4B (80%) will flow through the RESTORE Act
- \$1.1B (20%) will go to the Oil Spill Liability Trust
   Fund

#### \$5.9B

for economic claims

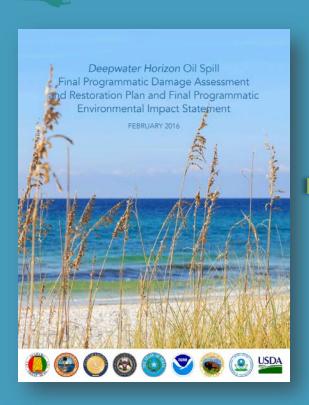
- \$4.9B to the 5
  Gulf states
- Up to \$1B to local governments in the 5 Gulf states

#### \$0.6B

for additional payments

- \$0.35B NRD assessment costs
- \$0.25B False claims act royalties on oil; response & other costs

# Restoration of Injured Resources



**Comprehensive Restoration Plan** 

stees' Restoration Goals

Restore and Conserve Habitat

Restore Water Quality

Provide for Monitoring, Adaptive Management and Administrative Oversight to Support Restoration

Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources

Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities



Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats Section 5.5.2



Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands Section 5.5.3



Nutrient Reduction Section 5.5.4



Water Quality Section 5.5.5



Fish and Water Column Invertebrates Section 5.5.6



Sturgeon Section 5.5.7



Restoration Types

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Section 5.5.8



Oysters Section 5.5.9



Sea Turtles Section 5.5.10



Marine Mammals Section 5.5.11



Section 5.5.12



Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities Section 5.5.13



Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities Section 5.5.14

### Structure

**Trustee Implementation Groups (TIGs)** 

#### Texas

Trustees for Texas Federal Trustees

#### Louisiana

Trustees for Louisiana Federal Trustees

#### Mississippi

Trustees for Mississippi Federal Trustees

#### Alabama

Trustees for Alabama Federal Trustees

#### Florida

Trustees for Florida Federal Trustees

#### Regionwide

All Trustees

#### Open Ocean

Federal Trustees

#### Unknown Conditions and Adaptive Management

All Trustees









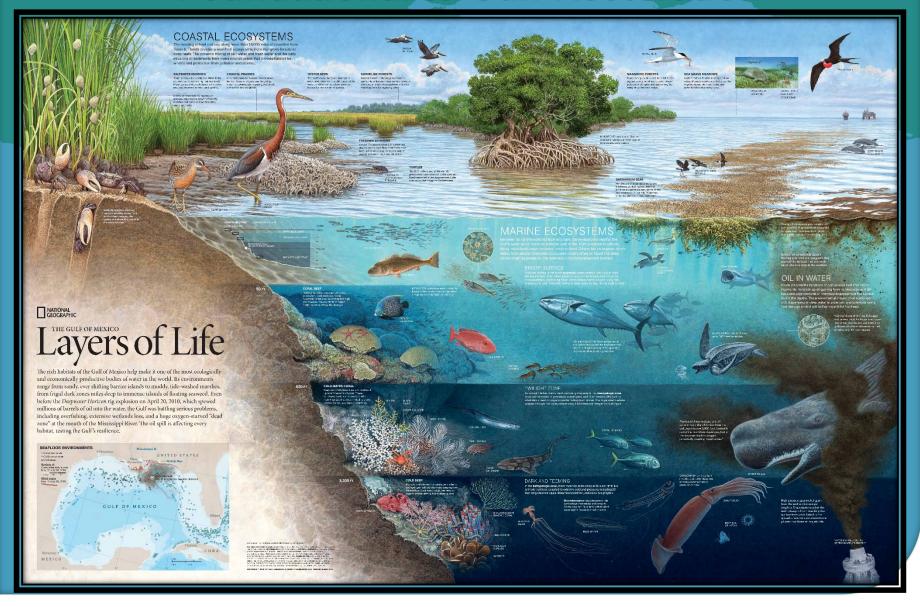








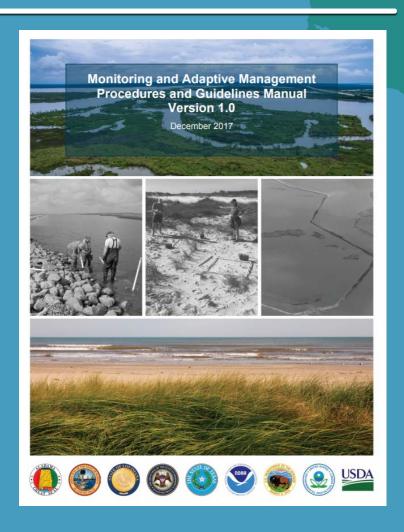
### Monitoring and Adaptive Management (MAM) is Foundational to Gulf Restoration



### MAM Manual Version 1.0

### Released in January 2018 Version 1.0:

- Template and guidance for developing project MAM plans
- Monitoring guidance for beaches, dunes, barrier islands, wetlands, water quality, and recreational use restoration projects
- Data management



### Purpose

- Provide the TIGs with detailed information on:
  - Recommended MAM procedures and guidelines;
  - Guidance for the development of MAM Plans;
  - Guidance on the implementation of MAM at the project, Restoration Type, and programmatic levels;
- To provide transparency to the public, the scientific community, and other stakeholders related to the DWH NRDA restoration planning effort.



#### C. MAM Plan Template

The Cross-TIG MAM work group has established a template and set of guidelines for the development of project-level MAM Plans (Section 10.6.3 of SOP; DWH NRDA Trustees, 2016). This template, in conjunction with the guidance in Section 2.4 and subsections within, is intended to serve as a resource for the TIGs in the development of their project-specific MAM Plans. Collectively, the components of the MAM Plan document the level of MAM needed at the project scale.

- C.1 Introduction
  - C 1.1 Project Overview
  - C.1.2 Restoration Type Goals and Project Restoration Objectives (Section 2.4.1)
  - C.1.3 Conceptual Setting (Section 2.4.2)
  - C.1.3.1Potential Sources of Uncertainty (Section 2.4.3)
- C.2 Project Monitoring (Section 2.4.4)
- C.3 Adaptive Management (Section 2.4.5)
- C.4 Evaluation (Section 2.4.6)
- C.5 Project-Level Decisions: Performance Criteria and Potential Correction Actions (Section 2.4.7)
- C.6 Monitoring Schedule (Section 2.4.4.3)
- C.7 Data Management (Section 2.4.8)
- C.8 Reporting (Section 2.4.9 and Attachment D)
- C.9 Roles and Responsibilities
- C.10 References
- C.11 MAM Plan Revision History

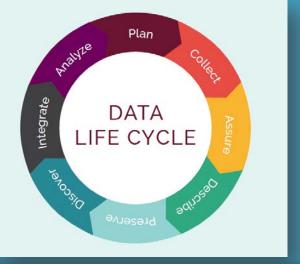
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DWH NRDA Trustees. 2016. Trustee Council Standard Operating Procedures for Implementation of the Natural Resource Restoration for the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) Oil Spill. Originally approved May 4, 2016; revised November 15, 2016.

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Specific
 Measurable
 Achievable
 Results-Oriented
 Time-Fixed



- A. Composition of the Cross-TIG MAM Work Group.
- B. MAM Manual Glossary of Terms .....
- C. MAM Plan Template.....
- D. MAM Report Template.....
- E. Monitoring Guidance.....

## Guidance for MAM Plan Development (Section 2.4)

- Will be developed for all projects other than those selected only for engineering and design (Section 10.3.3 of SOP; DWH NRDA Trustees, 2016b).
- Document the level of MAM at the project scale, which depends on the degree of uncertainty.

#### C. MAM Plan Template

The Cross-TIG MAM work group has established a template and set of guidelines for the development of project-level MAM Plans (Section 10.6.3 of SOP; DWH NRDA Trustees, 2016). This template, in conjunction with the guidance in Section 2.4 and subsections within, is intended to serve as a resource for the TIGs in the development of their project-specific MAM Plans. Collectively, the components of the MAM Plan document the level of MAM needed at the project scale.

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• Specific • Measurable Achievable Results-Oriented • Time-Fixed Plan DATA LIFE CYCLE

- A. Composition of the Cross-TIG MAM Work Group.
- B. MAM Manual Glossary of Terms .....
- C. MAM Plan Template.....
- D. MAM Report Template.....
- E. Monitoring Guidance.....

### **Monitoring Guidance**

#### Recommendations are provided to:

- Promote consistency in data collection across similar projects.
- Facilitate future analysis across TIGs and/or Restoration Types.
- Assist TIGs with recommended methodologies or protocols to save time and resources.

### TIG project teams are responsible for planning restoration and monitoring efforts.

- TIGs will identify restoration projects and objectives.
- TIGs will identify monitoring parameters applicable to the objectives.
- TIGs may use alternate parameters, as applicable.

### **Monitoring Guidance**

December 2017

#### E.2 Create, Restore, and Enhance Coastal Wetlands: Monitoring Guidance

This section is intended to provide guidance to the TIGs as they develop MAM Plans for restoration projects, as appropriate. Specifically, it provides:

- Examples of Restoration Techniques
- Guidance on example restoration objectives, example drivers, and example uncertainties
- Guidance on core performance monitoring parameters for projects within the Restoration Approach
- Guidance on supplemental performance monitoring parameters for specific restoration objectives.

The monitoring parameters identified within a project MAM Plan should be consistent with the recommended monitoring defined within this guidance document, wherever appropriate. Depending on the nature of the restoration project, TIGs may also choose not to include some of the elements described in this guidance document (e.g., drivers, uncertainties). If adjustments from the monitoring guidance are needed, these adjustments should be described in the project-specific MAM Plan and agreed to by the TIG (Section 10.6.3 of SOP; DWH NRDA Trustees, 2016b). The guidance provided in this section should not be considered an exhaustive list. Therefore, TIGs may develop project-level objectives, drivers, uncertainties, and monitoring parameters that have not been previously identified. The TIGs will develop MAM objectives and monitoring parameters that pertain to their restoration activities; and will determine the frequency and duration of monitoring, and the associated budget they deem appropriate. Finally, this section is subject to change as new monitoring parameters, methods, and technologies are identified and/or developed.

#### E.2.1 Restoration Techniques

Restoration Techniques are specific restoration actions the Trustees identified for each of the Restoration Approaches. Restoration Techniques may be used individually or in combination. See Appendix 5.D of the PDARP/PEIS (DWH NRDA Trustees, 2016a). The following are example Restoration Techniques included in the PDARP/PEIS for this Restoration Approach. This list should not be considered exhaustive; additional Restoration Techniques may be developed and/or identified.

- 1. Create or enhance coastal wetlands through placement of dredged material
- 2 Backfill canals
- 3. Restore hydrologic connections to enhance coastal habitats
- 4. Construct breakwaters.

#### E.2.2 Example Project-Level Restoration Objectives

Project-level restoration objectives should be specific to the resource injuries and clearly specify the desired outcome(s) of the restoration project (15 CFR § 990.55(b)(2)). See Section 2.4.1 for guidance on establishing restoration objectives. The following are example project-level restoration objectives that may apply to one or more of the above-mentioned Restoration Techniques. This list should not be considered exhaustive; additional objectives may be developed and/or identified.

- Create or restore intertidal wetland elevations
- Restore targeted coastal wetland hydrology
- Increase or maintain native coastal wetland vegetation
- Restore targeted salinity regime

### Guidance for each Restoration Approach includes:

- Restoration Techniques.
- Project-level restoration objectives.
- Drivers.
- Uncertainties.
- Recommendations on parameters including:
  - Standardized definitions
  - Measurement units
  - Data collection methods
  - Monitoring locations, frequencies, and durations
  - Potential analyses

Guidance is **not** exhaustive.

Monitoring and Adaptive Management Procedures and Guidelines Manual Version 1.0

### Example: Restore and Enhance Dunes and Beaches



Table E.4.1. Core performance monitoring parameters and additional parameters for consideration under the Restore and Enhance Dunes and Beaches Restoration Approach

#### Core performance monitoring parameters

- Area
- · Shoreline position
- Elevation



#### Parameters for consideration (as appropriate)

- Width (beach, dune, island)
- Classification of hardbottom and submerged habitat types
- Position of hardbottom and submerged habitats
- Substratum type
- Relief
- Distribution of sediment within hardbottom habitats
- · Hardbottom persistence or exposure
- Habitat connectivity
- Wave height/energy/attenuation
- Flow magnitude and patterns
- Sediment budget and transport patterns
- · Frequency and extent of overtopping and overwash

## Example: Restore and Enhance Dunes and Beaches

Table E.4.2. Performance monitoring parameters and additional parameters for consideration for projects with specific restoration objectives. These would be collected in addition to the parameters listed in Table E.4.1.

addition to the parameters listed in Tubio E.H. I.									
	Project-specific objective	Objective-specific performance monitoring parameters	Parameters for consideration (as appropriate)						
	beach dune and back-	<ul> <li>Vegetation density</li> <li>Vegetation percent cover</li> <li>Vegetation species composition</li> </ul>	Survival/mortality     Height						
	Reduce sediment loss and erosion and/or reduce	Structural integrity and function of constructed features (beach and dune ures, including groins, and feating and/or.	<ul> <li>Extent of shoreline armoring</li> <li>Sediment depth data, texture, type, consolidation rate</li> <li>Number of protected habitat sites</li> </ul>						



Visitor use and access
 Vegetation density
 Vegetation percent cover
 Vegetation species composition
 Species density/abundance

· Species utilization

### Example: Restore and Enhance Dunes and Beaches

#### E.9.1 Area (measured or modeled, units = m2 or km2)

#### E.9.1.1 Definition

The area influenced by project implementation.

#### E.9.1.2 Restoration Approaches

- Create, Restore, and Enhance Coastal Wetlands
- Create, Restore, and Enhance Barrier and Coastal Islands and Headlands
- Restore and Enhance Dunes and Beaches
- Reduce Nutrient Loads to Coastal Watersheds
- Reduce Pollution and Hydrologic Degradation to Coastal Watersheds.
- Enhance Public Access to Natural Resources for Recreational Use

#### E.9.1.3 Potential Methodologies

#### Field-Based or Remote Sensing Methodologies

Method 1: Project and habitat boundaries can be mapped based on a airplane, helicopter, unmanned aerial systems (UAS); high-resolution appropriate remote sensing platforms. Imagery used to map wetland I true color and infrared bands, and have a spatial resolution of 1 meter comparison of different remote sensing platforms commonly used for Klemas (2011) and Klemas (2013). For additional information on the unapping, see Klemas (2015), Madden et al. (2015), Zweig et al. (2011 (2017). Source imagery should be orthorectified [i.e., free from distortion optics, sensor tilt, and differences in elevation; see Rufe (2014)]. Colle



## Example: Create, Restore, and Enhance Coastal Wetlands

#### Core parameters:

- Area.
- Elevation.
- Vegetation survival.
- Vegetation % cover and composition.

#### Objective-specific:

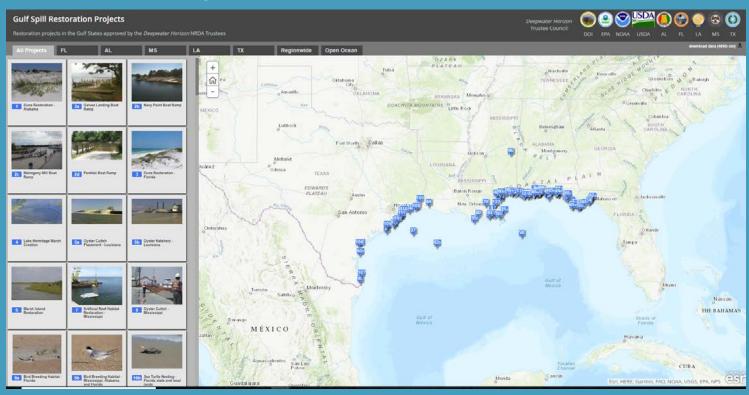
Restore hydrologic connectivity.

Table E.2.2. Performance monitoring parameters and additional parameters for consideration for projects with specific restoration objectives. These would be collected in addition to the parameters listed in Table E.2.1.

Project-specific objective	performance monitoring parameters	Parameters for consideration (as appropriate)
Restore targeted salinity regime	Salinity (surface water)	Salinity (porewater)
Reduce shoreline erosion rate	Shoreline position     Structural integrity and function of constructed features	Sediment consolidation Elevation Wave height Wave energy Wave attenuation Fetch Longshore drift and currents
Restore hydrologic connectivity	Channel dimensions <sup>1, b</sup> Structural integrity and function of constructed features	Sediment deposition Salinity (surface water) Surface water nutrients Dissolved oxygen Soil nutrients Soil moisture Velocity (water) in channels, culverts* Discharge*.b
Provide habitat for fish and invertebrate species	Channel dimensions*     Wetland edge     Nekton/epibenthos abundance, density, and composition     Nekton diversity	Nekton length/width Nekton biomass Infauna/epifauna composition Infauna/epifauna density Infauna/epifauna biomass Abundance/density of predators for targeted species Salinity (surface water) Temperature Dissolved oxygen Velocity (in channels, culverts)**.b Abundance of preferred food/prey species for targeted species
Provide habitat for birds	Area (by targeted habitat types)     Bird abundance/density and species composition	Bird habitat utilization (staging, loafing, feeding, etc.) Bird nest density Nest success Nest success Nest predation rate Abundance/density of predators for targeted species Abundance/density of preferred food/prey species for targeted species

### Data Management

- DIVER Deepwater Horizon NRDA Restoration Management Portal:
  - Project Tracking Database



Overview

Components

Activities

As-Builts Monitoring

g Env Compliance

Budget

Contacts

Document

#### **Louisiana Outer Coast Restoration**

Project ID: 35 | Project Status: In Progress



#### Description:

The Louisiana Outer Coast Restoration project involves the restoration of beach, dune, and back-barrier marsh habitats, as well as brown pelicans, terns, skimmers, and gulls at four barrier island locations in Louisiana: Chenier Ronquille, Shell Island, North Breton Island, and Caillou Lake Headlands (also known as Whiskey Island on Ilse Dernieres State Refuge). The State of Louisiana, NOAA, and DOI are working cooperatively on this project. Construction is complete on Chenier Ronquille and Shell Island. Construction is ongoing on Caillou Lake Headlands and Breton Island is currently in the design phase.

#### Component(s):

- North Breton Island Restoration
- Caillou Lake Headlands Barrier Island Restoration
- Chenier Ronguille Barrier Island Restoration
- · Shell Island (East and West Lobes) Barrier Island Restoration

#### Trustee Implementation Group(s):

Louisiana

#### Implementing Trustee(s):

- · Department of the Interior (DOI)
- Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA)
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)
- Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR)
- Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (LDWF)
- · Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office (LOSCO)
- · National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

#### Restoration Type(s):

- · Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats
- Birds

#### Restoration Phase:

Early Restoration Phase 3

#### Site Location(s):





Overview Components Activities As-Builts Monitoring Env Compliance Budget Contacts Documents

Expand All | Collapse All Documents Available

#### Monitoring

#### ■ North Breton Island Restoration

Monitoring Framework: Barrier Island Restoration, Dune Restoration

#### Restoration Objectives:

Provide nesting habitat which facilitates additional production of brown pelicans, terns, skimmers and gulls (helping to restore injuries to these species).

#### Comments:

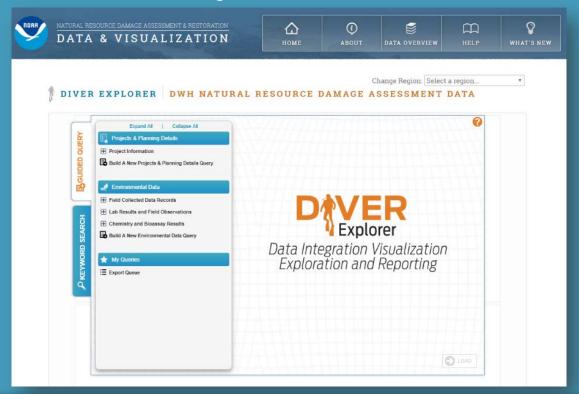
Louisiana, NOAA and DOI collaborated to develop a project monitoring plan to help inform project success. The plan (titled Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Monitoring Plan, Phase III Early Restoration, Louisiana Outer Coast Restoration Project) outlines a proposed strategy to collect data which will help inform the success of the constructed design within the context of the analyzed dynamics of the Breton Island system. This plan will be implemented at Breton following construction of the selected restoration design.

Monitoring Category	Parameter	Info	Frequency	Performance Target	Target Date	Approx. Start	Approx. End	Target Achieved	Comments
Performance Monitoring	Percent cover		Spring/Summer of 2022, 2025, 2029, and 2033			04/22/2022	07/15/2028		
Performance Monitoring	Area	Acres of Habitat	Shortly after completion, and at least 2 additional events (2024 and 2028).			03/22/2021	03/18/2028		
Performance Monitoring	Shoreline position		3 times post- construction			03/22/2022	03/18/2028		
Performance Monitoring	Presence or absence	Map colony boundaries	annual surveys conducted for 10 years post- construction			06/22/2021	06/19/2028		
Performance Monitoring	Reproductive output		annual surveys conducted for 10 years post- construction			07/22/2021	07/18/2028		
	Performance Monitoring  Performance Monitoring  Performance Monitoring  Performance Monitoring  Performance Monitoring	Performance Monitoring Percent cover  Performance Monitoring Area  Performance Monitoring Shoreline position  Performance Monitoring Presence or absence  Performance Reproductive	Performance Monitoring Percent cover  Performance Monitoring Area Acres of Habitat  Performance Monitoring Shoreline Position  Performance Monitoring Presence or absence Monitoring Colony boundaries  Performance Reproductive	Performance Monitoring  Percent cover  Performance Monitoring  Performance Mon	Performance Monitoring  Percent cover  Performance Monitoring  Performance Monitoring  Area  Acres of Habitat  Acres of Habitat  Performance Monitoring  Reproductive output  Reproductive output  Spring/Summer of 2022, 2025, 2029, and 2033  Shortly after completion, and at least 2 additional events (2024 and 2028).  3 times post-construction  annual surveys conducted for 10 years post-construction  annual surveys conducted for 10 years post-	Performance Monitoring  Percent cover  Performance Monitoring  Performance Monitoring  Area  Acres of Habitat  Performance Monitoring  Presence or absence  Map colony boundaries  Acres of Habitat  Shortly after completion, and at least 2 additional events (2024 and 2028).  3 times post-construction  annual surveys conducted for 10 years post-construction  Performance Monitoring  Reproductive output  Reproductive output  Acres of Habitat  Acres of Acres of Habitat  Acres of Habitat  Acres of Habitat  Acres	Performance Monitoring Percent cover Spring/Summer of 2022, 2025, 2029, and 2033 04/22/2022  Performance Monitoring Area Acres of Habitat Acres of Habitat Performance Monitoring Performance Monitoring Performance Monitoring Performance Monitoring Performance Monitoring Performance Monitoring Performance Presence or Monitoring Performance Monitoring Reproductive Colony boundaries Sound Spring	Performance Monitoring Percent cover Spring/Summer of 2022, 2025, 2029, and 2033  Shortly after completion, and at least 2 additional events (2024 and 2028).  Performance Monitoring Presence or Monitoring Presence or Monitoring Presence or Monitoring Performance Monitoring Reproductive output Performance Performance Monitoring Reproductive output O7/12/2021 O7/18/2028  Performance Reproductive output O7/12/2021 O7/18/2028    Date Start End     Colory 10 2025, 2025, 2029, and 2033     Colory 2029, and 2033     Colory 2029, and 2033     Colory 2029, and 2033     Colory 2024     Colory 2024     Colory 2024     Colory 2025     Colory 2026     Colory 2027     Colory 2028     Colory 2028     Colory 2028     Colory 2029     Colory	Performance Monitoring Percent cover Spring/Summer of 2022, 2025, 2029, and 2033 04/22/2022 07/15/2028    Shortly after completion, and at least 2 additional events (2024 and 2028).    Performance Monitoring Presence or Monitoring Presence or Monitoring Performance Monitoring Reproductive absence Reproductive output Reproductive Start End Achieved Prof. Achieved Poster Start End Achieved Prof. Achieved O4/22/2022 07/15/2028 0

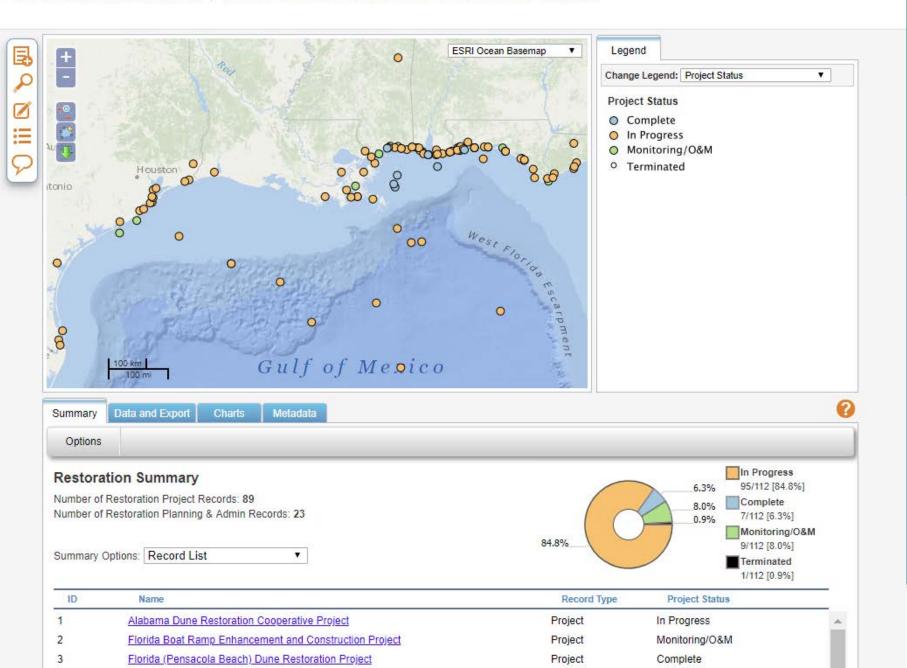
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### Data Management

- DIVER Deepwater Horizon NRDA Restoration Management Portal:
  - Project Tracking Database
  - Restoration Monitoring Database

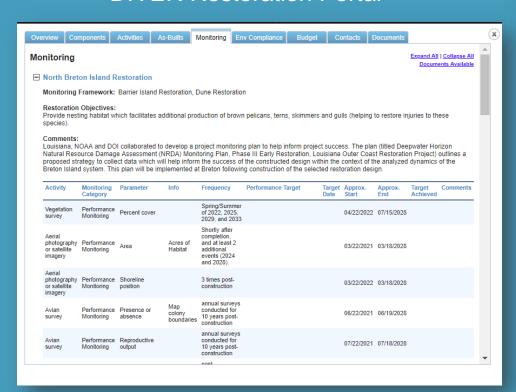


#### DIVER EXPLORER DWH RESTORATION PROJECT DATA



### Reporting

- Reporting on status of MAM **Activities** 
  - **DIVER Restoration Portal**





status of the project as of Dec

Alabama Oyster Cultch Restoration 2017 Annual Report

#### PROJECT SUMMARY

This project will enhance and improve the oyster populations in the estuarine waters of Alabama. The project will place approximately 30,000 to 40,000 cubic yards of suitable oyster shell cultch over approximately 319 acres of subtidal habitat in Mobile County, Alabama, in proximity to other oyster reefs currently managed by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) and within the historic footprint of oyster reefs in the area.

Trustee Implementation Group(s)	Alabama			
Implementing Trustee(s)	Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (ADCNR)			
Restoration Type(s)	Oysters			
Project Status	Monitoring/O&M			
Restoration Phase	Early Restoration Phase 3			
Multiple Component Project?	No			
General Location(s)	Alabama			

#### KEY PHOTO



### Reporting

- Reporting on status of MAM Activities
  - DIVER Restoration Portal
- Reporting on Restoration Projects
  - Final MAM Report developed once a project is complete includes:
    - Evaluation of project monitoring data;
    - Project outcomes, including lessons learned or uncertainties addressed;
    - Considerations for planning and implementing future projects;
    - Any additional information deemed relevant by the Implementing Trustee(s) or TIG.

### Monitoring Final Report Year 1-3 (2014-2016) MISSISSIPPI ARTIFICIAL REEF HABITAT EARLY RESTORATION PROJECT

Submitted by

The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Research Laboratory



to

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

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Deepwater Horizon

NRDA Early Restoration Project Comprehensive Final Monitoring

Report:

#### Louisiana Oyster Cultch Project

Prepared by: Louisiana Natural Resource Trustees

May 2016

#### Introduction

The Louisiana Natural Resource Trustees (Trustees) selected the Louisiana Oyster Cultch Project (project) as a Phase I Deepwater Horizon (DWH) early restoration project to compensate the public for injury to oysters (Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Natural Resource Trustees, 2012). The project involves (1) placing oyster cultch onto public oyster areas at six locations in coastal Louisiana, (2) monitoring oyster recruitment and production in restored areas to assess performance against specific criteria, and (3) constructing an oyster hatchery potentians and produce supplemental larvae and seed to help facilitate success of the cultch plantings, if necessary. This document provides the status and performance of this project based on project-specific monitoring activities conducted through May 2015.

This document describes cultch placement activities in detail. This includes a summary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF)-led project-specific sampling methods to monitor the cultch plant sites, followed by project-specific monitoring data results of oyster recruitment and production at project cultch sites. A description of the oyster hatchery facility is also included.

### Reporting

- TIGs will aggregate monitoring data annually and provide updates as part of the Annual Trustee Council meeting
- Programmatic reviews approximately every 5 years

#### Gulf Spill Restoration: Two Years After Settlement

Posted on April 20, 2018 | Trustee Council

It's been two years since we settled with BP and began implementing our programmatic plan to restore the Gulf. Since then, we've been busy planning, implementing restoration, and hearing from you about what restoration should look like, 2017 shaped up to be a success and we look forward to continued progress this year as well.

#### 2017 Outreach and Planning

The Trustee Council held its second annual public meeting in November 2017. We gave an update on our work since the settlement and described restoration planning activities and opportunities for public engagement. This is one of many public meetings held to hear from you on your Gulf restoration priorities.



released on Chenier Ronguille Barrier Island, LA

There were one or more meetings for each of the several restoration plans completed by Trustee Implementation Groups in 2017.

- · Louisiana's plan focuses on wetlands, coastal and nearshore habitats, habitat projects on federally managed lands, and birds.
- Mississippi's plan focuses on wetlands, coastal and nearshore habitat, birds, and nutrient reduction.
- · Alabama's plan focuses on recreational use.
- Texas's plan focuses on wetlands, coastal and nearshore habitats, and oysters.

#### 2017 Projects and Trustee Council Initiatives

We also completed a number of early restoration projects that were approved prior to the 2016 settlement.

- Restored Chenier Ronguille Barrier Island in Louisiana and released diamondback terrapins there to help support the
- Placed 62,000 cubic yards of oyster cultch over approximately 300 acres in three Florida panhandle bays.
- . Developed three new artificial reef sites in Texas, including sinking the cargo vessel Kraken as part of the state's Ship-to-reef
- · Re-opened Jeff Friend Trail at Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge, which was restored to address recreational opportunities lost as a result of the oil spill.

To assist with restoration planning, the Trustees for the Region-wide TIG developed and released four strategic frameworks - one each for marine mammals, sea turtles, oysters, and birds.

Additionally, we developed and released the Monitoring and Adaptive Management Manual, which recommends procedures and guidelines for monitoring needed to evaluate restoration outcomes and benefits to injured resources.

Meanwhile, work continued on a number of restoration projects in 2017.

. Building three more barrier islands in Louisiana



#### **Deepwater Horizon Trustee Council Annual Financial Summary Report**

(Cumulative through December 31, 2017)

The Deepwater Horizon natural resource damage assessment settlement mandates annual payments over a 15-year period. The payments total \$8.8 billion, for use by the state and federal trustees for restoration planning and implementation. This annual report details the status of the receipt, allocation, and expenditure of funds through December 31, 2017. The terms used in this report are defined as follows:

Funds Received - Funds received from BP and any interest earned on those funds.

Allocated

- Funds that have been transferred to an implementing trustee for the purposes of restoration activities.

Unallocated - Funds that have not yet been allocated to a specific restoration activity.

Expended - Allocated funds that have been paid out by the implementing trustees for restoration activities.

Unexpended - Allocated funds that have not vet been paid out.

#### Summary of Funds Received and Allocated:

The following table breaks down the receipt and allocation of funds by Trustee Implementation Group (TIG).

		Alabama TIG	Florida TIG	Louisiana TIG	Mississippi TIG	Texas TIG	Open Ocean TIG	Regionwide TIG	Total
	Funds Received	\$ 146,746,006.96	\$ 191,737,812.19	\$ 698,146,270.05	\$ 144,911,630.05	\$ 117,882,884.02	\$ 157,954,168.52	\$ 56,601,115.83	\$ 1,513,979,887.62
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## Additional Content for Future Versions

- Monitoring guidance for additional Restoration Approaches
  - Land Conservation, SAV, Oysters, Birds, Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, Fish, Deep Benthic/Mesophotic Resources
- Procedures for evaluation of progress towards restoration goals
- Procedures for reviewing existing information to identify emerging "unknown conditions"









## Next Steps: Programmatic Evaluation

- Develop mechanisms for evaluating collective progress towards meeting Restoration Type goals
- Assess relative success of Restoration Approaches
- Evaluate collective progress toward the preferred alternative – an "integrated, ecosystem approach to restoration"
- Contribute to Programmatic Reports

Pilot study to focus on the Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats Restoration Type

#### http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/

http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/monitoring-and-adaptive-management

