Deepwater Horizon
Natural Resources Damage Assessment
Texas Trustee Implementation Group

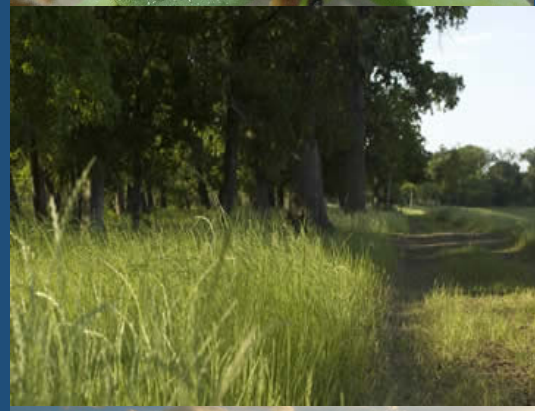
23rd Annual Lower Rio Grand Valley Water Quality Management and Planning Conference - 2021




Agenda

- NRDA and Deepwater Horizon
- Funding in Texas
- Active Project Updates
- Next Plan





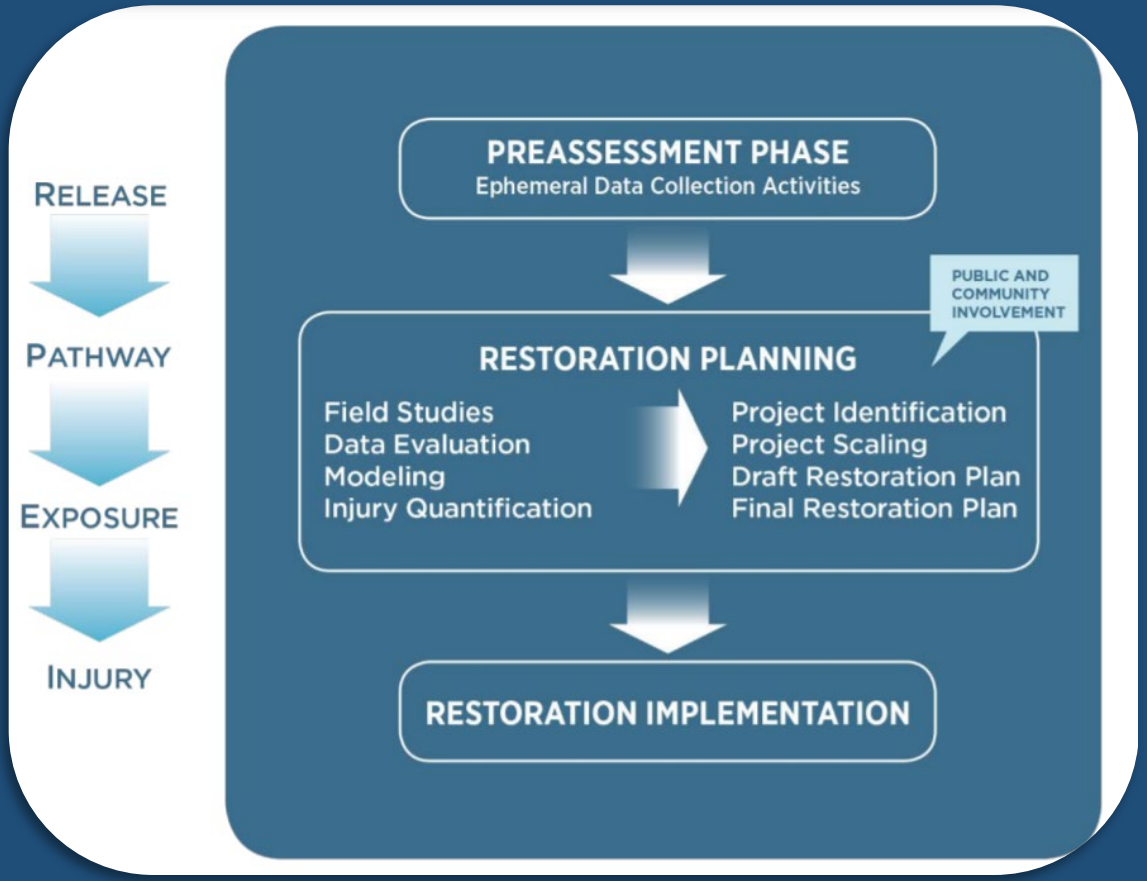

Natural Resource Damage Assessment

Authority: Oil Pollution Act of 1990

Trustees: Designated federal, state, and tribal agencies

Responsibilities:

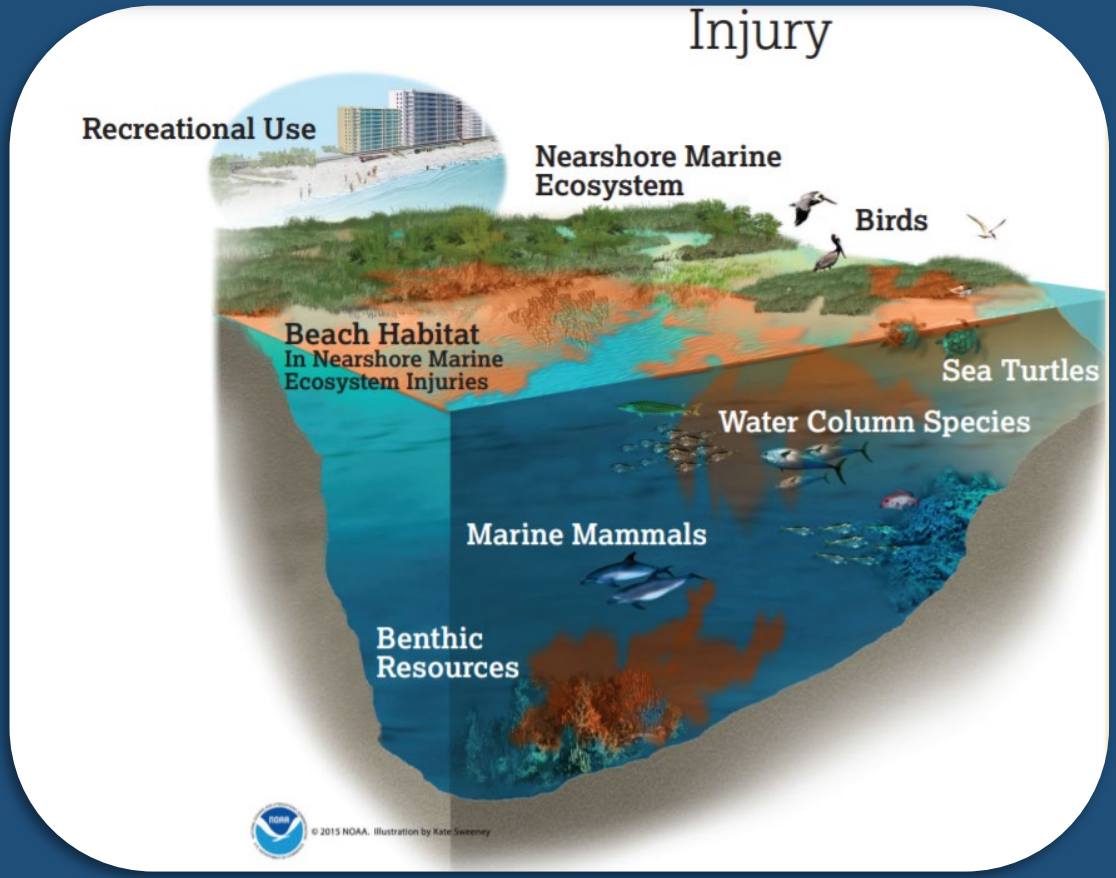
- Determine injury to natural resources and ecosystem services
- Assess damages for injuries to recover and restore natural resources and services
- Recover damages or restoration to compensate the public for those injuries



Goal: Restore injured natural resources to baseline condition and to replace ecosystem services lost while the habitat was contaminated, effectively making the environment and public whole

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

- In April 2010, the Deepwater Horizon mobile drilling unit exploded, caught fire, and sank
- Killed 11 workers and injured 17
- Discharged 3.19 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico over 87 days
- Injured wildlife, habitats, and ecological functions
- Adversely affected recreational opportunities



Impacted shoreline and state waters of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Florida and in the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico

2016 Final Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan and Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PDARP)

Injury Quantification:

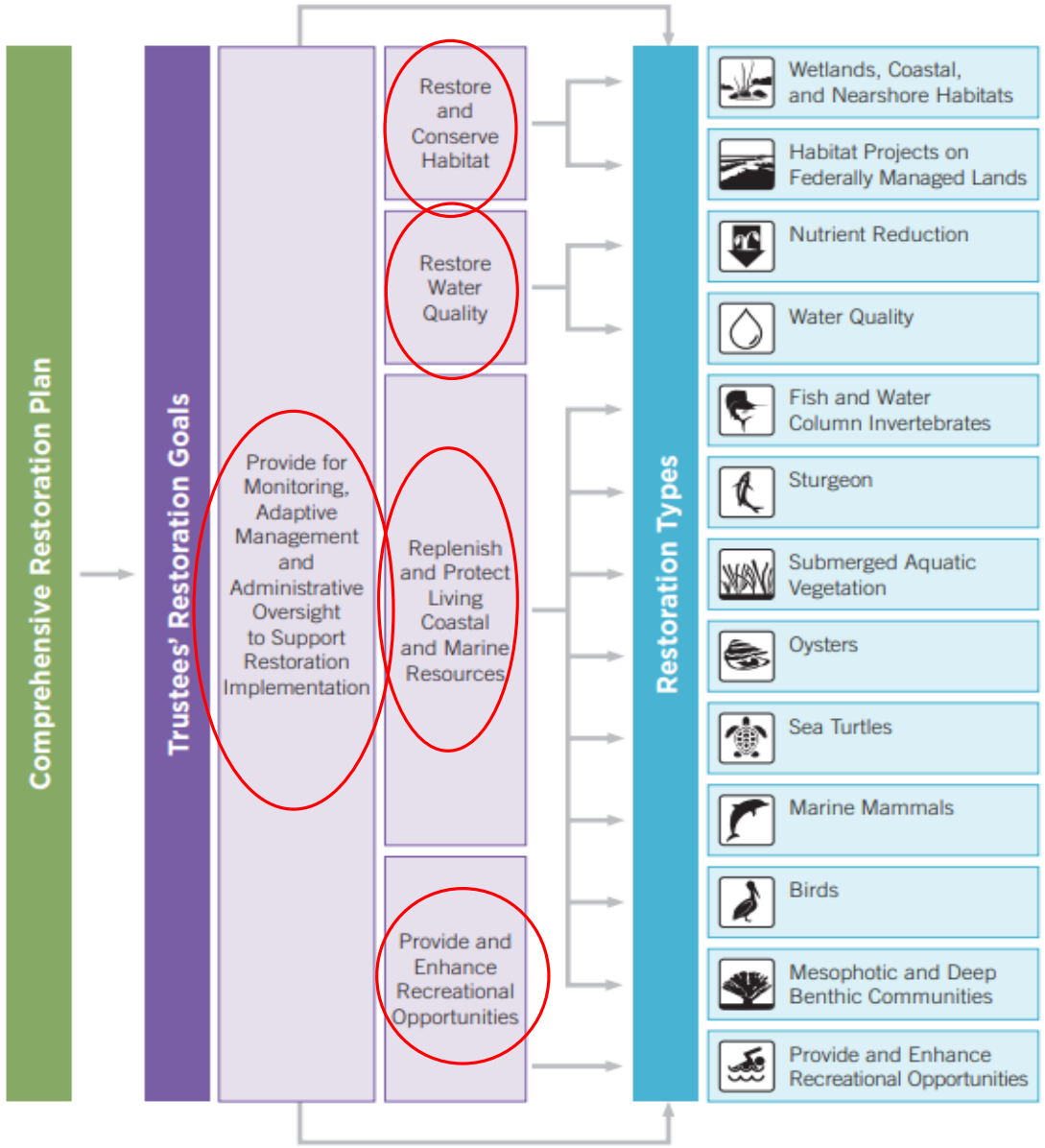
- Determines nature and extent of injuries to natural resources and services

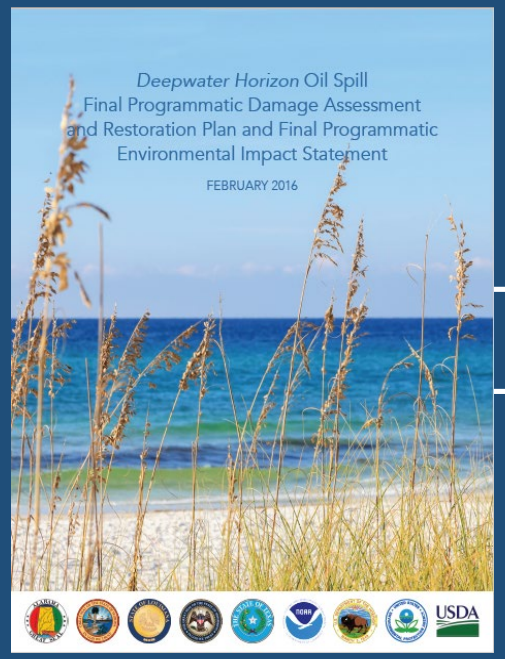
Restoration Planning:

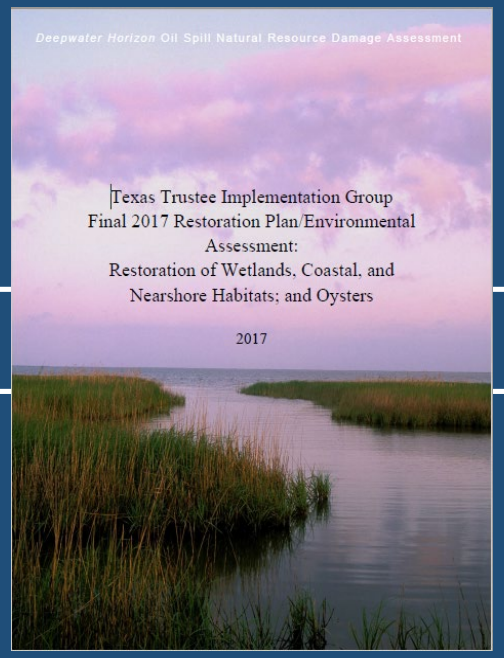
- Establishes restoration goals
- Identifies type and amount of restoration needed to compensate for the impacts
- Identifies approaches and techniques for restoration and monitoring

Damages:

- Allocates restoration funding for specific restoration types by geographic area







PDARP

- Framework document for future project-specific restoration plans
- Identifies approaches and techniques for restoration

Restoration Plans

- Identifies specific projects for restoration types established in PDARP
- Multiple restoration plans released over time
- Projects must be consistent with restoration goals, types, approaches, and techniques identified in PDARP

Restoration Projects

- Multiple restoration projects under each restoration plan
- Must be implemented in accordance with PDARP and restoration plan

Texas Trustee Implementation Group

Responsible for planning and implementing restoration activities within the Texas Restoration Area

- Identify, develop, and evaluate project alternatives
- Draft restoration plans identifying proposed projects
- Engage the public for comment on restoration plans
- Select and implement restoration projects
- Conduct monitoring and adaptive management
- Documenting actions in the Administrative Record which is available to the public

Texas TIG Agencies

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Department Of the Interior

United States Department of Agriculture

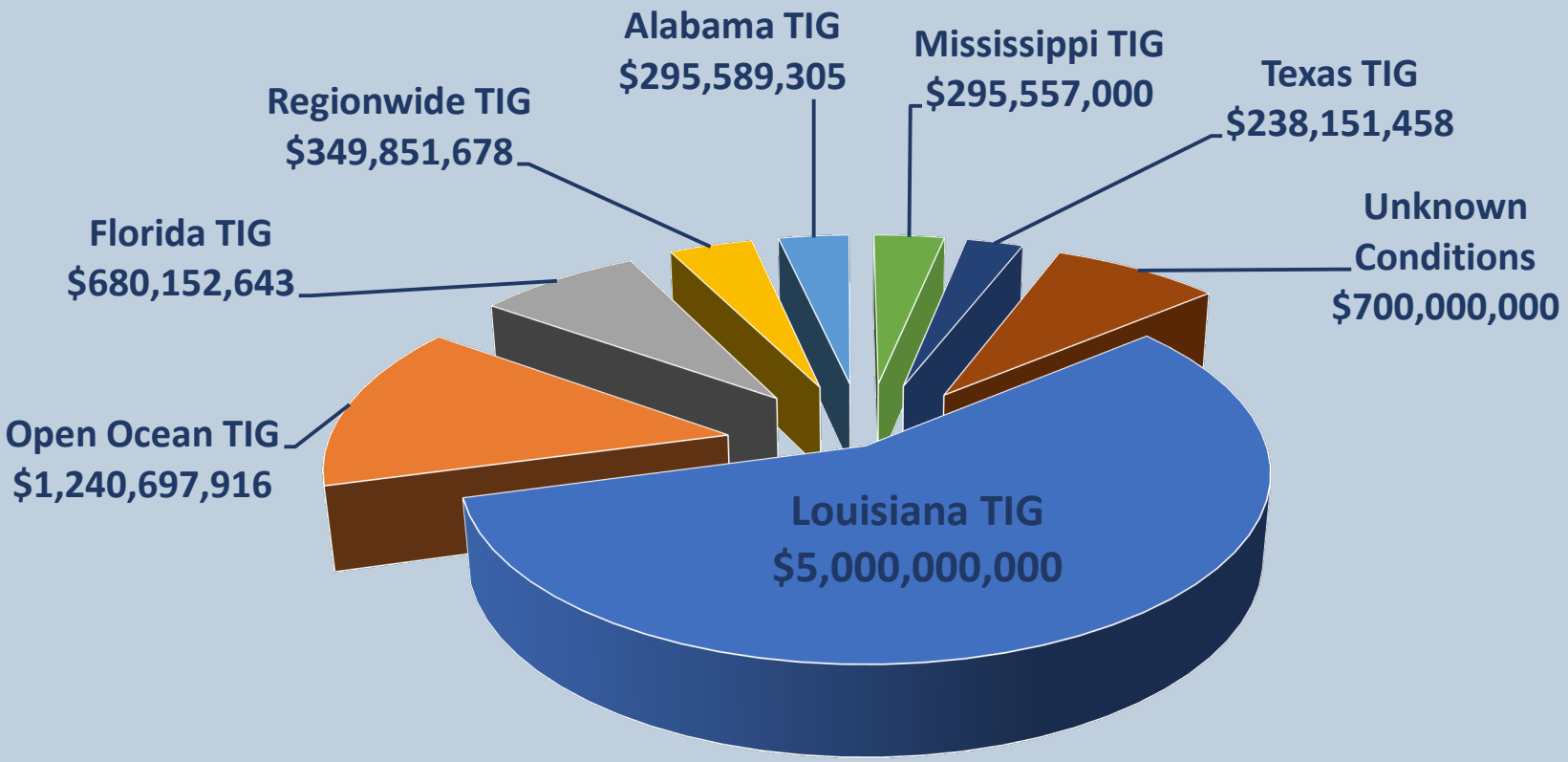
United States Environmental Protection Agency

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Texas General Land Office

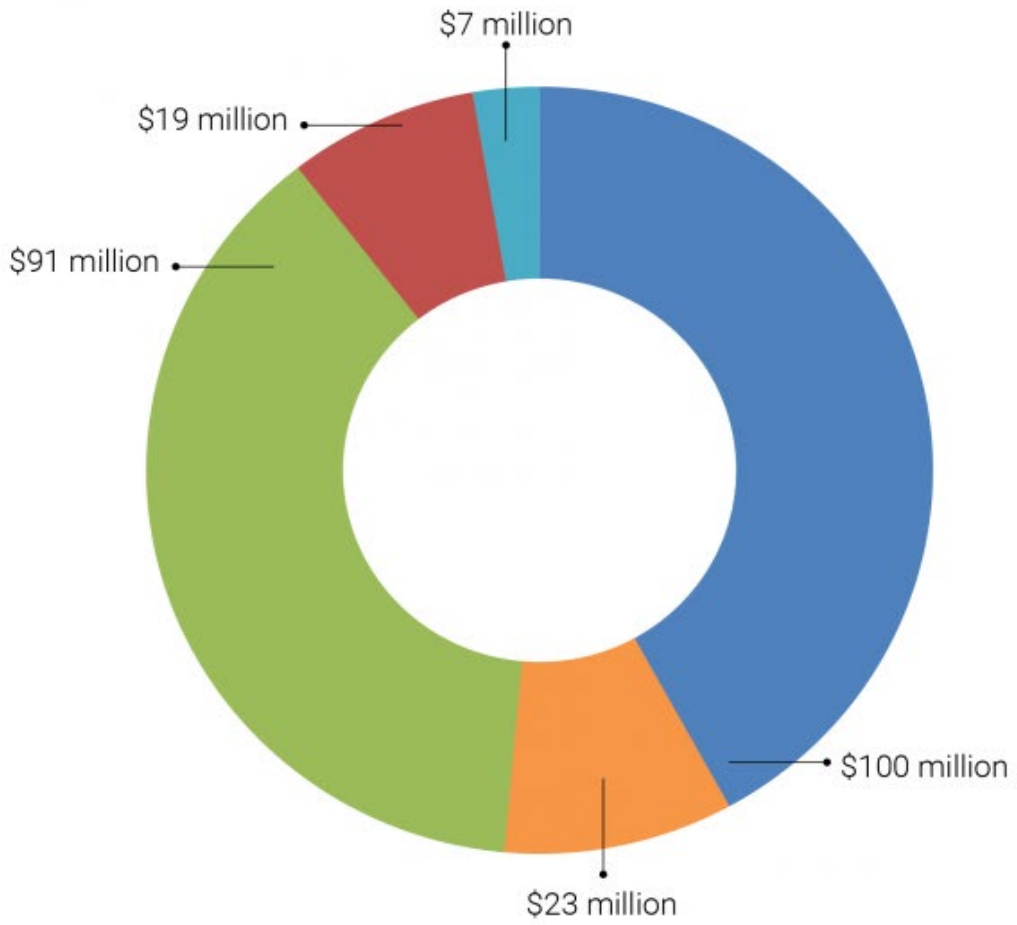
Total Allocation



Deepwater Horizon NRDA Restoration Funding

Major Restoration Categories	Unknown Conditions	Region-wide	Open Ocean	Alabama	Florida	Louisiana	Mississippi	Texas	Total Restoration Funding[a]
1. RESTORE AND CONSERVE HABITAT									
Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats				**65,000,000**	**5,000,000**	**4,009,062,700**	**55,500,000**	**100,000,000**	**4,234,562,700**
Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands				**3,000,000**	**17,500,000**	**50,000,000**	**5,000,000**		**75,500,000**
Early Restoration Projects (through Phase IV)				28,110,000	15,629,367	259,625,700	80,000,000		383,365,067
2. RESTORE WATER QUALITY									
Nutrient Reduction (Nonpoint Source)				**5,000,000**	**35,000,000**	**20,000,000**	**27,500,000**	**22,500,000**	**110,000,000**
Water Quality (e.g. Stormwater Treatments, Hydrologic Restoration, Reduction of Sedimentation, etc.					**300,000,000**				**300,000,000**
3. REPLENISH AND PROTECT LIVING COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES									
Fish and Water Column Invertebrates			**380,000,000**						**380,000,000**
Early Restoration Fish and Water Column			20,000,000						20,000,000
Sturgeon			**15,000,000**						**15,000,000**
Sea Turtles		**60,000,000**	**55,000,000**	**5,500,000**	**20,000,000**	**10,000,000**	**5,000,000**	**7,500,000**	**163,000,000**
Early Restoration Sea Turtles		29,256,165						19,965,000	49,221,165
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation						**22,000,000**			**22,000,000**
Marine Mammals		**19,000,000**	**55,000,000**	**5,000,000**	**5,000,000**	**50,000,000**	**10,000,000**		**144,000,000**
Birds		**70,400,000**	**70,000,000**	**30,000,000**	**40,000,000**	**148,500,000**	**25,000,000**	**20,000,000**	**403,900,000**
Early Restoration Birds		1,823,100		145,000	2,835,000	71,937,300		20,603,770	97,344,170
Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities			**273,300,000**						**273,300,000**
Oysters		**63,372,413**		**10,000,000**	**20,000,000**	**26,000,000**	**20,000,000**	**22,500,000**	**162,872,413**
Early Restoration Oysters				3,329,000	5,370,596	14,874,300	13,600,000		37,173,896
4. PROVIDE AND ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES									
Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities				**25,000,000**	**63,274,513**	**38,000,000**	**5,000,000**		**131,274,513**
Early Restoration of Recreational Loss			23,397,916	85,505,305	120,543,167	22,000,000	18,957,000	18,582,688	287,986,076
5. MONITORING, ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT, AND ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT									
Monitoring and Adaptive Management		**65,000,000**	**200,000,000**	**10,000,000**	**10,000,000**	**225,000,000**	**7,500,000**	**2,500,000**	**520,000,000**
Administrative Oversight and Comprehensive Planning		**40,000,000**	**150,000,000**	**20,000,000**	**20,000,000**	**33,000,000**	**22,500,000**	**4,000,000**	**289,500,000**
Adaptive Management NRD Payment for Unknown Conditions	700,000,000								**700,000,000**
TOTAL NRD FUNDING	**$700,000,000**	**$349,851,678**	**$1,240,697,916**	**$295,589,305**	**$680,152,643**	**$5,000,000,000**	**$295,557,000**	**$238,151,458**	

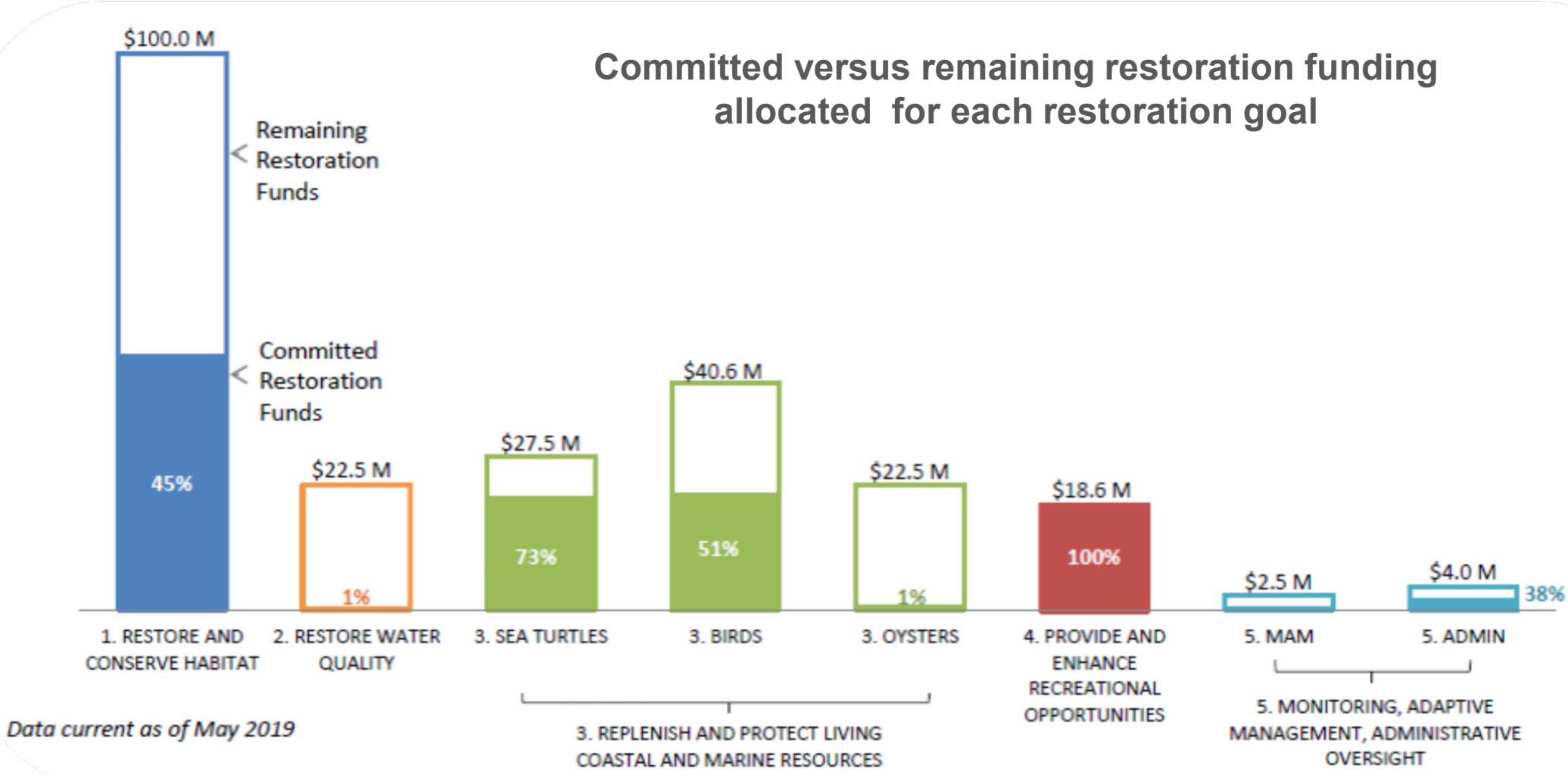
Texas Allocation of Restoration Funds



Restoration funding allocated to the Texas Restoration Area for each restoration goal

- Restore and Conserve Habitat
- Restore Water Quality
- Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources
- Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities
- Monitoring, Adaptive Management, Administrative Oversight

Commitment of Restoration Funds



Where to find more NRDA information

GULF SPILL RESTORATION

Website maintained by NOAA on behalf of the Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees

Home | About Us | How We Restore | Restoration Areas | Data | Media & News | Google™ Custom Search

Home \ Restoration Areas \ Texas Restoration Area

Texas Restoration Area

Restoration work in the Texas Restoration Area will focus on restoring wetlands and other coastal habitats and reducing nonpoint source pollution. We will also restore wildlife injured by the spill, including oysters, birds, and sea turtles.

Together, the trustees will restore natural resources—and the services they provide—that were injured by the spill. We will develop project-specific restoration plans, consistent with the **programmatic restoration plan** (see chart below). As part of the restoration planning process, we will accept restoration project ideas from the public. The public will also have the opportunity to review and comment on any proposed project-specific restoration plans for the Texas Restoration Area. Once approved, we will then begin implementation and monitoring of the selected projects.

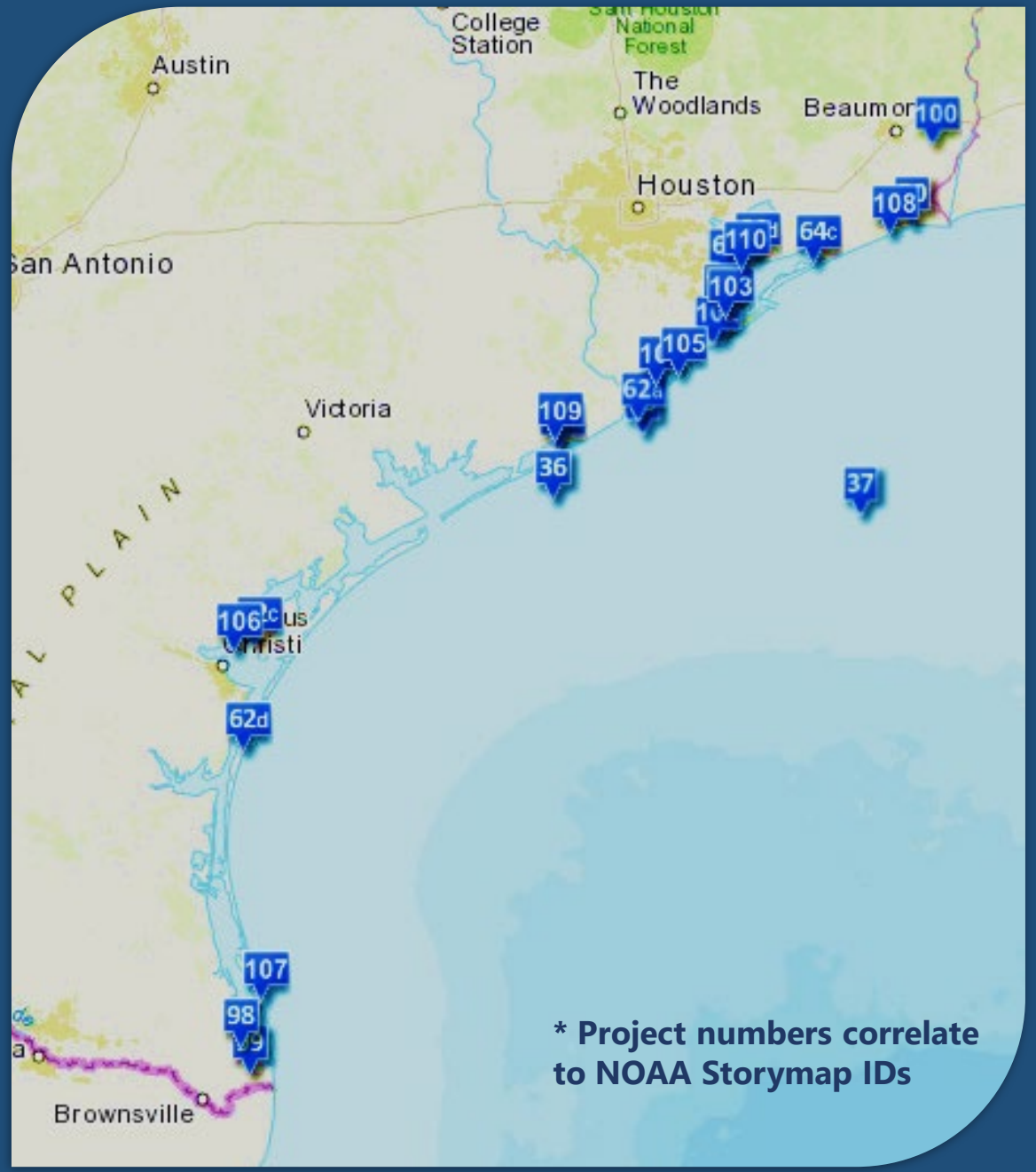
https://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/texas

Texas Trustee Implementation Group Projects in Progress

Current NRDA Projects

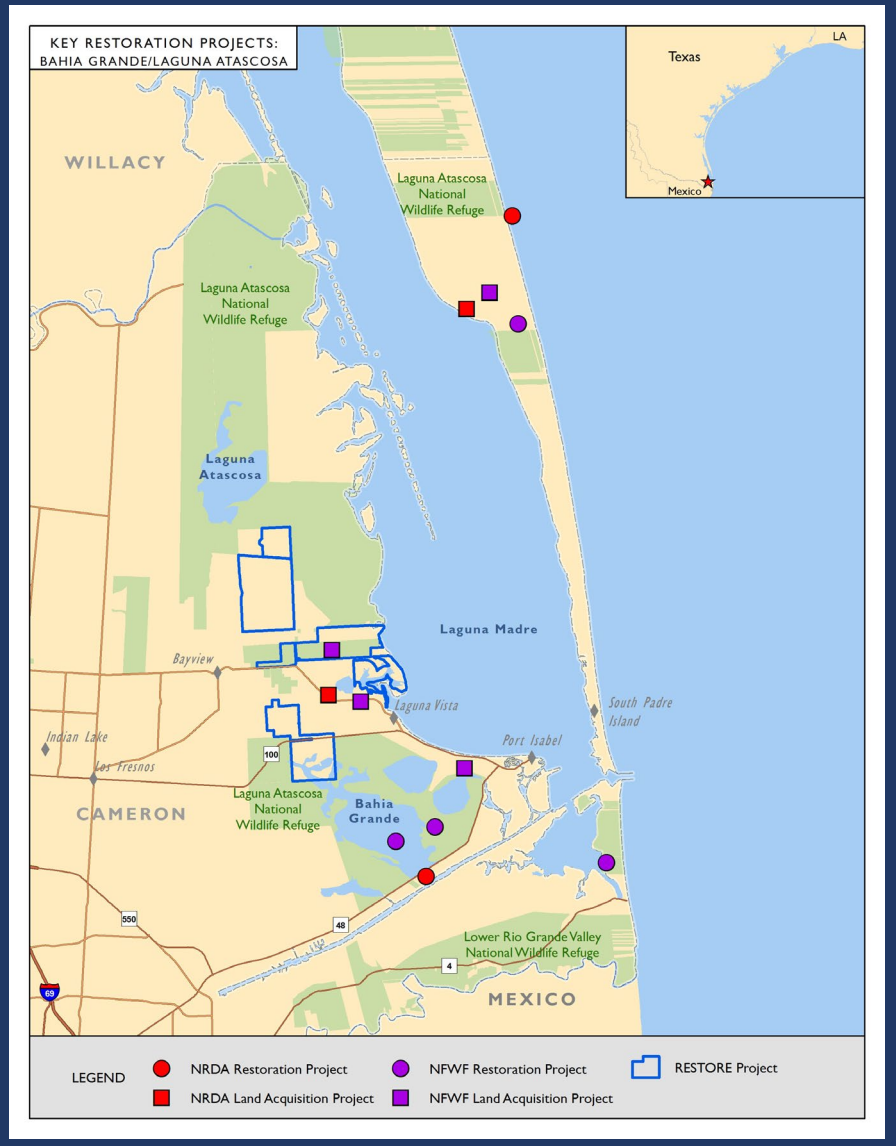
Twenty (20) active projects along the Texas coast include:

- Hydrologic and wetland restoration
- Habitat acquisition
- Park redevelopment and improvements
- Oyster restoration
- Artificial reef construction
- Sea turtle restoration
- Rookery Island construction

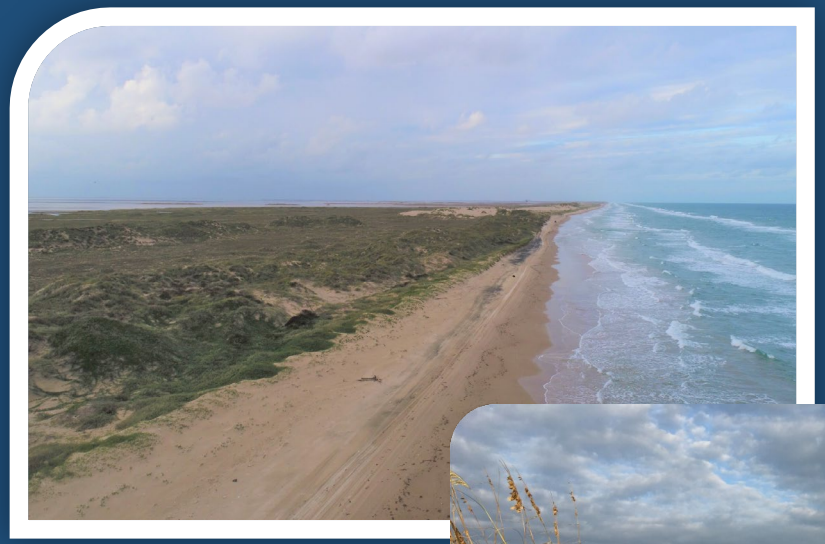


Featured Project Area - Lower Laguna Madre/Bahia Grande

- TX TIG took a landscape approach to selecting restoration projects using NFWF, RESTORE, and DWH NRDA funds



Laguna Atascosa Habitat Acquisition



Location: South Padre Island, Texas

Description:

- Acquisition of important coastal habitat conveyed to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge
- Targets acquisition of over 3,000 acres of beach, dune, and tidal habitats

Benefits: Wetlands, coastal and nearshore habitats

Sea Turtle Restoration

- Enhance hatchling productivity and restore and conserve nesting beach habitat
  - Provide education and outreach
  - Protect nests and nesting beaches
  - Enhance nesting beach restoration and resiliency
- Reduce bycatch through enhanced training and outreach, or enforcement
- Increase survival through enhanced mortality investigation and response

Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor

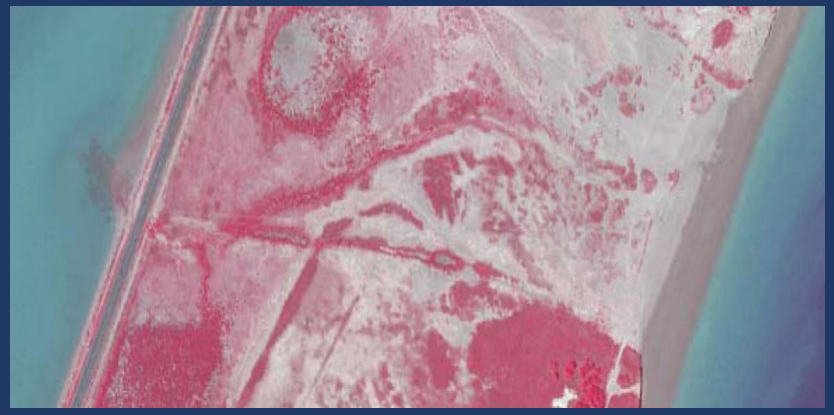
- **Holly Beach Acquisition:** ~ 1,300 acres of habitat with 3 miles of frontage on the Lower Laguna Madre and Laguna Vista Cove

- Connect Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge with habitats stretching into Mexico

Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor Hydrologic Restoration Project

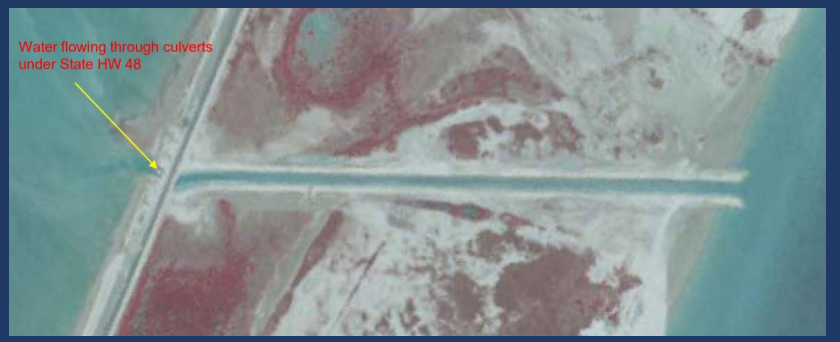
Channel History

Closed when Highway 48 was built



Dust Issues Result

Pilot Channel Dredged



Widen and Deepen the Chanel

- Pilot Channel - 2.5% tidal exchange/2 mil cu ft/tide

  (Salinity > 100 ppt with no significant plant & animal survival)

- Main Channel 16-30% tidal exchange/90 mil cu ft/tide

"PILOT" CHANNEL
15-FOOT BOTTOM WIDTH, -3 FEET BELOW MEAN SEA LEVEL)
APPROXIMATE COST: $90,000.00

"MAIN" CHANNEL
150-FOOT BOTTOM WIDTH, -9 FEET BELOW MEAN SEA LEVEL)
APPROXIMATE COST: $700,000 TO $1.4 MILLION

Immediate Benefits of the Project

Wetland Habitat for Wildlife and Waterfowl

Nursery and Habitat for Fish and Shellfish

Public Recreation

Next Restoration Plan:

Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment #2

Solicited Projects – Fall 2020

Restore the Texas Coast Website

Trustee Council's project idea submission portal

Project screening – Winter 2020/2021

Develop Draft Plan including proposed projects

Release Draft Plan for public review and comment – late 2021/early 2022

Address public comments, write and release final plan – mid 2022 (est.)

Questions?