

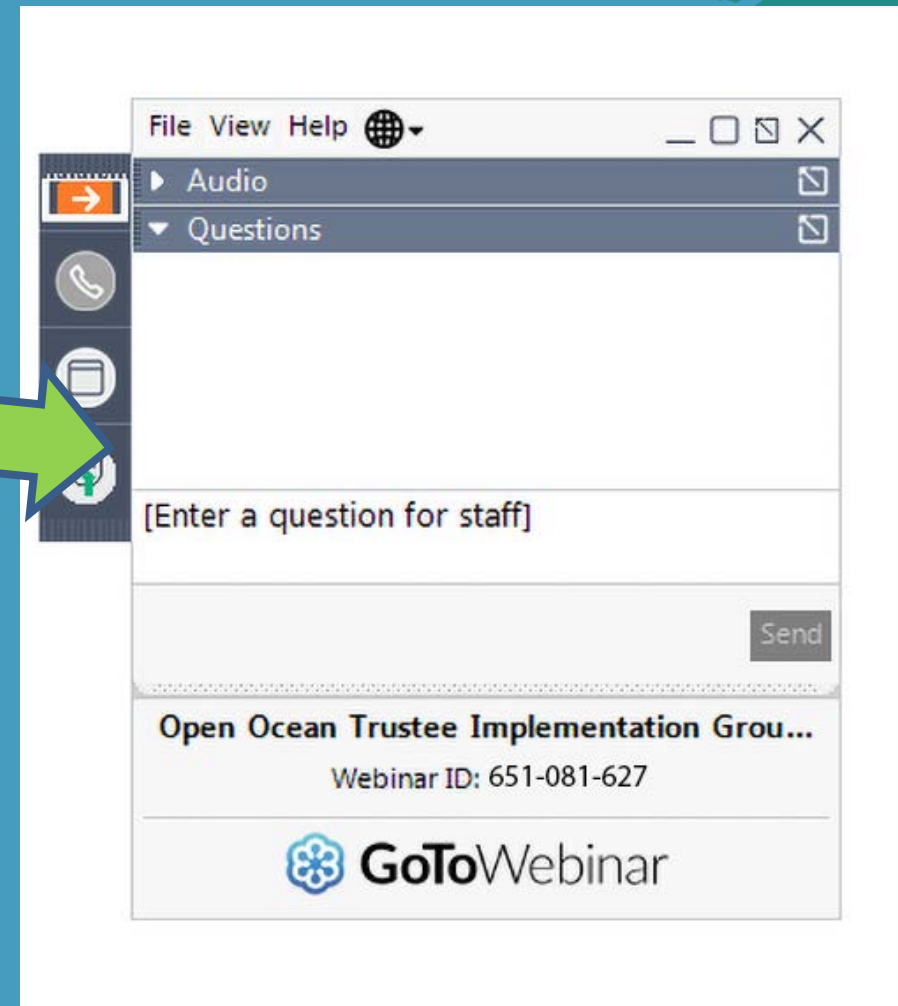


# Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group

Annual Meeting  
November 14, 2018

# Webinar Participation

- If you're using a phone, turn off your computer's microphone and speakers.
- When the Q&A session starts later, use the "Questions" box to type questions that you have for the Trustees.
- Presentation will be posted on [www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov).



# Today's Agenda

- *Deepwater Horizon* Settlement
- The Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group
- Restoration Implementation
- Restoration Planning
- Monitoring & Adaptive Management
- For More Information
- Questions and Answers





# Welcome to the Open Ocean TIG



NOAA

USDA

EPA

DOI

Chris Doley

Ron Howard

Gale Bonanno

Kevin Reynolds

Laurie Rounds

Mark Defley

Treda Grayson

Ashley Mills



# ***DWH Natural Resource Damage Assessment and BP Settlement***

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# BP NRDA Settlement

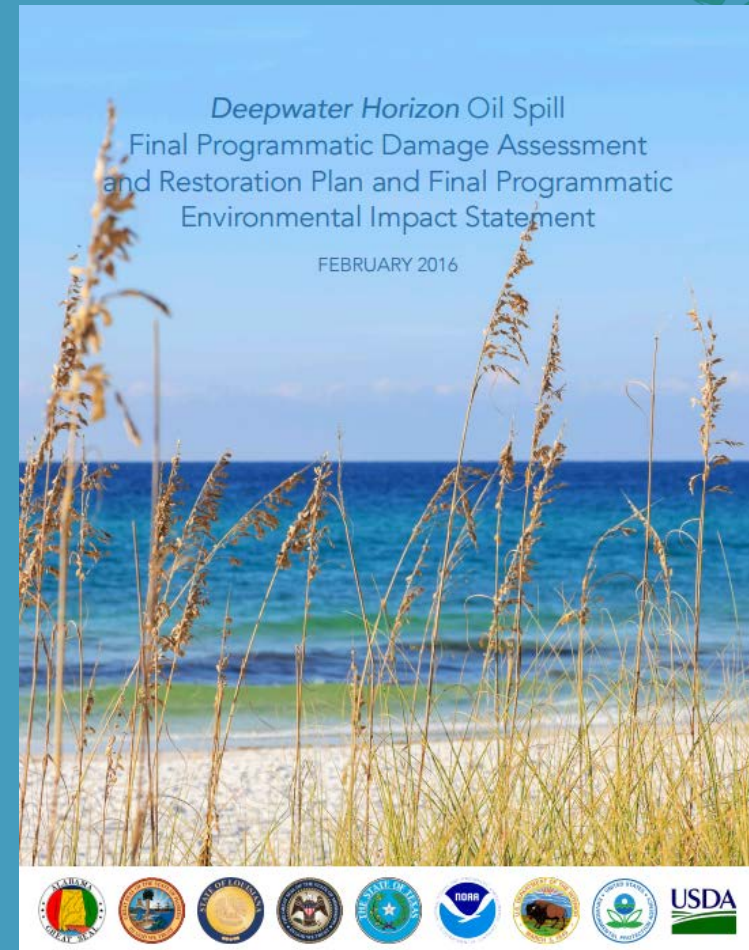
2016 Settlement: \$8.8 billion:

- Restore and Conserve Habitat: \$4.7 billion.
- Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources: \$1.8 billion.
- Restore Water Quality: \$400 million.
- Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities: \$400 million.
- Monitoring, Adaptive Management, Administrative Oversight: \$1.5 billion.

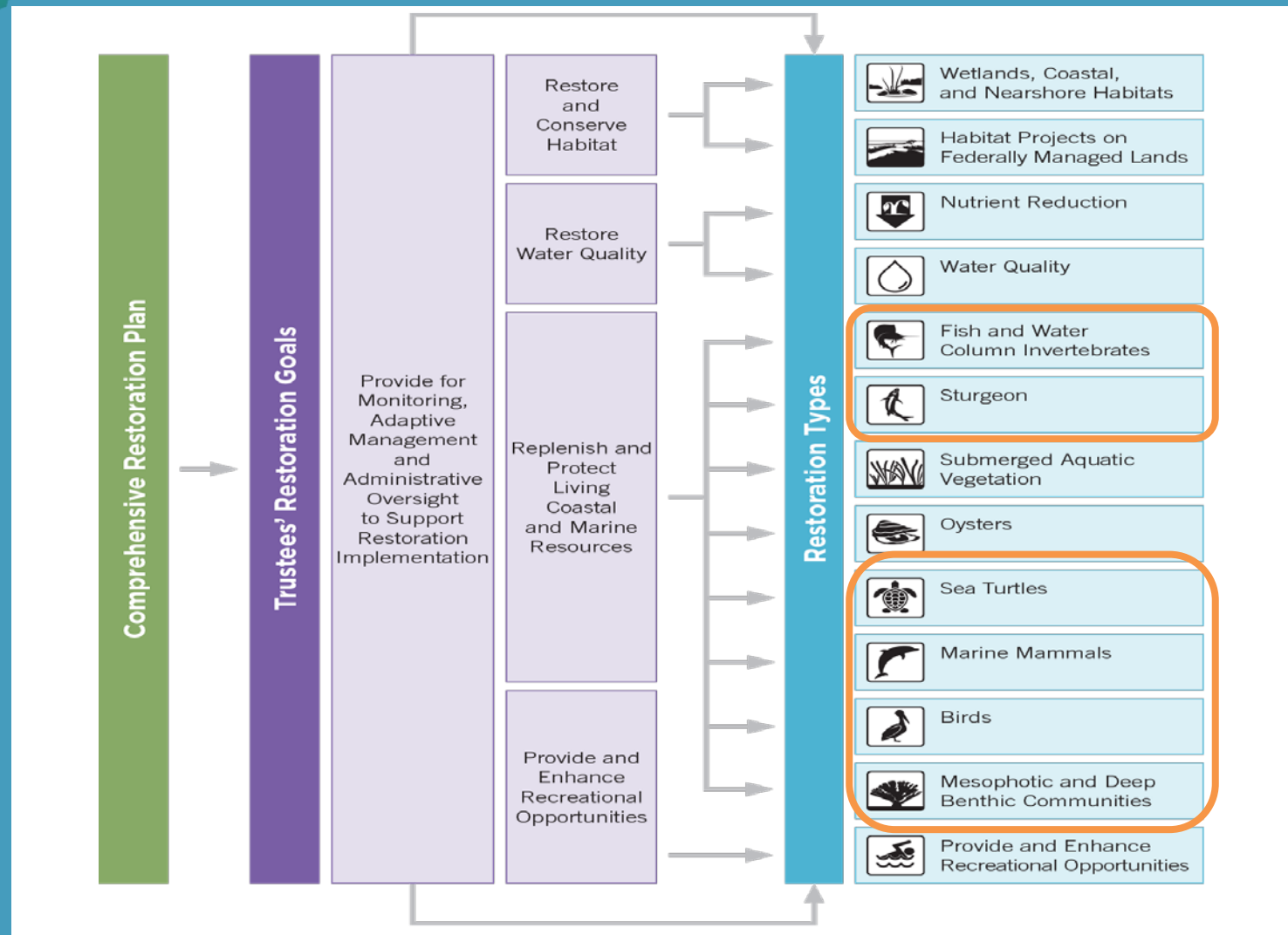


# Programmatic Restoration Plan

- **Damage assessment:** injuries to natural resources and services
- **Restoration:** ecosystem approach and science-based adaptive management
- **Governance:** framework for future decision-making, including selection & implementation of projects

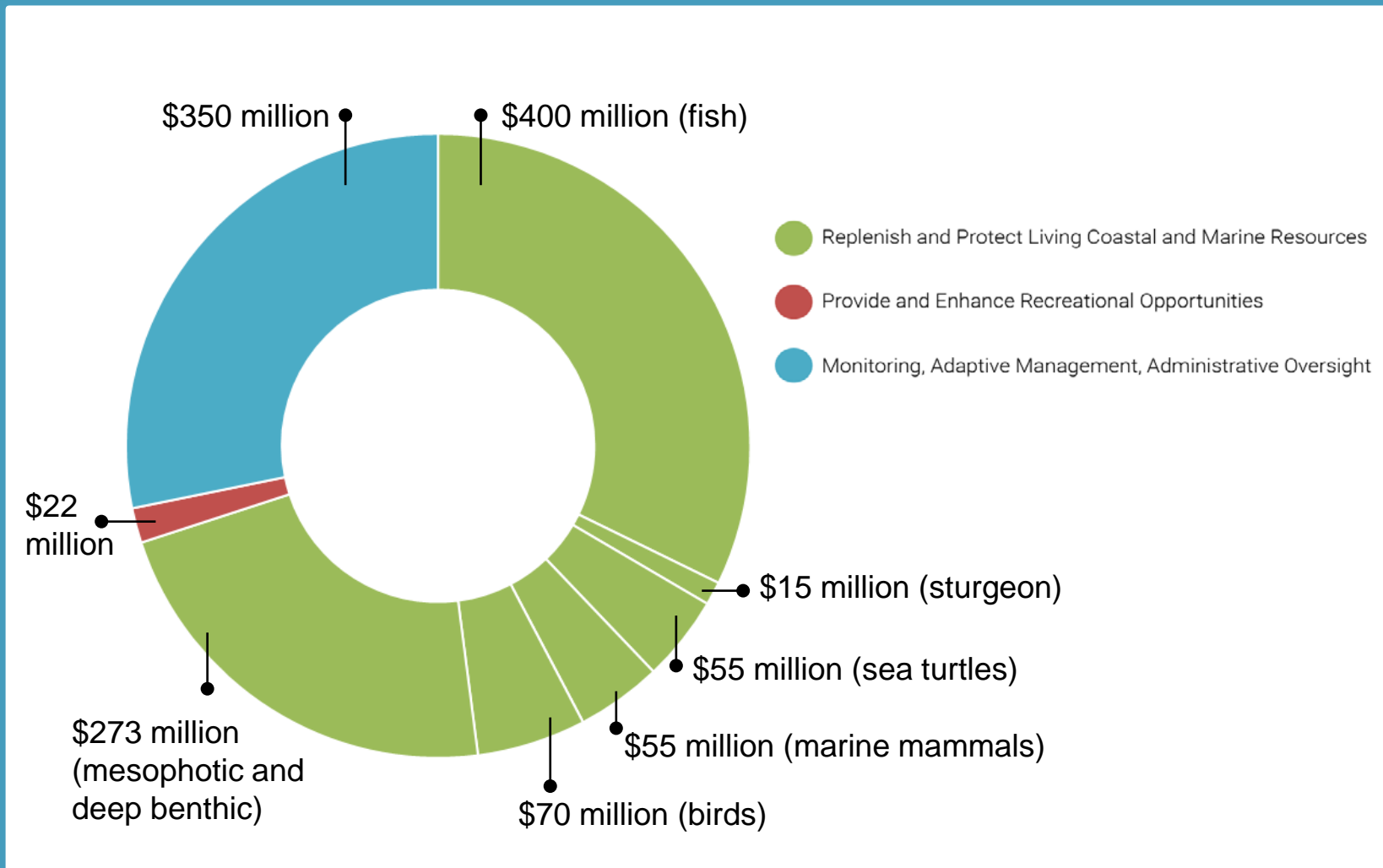


# Overview of Programmatic Restoration Plan





# Open Ocean Restoration Area Funding



# Open Ocean TIG Funding Update

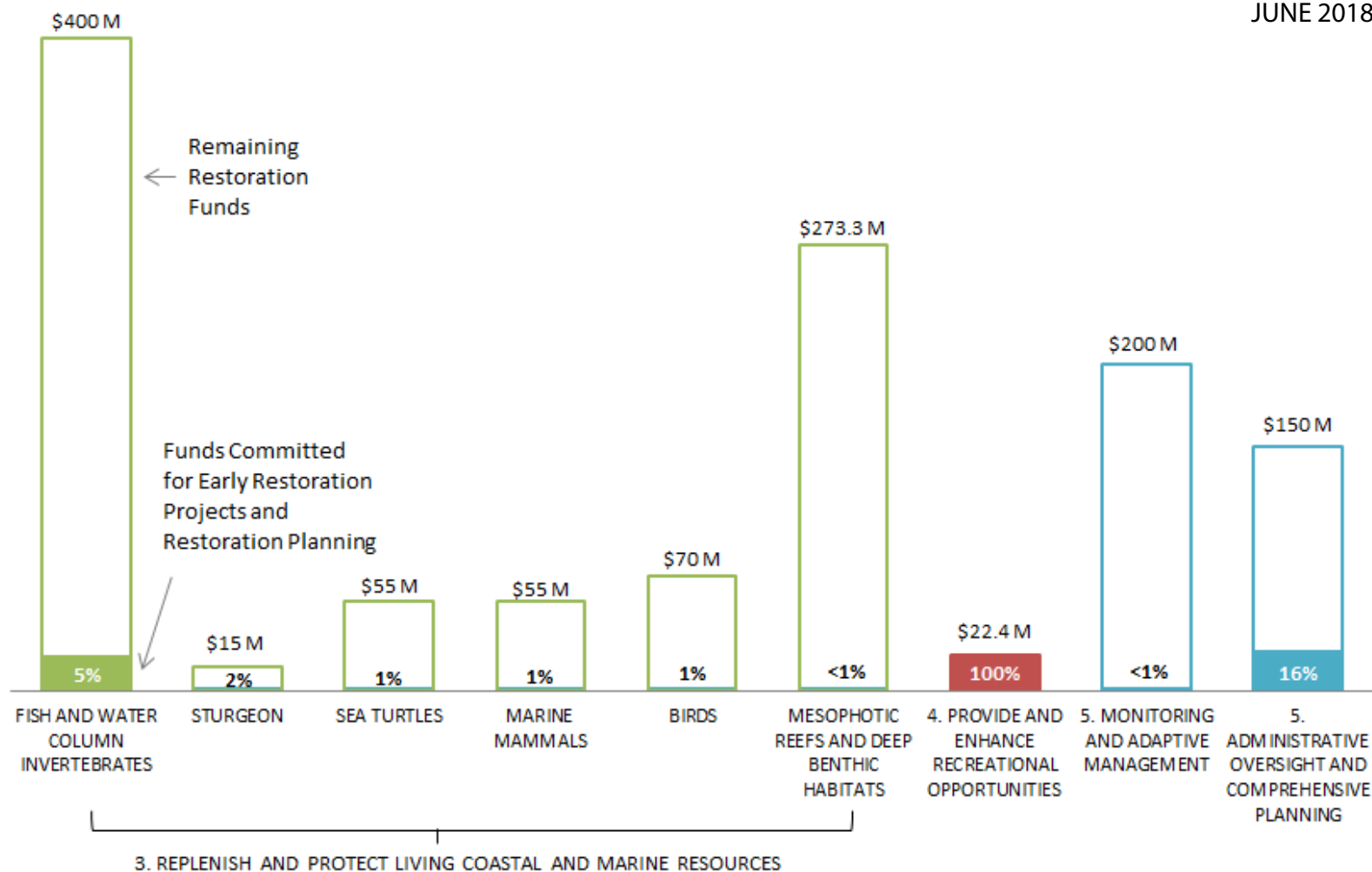
The Open Ocean TIG has committed about \$70 million (6%) of its \$1.2 billion to:

- Implement early restoration projects;
- Conduct restoration planning and outreach;
- Develop restoration plans; and
- Effectively provide administrative oversight and comprehensive planning for the federal trustees across all TIGs.



# OO TIG Funding Distribution

JUNE 2018





# ***Restoration Implementation***

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Open Ocean Early Restoration Projects

# Open Ocean Early Restoration Projects

Protect and enhance recreational opportunities



- Gulf Islands Beach Enhancement
- Gulf Islands Ferry Project
- Gulf Islands Bike & Pedestrian Use Enhancement
- Bon Secour NWR Trail Enhancement

Fish and Water Column Invertebrates

- Oceanic Fish Restoration Project

# *Beach Enhancement Project at Gulf Islands National Seashore*

Remove scattered asphalt from  
Fort Pickens, Santa Rosa and  
Perdido Key areas in Florida.

Status: In Progress

Estimated Cost: \$10.8M

Lead: DOI



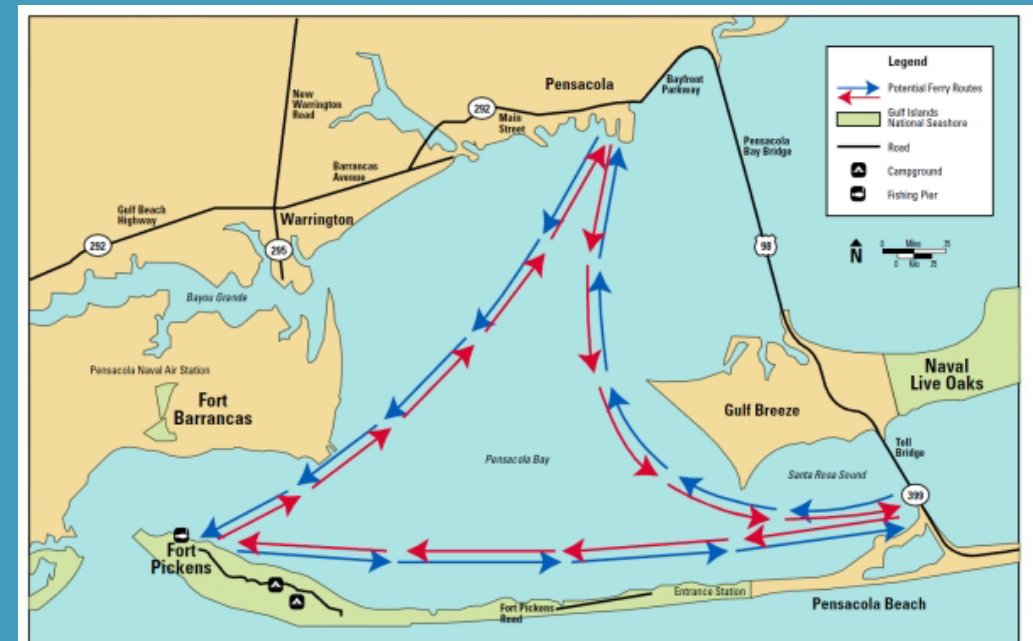
# Gulf Islands National Seashore Ferry Project

Purchase two pedestrian visitor ferries for use between Pensacola, Pensacola Beach and Fort Pickens area in Florida.

Status: Complete

Cost: \$4M

Lead: DOI



Proposed Gulf Islands National Seashore Ferry Purchase and Service Project ferry routes and destinations

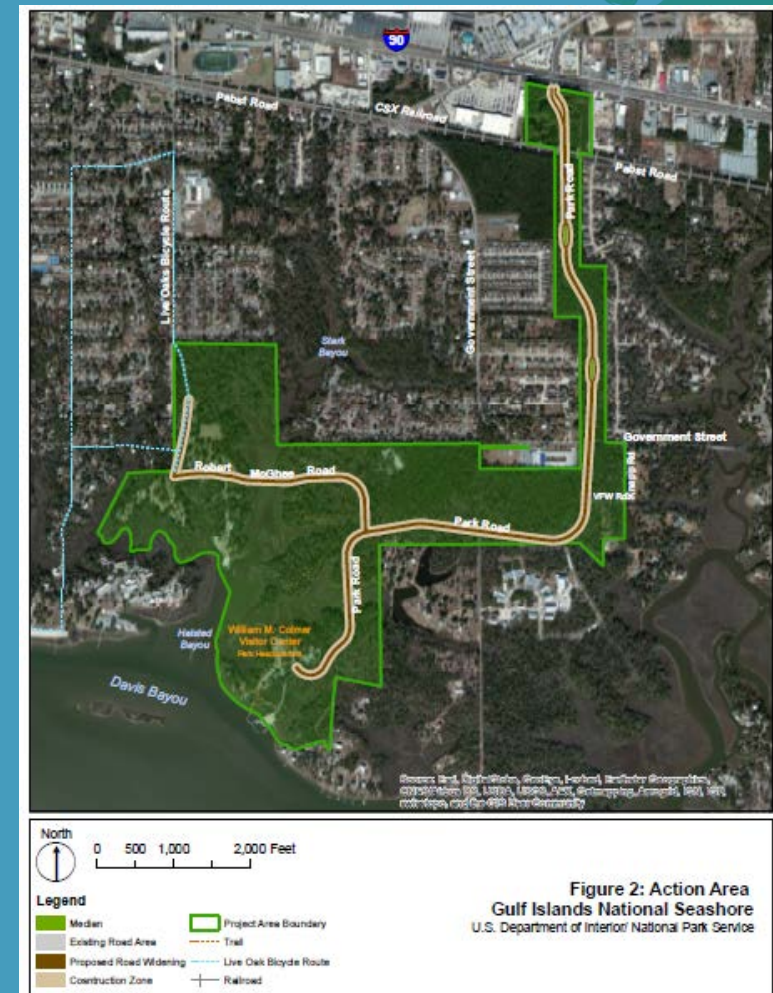
# *Bike & Pedestrian Use Enhancements Project, Davis Bayou, MS District, Gulf Islands National Seashore*

Widen existing Park Road for 2.17 miles to accommodate multiple use bicycle-pedestrian trails.

Status: In Progress, Engineering and Design

Estimated Cost: \$7M

Lead: DOI





# *Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge Trail Enhancement Project*

Repaired and enhanced Jeff Friend Trail. Constructed an observation platform and widened two parking spaces.

Status: Complete

Cost: \$545K

Lead: DOI



# *Oceanic Fish Restoration Project*

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Restore pelagic fish biomass by reducing fish mortality from bycatch and regulatory discards in the pelagic longline fishery operating in the Gulf of Mexico.

Status: In-Progress

Estimated Cost: \$20M

Lead: NOAA





# ***Restoration Planning***

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Birds, Sturgeon, Fish, Sea Turtles, Marine Mammals, and Mesophotic & Deep Benthic Communities

# TIG Restoration Planning Cycle



- Spring 2017- Requested project ideas from the public.
- Fall 2017- Completed screening.
- Winter 2018- Began drafting two restoration plans.
- October 2018- Released Draft Restoration Plan 1/EA: Birds and Sturgeon.
- Early 2019 – Anticipate releasing Draft Restoration Plan 2/EA.

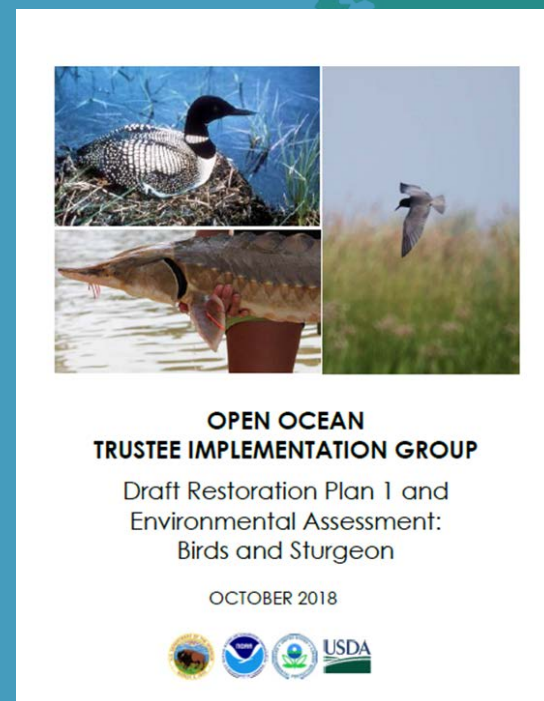
# Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment: Birds & Sturgeon

Draft released October 9, 2018

Comment period closed November 9, 2018

Proposed funding three projects:

- Restoration of Common Loons in Minnesota.
- Restoration of Black Terns in North and South Dakota.
- Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat, Habitat Use and Origins of Juvenile Sturgeon in the Pearl and Pascagoula River Systems.



# Draft Restoration Plan 2 and Environmental Assessment

- Proposes restoration for Fish, Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities, Sea Turtles, and Marine Mammals.
- Anticipated release in early 2019 for public comment period.
- Public engagement through in-person and webinar meetings during the comment period.



# Restoration Plan 2 Priorities

**Fish & Water Column Invertebrates:** Reduce mortality of coastal pelagic, reef & highly migratory species by improving bycatch reduction devices, enhancing fishing practices and tools for fishermen, and reducing barotrauma in reef fish.



**Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities:** Mapping and assessment, developing innovative restoration techniques, and reducing threats.



# Restoration Plan 2 Priorities

**Sea Turtles:** Reduce bycatch in commercial & recreational fishing; conserve nesting beaches; collect and integrate sea turtle restoration data.

**Marine Mammals:** Reduce risk of vessel collisions; reduce impacts from human-made noise; increase capacity to respond to disasters; and collect and integrate marine mammal restoration data.







# ***Monitoring and Adaptive Management***

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# *Monitoring & Adaptive Management*

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- Project MAM plans.
- MAM priorities.
- Project monitoring data and reports.
- Aggregated and quality-controlled monitoring data.
- Annual status update.



# Framework for Monitoring and Adaptive Management

Monitoring and Adaptive Management Activities	Planning	Implementation	Evaluation and Reporting
Project	Inform project planning	Performance monitoring, improve future project implementation	Evaluate and document performance
Resource	Inform planning of multiple projects targeted to a resource	Inform implementation of multiple projects targeted to a resource	Evaluate resource restoration progress
Cross-Resource	Inform planning across resources, Characterize previously unknown conditions	Characterize previously unknown conditions	Evaluate overall restoration progress

# *Open Ocean Monitoring and Adaptive Management Strategy*

## Open Ocean MAM Strategy

- Processes to identify MAM priorities.
- Priority MAM needs for restoration planning and evaluation.
- Strategy documents will be released over time.

## MAM Activities

- Activities for data collection to inform restoration planning and evaluation.





***For More Information***

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# Where to Find DWH NRDA Information



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Gulf Spill Restoration website. At the top, the title "GULF SPILL RESTORATION" is displayed in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, a row of logos for various organizations including NOAA, EPA, and USDA is visible. A sub-header reads "Website maintained by NOAA on behalf of the Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees". The main navigation bar includes links for "Home", "About Us", "How We Restore", "Restoration Areas", "Data", and "Media & News", along with a search box. The central banner features a close-up photograph of a red crab on a coral reef. Overlaid on the image is the text "Save the Date: Open Ocean Annual Meeting Webinar, November 14" and a "Learn More" button. Below the banner, a section titled "Restoration Areas" contains seven icons representing different regions: Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Region-wide Open Ocean.

**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

Save the Date: Open Ocean Annual Meeting Webinar, November 14

Learn More

**Restoration Areas**

Alabama Florida Louisiana Mississippi Texas Region-wide Open Ocean

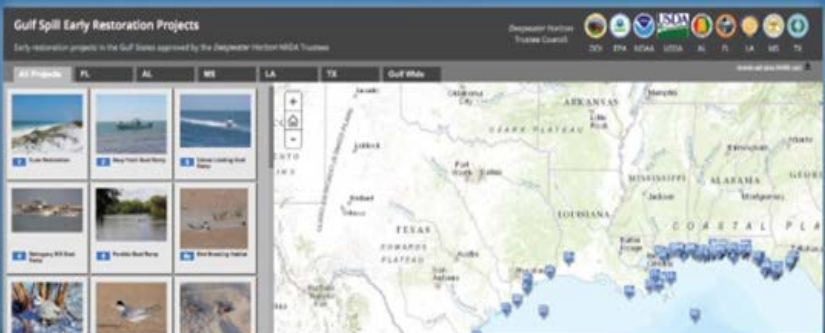
[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov)

# How to Submit Project Ideas

Projects Near You

Explore our **interactive map** to see details on restoration projects.

[View Project Details](#)



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

[Sign Up Now](#)

Suggest a **restoration project** for consideration

[Share Your Idea](#)

View **projects submitted** for Trustee consideration

[View Submissions](#)

## 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

Home \ Suggest a Project

### Suggest a Project

**Share Your Ideas**

Do you have ideas for a specific restoration project in your area? You can use the online form below to give us information that will be entered into our database. These suggested projects will be retained as part of a database by the trustees for consideration in project-specific restoration plans that will be subject to public review and comment.

Please keep a record of your confirmation number after submitting your information. If you are having problems, email [nrda.projects@noaa.gov](mailto:nrda.projects@noaa.gov) to obtain a copy of the alternate submission form.

[Project Submission Guidelines \(click to expand\)](#)

**Introduction** Intro 1 2 3 4 5 6 Submit

**Guidelines for Completion**

Please complete all of the information requested with the best information that you have available. Specific instructions for each field in the form are provided by placing your mouse pointer on the ⓘ symbol associated with the field title.

Would you like to enter a new project or edit an existing project?

- Enter a New Project
- Edit an Existing Project
- Remove an Existing Project from Consideration

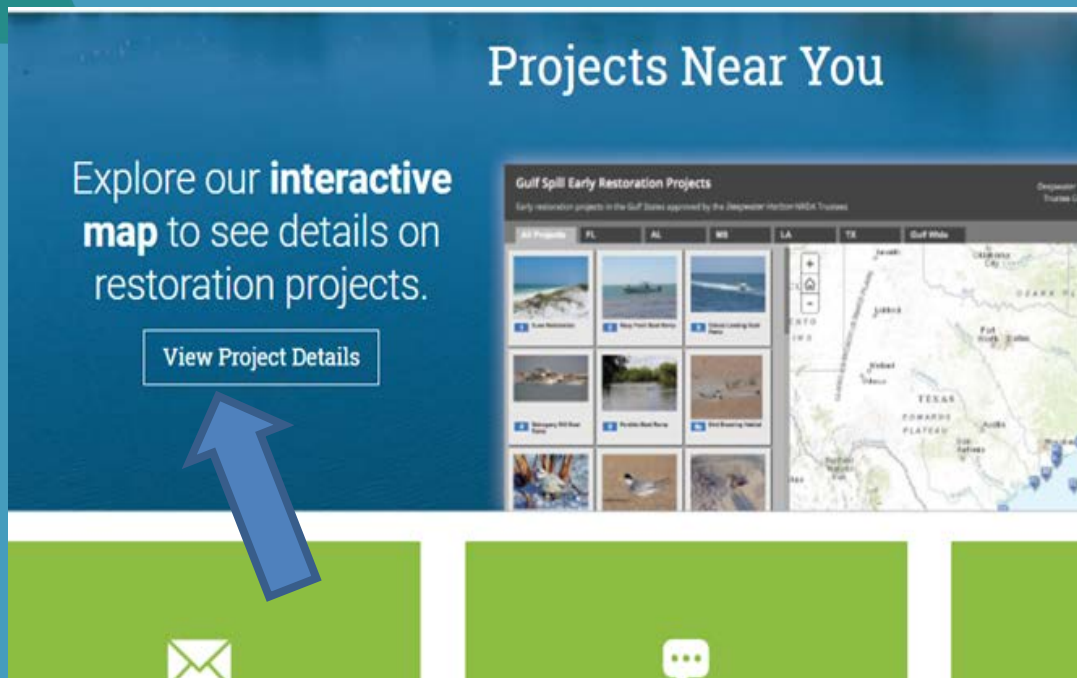
[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration/give-us-your-ideas/suggest-a-restoration-project](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration/give-us-your-ideas/suggest-a-restoration-project)

# How to Access Open Ocean Project Information

Projects Near You

Explore our **interactive map** to see details on restoration projects.

[View Project Details](#)

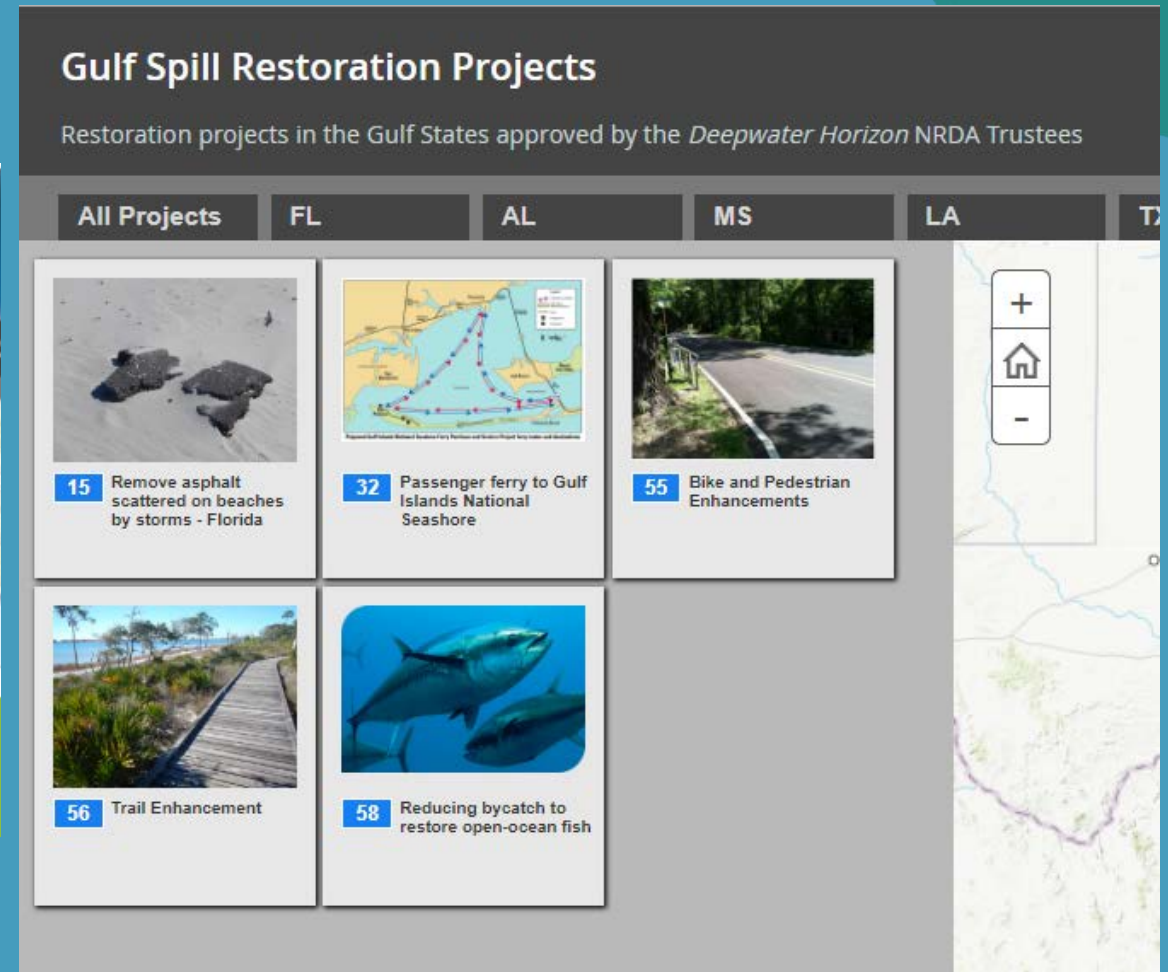


## Gulf Spill Restoration Projects

Restoration projects in the Gulf States approved by the *Deepwater Horizon* NRDA Trustees

All Projects FL AL MS LA TX

- 15** Remove asphalt scattered on beaches by storms - Florida
- 32** Passenger ferry to Gulf Islands National Seashore
- 55** Bike and Pedestrian Enhancements
- 56** Trail Enhancement
- 58** Reducing bycatch to restore open-ocean fish



[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov)



# Example Open Ocean Project Information

Overview

Activities

Env Compliance

Budget

Contacts

Documents

## Beach Enhancement Project at Gulf Islands National Seashore

Project ID: 15 | Project Status: In Progress



### Description:

This project involves removing fragments of asphalt and road-base material (clay) that have been scattered widely over some or all of 2,017 acres in the Rosa, and Perdido Key areas of the National Park Service (NPS) Florida Gulf Islands National Seashore (GUIS). There is also a small, two-mile-long area on the Gulf side of the seashore and some miscellaneous chunks of concrete may be removed from the area. The materials range in shape and size from large slabs down to brick- and block-sized pieces damaged during several storms and hurricanes. Debris removal methods are being supplemented by small crews using hand tools. The majority of material is asphalt, although slabs several feet deep may be found.

Approximately 10% of the total area to be mechanically cleaned contains vegetation that will be destroyed. The same number and like species of plants is part of this project. Cleanup activities are expected to take approximately five years (there would be two years of overlap).

# Where to Find Project Data and Information

## DIVER Explorer:

Search, filter, and download DWH NRDA-related response, assessment, and restoration data.



**GULF SPILL RESTORATION**

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Home About Us How We Restore Restoration Areas **Data**

Home \ Discover Assessment and Restoration Data

### Discover Assessment and Restoration Data

During the course of the damage assessment, we collected a large amount of data to document the ecosystem injuries. We collected tens of thousands samples of oil, water, sediment, and even tissue impacts from oil.

Now that restoration implementation has begun, we are collecting information on our restoration projects and updates on project activities. Once projects are complete, we will provide monitoring data, too.

We will also make available all other data that are collected to support restoration. Assessment and monitoring data through the tools below. Available data include injury assessment sample and observation data, response financial information, and restoration monitoring data.

### Search Data in DIVER Explorer

DIVER integrates data from many sources including the Trustees and BP, as well as historical information. The DIVER Explorer query tool can be used to filter, map, and download data and results. We will post data as it becomes available.

[Assessment Data](#) [Restoration Data](#)

**ARCA**

- Projects & Planning Details
  - Project Information
  - Build A New Project & Planning Data
- Environmental Data
  - Field Collected Data Records
  - Lab Results and Field Observations
  - Chemistry and Bioassay Results
- Case/Activity Data
  - Collection Summary
  - Field Data
  - Location/Date/Time
  - Taxonomic Categories
  - Results: All Data
  - Analysis Categories
  - Analysis Status

[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/science-data](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/science-data)



Questions?

# Open Ocean TIG FAQ

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

Home \ Restoration Areas \ Open Ocean Restoration Area

## Open Ocean Restoration Area

The federal trustees will work together on restoration for wide-ranging and migratory species. They will coordinate with appropriate state trustees when proposed projects overlap their jurisdictions. This will include water column and ocean bottom fish and invertebrates, sea turtles, birds, marine mammals, sturgeon, and deep-sea coral reefs.

Many species that spend part of their lives in the Gulf of Mexico also migrate to other places—as far away as Canada and the Mediterranean Sea. The Open Ocean Restoration Area will address species throughout their life stages and throughout their geographic range by reducing bycatch, restoring habitat, and other activities. The Trustees may use some of the Open Ocean Restoration Area funds for restoration outside of the Gulf of Mexico. For example, to restore migratory fish populations, we might work to reduce bycatch in the Caribbean Sea or North Atlantic Ocean.



Together, we will develop project-specific restoration plans that are 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 proposed project-specific restoration plans for the Open Ocean Restoration Area. Once approved, we will begin implementation and monitoring of the selected projects.

We have developed a set of **Frequently Asked Questions**, which will be updated over time.

[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/open-ocean](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/open-ocean)

**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 \ Frequently Asked Questions

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Frequently Asked Questions for the Open Ocean Restoration Area – last updated June 5, 2017

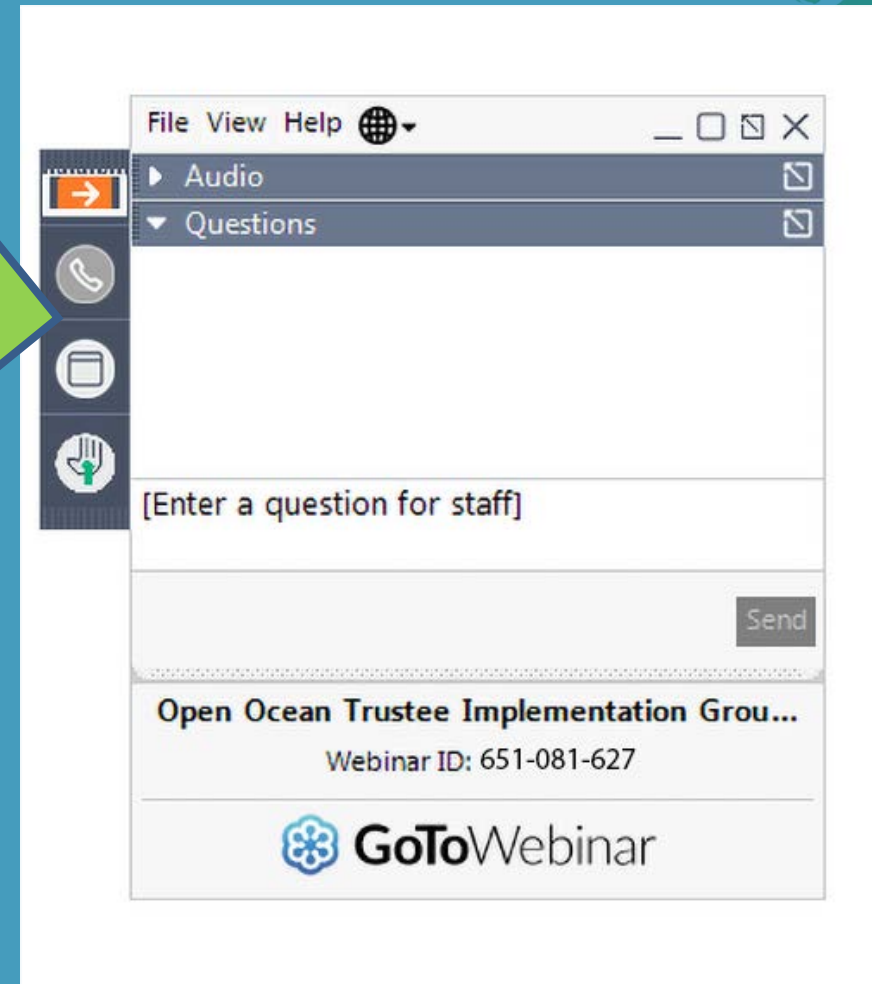
#### Injury and Programmatic Restoration Plan

- Where can I find a summary of the programmatic restoration plan?
  - The programmatic plan and an overview of the plan can be found at <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-planning/gulf-plan>
- What was the injury? How are the restoration projects addressing the injury?
  - For a detailed account of the Trustees' approach to and the findings resulting from the injury assessment please see Chapter 4 of the **programmatic restoration plan**. Sections 4.4 through 4.10 describe the injury assessment for specific resources, habitats, and services, as follows: water column resources (Section 4.4); benthic (i.e., bottom-dwelling) resources and habitats (Section 4.5); nearshore marine ecosystem (Section 4.6); birds (Section 4.7); sea turtles (Section 4.8); marine mammals (Section 4.9); and lost recreational use (Section 4.10). Section 4.11 (Injury Assessment: Summary and Synthesis of Findings) summarizes the Trustees' injury assessment findings and synthesizes those conclusions in an ecosystem context.
  - Specifically, sections 4.4 through 4.10 describe the injury assessment for specific resources, habitats, and services, as follows:
    - water column resources (Section 4.4);
    - benthic (i.e., bottom-dwelling) resources and habitats (Section 4.5);

[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/frequently-asked-questions](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/frequently-asked-questions)

# Questions

- Please type your questions in the “Questions” box.
- We may not get to them all.





# Thank you



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

Sign Up Now

[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov)