

Deepwater Horizon NRDA  
Florida Restoration Area



# *Deepwater Horizon*

Natural Resource Damage Assessment & Restoration

## Florida Trustee Implementation Group Annual Public Meeting

December 15, 2022

# Webinar Participation



- If you're using a phone, turn off your computer's microphone and speakers.
- We will take verbal comments at the end of the presentation.
- Presentation will be posted on DWH Trustee website:  
[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov)

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# Agenda



- Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)
- Florida Trustee Implementation Group (FL TIG)
- Outcomes to date
- Early restoration projects in Florida
- FL TIG Restoration Plan 1
- FL TIG Restoration Plan 2
- FL TIG monitoring and adaptive management project
- Next steps
- Public comments

# What is NRDA?



- A legal process based on the Oil Pollution Act
- Allows Trustees to assess resource injuries and service losses caused by an oil spill
- Process to determine how best to compensate the public through on-the-ground restoration activities



# Deepwater Horizon Settlement



2016 DWH settlement - up to \$8.8B. Includes:

- \$7.1B for restoration actions over 15+ years
- Up to \$700M for natural resource conditions unknown at the time of the settlement and/or to provide for adaptive management
- \$1B previously committed for early restoration





# Post-Settlement Structure



## TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Alabama | Florida | Louisiana | Mississippi | Texas | DOI | EPA | NOAA | USDA

Ensures coordination, efficiency, transparency, and accountability across the Trustee Implementation Groups.

## TRUSTEE IMPLEMENTATION GROUPS

Alabama | Florida | Louisiana | Mississippi | Texas | Open Ocean | Regionwide | Unknown Conditions and Adaptive Management\*

Conduct planning for restoration and monitoring and adaptive management; provide oversight for implementation.

\*Will be formed at a future date.

## INDIVIDUAL TRUSTEE AGENCIES

More than a dozen individual state and federal agencies.  
Agencies implement restoration projects and monitoring activities.

# Florida TIG



## State and federal Trustees:

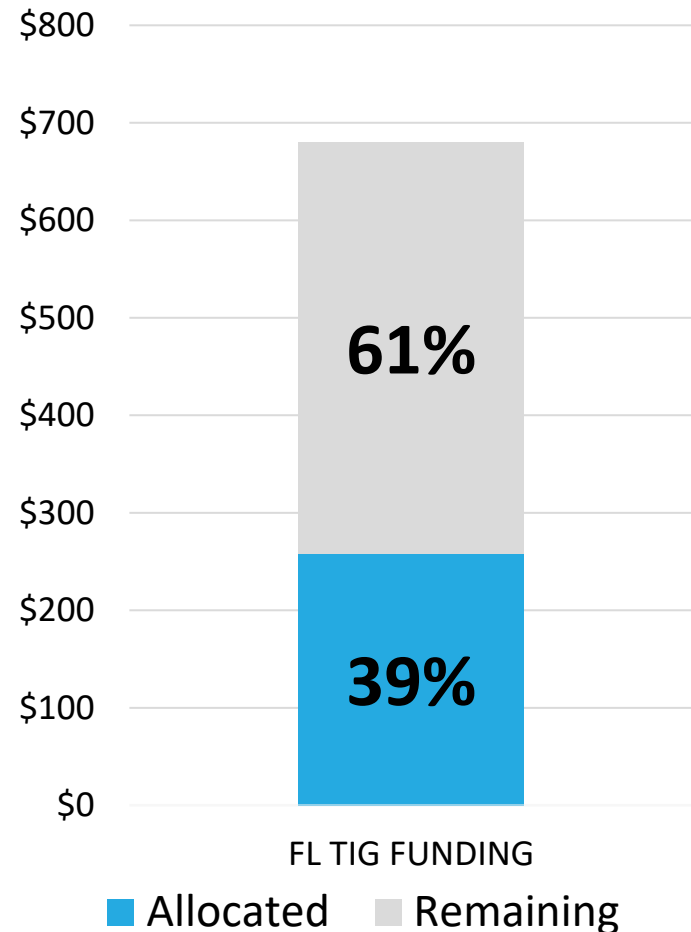
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
- U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



# FL TIG Funding Update



- DWH NRDA allocation for the FL TIG is ~\$680M
- As of late 2022, the FL TIG has committed over \$263M, or 39%, in planning and project/activity funds
- ~\$418 million, or 61% of the funds, remain for future planning, projects/activities, and admin














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



# Florida Restoration Area Funding Overview



## Florida Restoration Area Funding Overview

Restoration Type	Settlement Allocation	Funds Committed Through Nov. 2022	Percent Funds	
			Committed	Remaining
 Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats	\$20,629,367	\$15,626,264	76%	24%
 Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands	\$17,500,000	\$16,619,481	95%	5%
 Nutrient Reduction	\$35,000,000	\$5,284,826	15%	85%
 Water Quality	\$300,000,000	\$17,501,899	6%	94%
 Oysters	\$25,370,596	\$8,173,408	32%	68%
 Sea Turtles	\$20,000,000	\$6,559,587	33%	67%
 Marine Mammals	\$5,000,000	\$5,020,129	100%	0%
 Birds	\$42,835,000	\$15,926,338	37%	63%
 Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities	\$183,817,680	\$168,878,389	92%	8%
 Monitoring and Adaptive Management	\$10,000,000	\$1,473,993*	15%	85%
 Administrative Oversight and Comprehensive Planning	\$20,000,000	\$2,805,000	14%	86%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$680,152,643</b>	<b>\$263,869,314</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>61%</b>

\* Interest used

# Outcomes to Date



- >13 miles of dunes restored along Perdido Key and Pensacola Beach
- >1,600 acres of beach habitat protected for shorebirds and seabirds
- 3,900 acres of habitat on federally managed lands protected through management activities
- 190 acres of coastal parcels acquired to enhance recreational access and use



# Early Restoration Projects in Florida



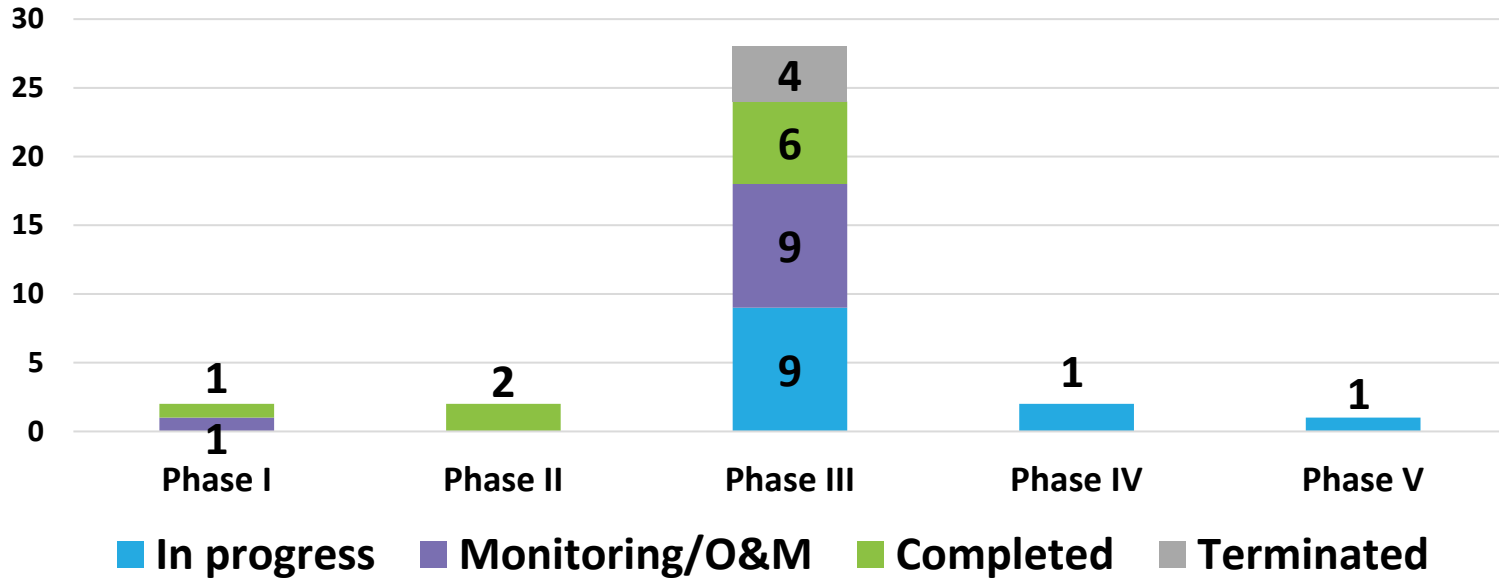




# Status of Early Restoration Projects in Florida



## Early Restoration Projects in Florida



### Completed projects in 2022:

- Shell Point Beach Nourishment
- Wakulla County Mashas Sands Park Improvements
- Walton County Boardwalks and Dune Crossovers

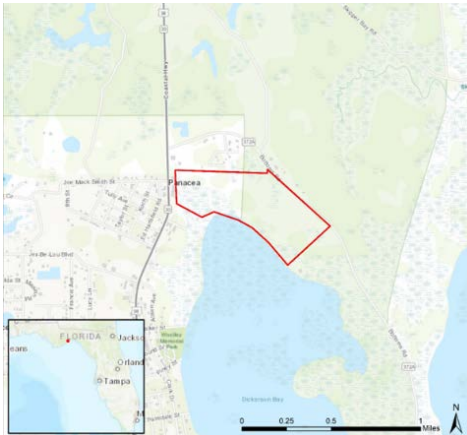




# Florida Coastal Access Project – Phase V.4 Dickerson Bay Addition (DEP/DOI)



- Status: in progress
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by acquiring an approximately 81-acre coastal parcel and conducting minor restoration and recreational enhancements
- Acquisition complete fall 2022





# Deer Lake State Park Development (DEP)



- Status: Monitoring/O&M
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by providing restrooms with pavilion, educational kiosk, paved access road and parking, and connection to regional utilities
- Construction began in Aug 2021; construction completed in fall 2022





# Bald Point State Park Recreation Areas (DEP)



- Status: in progress
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by providing a kayak launch, paved parking area, and access boardwalks
- Construction began in Sept 2021; anticipated completion in early 2023





# Florida Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline Project (DEP/NOAA)



- Status: Monitoring/O&M
- Create shoreline habitat and reduce erosion at the Project GreenShores Site II; breakwaters will reduce wave energy and create ~9 acres of salt marsh and 4 acres of reef habitat
- Construction began in Oct 2021; construction completed spring 2022





# City of Parker – Oakshore Drive Pier (DEP)



- Status: in progress (construction)
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by providing a pier and boardwalk at Earl Gilbert City Park
- Construction began in August 2022; anticipated completion in spring 2023





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# Florida TIG Restoration Plan 1



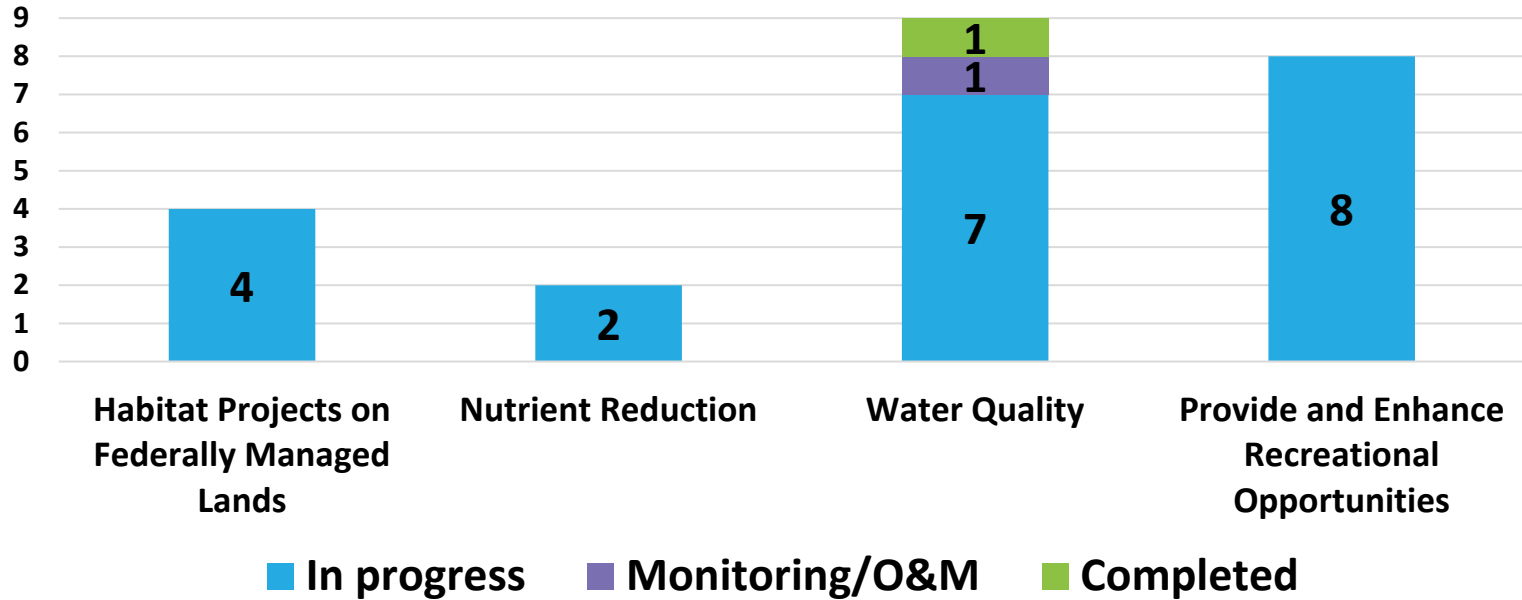
# Location Map of Florida TIG RP1 Projects



# Status of Florida TIG Restoration Plan 1 Projects



## FL TIG RP1 Projects



## Completed projects:

- Lower Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Hydrologic Restoration Initiative Yucca Pens Unit





# Lower Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Hydrologic Restoration Initiative, Yucca Pens Unit P/D (DEP)



- Status: complete
- Development and implementation of a science-based, data-driven Strategic Hydrological Planning Tool that would provide resource management agencies guidance for restoration and management of surface waters that flow through the 15,014-acre Yucca Pens Unit of the Cecil Webb/Babcock Wildlife Management Area
- Began in March 2020; completed in fall 2022





# City of Carrabelle's Lighthouse Estates Septic Tank Abatement – Phase II



- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Improve water quality by reducing the discharge pollutant loading that otherwise would impact the health and quality of estuarine habitats in receiving waters
- Construction started in spring 2022; construction anticipated to be completed in spring 2023







# Pensacola Bay and Perdido River Watersheds – Nutrient Reduction (USDA)



- Status: in progress (implementation & water quality monitoring)
- Implementing conservation practices on agricultural lands to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff
- Awarded 17 contracts (~\$1.35M) on 4,600 acres in Pine Barren/Sandy Hollow and Moore Creek watersheds
- Conservation practices: precision nutrient management, cover crops, and soil tillage management

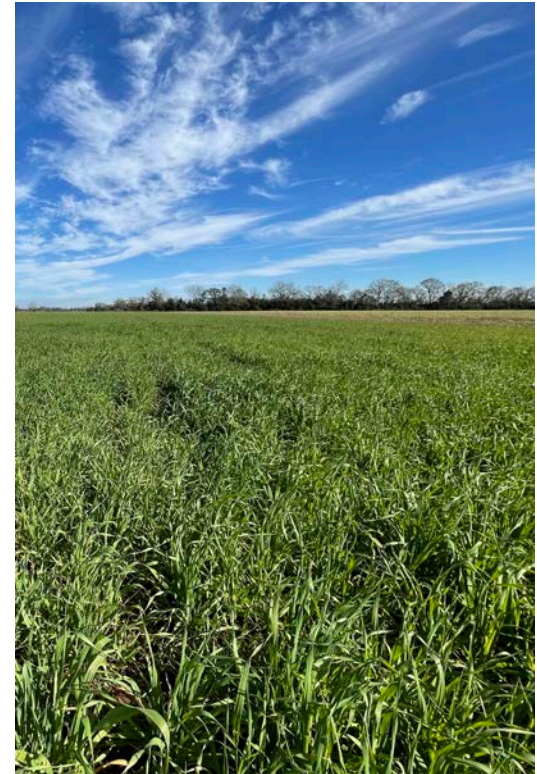




# Lower Suwannee River Watershed – Nutrient Reduction (USDA)



- Status: in progress (implementation & water quality monitoring)
- Implementing conservation practices on agricultural lands to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff
- Awarded 13 contracts (~\$1.72M) on 2,500 acres in Long Pond and North Old Town Hammock watersheds
- Conservation practices: precision nutrient management and irrigation water management.





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# Florida TIG Restoration Plan 2



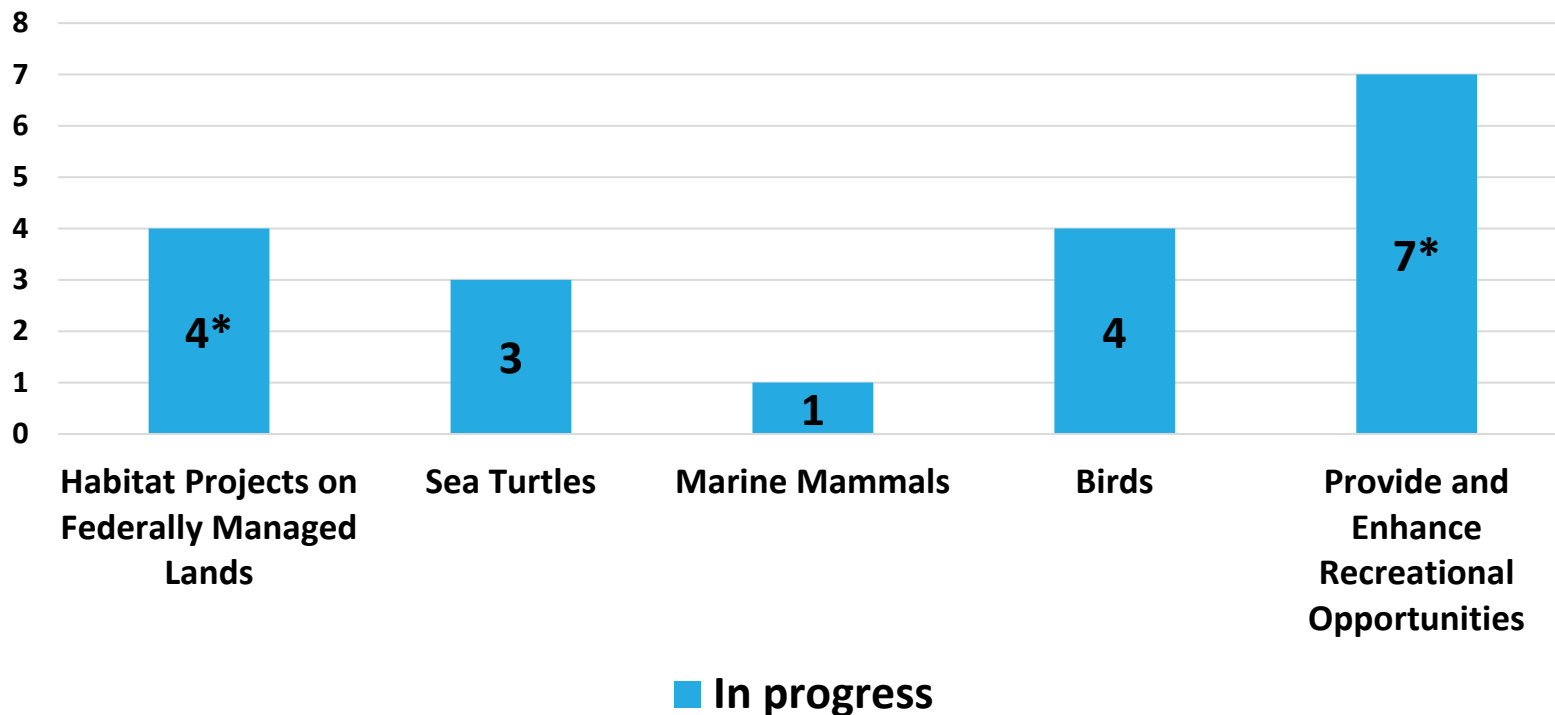
# Location Map of Florida TIG RP2 Projects



# Status of Florida TIG Restoration Plan 2 Projects



## FL TIG RP2 Projects



\*The *St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge Access and Recreational Improvements through Acquisition at Indian Pass* project is jointly proposed and counted under two restoration types: Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands and Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities.





# Pensacola Community Maritime Park Public Fishing Marina (FWC)



- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Construct a 48-vessel slip public fishing marina (day-use only) with 3 floating piers and kayak launch; educational information; and monofilament recycling bins
- Construction anticipated to be completed in 2023





# Pensacola Beach Fort Pickens Road Wildlife Lighting Retrofits (DOI)



- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Enhance sea turtle nesting beach habitat by replacing and upgrading streetlights along Fort Pickens Road
- A Section 106 survey/report was completed in late 2022; consultation is in progress; installation of new light poles/fixtures is anticipated in spring 2023





# Egmont Key National Wildlife Refuge Vegetation Management and Dune Retention (DOI)



- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Restore, protect, and enhance coastal bird habitat on EKNWR through the removal of invasive vegetation, planting of native plant species, and subsequent reduction in shoreline erosion
- Project change analysis to modify the project scope and increase project budget was approved by the TIG; a scope of work for the invasive vegetation removal will be submitted for bid in spring 2023



# Planning/E&D Activities



The following RP2 projects have had significant progress in planning and E&D activities throughout 2022. Construction/implementation is anticipated to begin for these projects in 2023:

- Apollo Beach Recreational Sportfish Hatchery Facility
- Florida Artificial Reef Creation and Restoration – Phase 2
- Gulf Breeze Parks Boating and Fishing Access Upgrades
- Lincoln Park Boat Ramp and Dock Improvements
- Increased Observers and Outreach to Reduce Incidental Hooking of Sea Turtles in Recreational Fisheries along Florida’s Gulf Coast
- Reducing Threats to Sea Turtles through Removal of In-water Marine Debris along Florida’s Gulf Coast
- Egmont Key National Wildlife Refuge Vegetation Management and Dune Retention



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A scenic view of a Florida wetland. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the sky and the trees in the background. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. A line of trees, including palm trees and other tropical vegetation, stretches across the middle ground. The water is clear, showing the reflection of the trees and the sky. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

# Florida TIG Monitoring and Adaptive Management (MAM)

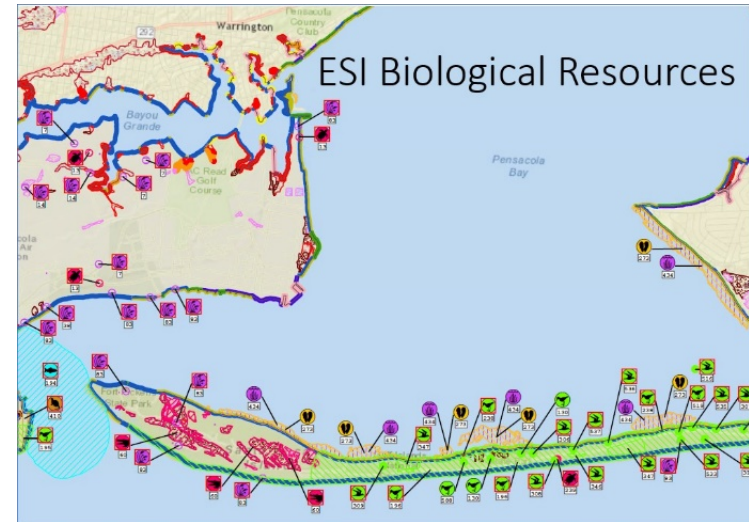




# Coastal Environmental Sensitivity Index Mapping of Florida Gulf Coast (FWC)



- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Will update ESI datasets/maps in four FL Gulf regions (Panhandle, Northwest Peninsular, Southwest Peninsular, and South Florida), including a publicly accessible ESI webpage
- Updated ESIs will more adequately inform restoration implementation and would also help inform oil spill response planning and future damage assessments
- Work began in late 2022; anticipated completion in 2027





# Next Steps



# What is coming up for the FL TIG?



- Implementation and monitoring of early restoration, RP1, RP2, restoration planning, and MAM projects
- FL TIG Restoration Plan 3
  - Water Quality Restoration Type
  - Solicitation open until December 22, 2022
  - Visit the Trustees' website for more details



# Public Comments





# Public 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.

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**Thank You**

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