



# *Deepwater Horizon*

Natural Resource Damage Assessment & Restoration

Texas Trustee Implementation Group  
Annual Public Meeting

November 2022

# Agenda



- NRDA and Deepwater Horizon
- Funding in Texas
- Overview of Process for new projects
- Recently Completed Construction
  - Galveston Island State Park Beach Redevelopment
  - Dickinson Bay Island II
- Upcoming Projects
  - Petronila Creek Nutrient Reduction Projects
  - Jones Bay Oyster Catcher Habitat Restoration



# Natural Resource Damage Assessment

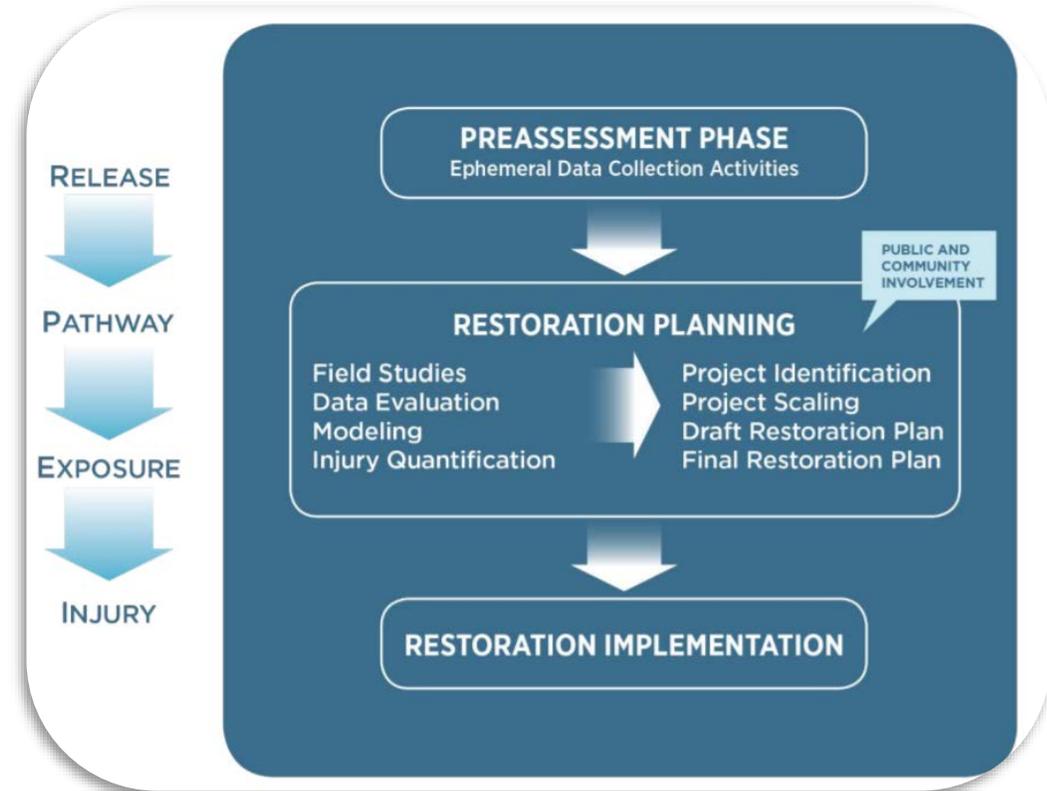


**Authority:** Oil Pollution Act of 1990

**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

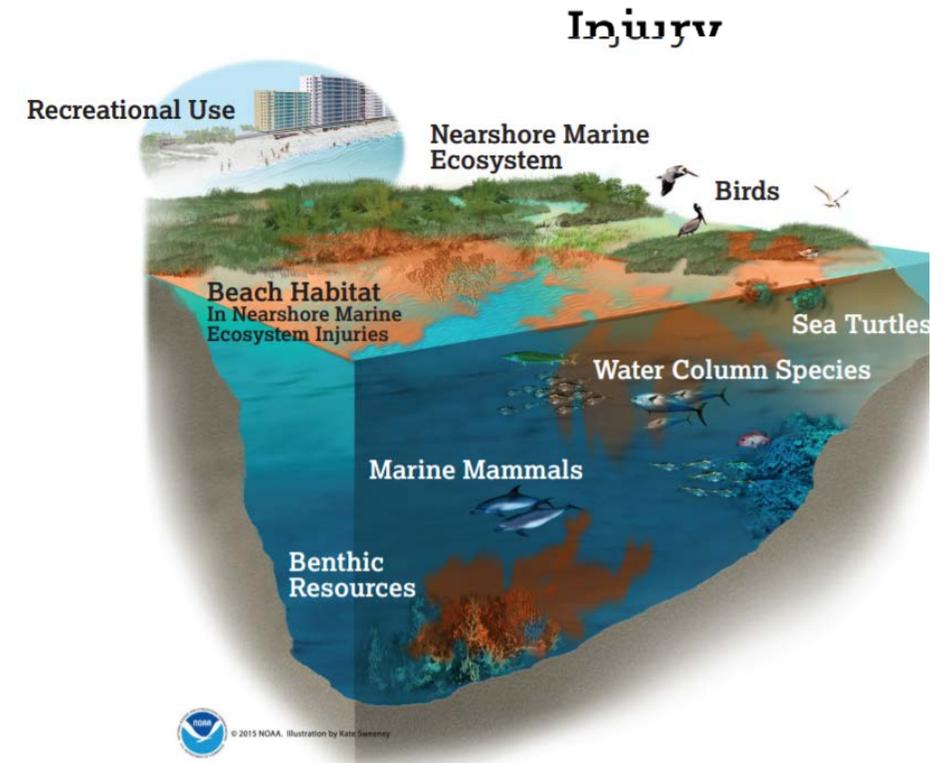


**Goal:** Restore injured natural resources to baseline condition and to replace ecosystem services lost while the habitat was contaminated, effectively making the environment and public whole

# Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

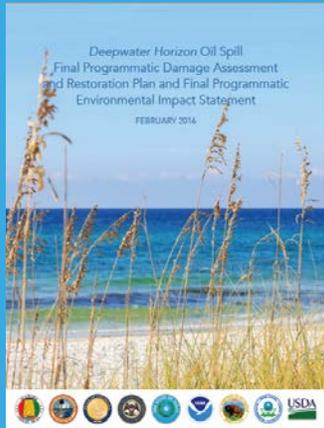


- In April 2010, the Deepwater Horizon exploded, caught fire, and sank
- Discharged 3.19 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico over 87 days
- Injured wildlife, habitats, and ecological functions
- Adversely effected recreational opportunities



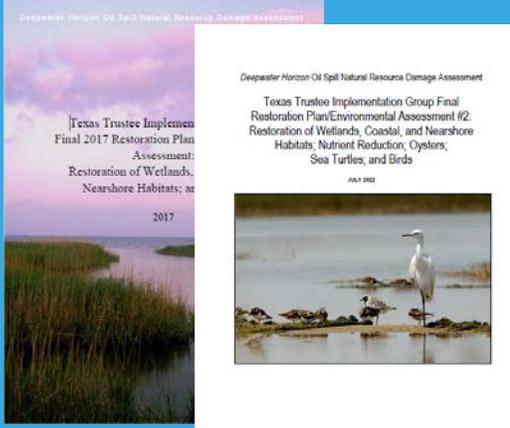
Impacted shoreline and state waters of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Florida and the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico

# Restoration Planning Process



## PDARP

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



## Restoration Plans

- Evaluates 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

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



## Injury Quantification:

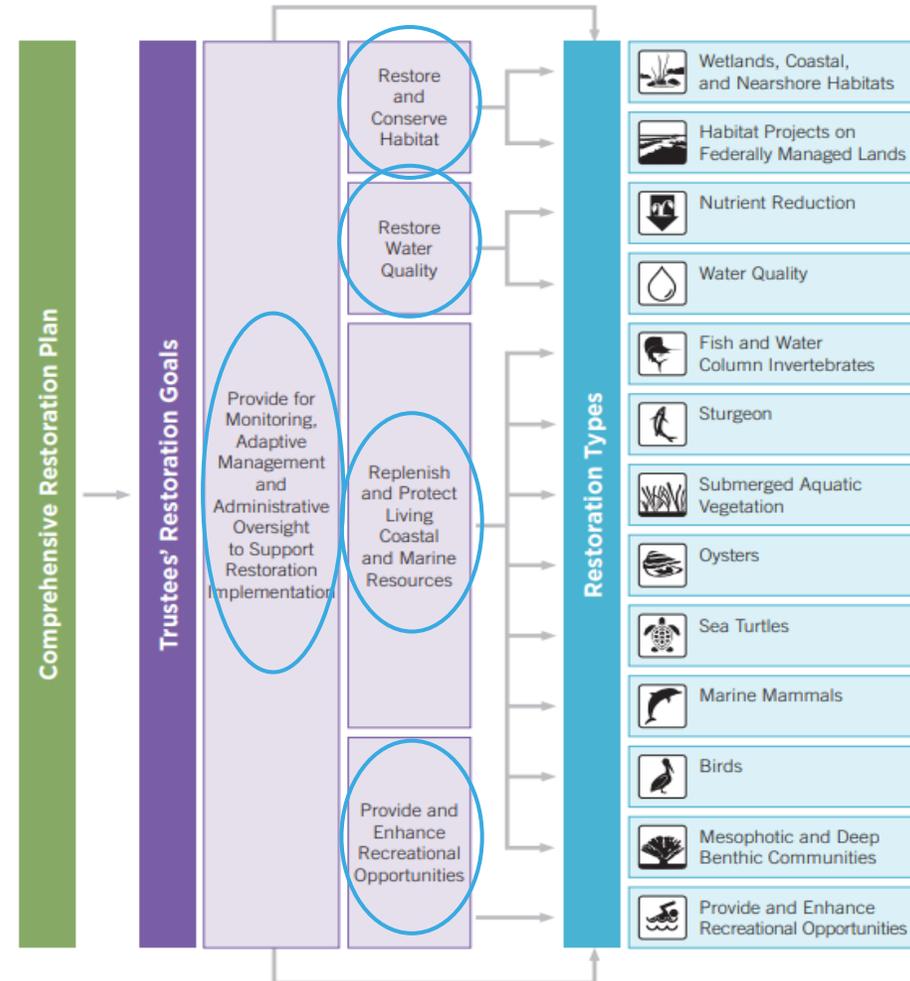
- Determines nature and extent of injuries to natural resources and services

## Restoration Planning:

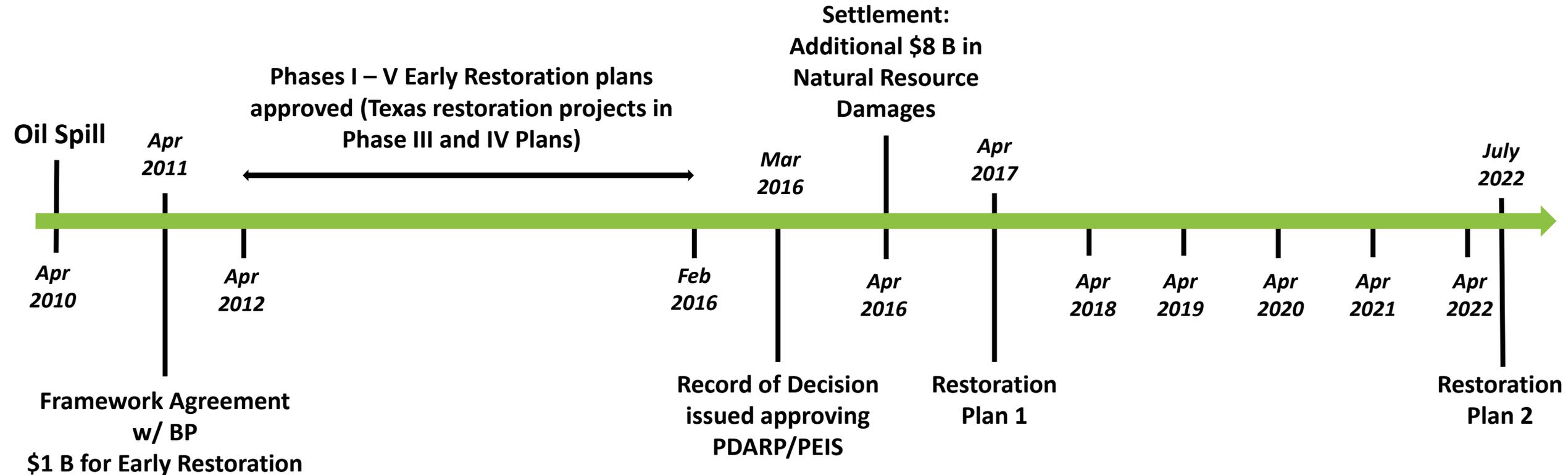
- Establishes restoration goals
- Identifies type and amount of restoration needed to compensate for the impacts
- Identifies approaches and techniques for restoration and monitoring

## Damages:

- Allocates restoration funding for specific restoration types by geographic area



# Texas Restoration Timeline



# 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



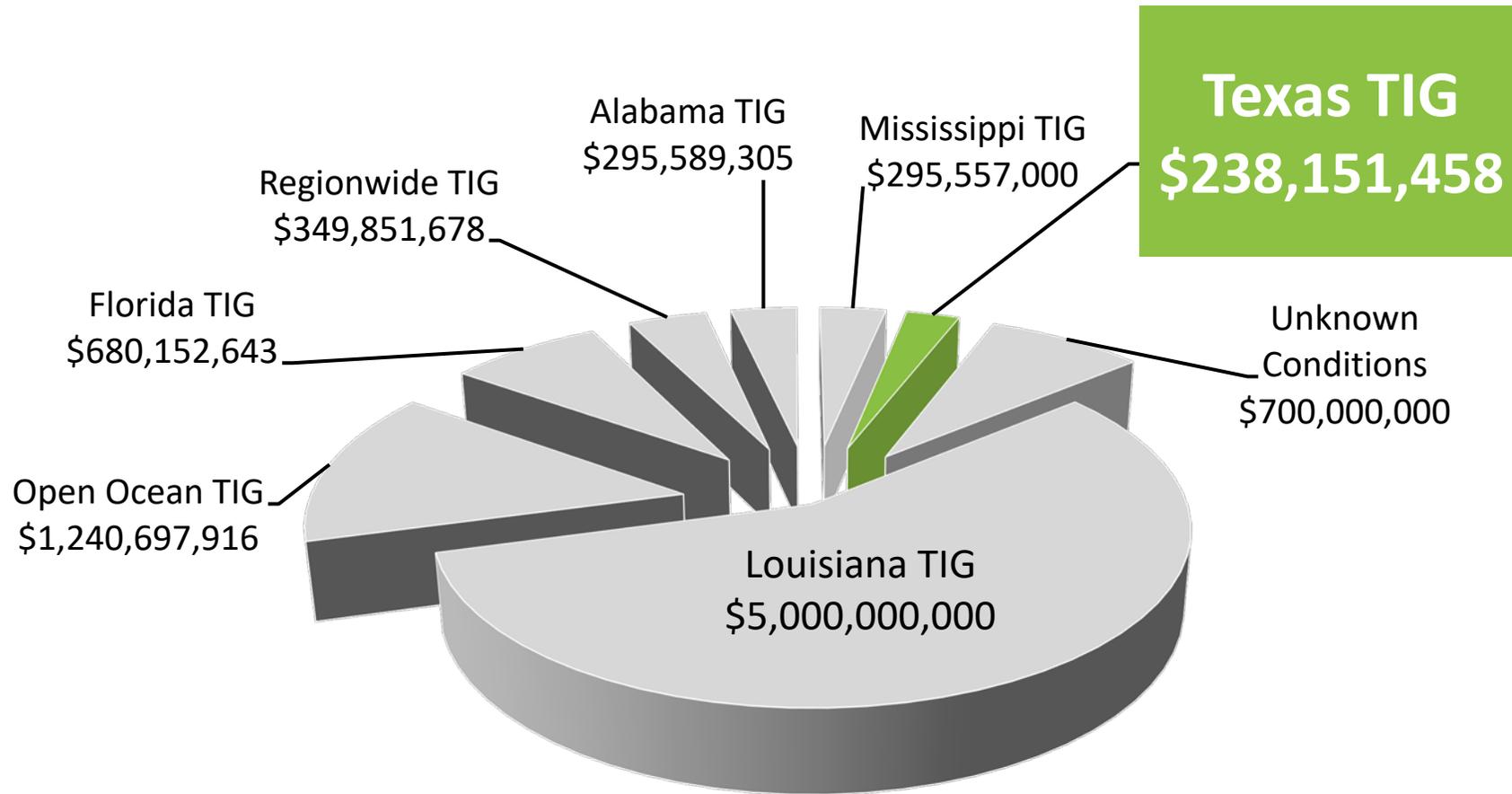
# Texas TIG Agencies



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



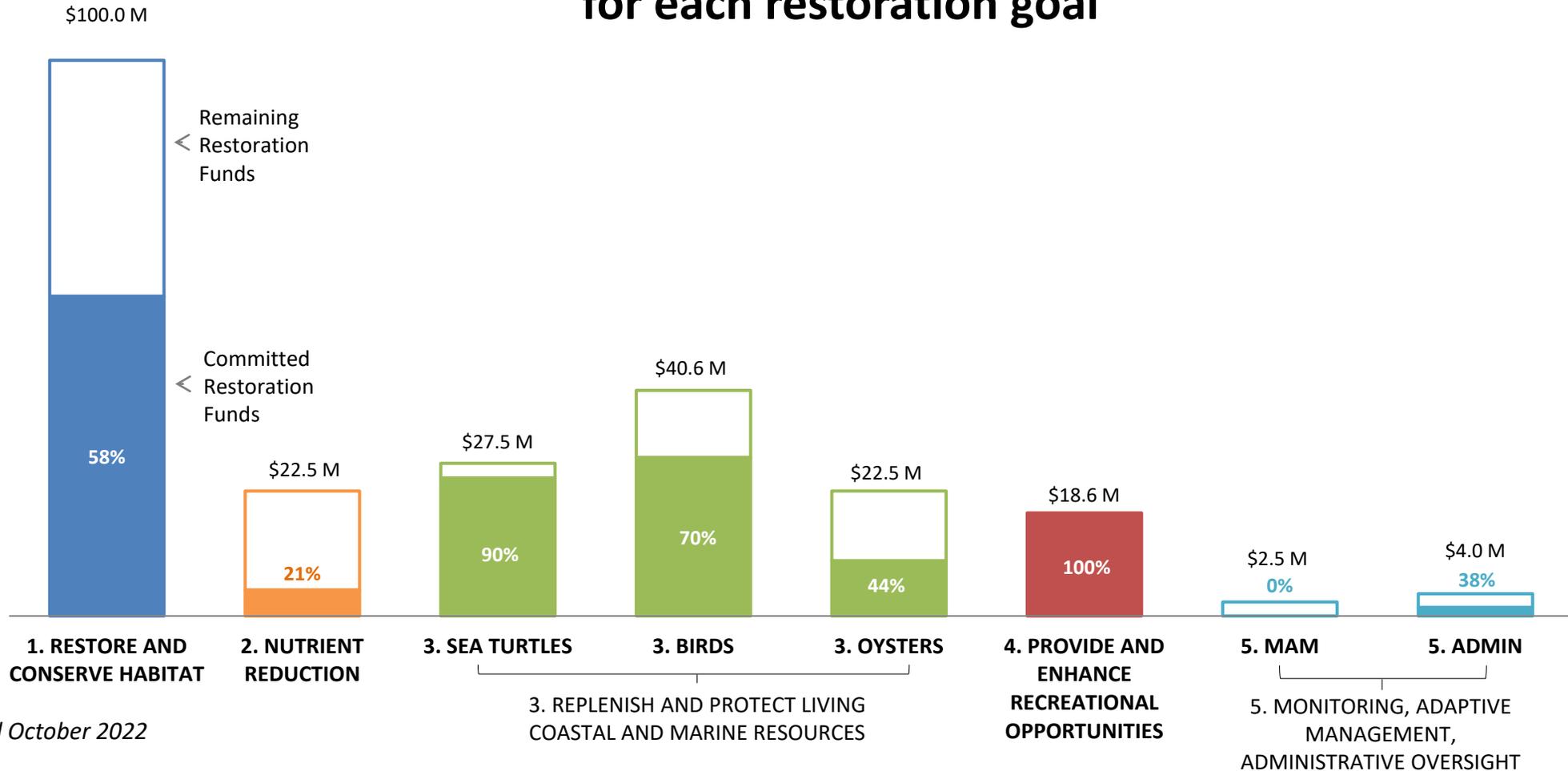
# Total Allocation



# Commitment of Restoration Funds



## Committed versus remaining restoration funding allocated for each restoration goal



Updated October 2022

November 2022

# Galveston Island State Park Beach Redevelopment



**Location:** Galveston Island  
State Park, Galveston, Texas

**Description:** Construction of  
new campground near the  
beach

**Status:** Construction complete.  
Facilities are open for public  
use!



# Texas Rookery Islands - Dickinson Bay Island II



Photo by Galveston Bay Foundation

**Location:** Dickinson Bay, north of Texas City, TX, Galveston County

**Description:** Construction of a 4-acre bird rookery island.

**Status:** Construction completed! Planting started fall in 2022.

# Petronila Creek Nutrient Reduction Projects



- **Location:** Nueces County
- **Description:** Planning for a constructed wetland project and implementation of conservation practices on farms and ranches to reduce nutrients in Petronila Creek
- **Cost:** Planning - \$450,000  
Implementation - \$4,300,000



# Jones Bay Oystercatcher Habitat Restoration



- **Location:** Galveston Bay
- **Description:**  
Creates nesting and foraging habitat to support additional nesting pairs of oystercatchers and their young
- **Cost:** \$2,300,000



# Where to find more DWH NRDA information



## GULF SPILL RESTORATION



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

Home

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How We Restore

Restoration Areas

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## 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>



# Q&A Session with Trustee Panel

# Texas TIG Representatives



Jamie Schubert



Angela Schrift



Erin Chandler



Michael Cave



Ron Howard



Allison Fischer



Doug Jacobson

A photograph of a roseate spoonbill bird with its distinctive reddish-pink crest feathers raised, standing in a grassy field. In the background, several other birds are visible, some resting on the ground.

Thank you!

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