

The University of Mississippi



GULF OIL SPILL RECOVERY & RESTORATION

OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

UM TASK FORCE & ACTIVITIES

January 28, 2016

3 Main Restoration Processes

- Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
- RESTORE Act



Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Mississippi Restoration Funds



2015 Settlement	Previously Allocated	TOTAL
Natural Resource Damage Assessment \$183 Million	Natural Resource Damage Assessment Early Restoration \$112.557 Million	\$2.174 Billion
RESTORE Act \$582 Million	RESTORE Act \$106 Million	
Economic Damages \$750 Million	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation \$356 Million	<i>Making Mississippi Whole</i>
	Initial Response \$85.168 Million	

Settlement

**\$1.5 billion agreement in principle with BP.
Mississippi will receive:**

- ~ \$183 M in NRDA payments to be paid over 15 years, primarily for environmental restoration;
- ~ \$582 M in Clean Water Act penalties under the RESTORE Act paid over 15 years and used primarily for environmental projects, research and economic development;
- ~ \$750 M in economic damages paid over 17 years as a result of Mississippi's own lawsuit against BP. Mississippi is scheduled to receive a payment of \$150 million in 2016 and equal yearly payments of \$40 million from 2019-2033. The funds will be available for appropriation by the Mississippi Legislature.

NRDA

- Led by Trustees (NOAA controlled)
 - MS Trustee: MDEQ
- 3 stages (Currently in Stage 2)
 1. Preassessment
 2. Injury Assessment & Restoration Planning
 3. Restoration Implementation
- Currently in Phase 4 of Funding
 - 2 MS Projects, ~\$37 M
- Updated October 5, 2015: Public comment on draft restoration plan through December 4, 2015. \$8.8 B/15 years.

NFWF

- Funded with criminal penalties against BP and Transocean
- Funded through Gulf Environment Benefit Fund
- \$2.544 B/5 years to support projects that remedy harm to natural resources in Gulf States.
- \$68 M to Mississippi to date; \$356 M expected over next 5 years.
- NFWF does not have to seek public input.
- November 2015: 3rd round of projects awarded, \$30 M



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Mississippi Restoration Projects



Natural Resource Damage Assessment Early Restoration \$79.67 Million Committed

Phase I

Artificial Reef Habitat Restoration
\$2.6 Million

Oyster Cultch Restoration
\$11 Million

Phase III

Hancock County Marsh Living Shoreline
\$47.17 Million

Infinity Science Center
\$10.4 Million

Popp's Ferry Causeway Park
\$4.7 Million

Pascagoula Beachfront Promenade
\$3.8 Million

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation \$40.4 Million Committed

Round I

Coastal Streams Initiative
\$2.631 Million

Coastal Bird Stewardship
\$1.604 Million

Coastal Preserves
\$3.3 Million

Round II

Reef Fish Assessment
\$4.6 Million

Invasive Species Management
\$2.676 Million

Marsh Restoration
\$22 Million

**Round 3 Announced 11-10-15
\$30 million**

Mississippi Coastal Restoration Plan **\$5.6 Million**

Making Mississippi Whole

RESTORE

RESTORE = **R**esources and **E**cosystems **S**ustainability, **T**ourist **O**pportunities, and **R**evived **E**conomies of the Gulf Coast States Act,

The RESTORE Act makes sure that fine money paid by companies involved in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill finds its way back to the states that were impacted by the spill.

- 20 percent of the fine money goes to the future spill fund; 80 percent goes to economic or environmental restoration projects around the Gulf.

RESTORE Council (responsible for 60% of RESTORE funds)

- Governors from the five affected Gulf States – each with vote
- Departments of the Interior
- Commerce
- Agriculture
- Homeland Security
- U.S. Army
- Environmental Protection Agency



One Vote



Clean Water Act Penalties

20% to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund

80% to the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund

1

Direct Component

Treasury Administered

35% equally divided among the five Gulf Coast States for ecosystem restoration, economic development, and tourism promotion

LA	FL	MS	AL	TX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30% to coastal parishes based on allocation formula 70% to the state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75% to most affected counties by oil spill 25% to the other impacted coastal counties based on allocation formula 	Department of Environmental Quality	Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council	Texas Governor's Office

2

Comprehensive Plan Component

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Administered

30% + interest earned from Trust Fund Investments for restoration activities under the Comprehensive Plan

3

Spill Impact Component

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Administered

30% divided among the five Gulf Coast States according to a formula to implement State Expenditure Plans, which require approval by the Council

4

NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program

NOAA Administered

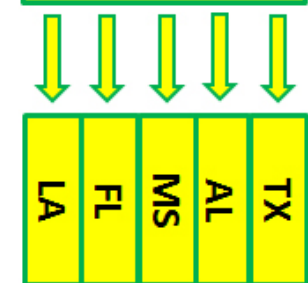
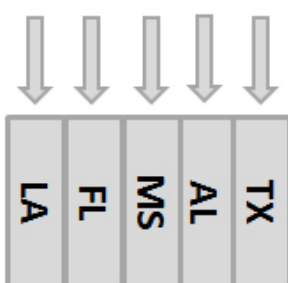
2.5% + interest earned from Trust Fund Investments for a science, observation, monitoring, and technology program

5

Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program

Treasury Administered

2.5% + interest earned from Trust Fund Investments for research on the Gulf Coast Region



Restore Council Funded Priority List (Bucket 2)

- FPL was approved in December 2015
- Focuses on key watersheds
- MS projects (~\$23 M)
 - Strategic Land Protection, Conservation, and Enhancement of Priority Gulf Coast Landscapes
 - Enhancing Opportunities for Beneficial Use of Dredge Sediments
 - MS Sound Estuarine Program: A Programmatic Vision for Bridging Coastal Restoration

Submit Project Ideas

- For Mississippi, there is one on-line portal for Restore, NRDA, NFWF: www.restore.ms
- Currently 750+ total proposals. Proposals still accepted.
- ~ 23 UM Proposals
- Wide variety of proposals – science to road construction

<http://www.msrestoreteam.com/ProjectStoryMap/>

Mississippi Gulf Spill Restoration Projects

A story map   

Restoration projects in Mississippi approved by the Deepwater Horizon NRDA Trustees, funded by the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund of the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), or funded by the RESTORE Act



All Projects

NRDA

NFWF

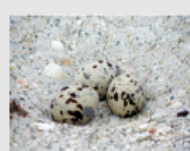
RESTORE



1 Oyster Reef Restoration (Phase I)



2 Artificial Reef Enhancement (Phase I)



3 Avian Breeding Habitat (Phase II)



4 Popp's Ferry Causeway Park (Phase III)



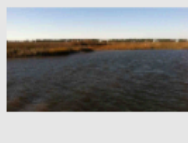
5 Pascagoula Beachfront Promenade (Phase III)



6 Hancock County Marsh Living Shoreline (Phase III)



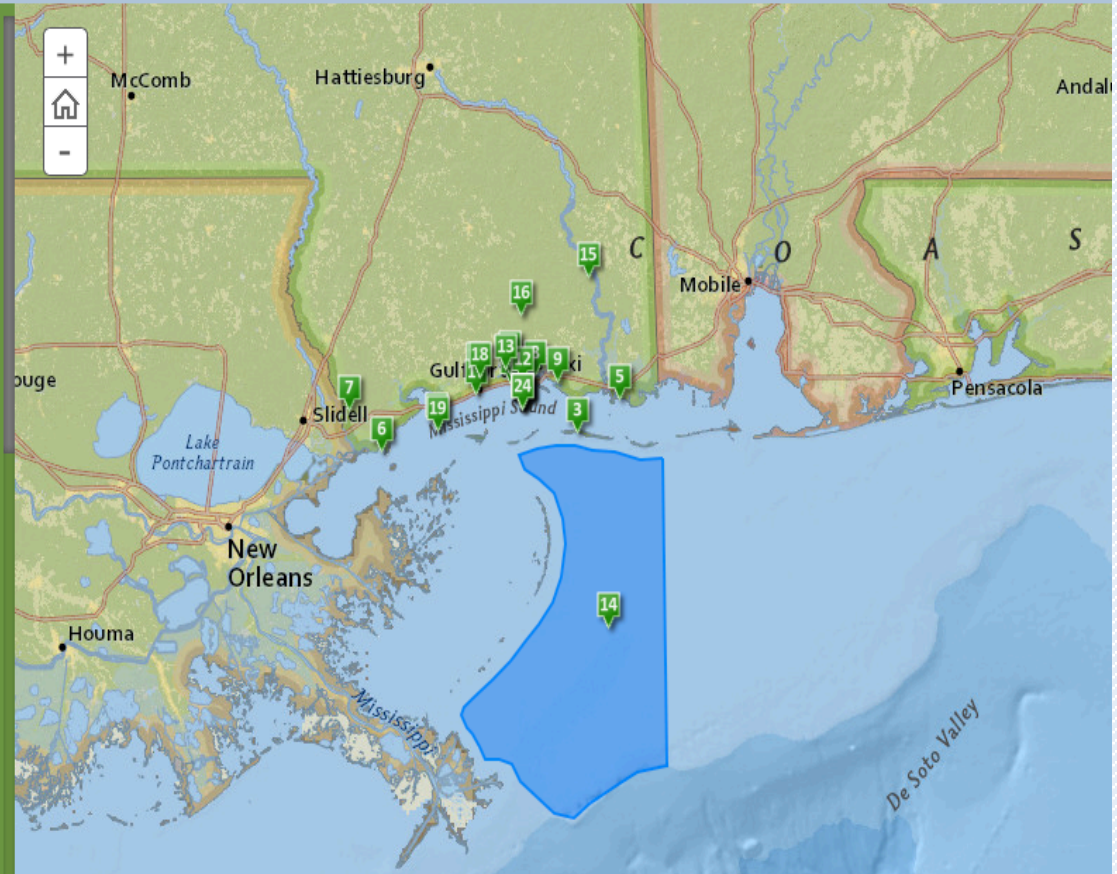
7 Restoration Initiatives at the INFINITY Science Center (Phase III)



8 Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries



9 The Bike and Pedestrian Use Enhancements Project at Davis Bayou



Other Opportunities

- Oyster Council
- National Academy of Sciences
- Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI)
- Gulf Coast Ocean Observing System (GCOOS)
- Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)

UM Restoration Task Force

Purpose

- Monitor/disseminate information on campus regarding research opportunities available via oil spill restoration processes.
- Attend meetings statewide with key people, agencies, and programs to raise the awareness about UM capabilities.

UM Restoration Task Force

Members

- Greg Easson, MMRI
- Marc Slattery, NIUST
- Deb Gochfeld, NCNPR
- Stephanie Showalter-Otts, Sea Grant Law Center
- Craig Hickey, NCPA
- Stefan Schulenberg, Clinical Disaster Research Ctr.
- Josh Gladden, NCPA/ORSP
- Yan Ding, NCCHE
- Jason Hale, ORSP
- Lisa Stone (ORSP Admin Support)

UM Restoration Task Force

Outreach

- Mississippi Dept. of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) – lead agency in Mississippi
- Mississippi Dept. of Marine Resources (DMR)
- USM at Stennis: Marine Science program
- RESTORE Council
- National Oceans and Applications Research Center (NOARC): Governor’s Tech recruiting
- Governor’s Oyster Council

UM Restoration Task Force

Recent & Upcoming Meetings

- National Academy of Sciences Monitoring Workshop, August, 2015
- Gulf Research Program Stakeholder Webinar (NAS, October 28, 2015)
- 2016 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science Conference (Feb 2016; Tampa, FL)
- Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA), June, 2016
- Web conferences

Upcoming Opportunities

- **National Academy of Sciences**
 - Exploratory Grants: Open Dec. 15, 2015
 - Synthesis Grants: Open March 1, 2016
 - Capacity Building Grants: Open May 1, 2016
- **NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program:** Next funding competition between mid-April and mid-May of 2016
 - Comprehensive understanding of living coastal and marine resources, food web dynamics, habitat utilization, protected areas, and carbon flow.
 - Decision-support tools to assist resource managers with management decision planned to sustain habitats, living coastal and marine resources, and wildlife.
- **GOMRI:** Anticipated RFP March 2016
- **MDEQ**
 - MDEQ is seeking sealed bids for construction of the MS SOUND SAND BERM PROJECT. This Project is administered by MDEQ and funded through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, Agreement # 45721. The Project includes, but is not limited to, dredging, pumping and sand berm construction. Bids due February 18, 2016.

Staying Informed

- **UM Update Page:** <http://research.olemiss.edu/GulfOverview>
- **Mississippi Project Map (NRDA, NFWF, RESTORE):** <http://www.msrestoreteam.com/ProjectStoryMap/>
- **NAS Gulf Research Program:** <http://nas.edu/gulf/enews/index.html>
- **Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI):**
<http://gulfresearchinitiative.org/news-and-events/gomri-newsletter/gomri-newsletter-subscription-form/>
- **MS Restore (MDEQ):** <http://www.restore.ms/contact/>
- **Gulf Restoration Network:** <http://healthygulf.org>
- **Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative (GoMURC):**
<http://www.marine.usf.edu/gomurc/index.php/news-mainmenu/blog>
- **Environmental Law Institute Ocean Program:** <http://eli-ocean.org/gulf/>
- **Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA):** <http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/announcements/news/>
- **NOAA Restore Act Science Program:** <http://restoreactscienceprogram.noaa.gov/contact/sub-form>
- **NRDA:** <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/what-you-can-do/mailling-list/>
- **NFWF:** <http://www.nfwf.org/gulf/Pages/home.aspx>
- **RESTORE Council:** <https://www.restorethegulf.gov/>