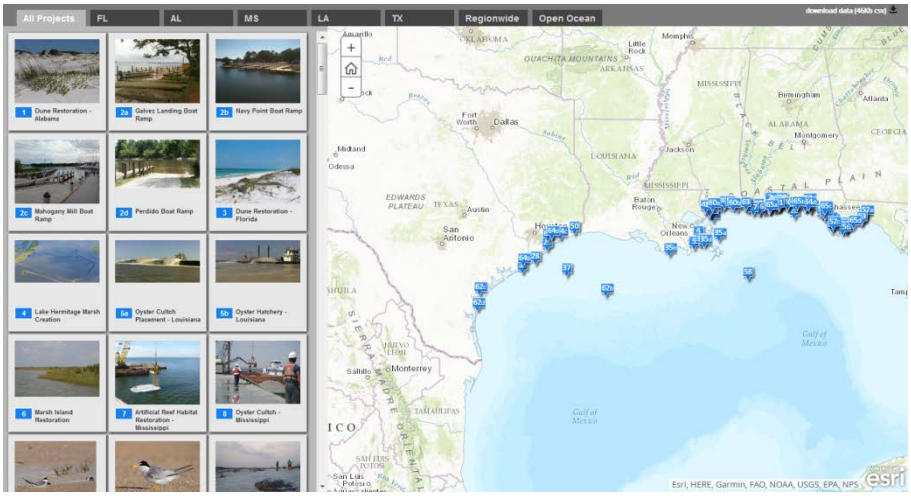
Data Management



WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR

The Trustees released our first annual report to the public to show our restoration progress, as well as how we're spending settlement funds. The project reports are created through the DIVER system and are available on each restoration area page and on the interactive map.

The Cross-TIG Monitoring and Adaptive Management work group will use DIVER to synthesize and evaluate monitoring information across projects and Trustee Implementation Groups.

DIVER: https://www.diver.orr.noaa.gov/home

ERMA: https://erma.noaa.gov/gulfofmexico/erma.html

Trustee Website: http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/

Project Map: http://www.restoration.noaa.gov/dwh/storymap/

WHAT WE DO

During the damage assessment, we collected environmental data to document the location and extent of ecosystem injuries. We collected tens of thousands of samples and observations to determine the oil's impact.

We are collecting information on our restoration projects, including monitoring data, and will continue to provide regular updates on project activities and monitoring.

Assessment and restoration information and data are available through the Data Integration, Visualization, Exploration, and Reporting (DIVER) and Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA®) tools. DIVER integrates data from many sources, which is a key feature of the system as we work with data partners across the Gulf.

Monitoring and Adaptive Management

WHO WE ARE

The Cross-TIG Monitoring and Adaptive Management Workgroup has representation from all members of the Trustee Council. We will encourage compatibility of monitoring and data procedures and serve as a forum to address monitoring and adaptive management topics in DWH restoration. Activities for 2017-2018 will include:

- Finalizing Version 1.0 of the Trustee Council Monitoring and Adaptive Management Procedures and Guidelines Manual, which includes project-level monitoring and adaptive management guidelines; monitoring guidance for wetlands, beaches and dunes, barrier islands, water quality, and recreation use restoration approaches; and a template for project MAM plans
- Developing project-level monitoring and adaptive management guidelines for additional restoration approaches
- Developing guidelines for programmatic data analysis, synthesis, and reporting
- Continuing to develop DIVER database structure for restoration monitoring data
- Coordinating with other Gulf restoration programs on monitoring and adaptive management matters

WHAT WE DO

Adaptive management involves fine-tuning the restoration program over time, based on monitoring results and improved scientific understanding. We recognize the need for a robust monitoring and adaptive management framework within all the Restoration Areas. The process creates an expanding base of knowledge that supports current and future restoration decision-making and further refines which restoration approaches are most effective for different resources and environmental settings.

We are designing guidance regarding monitoring efforts to evaluate restoration outcomes and benefits to injured resources. We might need additional ecological monitoring and other scientific activities to address information gaps and improve restoration planning and implementation. This process allows us to proceed with restoration now, without waiting to resolve every scientific question first.