**Deepwater Horizon NRDA** Florida Restoration Area



#### Florida Trustee Implementation Group (FL TIG) - Annual Public Meeting

#### December 7, 2021





# 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





### Overview

- Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and
   Florida Trustee Implementation Group (FL TIG)
- Early restoration projects in Florida
- FL TIG Restoration Plan 1
- FL TIG Restoration Plan 2
- FL TIG restoration planning activities
- DWH NRDA Programmatic Review
- 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.
 Implementation Groups.
 Implementation Groups.

#### TRUSTEE IMPLEMENTATION GROUPS

Alabama	Florida	Louisiana	Mississippi	Texas	Open Ocean	Regionwide	Unknown Conditions and Adaptive Management*
Conduct pla	anning for r	estoration and	And the Real Property lies in the Real Prope	d adaptive i rmed at a fi	and the second se	nt: provide oversi	ght for implementation.

#### INDIVIDUAL TRUSTEE AGENCIES

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

# FL 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 Oceanographic 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 2021, the FL TIG has committed over \$258M in planning/projects
- ~\$422 million, or 62%, of FL TIG funds remaining for future planning, projects, MAM activities, and administration



#### Florida Restoration Area Funding Overview

Restoration Type		Settlement	Funds Committed	Percent Funds	
Restor		Allocation	Through Nov. 2021	Committed Remaining	
	Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats	\$20,629,367	\$15,626,264	76% 24%	
	Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands	\$17,500,000	\$16,629,066	95% 5%	
	Nutrient Reduction	\$35,000,000	\$5,302,441	15% 85%	
$\bigcirc$	Water Quality	\$300,000,000	\$17,118,747	6% 94%	
	Oysters	\$25,370,596	\$8,173,408	32% 68%	
	Sea Turtles	\$20,000,000	\$5,180,801	26% 74%	
	Marine Mammals	\$5,000,000	\$39,315	1% 99%	
	Birds	\$42,835,000	\$15,760,269	37% 63%	
	Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities	\$183,817,680	\$164,384,642	89% 11%	
$\square$	Monitoring and Adaptive Management	\$10,000,000	\$0	0% 100%	
	Administrative Oversight and Comprehen- sive Planning	\$20,000,000	\$2,105,000	11% 89%	
	Total	\$680,152,643	\$250,319,952	37% 63%	



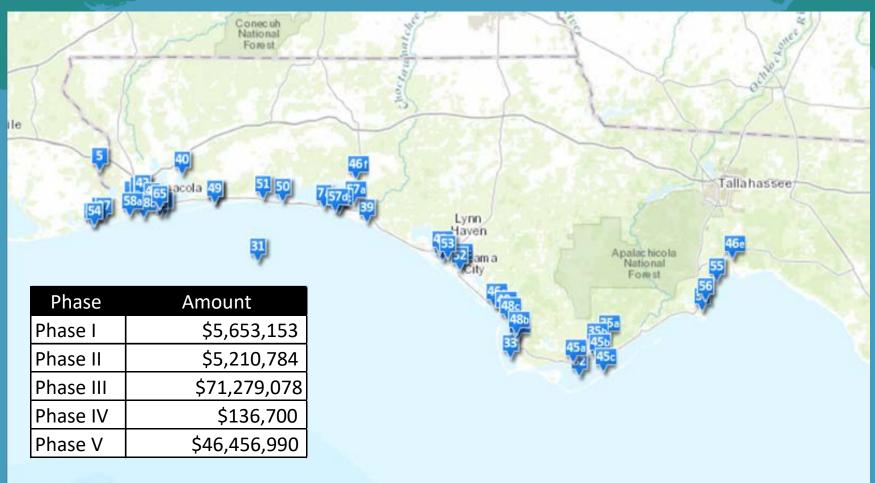
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# Early Restoration Projects in Florida

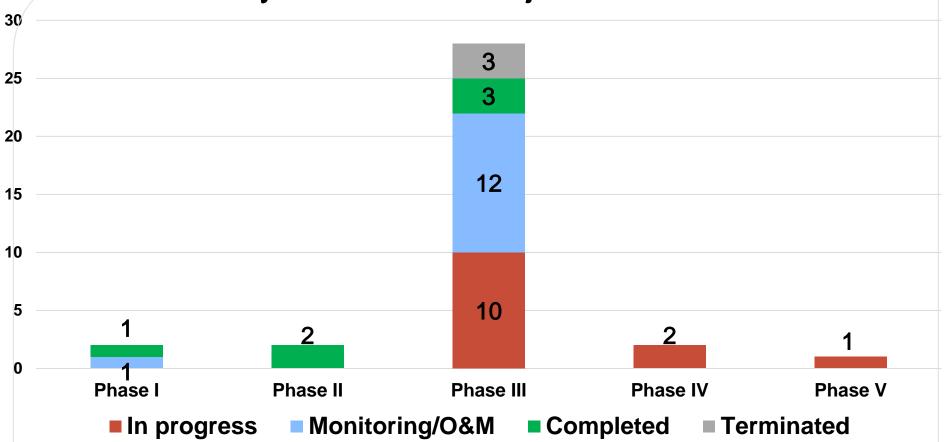
www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/florida

# Early Restoration Projects in Florida



www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/florida

#### Early Restoration Projects in Florida



#### Completed projects:

- Phase I: Florida (Pensacola Beach) Dune Restoration Project
- Phase II: Enhanced Management of Avian Breeding Habitat Injured by Response Activities in the Florida Panhandle, Alabama, and Mississippi; Improving Habitat Injured by Spill Response: Restoring the Night Sky
- Phase III: Apalachicola River Wildlife and Environmental Area Fishing and Wildlife Viewing Access Improvements; Perdido Key Dune Restoration Project; Strategically Provided Boat Access along Florida's Gulf Coast
   www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/florida



### Florida Artificial Reef Creation and Restoration (FWC)



- Status: in progress (post-construction monitoring)
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by creating reef habitats and enhancing reef fish variety/abundance
- Deployed 3,607 artificial reef modules across 40 permitted areas from May 2017-Feb 2021
- Florida Artificial Reef Creation and Restoration Phase 2





### Florida Coastal Access Project -Lynn Haven Park and Preserve (DEP)

- Status: in progress (post-construction monitoring/O&M)
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by acquiring a 90.7-acre parcel and constructing a public park with an outdoor classroom, pier, pavilions, dock access for kayaks and fishing, natural playground, disc golf course, and bayou boardwalk and wildlife viewing area







#### Deer Lake State Park Development (DEP)



- Status: in progress (construction)
- 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; anticipated completion in spring 2022





### Bald Point State Park Recreation Areas (DEP)



- Status: in progress (construction)
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by providing a kayak launch, paved parking area, and access boardwalks
- Construction began in Sept 2021; anticipated completion in summer 2022





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



- Status: in progress (construction)
- Create shoreline habitat and reduce erosion at the Project GreenShores Site II; breakwaters will reduce wave energy and create ~9 ac of salt marsh and 4 ac of reef habitat
- Construction began in Oct 2021; anticipated completion in summer 2022





### City of Parker – Oakshore Drive Pier (DEP)



- Status: in progress (pre-construction)
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by providing a pier and boardwalk at Earl Gilbert City Park
- Design complete; construction anticipated to begin in early 2022





• Status: terminated (2021)

 Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by providing a fishing pier and replacing the boat launch/staging area at the Panama City Marina

 Damage from Hurricane Michael changed the City's plans for redevelopment of the marina **Deepwater Horizon NRDA** Florida Restoration Area



# FL TIG Restoration Plan 1

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/florida



# **FL TIG Restoration Plan 1**

#### Finalized in 2019

- 23 projects; ~\$62M
- Four restoration types: Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands (4 projects), Nutrient Reduction (2), Water Quality (9), and Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities (8)

DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL

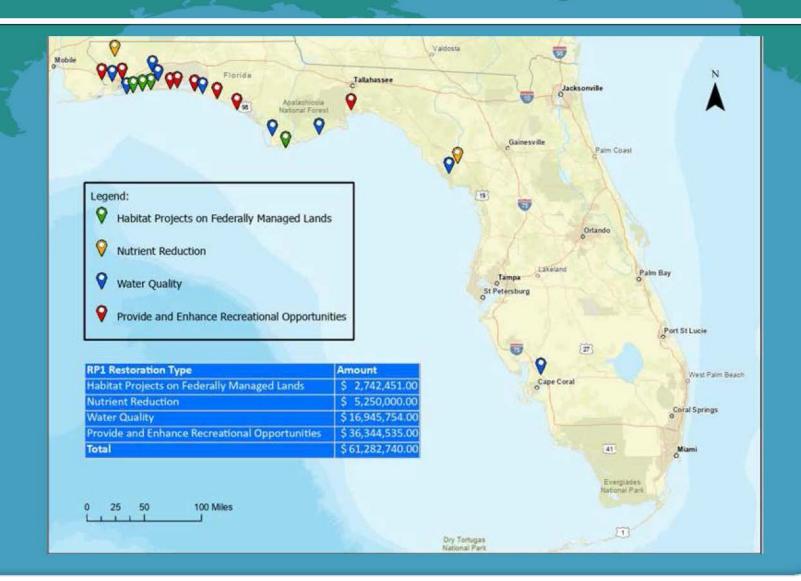
FLORIDA TRUSTEE IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

FINAL RESTORATION PLAN 1 AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: HABITAT PROJECTS ON FEDERALLY MANAGED LANDS; NUTRIENT REDUCTION; WATER QUALITY; AND PROVIDE AND ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

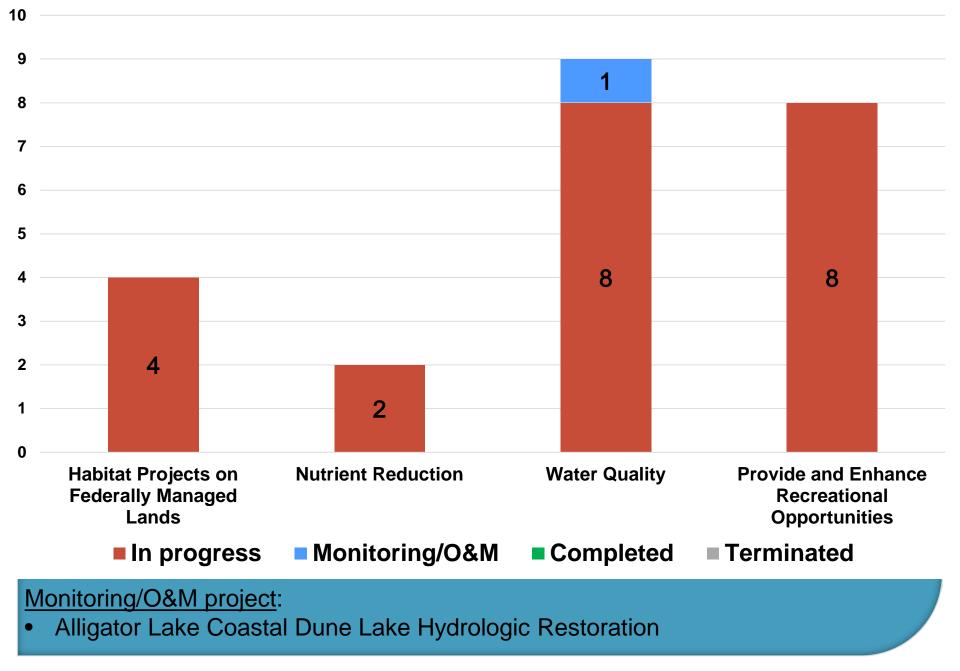




# **FL TIG RP1 Projects**



#### FL TIG RP1 Projects





### Beach and Dune Habitat Protection at Gulf Islands National Seashore (DOI)

- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Protect beach/dune habitat and wildlife by surveying birds and predators, fencing nests, conducting targeted predator mgmt, addressing vehicle collisions, and educating visitors
- Two habitat restoration projects in the FL TIG RP2 at Gulf Islands will complement and extend this work





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

- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Improve water quality through improved land management practices that reduce nutrient and sediment runoff
- Sixteen contracts on 4,450 acres totaling \$1,141,502 have been awarded to landowners in the HUC 12 watershed: Pine Barren/ Sandy Hollow and Moore Creek
- Planning, implementation, and baseline monitoring (1<sup>st</sup> cycle) in progress



### Lower Suwannee River Watershed -Nutrient Reduction (USDA)

- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Improve water quality through improved land management practices that reduce nutrient and sediment runoff
- Eleven contracts on 2,340 ac totaling \$1,182,960 have been awarded to landowners in the HUC 12 watershed: Long Pond and North Old Town Hammock
- Planning, implementation, and baseline monitoring (1<sup>st</sup> cycle) in progress





### St. Andrews State Park Improvements (DEP)



- Status: in progress (E&D/construction)
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by providing a new entrance, amenities at lagoon use area, a loop trail and boardwalk, and repaved roadways with bicycle lanes and hydrology improvements
- Restrooms completed Nov 2021; construction anticipated to begin in spring 2022



### Pensacola Bay Unpaved Roads Initiative (DEP)

- Status: in progress (pre-implementation)
- Assess/identify stream crossings that contribute sediment loads to the Pensacola Bay watershed; develop initial designs for improvements for at least 15 top-priority sites
- Work anticipated to begin in early 2022



# Rattlesnake Bluff Road and Riverbank Restoration (DOI)



- Status: in progress (pre-construction)
- Restore water quality in the Pensacola Bay Watershed by reducing erosion and sediment loads through culvert replacement and bank/road stabilization at up to 6 top-priority sites on Rattlesnake Bluff Road
- Work anticipated to begin in early 2022





### Joe's Bayou Recreation Area Improvements (DEP)



#### Status: in progress (E&D)

 Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by improving wateraccess for paddle and power craft, enhancing other amenities such as boardwalks and trails, and restoring natural resources at Joe's Bayou Recreation Area/ Mattie Kelly Park in the City of Destin









St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Trail Connection, Spring Creek to Port Leon (USDA)

- Status: in progress (pre-implementation)
- Provide/enhance recreational opportunities by improving access to and completing the FL National Scenic Trail at St. Marks NWR
- Development of an implementation agreement for E&D and implementation is underway



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# FL TIG Restoration Plan 2

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/florida



# **FL TIG Restoration Plan 2**

#### • Finalized in June 2021

• 19 (18 total\*) projects; ~\$62M

 Five restoration types: Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands (4 projects), Sea Turtles (3), Marine Mammals (1), Birds (4), and Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities (7) DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL FLORIDA TRUSTEE IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

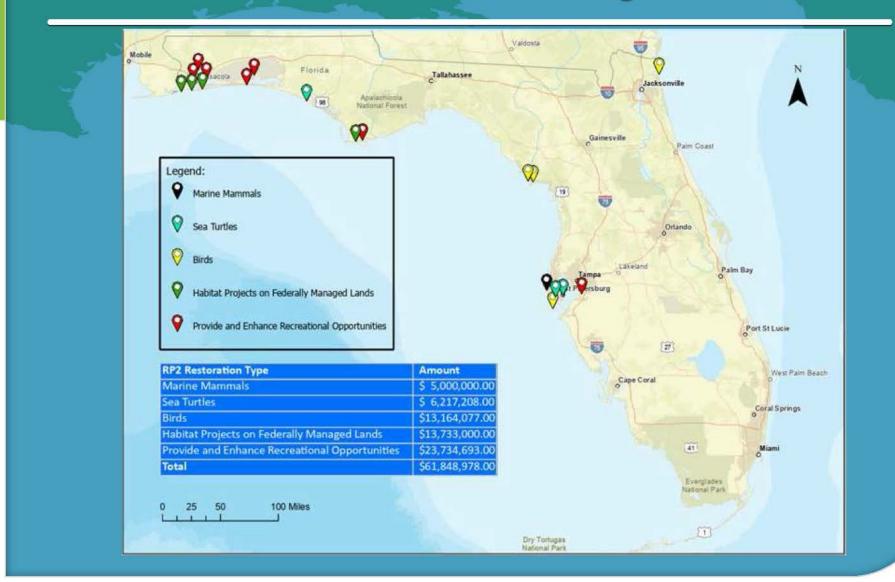
FINAL RESTORATION PLAN 2 AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: HABITAT PROJECTS ON FEDERALLY MANAGED LANDS; SEA TURTLES; MARINE MAMMALS; BIRDS; AND PROVIDE AND ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



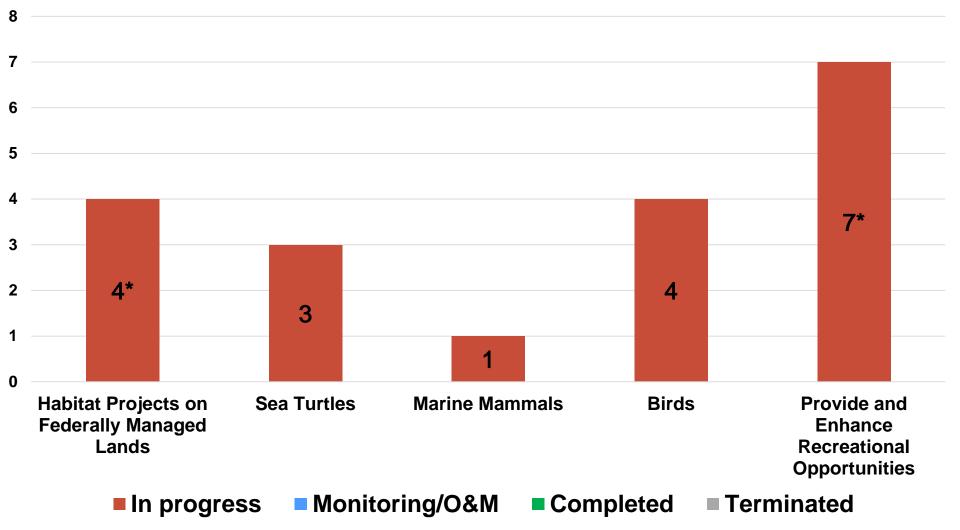
\*The St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge Access and Recreational Improvements through Acquisition at Indian Pass project is jointly proposed and listed under two restoration types: Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands and Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities.



# FL TIG RP2 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.



- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Implement predation management measures at critical nesting sites in NE FL
- Increase breeding success and population size for DWHimpacted shorebirds and seabirds (AMOY, LETE, BLSK, WIPL)





- Status: in progress (E&D/pre-construction monitoring)
- Restore/enhance critical nesting/foraging habitat for oystercatchers on Gomez Key
- Will address habitat loss in the intertidal waters around Cedar Key, the primary threat facing oystercatchers in the southern half of the Big Bend





### FL TIG Restoration Planning Activities

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/florida



Evaluating orientation response of sea turtle (hatchlings to physical cues on nesting beaches (FWC)

- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Investigate hatchling orientation response to specific cues related to physical/biological beach features
- Inform future conservation and restoration actions of nesting habitat along Florida's developed beaches
- Work began in Jul 2021; anticipated completion in 2024





Conducting habitat suitability analyses to identify optimal oyster restoration locations along the Florida Gulf coast (FWC)

- Status: in progress (implementation)
- Address critical data gaps to oyster restoration by developing oyster habitat suitability indices for six basins along the FL Gulf coast
- Increase the success of future oyster restoration efforts in Florida by providing information for restoration site placement
- Work began in late 2021; anticipated completion in 2026



### DWH NRDA Programmatic Review

#### DWH NRDA Programmatic Review



- Released in Nov 2021 (data through 2020)
- Evaluates progress made for each restoration type as well providing restoration area-specific updates
- Trustees have received ~\$2.8B in funding; committed ~\$2.4B to >200 projects/activities



Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment

**Programmatic Review** 

November 2021



www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/



## Next Steps



#### What is coming up for the FL TIG?

 Implementation and monitoring of early restoration, RP1, and RP2 projects, and restoration planning activities

• FL TIG Phase V.4 Florida Coastal Access Project RP/SEA

FL TIG Restoration Plan 3

Monitoring and adaptive management



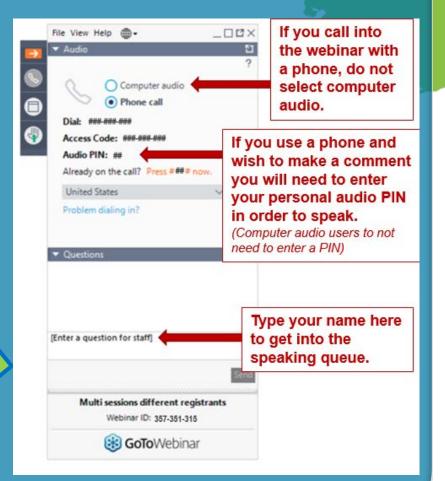


### Public Comments



#### **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.





# Comment in progress



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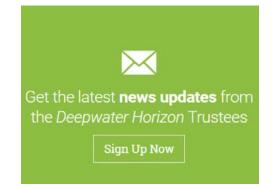
#### 10 seconds remaining



#### Time is up



#### Thank you!



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