

Open Ocean Restoration Area Fish and Water Column Invertebrates

Strategic Planning, Objective Setting, and Prioritization



BACKGROUND

The Deepwater Horizon Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group (Open Ocean TIG) is conducting strategic planning for fish and water column invertebrates. Planning will take place throughout 2021 and will inform the prioritization of the remaining \$320 million allocated for fish and water column invertebrate restoration over multiple future restoration plans.

PURPOSE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Open Ocean TIG is conducting strategic planning through a team of fish and water column invertebrate subject matter experts that will make recommendations and lead public engagement for the Open Ocean TIG. The Open Ocean TIG will develop restoration priorities and objectives based primarily on restoring injured species, but may consider additional factors such as ecological function, ecological services, restoration techniques, threat reduction, geography, and feasibility. These factors will be used to develop prioritization tools that can guide future short- and long-term restoration and monitoring.

GIVE US YOUR INPUT

The Open Ocean TIG would like to hear about your ideas related to these factors to guide our strategic planning. You can provide input at several public webinars over the next few months or through email to openocean.TIG@noaa.gov. Information about future public webinars will be made available at gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov.

USEFUL LINKS

- Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) background and how the process is applied to the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill: [Introduction to NRDA](#)
- Past NRDA cases where restoration was guided by stakeholder input (external): [NRDA in Action](#)
- Scope of injury resulting from the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill in the Open Ocean Restoration Area: [Resource Injuries](#)
- Allocation of money from the *Deepwater Horizon* settlement: [Gulf Restoration Funding](#)
- Summary of the *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Final Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan (PDARP) and Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)*: [Programmatic Restoration Plan Factsheet](#)
- Summary of the second Open Ocean Restoration Plan: [Open Ocean Restoration Plan 2 Factsheet](#)
- Summary of Open Ocean Monitoring and Adaptive Management (MAM) priorities: [Open Ocean MAM Priorities](#)