

# Regionwide Restoration Area

American Oystercatcher caught in fishing line at Matagorda Beach in Matagorda, Texas.

#### **RECENT ACTIVITIES**

We continue to oversee implementation and monitoring of Early Restoration projects. The Regionwide Trustee Implementation Group released its Final Restoration Plan 1 in September 2021. The plan includes nearly \$100 million for 11 projects to restore birds, sea turtles, oysters, and marine mammals. In addition to collecting bird monitoring data throughout the Gulf, we formed a workgroup to begin project planning to reduce marine debris impacts on birds and sea turtles in the Gulf.

#### WHAT WE DO

Our work within the Regionwide Restoration Area is intended to replenish and protect targeted marine resources (marine mammals, sea turtles, birds, and oysters) affected by the spill and which often live and migrate across broad jurisdictional boundaries. The Trustee representatives for the Regionwide Restoration Area are:

- Jaime Miller, Alabama
- Gareth Leonard, Florida
- Lawrence B. "Bren" Haase, Louisiana
- Chris Wells, Mississippi
- Angela Sunley, Texas
- Ashley Mills, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)
- Jamie Schubert, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Ron Howard, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Timothy Landers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)





## **Funding Overview**

Restoration Type	Settlement Allocation	Funds Committed Through May 2023	Percent Funds	
			Committed	Remaining
Sea Turtles	\$89,256,165	\$50,400,822	56%	44%
Marine Mammals	\$19,000,000	\$7,932,670	42%	58%
Birds	\$72,223,100	\$37,272,186	52%	48%
Oysters	\$64,372,413	\$36,828,203	57%	43%
<b>B</b> Monitoring and Adaptive Management	\$65,000,000	\$6,995,297	11%	89%
Administrative Oversight and Comprehensive Planning	\$40,000,000	\$15,265,514	38%	62%
Total	\$349,851,678	\$154,694,692	44%	56%

### **Restoration Overview**

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION // \$155 million committed to approved projects. All 11 projects have an approved project implementation plan. Two early restoration projects are still in progress and coordination began between the State and Federal Trustees to ensure consistency in implementation of the project that reduces marine debris impacts on birds and sea turtles.

Monitoring and Adaptive Management (MAM) Activity Implementation Plan for Colonial Waterbird Monitoring // Our MAM Activity addresses the MAM Priorities of 1) Informational Needs, and 2) Assisting in Restoration Planning. The data generated and evaluated will assist in the estimation of colonial bird nesting numbers at a regionwide scale (South Texas to Big Bend of Florida). Specifically, since November 2020 we have completed the processing of high-definition photographs of bird colonies taken across the Gulf of Mexico.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov /restoration-areas/regionwide



