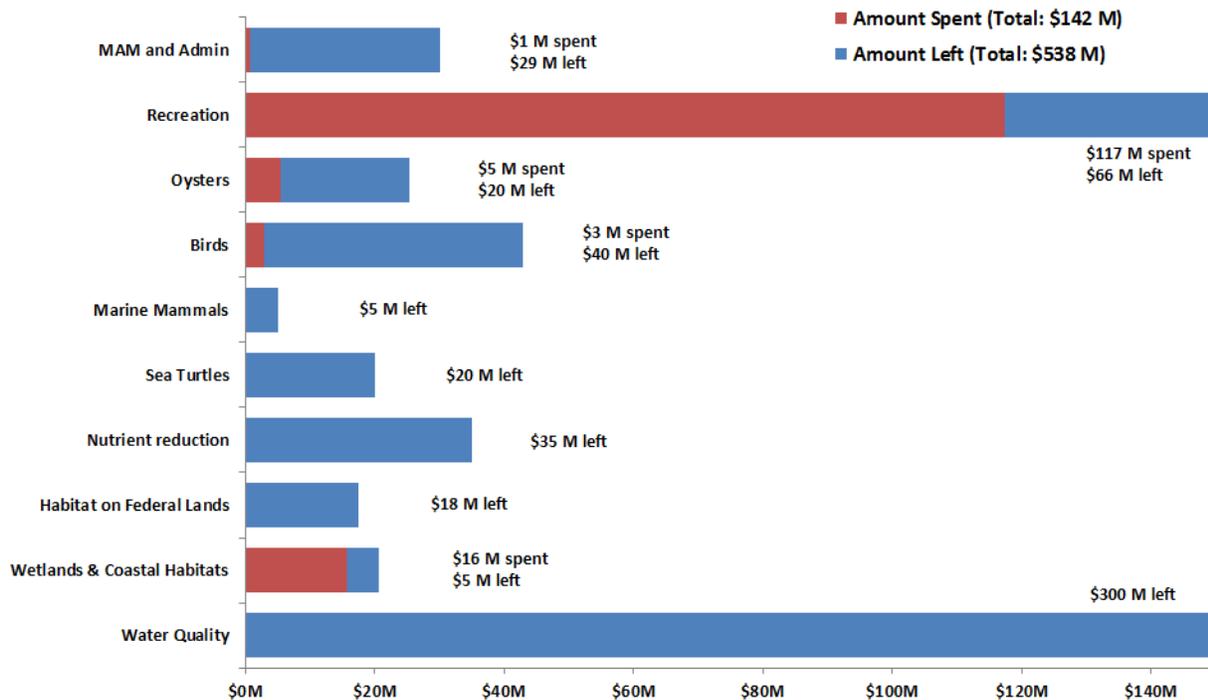


Natural Resource Restoration in Florida

In April 2016, a federal court approved a settlement among the United States, five Gulf states, and BP. Under that settlement, BP agreed to pay up to \$8.8 billion for natural resource damages. Florida will receive approximately \$680 million of that money. Below we explain how the money will be spent, who is in charge, what has happened in Florida so far, and how you can participate.

How will the natural resource damages money be spent?

The \$680 million will be split among 9 different restoration types and monitoring, adaptive management, and administration (MAM and Admin) as follows:



Note that around \$142 M has already been allocated to restoration projects and planning, as well as to MAM and Admin costs. That leaves approximately \$538 M.

Who is in charge?

The natural resource restoration program in Florida is being managed by the Florida Trustee Implementation Group (Florida TIG), which consists of a group of federal and state representatives. When making decisions, the TIG must reach consensus. That means that both the state trustees (who must agree as a group) and the federal trustees (who must also agree as a group) must agree to the decision.

The members of the Florida TIG are as follows:

State Members	Federal Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Florida Department of Environmental Protection• Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• U.S. Department of the Interior• National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration• U.S. Environmental Protection Agency• U.S. Department of Agriculture

Where are we now?

In November 2017, the Florida TIG released a restoration plan: [Draft Phase V.2 Florida Coastal Access Project](#). The Florida TIG has indicated that this plan “supplements the [Final Phase V Early Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment](#),” which “included the first phase of the Florida Coastal Access Project.” Comments were accepted until December 8, 2017.

How can I participate in Florida?

There are different ways you can participate. These include:

- **Attend public meetings:** The Florida TIG will host a meeting for the public at least once a year.
- **Suggest project ideas:** The public can suggest project ideas (e.g., on the [trustees’ website](#)). The public will be notified when the TIG is starting restoration planning, and may be updated on those efforts.
- **Comment on draft restoration plans:** The public will have the opportunity to comment on draft restoration plans as they are released (as with the Draft Phase V.2 plan).
- **Other engagement opportunities:** The restoration projects may trigger other laws and regulations that provide the public with opportunities to engage.
- **Sign up for updates:** To keep informed about what’s happening in the Florida TIG (and the rest of the natural resource restoration program), you can sign up for updates at www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov (scroll down the page to sign up).



For more information about the Florida TIG, and to find current participation opportunities, visit the Florida TIG’s web page at: www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/florida. You can also contact a representative of the Florida TIG at DeepwaterHorizon@dep.state.fl.us.