The U.S. government has reached settlements with several parties involved in the *Deepwater Horizon* oil disaster. This fact sheet provides an overview of the money to be paid under these settlements, including a breakdown of funding amounts, where the money will go, and timelines.

To date, the federal government has entered into settlement agreements with:

- **MOEX**: the federal government reached an agreement with MOEX in February 2012 on certain civil penalties. These penalties, which totaled $70 million, were split among the federal and state governments. In addition, MOEX agreed to implement $20 million in supplemental environmental projects.

- **BP**: the federal government reached an agreement with BP in November 2012 to resolve criminal charges against the company for $4 billion.

- **Transocean**: the federal government reached an agreement with Transocean in January 2013 to resolve criminal charges against the company for $400 million, and to resolve Clean Water Act civil penalties against the company for $1 billion.
WHERE WILL THE MONIES GO?

The settlement monies will go to five main entities (we have excluded relatively minor recipients).\(^1\)

The chart below shows the total amount of money going to each recipient. Below the chart is a description of the individual recipients.

![PAYOUT OF SETTLEMENT MONIES (BY RECIPIENT)](chart)

**National Academy of Sciences**

**What is it?** The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) is a private, non-profit institution created by Congress in 1863 “to provide independent advice to the government on matters related to science and technology.” NAS, along with the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine, are membership organizations, with the National Research Council acting as their operating arm.

**What money has been obligated?** NAS will receive a total of $500 million over five years. This includes recoveries to be paid by BP ($350 million) and Transocean ($150 million) under their respective criminal settlements.

**What will the money be used for?** The money will be used for a 30-year “program focused on human health and environmental protection[,] including issues relating to offshore oil drilling” and the production and transportation of hydrocarbons in the Gulf and the outer continental shelf.

**RESTORE Act - Restoration Trust Fund**

**What is it?** The RESTORE Act created a Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (RTF), which will receive 80% of all Clean Water Act civil and administrative penalties paid by companies responsible for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

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\(^1\) For example, monies paid to the states under the MOEX agreement are not shown.
**What money has been obligated?** The only funds that have been obligated to the RTF so far are those related to the Transocean civil settlement for $1 billion, 80% of which (or $800 million) has been paid to the RTF. The rest ($200 million) has gone to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (see below).

**What will the money be used for?** Funds in the RTF will be distributed to five different processes: the largest portion (35%) will be distributed directly to the Gulf Coast states in equal shares. Just under one-third of the funds (30%, plus 50% of the interest earned) will go to a Gulf-wide Restoration Council. Slightly less (30%) will go to the Gulf States based on their oil spill impacts. The remainder of the RTF (5%, plus 50% of the interest earned) will fund scientific research and monitoring through Centers of Excellence and a Restoration Science Program.

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**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**

**What is it?** The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is a non-profit organization created by Congress in 1984 “to protect and restore fish and wildlife and their habitats.” The organization funds a wide variety of conservation projects across the country, leveraging public funds with private investment dollars. NFWF is governed by a Board of Directors, which consists of 30 members who are approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The Board includes the leaders of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**What money has been obligated?** NFWF will receive a total of $2.544 billion over five years. These funds represent the money BP ($2.394 billion) and Transocean ($150 million) agreed to pay under their respective criminal settlements.

**What will the money be used for?** NFWF is to use half of the money for projects in Louisiana. These projects will be focused on “creat[ing] or restor[ing] barrier islands off the coast of Louisiana and/or...implement[ing] river diversion projects on the Mississippi and/or Atchafalaya Rivers...” NFWF is to use the other half of the money for projects in Alabama (28%), Florida (28%), Mississippi (28%) and Texas (16%) that “remedy harm” to resources injured by the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill.

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**Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund**

**What is it?** The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF) is an account created by Congress to hold, among other things, certain payments, penalties, and taxes on oil.

**What money has been obligated?** The OSLTF will receive a total of $1.495 billion over five years. This includes: (1) $1.15 billion for Clean Water Act criminal penalties from BP; (2) $100 million for Clean Water Act criminal penalties from Transocean; (3) $200 million for Clean Water Act civil penalties from Transocean (the rest of the $1 billion settlement will go to the RTF); and (4) $45 million for Clean Water Act civil penalties from MOEX.

**What will the money be used for?** The funds in the OSLTF are used to, among other things, help cover the costs of future oil spills.
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund

What is it? The North American Wetlands Conservation Fund (NAWCF) provides funding for wetlands conservation projects. Funding comes from four different sources, including fines, penalties, and forfeitures collected for violations of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. A nine-member council composed of the FWS Director, the Secretary of the Board of NFWF, and representatives from state fish and wildlife agencies and non-profit wetlands conservation organizations, submits projects to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC) for approval. The MBCC includes members of Congress, the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, and the EPA Administrator.

What money has been obligated? NAWCF will receive a total of $100 million over five years. This money represents the criminal fine that BP agreed to pay for one misdemeanor count of violating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

What will the money be used for? The money will be used to fund projects to restore and conserve wetlands in the Gulf or that would “otherwise...benefit migratory bird species and other wildlife and habitat affected by” the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

WHEN WILL THE SETTLEMENTS BE PAID?

The settlement monies will be paid to recipients through 2018, according to payment timelines established in the various settlement agreements. These payment timelines are shown below.

PAYOUT OF SETTLEMENT MONIES FROM 2012-2018

[Diagram showing payout of settlement monies from 2012 to 2018]