



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

BP Deepwater Horizon – After the Spill

September 2011

Emergency Restoration

The purpose of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) process is to quantify injuries to natural resources and the associated loss of resource services, determine the actions needed to restore the injured resources, and ensure that responsible parties compensate the public accordingly.

Assessing injuries and developing restoration plans can require consider time and effort, therefore, it may be desirable to initiate some restoration efforts prior to completion of assessments and plans. NRDAR allows the natural resource trustees to conduct emergency restoration activities.

Emergency restoration actions are those taken by the trustees prior to the completion of the natural damage assessment and restoration planning process to prevent or reduce continuing natural resource injuries and avoid potential irreversible loss of natural resources.



Nesting kemp's ridley turtle at Padre Island National Seashore/National Park Service.

When Emergency Restoration is Appropriate

As established in the NRDA regulations, the trustees may undertake emergency restoration actions when the following criteria are met:

- the action is needed to avoid irreversible loss of natural resources, or to prevent or reduce any continuing danger to natural resources or similar need for emergency action;
- the action will not be undertaken by the lead response agency;
- the action is feasible and likely to succeed;
- delay of the action to complete the restoration planning process established in the NRDA regulations likely would result in increased natural resource damages; and
- the costs of the action are not unreasonable.



Emergency Restoration for the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

In 2010 the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Natural Resource Trustees identified three potential emergency restoration projects:

Mississippi Alluvial Water Management Area Flooding Enhancement Project for Migratory Waterfowl

This project was completed in January 2011 with funds provided by BP. It includes repair of degraded levees, and installation of water control structures and power units for water wells. These enhancements facilitate flooding of approximately 2,458 acres of moist soil at the Howard Miller and Malmaison Water Management areas.



Woodstork feeding on shrimp, US Fish & Wildlife Service.

With additional flooding, these lands are providing alternative wetland habitat in Mississippi for waterfowl and shorebirds that might otherwise winter in oil-affected habitats.



Turtle egg collection at Padre Island National Seashore/National Park Service.

Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle Emergency Restoration Project

BP agreed to fund this project for the purpose of increasing nest detection and collection activities on Padre Island National Seashore (PINS), San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge, and private and state lands on the upper Texas coast. All nests located were transferred to the egg incubation facility at PINS. Funds were utilized for nesting corral construction, the nest detection survey, and supplies. This project was completed in August 2011.

Restoration of Propeller Scarring and Response Vessels Impacts to Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Beds

This proposed project is under review by BP. When implemented, it will prevent additional injury by restoring submerged aquatic vegetation beds in Florida waters damaged by propeller scarring and other response vessel impacts.

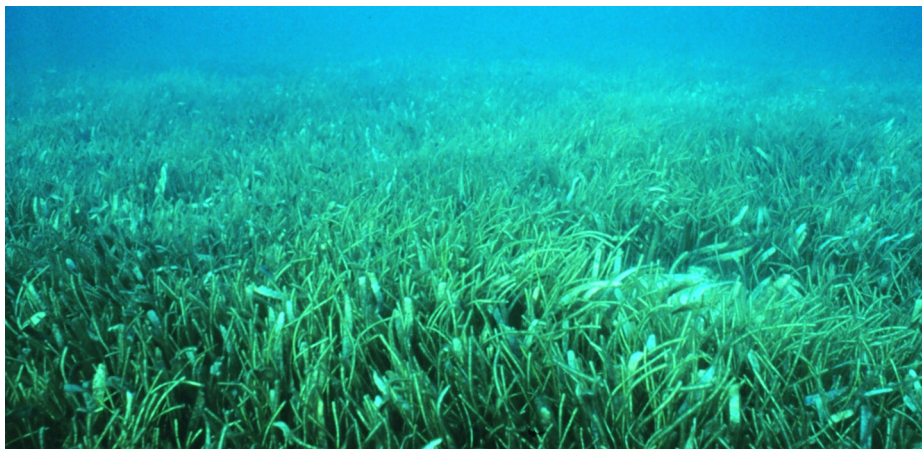
For more information about BP Deepwater Horizon NRДАР

www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon

www.gullspillrestoration.noaa.gov

www.restorethegulf.gov

DOI BP Deepwater Horizon Case Management Office: (404) 679-4161



A seagrass meadow, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration.