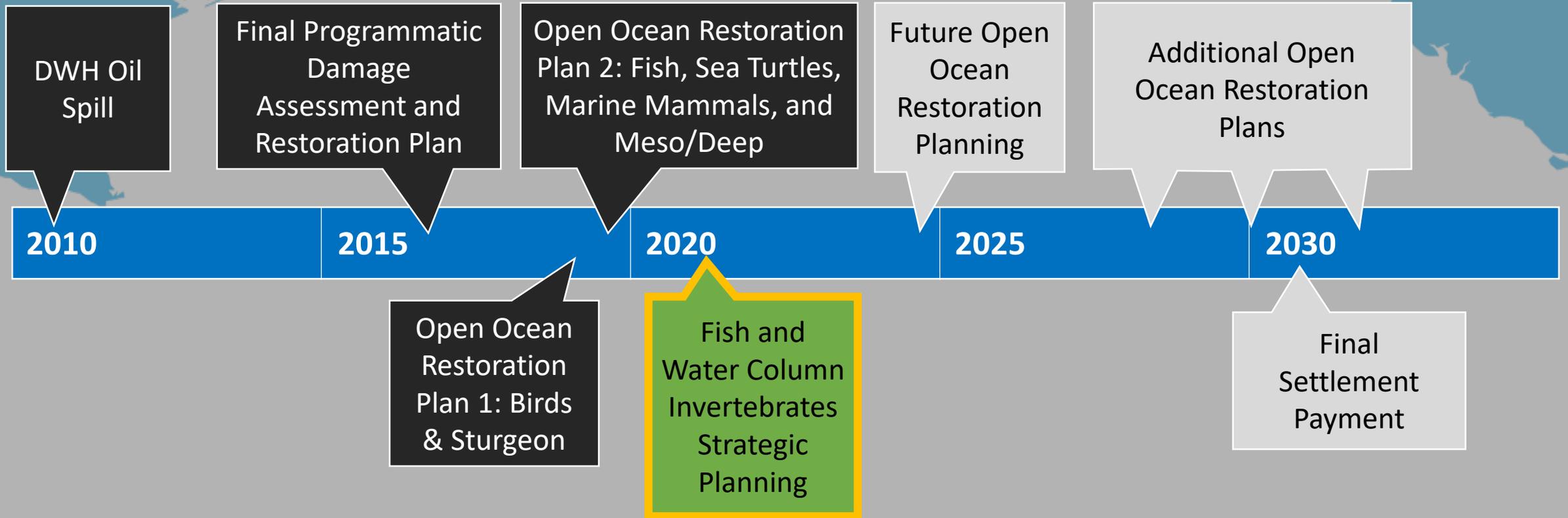




DWH Open Ocean Restoration Area Fish and Water Column Invertebrates Strategic Restoration Planning

Gulf States Marine Fisheries
Commission Meeting
March 17, 2021

Open Ocean Restoration Timeline



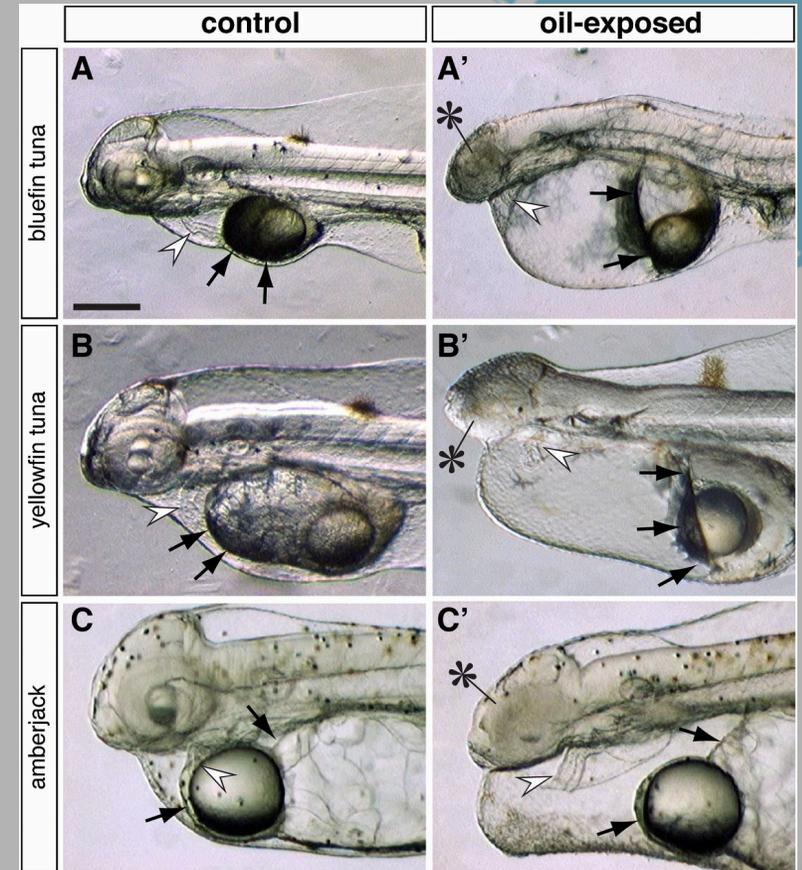
Strategic Planning Process



- Approx. \$320 million available for future fish and water column invertebrate planning activities and restoration projects.
- Determine factors to consider for process and prioritization.
- Identify priorities for future restoration plans.

Fish and Water Column Injury - Quickly

- Hundreds of species were exposed to oil
- Trillions of larval fish and invertebrates
- Fish suffered many negative effects from the oil
- Reef fish communities were also impacted



Programmatic Restoration Goals

- The goals for Fish and Water Column Invertebrates are to restore for injuries from the spill by
 - Reducing direct sources of mortality, and
 - Increase the health of fisheries by providing fishing communities with methodologies and incentives to reduce impacts to fishery resources

Other Restoration Types to Address Water Column Injury

- Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats
- Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities
- Fish and Water Column Invertebrates
- Water Quality – Nutrient Reduction and Water Quality
- Monitoring and others (SAVs, Oysters, Fed Lands)



Topics for Discussion

- Prioritization of injured species or species group
- Geographic areas for restoration
- Timing of restoration
- Opportunities to leverage multiple priorities
- Coordination between restoration types
- Communications with stakeholders and developing partners
- Others?

More Information

www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov

Write comments to:
openocean.TIG@noaa.gov

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Gulf Spill Restoration website. At the top, the title "GULF SPILL RESTORATION" is displayed in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, a subtitle reads "Website maintained by NOAA on behalf of the Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees". To the right of the title and subtitle are several logos, including NOAA, EPA, and USDA. Below the logos is a navigation menu with the following items: "Home" (highlighted in green), "About Us", "How We Restore", "Restoration Areas", "Data", and "Media & News". A search bar with the text "Google Custom Search" is located on the far right of the navigation menu. The main content area features a large, high-quality photograph of a brown and white bird splashing in blue water. Overlaid on the left side of the image is the text "On Dauphin Island, Acquiring Land Is for the Birds" with a left-pointing arrow. Below this text is a "LEARN MORE" button. At the bottom of the image are three small white circles, with the first one filled. Below the image is a dark blue section titled "Restoration Areas" in white text. This section contains seven circular icons representing different regions: Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Regionwide, and Open Ocean. Below this section is a white section titled "Recent Updates" in black text.