

Natural Resource Damage Assessment

\$8.8 Billion Committed*

When an oil spill occurs, natural resources (like fish, birds, and marshes) may be injured. A **natural resource damage assessment** (or “NRDA”) is focused on figuring out what those injuries are and then fixing them. This includes compensating the public for not being able to use the resources while they are injured (e.g. no recreational fishing or beach access).



How much money has been allocated?

Of the \$8.8 billion committed, about \$830 million of that has already been allocated to projects.

What kind of projects?

Pensacola Bay Living Shoreline

This project is designed to stabilize the shoreline and create habitat. It compensates the public for natural resources that were injured by the oil spill (e.g. salt marsh habitat).



Pascagoula Beachfront Promenade

This project funds part of a concrete pathway that will improve access to the beach. It compensates the public for recreational opportunities that were lost because of the spill.



Who pays?

The company (or companies) responsible for the oil spill must pay for the costs of the assessment and fixing the injuries.

Who is in charge?

Federal and state government representatives (called “trustees”) are overseeing the NRDA process here.

*This includes money that BP agreed to pay as part of an agreement announced in July 2015, which is not yet final. The terms of that agreement are open for public comment until Dec. 4, 2015.

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