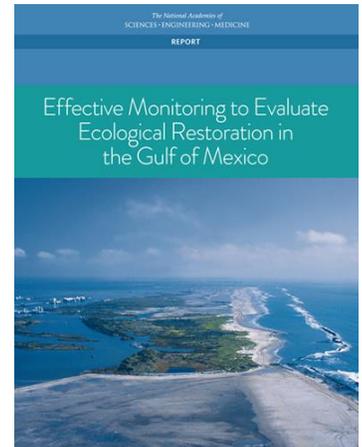


REPORT IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Effective Monitoring to Evaluate Ecological Restoration in the Gulf of Mexico (2016)

OVERVIEW

The [Gulf Research Program](#) (GRP) sponsored this report, which was conducted by the [Ocean Studies Board](#). GRP asked the Report Committee to identify best practices for monitoring and evaluating restoration activities to improve the performance of restoration programs and increase the effectiveness and longevity of restoration projects. GRP's Advisory Board determined community interest in this report through interactions with federal agency liaisons and representatives from the two primary funders of restoration in the Gulf region, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Restore Council. Neither of these organizations could use their funds for activities like this but both expressed interest in the results. The expected audience for this report includes researchers, resource managers, and funders of coastal restoration in the Gulf Region and beyond.



Visit the [Report Page](#) on NAP.edu to view and download the report and materials related to its release, including the Report In Brief and Public Briefing Presentation.

INSPIRING ACTION



In March 2017 GRP [opened a funding opportunity](#) inspired by report recommendations under the topic *Integration of Monitoring and Evaluation into Environmental Restoration Projects to Improve Outcomes in the Gulf of Mexico*. This opportunity specifically sought projects that develop and

test new approaches, technologies, or methods for monitoring or evaluating restoration projects and/or their design so that future restoration plans and efforts are more likely to be effective. Nearly \$3.6 million in total funding was awarded to five projects, which spanned topics from marsh and seagrass restoration to the development of a common interdisciplinary framework for assessing and communicating restoration effectiveness across projects. Each project includes a strong collaboration between researchers and restoration practitioners to increase the effectiveness of the project outcomes. Projects are expected to be completed at the end of 2021 or early 2022.

INFORMING THE FIELD

The [Ocean Studies Board](#) held a one-day workshop at the Tulane River and Coastal Center in New Orleans, LA, in June 2017. Over **40 practitioners** from around the Gulf met to learn about applying the lessons of the report via three case studies presented by report authors. Practitioners also engaged in discussions of best coastal restoration practices used nationwide and how the recommendations from the report could inform their work. The final workshop activity was a forum for cross-organizational discussion of restoration monitoring challenges, lessons, and solutions.



In December 2017, the Ocean Studies Board released a booklet entitled, [Making Conservation and Restoration Count: Guidance for Effective Monitoring and Evaluation](#), which included content from four recent NASEM reports, including this report.



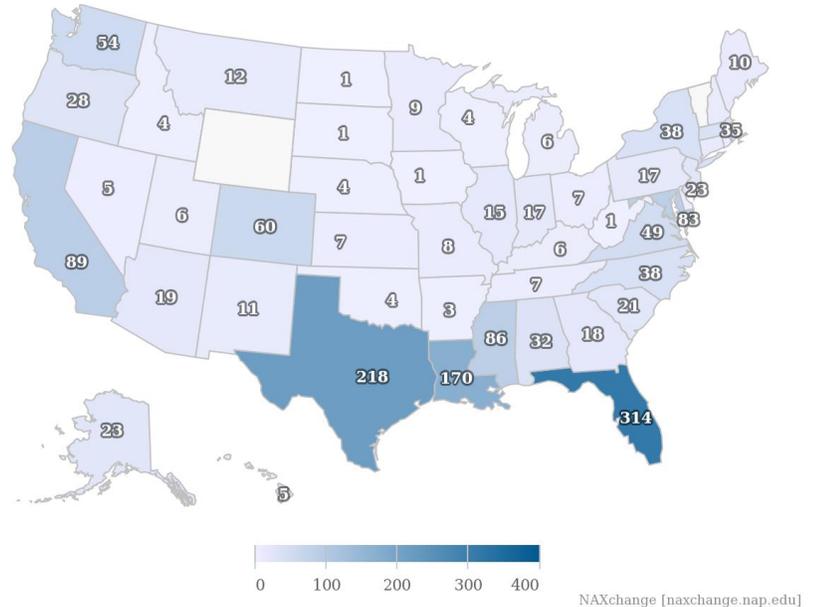
In June 2018, the Ocean Studies Board launched their podcast, [OceanPod](#), with an [interview](#) related to the report with Dr. Kenny Rose, one of the report's authors.

WHO IS READING THE REPORT?

Top 10 Downloads (by organization, excluding NASEM)

- 84** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- 63** Texas A & M University
- 49** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- 39** University of Florida (UF)
- 31** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- 28** The Nature Conservancy
- 28** U.S. Geological Survey
- 25** Louisiana State University
- 23** TAMAR (Sea Turtle Monitoring Non-profit in Brazil)
- 16** City of Los Angeles

REPORT DOWNLOADS BY U.S. STATE



To date, the report has been downloaded **2,875** times by individuals in **48** states and the District of Columbia, which puts it in the top **10%** in downloads of all National Academies Press products. It has also been downloaded by individuals in **103** countries, with the most non-U.S. downloads from Mexico, Brazil, and China. By download domain, academics and researchers (.edu) accounted for **19%** of report downloads followed by government (.gov) at **13%** and non-governmental organizations (.org) at **8%**. The remaining approximately **60%** of downloads were from the general public (.com) and individuals from outside the U.S.

PLANS TO USE THE REPORT INCLUDE:

- To inform a river monitoring project in Spain
- To help to manage a mangrove restoration project on in Mexico
- To guide an oyster restoration project in Florida
- To assist a researcher with monitoring turtles in Ghana
- To teach students in Lima, Peru
- To inspire a home-schooled youth in Canada

ONLINE ATTENTION

VIEW IN ALTMETRIC

Social media mentions include: Environmental Law Institute, Gulf of Mexico Alliance, Texas Sea Grant, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System, and Ocean Conservancy

Online blog mentions: Science Daily and Phys.org.

- **2** news outlets
- **37** tweeters
- **7** Facebook posts

REPORT CITATIONS IN SCOPUS, WEB OF SCIENCE, AND ELSEWHERE

Ecological Indicators (1)
 Journal of Shellfish Research (1)
 Palaios (1)
 Restoration Ecology (2)
 Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries (1)
 Routledge Handbook of Ecological and Environmental Restoration (1)
 Marine and Coastal Fisheries (1)
 Marine Policy (1)

Also:

Monitoring and Adaptive Management Manual Procedures and Guidelines Manual v 1.0 (Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees)