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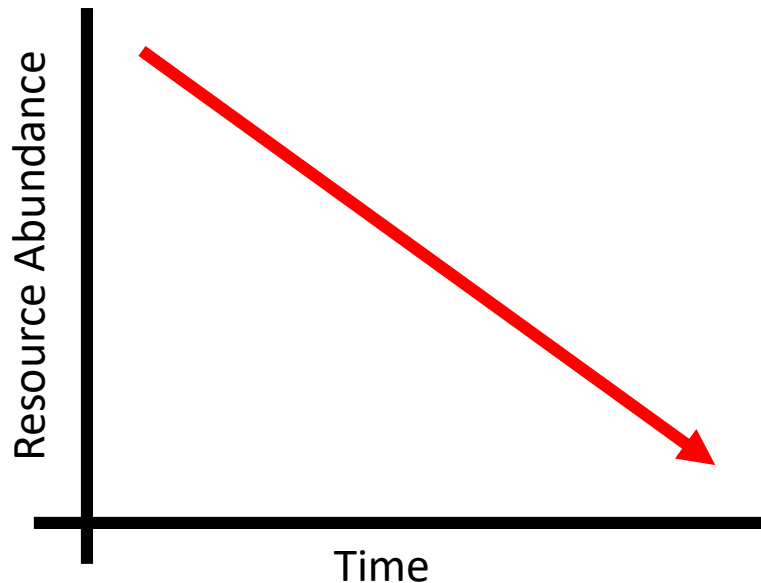
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# **OYSTER MANAGEMENT AND REHABILITATION STRATEGIC PLAN**

June, 2020

# Challenges Facing Oysters

- Oyster resources at all-time lows on public oyster areas
- Reduced resource availability leads to:
  - Decreased opportunities for all fishery participants (fishermen, dealers, processors, etc.)
  - Decreased seed oysters for transplant to oyster leases
  - Decreased ecosystem services provided by healthy oyster reefs
- Changing environmental conditions making oyster survival difficult in some areas where oyster productivity was traditionally high
- Changing conditions are leading to spatial conflicts between oyster industry interests and other users of the coastal zone



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# Overall Needs

- Increase harvestable oyster resources on public grounds
- Increase oyster resiliency in coastal zone to help resource bounce back from environmental and man-made perturbations
- Decrease spatial conflict between oyster industry and other coastal zone user groups
- Develop full accountability and record-keeping on lease-by-lease basis
- Provide the oyster industry with meaningful options for adapting to coastal changes
- Adequately document hydrologic changes, especially salinity, occurring in the coastal zone
- Restore conducive hydrologic conditions, where feasible

Total Funding Need  
**\$132 million**

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# Management and Rehabilitation Strategic Initiatives

1. Traditional Cultch Planting and Water-Bottom Mapping (\$13.6 million)
2. Cultch Planting with Remote-Set Oysters (\$12 million)
3. Development of Spawning Stock Sanctuary Network (\$13.8 million)
4. Expansion of Alternative Oyster Aquaculture (\$10 million)
5. Private Oyster Lease Rehabilitation (POLR) Program (\$12 million)
6. Expansion of Hydrologic Monitoring (\$5 million)
7. Non-Renewal of Unproductive Oyster Leases (\$5 million)
8. Establishment of Cultivation and Production Requirements on Leases (\$5 million)
9. Establishment of New Public Oyster Areas (\$5 million)
10. Mississippi River Gulf Outlet Hydrologic Restoration (MRGO) (\$1.6 million)
11. Restoration of the Bohemia Spillway water control structure (\$24.3 million)
12. Research and Development (\$25 million)



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**Oyster Strategic Plan**  
**\$132 million**



**In-Hand**  
\$26 million NRD Oysters (LA)  
\$16 million LDWF Funds  
\$17 million CPRA Funds



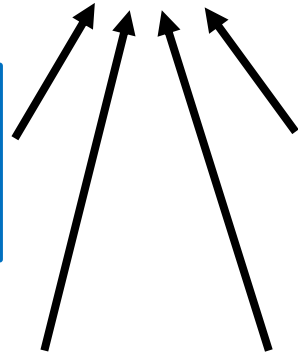
**NEED: \$73 million**

NRD Adaptive Management  
(Louisiana)  
\$258 million

NRD Oysters  
(Region-Wide)  
\$64 million

NRD Adaptive Management  
(Region-Wide)  
\$105 million

NRD Adaptive Management  
(Open Ocean)  
\$350 million



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# Summary

- Oyster production on public areas at historical lows
- Oyster industry needs options and assistance to help maintain sustainability and stability
- LDWF must also develop additional public oyster resources to assist with industry needs and ecosystem services
- Twelve initiatives have been identified to assist with management and rehabilitation of the oyster fishery
- TOTAL FUNDING NEED: **\$132 million** (Approx. \$42M in-hand, and additional \$17M committed from CPRA)
- Potential funding sources
  1. LDWF Public Oyster Seed Ground Development Account
  2. LDWF Artificial Reef Fund
  3. Federal Fisheries Disaster Funds
  4. Oil Spill Restoration (DWH NRD) Funds
  5. CPRA/NFWF Funds



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