

# *Deepwater Horizon* Restoration

## Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities

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DWH   
**Mesophotic &  
Deep  
Benthic  
Communities  
Restoration**



- April 2010 *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill of ~134 million gallons over 87 days caused extensive natural resource injuries across the northern Gulf
- DWH Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Trustee Council assessed impacts and identified actions needed to restore habitats, species, and the services they provide
- Impacts include injuries to more than 770 square miles of deep seafloor habitat
- 2016 BP settlement led to \$8.8 billion awarded for restoration and the creation of a comprehensive restoration plan
- \$273 million to restore “Mesophotic & Deep Benthic Communities (MDBC)”
- MDBC work led by NOAA and Department of the Interior in collaboration with partners
- Many project components conducted with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation









Photo: Moody Gardens Civilian Technical Dive Team

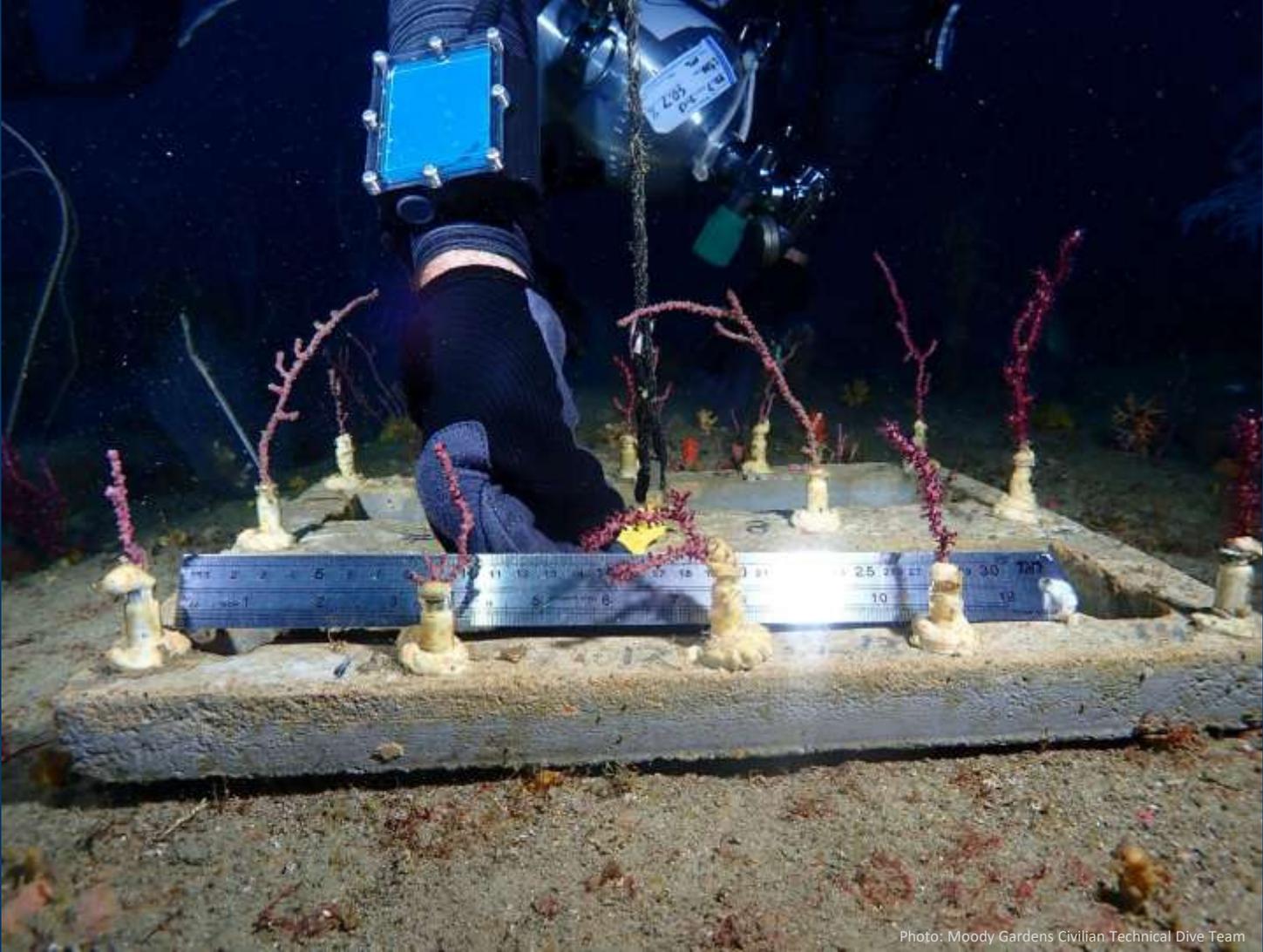


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