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Editorial: Intrusive Legacy

The Gulf Coast region has recovered to a point, but much more needs to be done.



(AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

The good news five years after the Deepwater Horizon oil rig disaster is that local, state and federal agencies and environmental groups have had significant success helping the region recover, despite the continuing needs.

Five years have passed since the Deepwater Horizon oil rig disaster spilled more than 200 million gallons of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico. Five years for the friends and families of 11

men who died that April day to accept their loss, as best they can. Five years for beaches, coastal marshes, and bird, wildlife and marine habitat to recover, as best they can, from the viscous deposits of oil and the massive tar mats that washed up on Gulf Coast shores in the days, months and years following the spill. Five years for local economies to recover, for thousands of men and women who made their living off the water to get back to work and their ways of life.