There is significant potential to secure Deepwater Horizon (BP oil spill) settlement funds for forestry in the states bordering the Gulf. The Endowment, in partnership with American Forest Foundation, is working closely with state foresters in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas to build a Gulf-wide strategy for the importance of forests and forestry as part of the plan to restore ecosystem health and resiliency to the area. Tim Richardson was engaged as a consultant to help guide us through this complicated process. Tim, based in the D.C. area, has extensive experience with the Exxon Valdez settlement. He helped with interpretation of the many rulings associated with the settlement as well as developing a strategy that will resonate with decision-makers.

- An outline describing Deepwater Horizon funding sources and their potential for forestry funding has been created;
- A strategy for approaching the various funding sources has been developed; and,
- Numerous meetings with settlement decision-makers have been facilitated.