The 2010 Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill was the worst spill in U.S. maritime history. Millions of gallons of oil washed ashore along hundreds of miles of Gulf Coast beaches and marshes. While the immediate social and economic impacts seemed severe, the billions of dollars spent by BP to restore the Gulf and compensate disaster victims would appear to have 'made communities whole.' However, this five-year study of recovery from the spill suggests an uneven pattern of recovery, shaped by distinct regional approaches to community resilience. By focusing on the application of 'cultural resilience' to post-disaster recovery, I argue that areas possessing key social resources that better matched the official response plan were quicker to bounce back than other areas regardless of other traditional forms of disaster resilience.