ALABAMA

Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge Acquisition – Phase I (Navy Cove)

This project proposes the acquisition of a 251-acre property on the Fort Morgan Peninsula that has been identified as a high conservation priority in the state of Alabama. The parcel will be deeded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for inclusion and management within Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge (BSNWR). The property represents an important priority area within the authorized acquisition boundary of the Refuge and includes scrub/shrub, pine flatwood, saltwater marsh, and tidal creek habitats, with permanent and semi-permanent wetlands scattered across the parcel.

This project meets a priority goal of conserving coastal habitat and expanding the network of conservation areas. The Fort Morgan Peninsula and South Baldwin County are under significant commercial and residential development pressure. Acquisition of this parcel and its inclusion in the BSNWR will have benefits to living coastal and marine resources including 90 species of birds affected by the spill and numerous fish and shellfish species. This acquisition will protect this important habitat in perpetuity, allow for effective and proactive management, and add to the contiguous habitat within the BSNWR.

The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), supports projects to remedy harm and eliminate or reduce the risk of harm to Gulf Coast natural resources affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. To learn more about NFWF, go to www.nfwf.org.