



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

RECIPIENT

Louisiana Coastal Protection
Restoration Authority

AWARD AMOUNT

\$161,442,000

LOCATION

Terrebonne Parish

AWARD DATE

November, 2018

LOUISIANA

Terrebonne Basin Barrier Island and Beach Nourishment Construction

This project will restore three critical barrier islands/headland within the Terrebonne Basin barrier shoreline system: West Belle Headland, Timbalier Island, and Trinity Island. The sustainable restoration of beach, dune, and marsh habitat in a highly eroded area of the Louisiana coast will bolster the comprehensive efforts to protect this fragile landscape. The West Belle Headland portion of the project will implement designs developed under a prior GEBF-funded project. Additionally, this proposal includes funding to enhance plans for the long term sustainability of the entire length of Louisiana barrier islands.

These islands/headland represent integral components of the Louisiana shoreline system. The barrier system separates the Terrebonne and Timbalier Bay estuarine and coastal marshes and forested wetlands from direct assault by waves from the open waters of the Gulf, allowing them to continue to function as productive nursery areas for numerous species of commercially- and recreationally-important fish and invertebrates. Trinity and Timbalier islands are currently at a critical minimum width in some areas and as time passes, the potential for breaching increases. Timbalier Island has already experienced minor overwash and gapping in some areas. Therefore, the timing is critical to nourish these islands to avoid major breaching and associated accelerated land loss. Without this project, the Terrebonne Basin Barrier Shoreline System will continue to degrade, with ever-widening breaches and storm overwash leading to loss of adjacent estuarine wetlands and reduction of environmental and commercial benefits.



Credit | Google Earth



Restoration of the three critical areas within the Terrebonne barrier island system, including Timbalier Island (above), will prevent further degradation of the system and contribute to protection of adjacent estuarine wetlands.

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.