



NFWF

# Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

## RECIPIENTS

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

## AWARD AMOUNT

\$1,514,100

## LOCATION

Mississippi Gulf Coast

## AWARD DATE

November 2017

## STATUS

Contracting

## PROGRESS UPDATE

Project proposal is being finalized. (February 2019)

## MISSISSIPPI

# Mississippi Comprehensive Restoration Planning—Phase II

This Phase II planning request will expand Mississippi’s Gulf Coast Restoration Plan (hereafter “the Plan”) to include establishing additional conservation goals for living coastal and marine resources including Gulf Coast birds and water quality. Additional geospatial and other data will be collected and integrated into the Mississippi Comprehensive Ecosystem Restoration Tool (MCERT) and will assist MDEQ in improving recommendations for priority habitat restoration and protection projects. The Plan is designed to serve as the overarching framework for the continued development and implementation of projects that restore, enhance and conserve key Gulf Coast natural resources in the state of Mississippi.

Restoration and conservation of coastal Mississippi’s unique habitats, along with the replenishment and protection of living resources, are being assessed through a comprehensive approach to planning, design, and development. The Plan serves as the framework to identify priority resources and areas for restoration that have been affected by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. At its core, the Plan is a community driven, science-based effort that informs and provides feedback to prioritize restoration projects that are designed to be sustainable and successful. This project will build on the framework to maximize restoration success by providing additional resource restoration endpoints, building a data management system that houses coastal project monitoring data and technical information, continuing the refinement of MCERT, and creating a platform for project ideation and refinement.



Enhanced planning in Mississippi will identify priority projects to support future GEBF requests.

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](http://www.nfwf.org).