



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

ALABAMA

Alabama Artificial Reef and Habitat Enhancement- Phase I

This project funded the enhancement and expansion of the state's artificial reef program to improve habitats for reef fish and other species in coastal Alabama. Two new reefs were constructed and existing reefs were restored within Alabama's nearshore waters; 125 structures were deployed 3 miles offshore; 600 concrete and limestone pyramids were deployed within 6-9 miles from shore; 20 acres of seabed in the Gulf of Mexico were enhanced as a juvenile reef fish recruitment reef; and up to 140 high relief reef modules constructed of concrete and limestone were deployed in the offshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Extensive research was conducted to monitor the biological succession, temporal/spatial patterns of habitat utilization, and evaluate the structural integrity, durability, and stability of the habitat enhancement projects.

This project was the first significant investment in Alabama's reef habitat enhancement program, which seeks to enhance over 140,000 acres of reef habitat; and will contribute to population increases of a wide variety of reef-associated organisms and the improvement of connectivity between inshore and offshore habitats.



This project deployed and monitored artificial reef habitat (pictured above) in nearshore, offshore and deep water applications to benefit populations of red snapper and other reef fish.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division

AWARD AMOUNT:

\$11,726,883

LOCATION:

Coastal Alabama (inshore and offshore)

AWARD DATE:

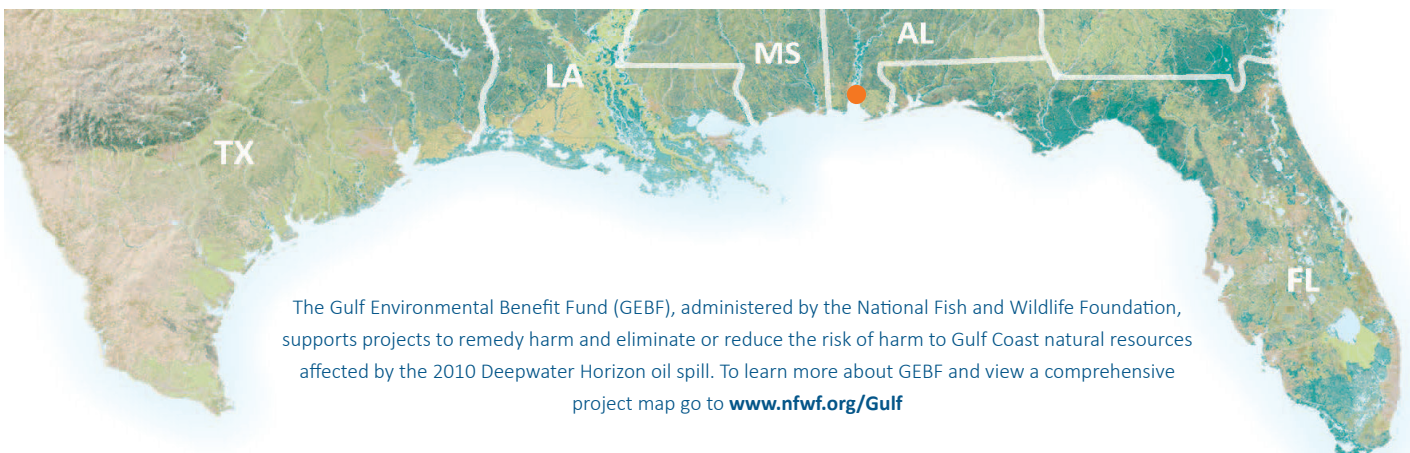
November 2015

STATUS:

Closed

PROGRESS UPDATE:

Project closed July 2020.



The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF), administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 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 GEBF and view a comprehensive project map go to www.nfwf.org/Gulf