



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

ALABAMA

# Dauphin Island Bird Habitat Acquisition and Enhancement Program

This project will enhance coastal bird habitat along one mile of recently restored beach that is immediately adjacent to a 200 acre bird sanctuary on Dauphin Island. The project will include sand fencing, dune plantings, signage, stewardship, and, if necessary, additional sand placement. Additionally, funding is intended to acquire and enhance important bird habitats on Dauphin Island to benefit shorebirds, wading birds and seasonal migrants. Due diligence and landowner outreach will be undertaken as the first step to acquire an estimated 13 acres of undeveloped habitat to protect critically important migratory stopover habitat and facilitate management of contiguous blocks of conservation lands. Lands acquired through this project will be deeded to and managed by the Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuary (DIBS). DIBS will also undertake prescribed fire and invasive species management to enhance the ecological value of these newly-protected habitats.

Dauphin Island has been designated as a Global Important Bird Area in recognition of its significance for shorebirds, waterbirds, and wading birds, and as a crucial Gulf of Mexico coastal migrant fallout area. Important bird habitat is under constant development pressure on the island, and land acquisition and management remains the single most effective conservation tool.



Credit | National Audubon Society



This project will enhance habitat for coastal birds, such as the piping plover (left) and great blue heron (right) pictured above.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENTS:

Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries

Dauphin Island Park and Beach Board

Weeks Bay Foundation

AWARD AMOUNT:

\$4,525,000

PARTNERS:

Town of Dauphin Island

Birmingham Audubon

LOCATION:

Dauphin Island

AWARD DATE:

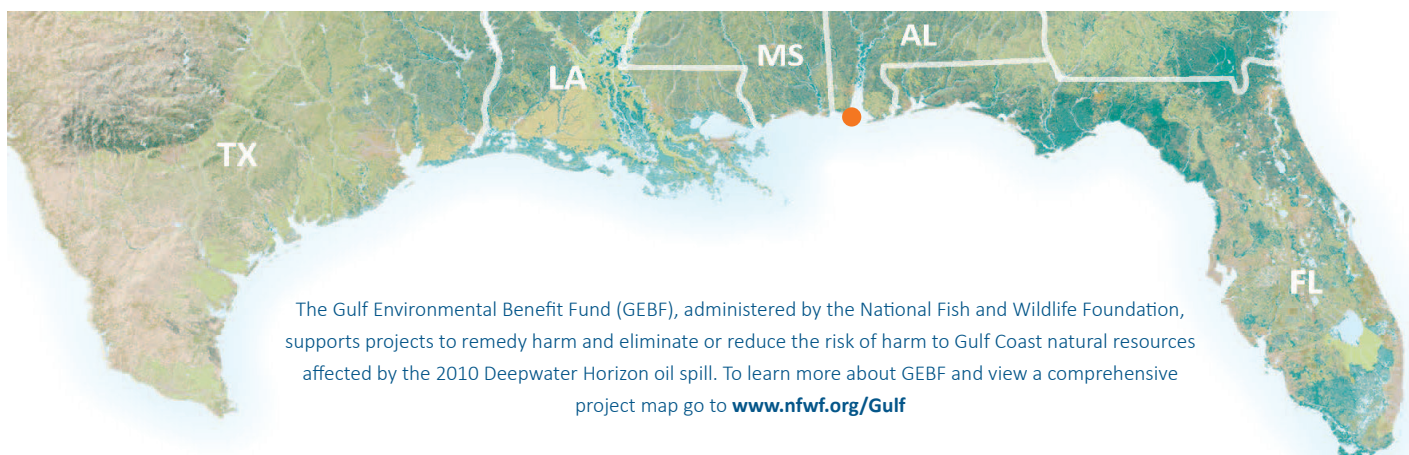
November 2017

STATUS:

Active

PROGRESS UPDATE:

Dune restoration work is ongoing.



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