



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

MISSISSIPPI

Migratory Bird Habitat Creation in the Lower Mississippi River Valley

This project requests funds to create and enhance over 7,600 acres of migratory bird habitat in the Lower Mississippi River Valley. The project would ensure adequate shallow-water habitat is maximized within wildlife management areas, to meet or exceed the foraging requirements of numerous shorebirds, wading birds, and waterfowl populations during their southward migration to the Gulf of Mexico. The Lower Mississippi River Valley remains an area of significant importance in sustaining healthy migratory bird habitats and for populations that overwinter in the Gulf of Mexico. Habitat restoration and enhancement will include hydrological restoration and levee repairs enabling management for shallow wetland conditions benefitting shorebirds and waterfowl. Moist soils and native plants provide essential nutrients for shorebirds, waterfowl and other migratory bird species. Moist soil management provides a diversity of high-quality foods and cover, improving waterbird species' overwinter survival and their potential for reproductive success. Benefits to migratory shorebirds and waterfowl are anticipated to be immediate.

This project seeks to bolster populations of Gulf Coast birds through enhancing food resources and habitat availability within a critical stopover location on the migratory path. Mississippi has prioritized coastal bird conservation with two existing GEBF-funded projects through activities that include bird habitat restoration and stewardship targeting multiple coastal bird guilds, including migratory species.



Shallow water impoundments will benefit multiple migratory bird species, like the least sandpiper above.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

AWARD AMOUNT:

\$6,027,000

PARTNERS:

Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Delta Wildlife

Ducks Unlimited

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

LOCATION:

Bolivar, Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey, Sunflower, Warren, Yazoo Counties in the Lower Mississippi River Valley

AWARD DATE:

November 2020

STATUS:

Awarded



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