



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

ALABAMA

Deer River Coastal Marsh Stabilization and Restoration- Phase II

This project will stabilize one mile of Mobile Bay shoreline and restore the hydrology of over 275 acres of saltmarsh, one of the largest remaining expanses along the western shore of Mobile Bay. The project will help to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Deer River shoreline and marsh in the face of significant erosion from winds, tides, ship wakes, and storm surge. It will improve ecosystem function of the salt marshes and tidal creeks within the marsh system and create 30 acres of additional marsh and beach to replace what has been lost over recent decades. Additional funding through NFWF's Emergency Coastal Resilience Fund (ECRF) will be utilized to restore an additional 5,600 feet of shoreline and 30 acres of marsh habitat in the Deer River.

In 2018, GEBF funded the engineering and design phase of this project. Project activities of Phase II will include closing the Mobile Bay breach; stabilizing the erosion-impacted Bay shoreline of the Deer River marsh system with offshore breakwaters; restoring and creating edge marsh and beach habitat along the shoreline using dredged material; and addressing the excessive sedimentation occurring within the tidal creek system. Closing the breach and dredging silted-in portions of Deer River will allow the river to flow its full length and ensure the preservation and long-term sustainability of the ecological services provided by the fisheries nursery habitats of this system. The project area is also important to a variety of shellfish, finfish, birds, and other wildlife affected by the oil spill.



This project will benefit saltmarsh habitat in Mobile Bay, pictured above.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT: Mobile Bay National Estuary Program

AWARD AMOUNT: \$15,955,000

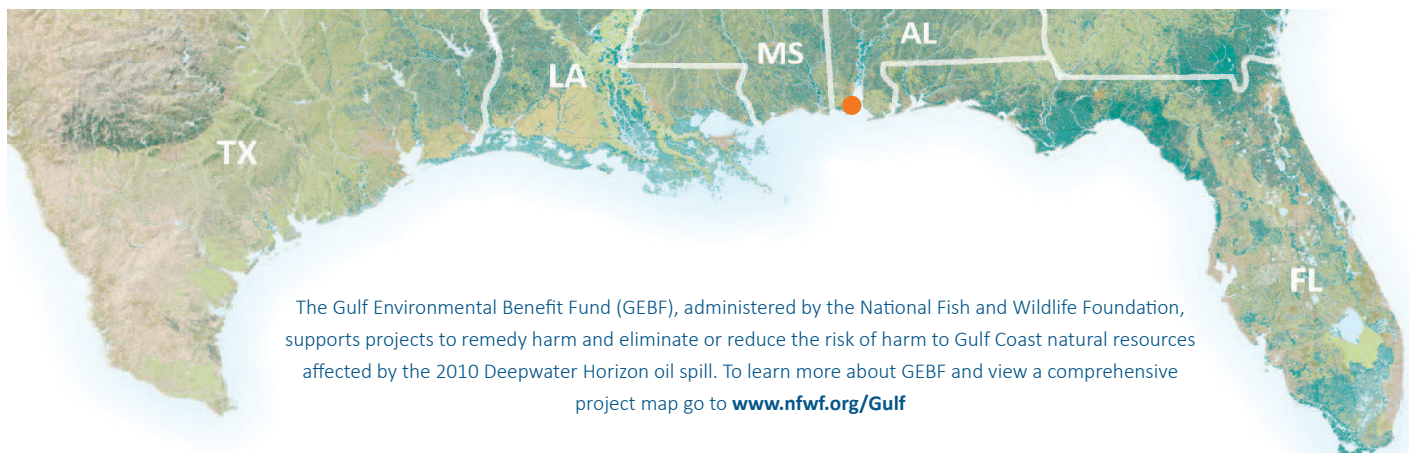
LEVERAGE: \$3,200,000

PARTNERS: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

LOCATION: Mobile County

AWARD DATE: November 2021

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