



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

MISSISSIPPI

Artificial Reef and Habitat Enhancement: Katrina Key

Established in 2007, Katrina Key is a 1-mile nearshore reef made of decommissioned concrete bridge rubble just south of Deer Island near Biloxi. The objective of this project is to provide additional acreage of nearshore artificial reef habitat that will enhance shelter for spawning spotted seatrout and other reef species. The project will also provide habitat for invertebrates that serve as prey for commercially and ecologically important fishes and invertebrates like sheepshead, black drum, red drum, Atlantic spadefish, and stone crabs. The project will utilize prefabricated reef structures to expand the westward extent of the existing reef footprint by approximately 4 miles. The reef structures will be constructed of concrete and limestone using techniques that have shown success in enhancing fish and invertebrate recruitment.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR)

AWARD AMOUNT:

\$8,500,000

LOCATION:

Mississippi Sound, South of Deer Island

AWARD DATE:

November 2021

STATUS:

Awarded



This project will extend Katrina Key along the dotted green line in the map above (left) using similar artificial reef modules as shown in the above (right).



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