



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

## MISSISSIPPI

# West Hancock County Nearshore Habitat Restoration - Engineering & Design

This project would plan, engineer, and design a series of submerged artificial reefs to create substantial sub-tidal habitat enhancements in Hancock County. Artificial reefs and natural reefs or rock substrates provide habitat for benthic organisms and fish. Along much of the approximately two mile stretch of shoreline, habitats have eroded away and only a bulkhead protects the adjacent road (S. Beach Blvd). The overall outcome of this project is to develop plans and acquire permits for the eventual implementation of artificial reefs which would re-establish important coastal habitats to increase productivity of fish, including red and black drum, spotted seatrout, and oysters. Coastal birds and other wildlife may also benefit.

## AT A GLANCE

**RECIPIENT:**  
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

**AWARD AMOUNT:**  
\$1,410,000

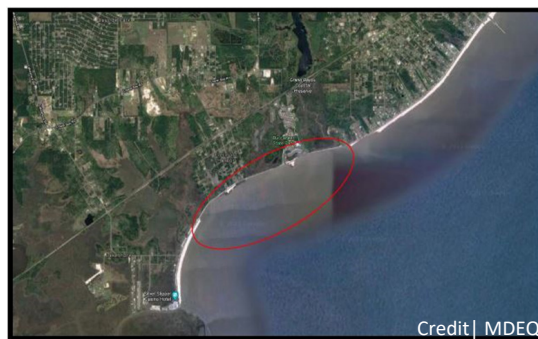
**LOCATION:**  
Hancock County

**AWARD DATE:**  
November 2021

**STATUS:**  
Awarded

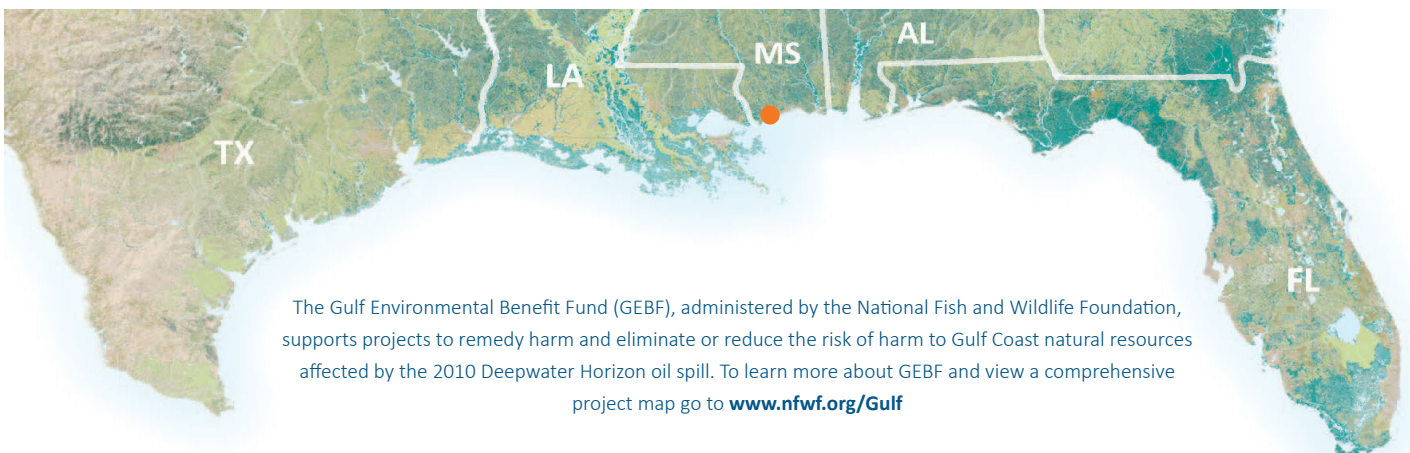


Credit | MDEQ



Credit | MDEQ

Project area along South Beach Boulevard, Hancock County, MS.



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)