



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

## MISSISSIPPI

# Habitat Restoration: Federal Lands Program - Phase II

In 2015, the GEBF funded the first phase of the Habitat Restoration on Federal Lands Program as part of a broader strategy to improve coastal habitats across federal lands, state parks, and wildlife management areas in Mississippi. Funding for phase two will focus on continued habitat restoration efforts and management needs within the Gulf Islands National Seashore (GUIS). The efforts will include monitoring, mapping, and removing non-native and invasive species from the sensitive barrier island ecosystem. Non-native mammals on the GUIS are posing a threat to the native plants which trap sand and stabilize the sand dunes on these barrier islands. Additionally, invasive plant species threaten bird nesting habitat and create potential fire hazards. The barrier island ecosystems in the GUIS are relatively undeveloped, high-quality beach and dune habitat that was directly affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, documented as part of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process.

The scope of work for Phase II also includes continued prescribed burns on portions of the GUIS that are on the mainland (Davis Bayou). In total, NPS seeks to treat over 360 acres to enhance the ecological integrity and improve water quality in the bayou.



This project will benefit habitat like Horn Island shown above and provide suitable habitat for beach nesting birds.

## AT A GLANCE

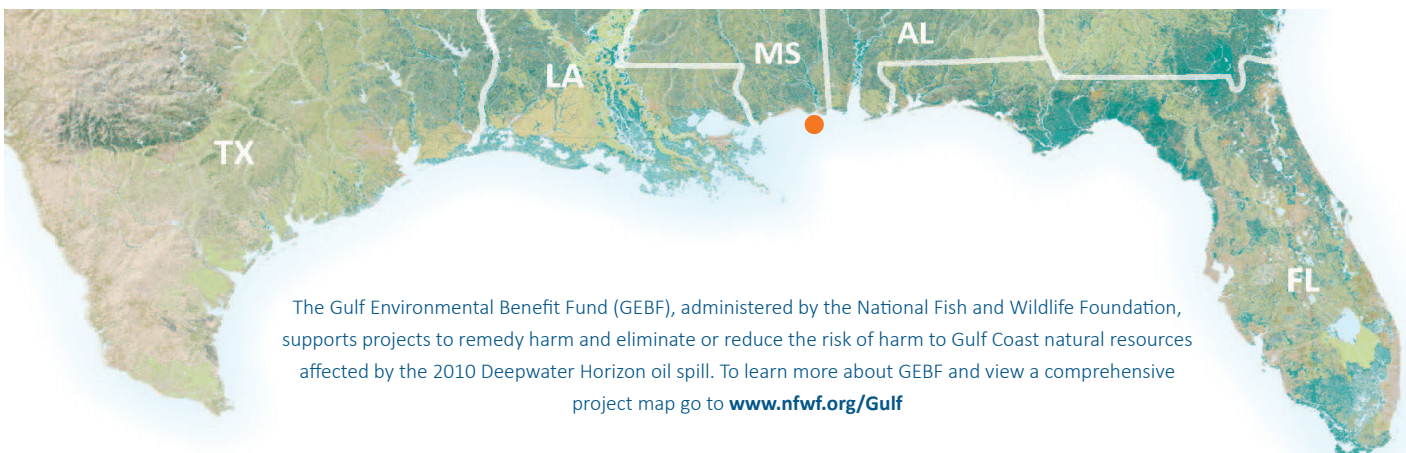
**RECIPIENT:**  
National Parks Service (NPS)

**AWARD AMOUNT:**  
\$1,578,000

**LOCATION:**  
Gulf Islands National Seashore

**AWARD DATE:**  
November 2022

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