NFWF | Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

ALABAMA

Dauphin Island East End Beach and Dune Restoration- Phase II

This project implemented beach and dune restoration designed under an earlier (2020) GEBF award. The construction component restored approximately1.5-miles of beach shoreline and approximately 85 acres of beach and dune habitat. These features now protect an additional 50 acres of beach and dune habitat as well as a maritime forest and a freshwater lake within the Audubon Bird Sanctuary previously enhanced using GEBF funds. These habitats serve as important foraging and nesting habitat for migratory, and beach nesting birds.

Dauphin Island is a strategically significant 14-mile barrier island in the northern Gulf of Mexico, serving as the only barrier island providing protection to the state of Alabama's coastal resources. It includes valuable habitat for living coastal and marine resources and helps to maintain ecological conditions in Mississippi Sound, which is critical to the resilience of its fisheries, oysters, and seagrass beds. The island is also a significant trans-Gulf migratory bird stopover area and provides habitat to numerous beach nesting birds directly impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.



This restoration will benefit seabirds, such as the least terns pictured.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:
Town of Dauphin Island

AWARD AMOUNT:
$20,016,093

LEVERAGE:
$5,000,000 (NCRF anticipated)

PARTNERS:
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

LOCATION:
Dauphin Island

AWARD DATE:
November 2022

Progress Update:
Project award amount reduced. Construction was completed in 2024 and project monitoring is ongoing.



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**