



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

RECIPIENT

The Nature Conservancy

AWARD AMOUNT

\$16,578,000

PARTNERS

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Mobile County

City of Bayou La Batre

Mobile Bay National Estuary Program

LOCATION

Mobile County, Alabama

AWARD DATE

November 2018

STATUS

Awarded

PROGRESS UPDATE

Project recently awarded. (February 2019)

The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), 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 NFWF, go to www.nfwf.org.

ALABAMA

Lightning Point Restoration Project – Phase II

This project is the construction phase of a GEBF-funded engineering and design project to construct approximately 28 acres of coastal marsh and 1.5 miles of breakwaters at the mouth of the Bayou La Batre River. Restoration activities will also help protect the newly acquired 127 acres of coastal habitat in the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust program and City of Bayou La Batre. Over time, the breakwaters are expected to develop into reefs that provide habitat for fish and shellfish. Consisting of more than 2 miles of nearly contiguous undeveloped waterfront, the project area provides a critical interface between land and water. These conservation lands are comprised of coastal marshes, upland buffers, and intertidal habitats that serve as nursery habitat for coastal finfish and shellfish. The area is also home to many threatened and endangered species, including the West Indian manatee and Gulf sturgeon.

The Bayou La Batre area has been identified in the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program’s (MBNEP) Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan as a priority watershed for long-term conservation and restoration by MBNEP’s Project Implementation Committee. This project extends an existing 1.2 mile shoreline protection and 30-acre restoration project immediately to the west of the mouth of Bayou La Batre and complements a proposed NRD shoreline protection project at Point Aux Pins.



Credit | TNC



This project will construct shoreline protection structures which will increase coastal habitat and help protect the Bayou La Batre community.