

MISSISSIPPI RESTORATION REVIEW

A publication about MS Gulf Coast restoration news from Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

WINTER 2017

2016 MISSISSIPPI RESTORATION PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

On November 15, 2016, MDEQ held the first Mississippi Restoration Summit at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center. Over \$114 million in projects were announced. The 2016 Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) Amendment and the 2016 State Expenditure Plan (SEP) were announced and were posted online at www.restore.ms for public comment. Additionally, two projects funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (NFWF GEBF) were announced.

The Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group (MS TIG) has released the Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group Draft 2016-2017 Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment. Public comments will be accepted until February 10, 2017. The plan proposes the three NRDA restoration projects in the table below for implementation and considers the environmental impacts of the proposed restoration alternatives and projects. For more information, please visit www.restore.ms/draft-restoration-plan/.

RESTORE ACT

DIRECT COMPONENT

Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program	\$11 Million
University of Southern Mississippi Oyster Hatchery	\$7.7 Million
North Rail Connector Planning Assistance	\$550,000
National Oceans and Applications Research Center (NOARC)	\$2.75 Million
Salvation Army Center of Hope	\$1.32 Million
Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center	\$3.52 Million
Planning Assistance- MIP Amendment Development	\$500,000

OIL SPILL IMPACT COMPONENT

Mississippi Gulf Coast Water Quality Improvement Program	\$45 Million
Pascagoula Oyster Reef Complex Relay and Enhancement	\$3.5 Million
Compatibility, Coordination, and Restoration Planning	\$1.3 Million

NFWF

Mississippi Marine Mammal and Turtle Conservation, Recovery, and Monitoring Program	\$9.9 Million
Coastal Bird Stewardship Program	\$6.2 Million

NRDA

Upper Pascagoula Nutrient Reduction	\$4 Million
Grand Bay Land Acquisition and Habitat Management	\$6 Million
Graveline Bay Land Acquisition and Management	\$11.5 Million



WWW.RESTORE.MS



NRDA HIGHLIGHT >> PASCAGOULA BEACHFRONT PROMENADE

The Pascagoula Beachfront Promenade project will provide for a lighted concrete pathway adjacent to a sand beach. The intent is to restore lost recreational use. The estimated cost for this project is \$3.8 million, and it will be completed in December 2017.

The 10-foot wide pathway project would fund approximately 8,200 feet of a two-mile promenade from Point Park to Oliver Street. In addition to the pedestrian pathway, this project includes the construction of a fire pit, pavilions, and an amphitheater stage and seating.

For more information, visit <http://www.restore.ms/nrda-projects/>.



NFWF HIGHLIGHT >> BEACH OUTFALLS CHALLENGE



BEACH OUTFALLS CHALLENGE
Making Mississippi Whole

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

beachoutfallschallenge.org

Members of the public, companies, and other entities are invited to submit their ideas to improve the design of the beach outfalls. The top three winners of the Beach Outfalls Challenge will have their solution designed and implemented in a pilot-scale demonstration.

“Water quality is consistently cited as a top concern of residents who live along the Mississippi Gulf Coast,” said Marc Wyatt, Director of the Office of Oil Spill Restoration. “One of the top opportunities we have to directly improve water quality in the Mississippi Sound is to improve the quality of the water that empties into it. This problem offers us the opportunity to apply innovative thinking as a community to find ways to improve the situation.”

Registration for the Beach Outfalls Challenge is scheduled to remain open until March 15. Design Submissions are due by March 31, and the Semi-Finalists will be announced on April 21.

For more information, visit www.beachoutfallschallenge.org or email info@beachoutfallschallenge.org.

RESTORE HIGHLIGHT >> MGCCC WORK READY PROGRAM

Mississippi’s first program grant has been awarded under the Direct Component. The Mississippi Gulf Coast Work-Ready Community Program will support workforce development and job creation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This program includes the development of a curriculum, recruitment plan, and the work-ready credential, which will provide basic skills training that could lead to industry-specific training or potential employment/internship opportunities.

This Program has two components: the work-ready component and the industry training component. Both of these components will be located at the West Harrison County Center of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (MGCCC), located in Long Beach, Mississippi. This program was part of the 2015 Multiyear Implementation Plan and will be funded from the Direct Component (Bucket 1) of the RESTORE Act.



For additional information regarding the MGCCC Work Ready Program, please visit www.restore.ms.

