

# MISSISSIPPI RESTORATION SUMMIT 2018



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MDEQ  
CHRIS WELLS, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RESTORATION, CHIEF OF STAFF MDEQ

## RESTORATION SUMMIT PURPOSE

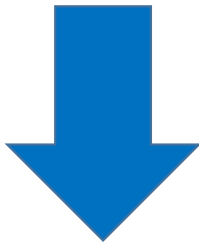
The Restoration Summit was created for the following purposes:

- Have a single venue in which all new restoration projects are announced for the coming year
- Have an opportunity to provide the coastal community an update to restoration projects being implemented
- Create a means to solicit community feedback, input, and suggestions on restoration projects, processes, and priorities

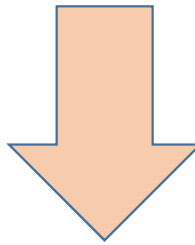


# RESTORATION FUNDING STREAM

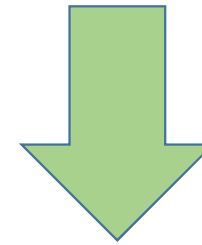
RESTORE



NRDA



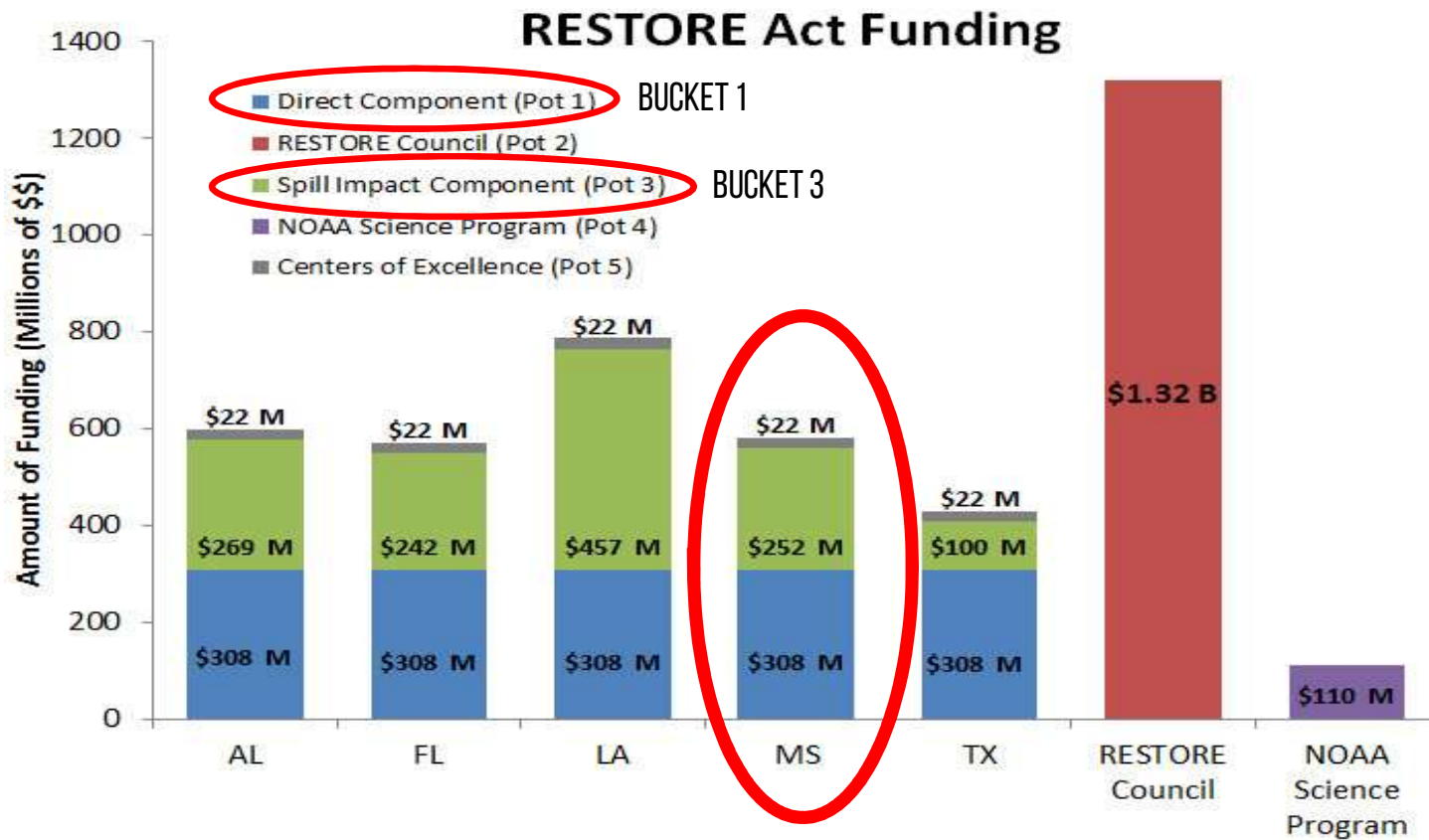
NFWF - GEBF



CIVIL SETTLEMENT  
FUNDING BY RESOURCE  
WORK THROUGH TIG  
ECOLOGICAL FOCUS

CRIMINAL SETTLEMENT  
PLEA AGREEMENT  
DAMAGE TO RESOURCES AFFECTED BY SPILL  
ECOLOGICAL FOCUS

# RESTORATION FUNDING STREAM



# RESTORE ACT BUCKET 1 AND 3 – ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

## Environmental (Eco-Restoration, Research and Education)



All things habitat  
Restoration and  
conservation

## Infrastructure (Infrastructure)



Any infrastructure  
that benefits the Gulf  
Economy

## Economy (Small business, Tourism, Workforce, Economic Development, Seafood)



Any Workforce and Economic  
Development that will benefit the  
Gulf Economy including  
marketing, tourism, and seafood

# STAKEHOLDER PRIORITIES

## LAND RESOURCES



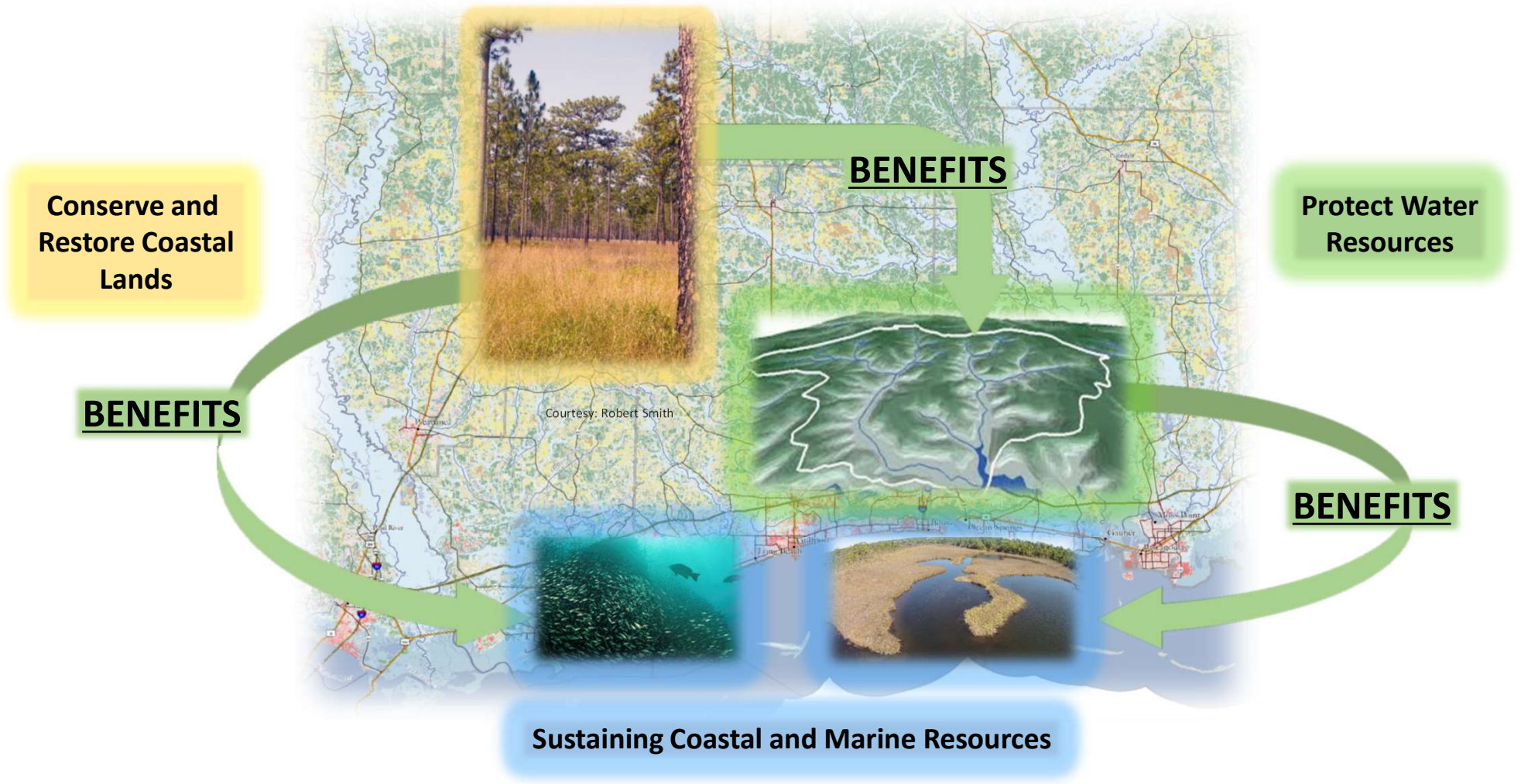
## WATER RESOURCES



## LIVING COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES



# RESTORATION APPROACH



# BUCKET 1 NEW PROJECTS



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



# MIP BUCKET 1 - 2018

Project Name	County	Funding Amount
Pearl River Community College - Hancock County Workforce Training Center <i>(Additional funding)</i>	Hancock	\$4,000,000
Mississippi Aquarium <i>(Additional funding)</i>	Harrison	\$1,350,000
MGCCC Work Ready Program <i>(Additional funding)</i>	Jackson	\$5,000,000
Jackson County Connector Road <i>(Additional funding)</i>	Jackson	\$4,800,000
Harrison County Rail Line Repair and Upgrades at Industrial Seaway	Harrison	\$2,300,000
MS Gulf Coast Low Cost Air Service Growth Program	Coastwide	\$1,200,000
Gulf Seafood Marketing Program	Coastwide	\$400,000



# NEW PROJECTS — BUCKET 1 — PRCC WORKFORCE TRAINING CENTER

## LOCATION:

STENNIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

## EXISTING PROJECT

### ADDITIONAL FUNDING AMOUNT:

\$4,000,000

- \$3M IN RESTORE FUNDS COMMITTED IN 2017
- \$7M TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST
- SITE HAS BEEN ACQUIRED AND PLANNING UNDERWAY (\$1M FROM LEGISLATURE/BP ECONOMIC DAMAGES FUNDS)
- INCREASE WORKFORCE TRAINING CAPACITY IN HANCOCK COUNTY
- CURRENT CAPACITY IS LIMITED TO LEASED SPACE



# NEW PROJECTS — BUCKET 1 — MISSISSIPPI AQUARIUM

## LOCATION:

GULFPORT

HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

## EXISTING PROJECT

ADDITIONAL FUNDING AMOUNT:

\$1,350,000

- \$17M — RESTORE FUNDING COMMITTED IN 2016
- AQUARIUM CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY
- ANTICIPATED PUBLIC OPENING:  
LATE 2019/EARLY 2020



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# NEW PROJECTS — BUCKET 1 — MGCCC WORK READY COMMUNITY PROGRAM

## LOCATION:

MGCCC CAMPUSES IN LONG BEACH AND GAUTIER  
JACKSON/HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

## EXISTING PROJECT

### ADDITIONAL FUNDING AMOUNT:

\$5,000,000

- \$4M - RESTORE FUNDING COMMITTED IN 2016
- SUPPORT CONTINUED WORKFORCE TRAINING ACTIVITIES
- ESTABLISH UNMANNED SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM
- WILL SUPPORT ONGOING STATE AND REGIONAL UNMANNED SYSTEMS INDUSTRY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS, INCLUDING GOVERNOR'S OCEAN TASK FORCE
- STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE AN ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE



# NEW PROJECTS — BUCKET 1 — JACKSON COUNTY CONNECTOR ROAD



## EXISTING PROJECT

ADDITIONAL FUNDING AMOUNT:  
\$4,800,000

- \$10.2M IN RESTORE FUNDING PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED FOR PHASE I (CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES UNDERWAY)
- \$8.2M IN FEDERAL AND \$1.1M IN COUNTY FUNDING HAS FUNDED ALL RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION, ENGINEERING/DESIGN AND PERMITTING.
- ADDITIONAL FUNDS WILL SUPPORT ADDITIONAL PHASE(S) OF THE MULTI-PHASE EAST-WEST CONNECTOR ROAD.



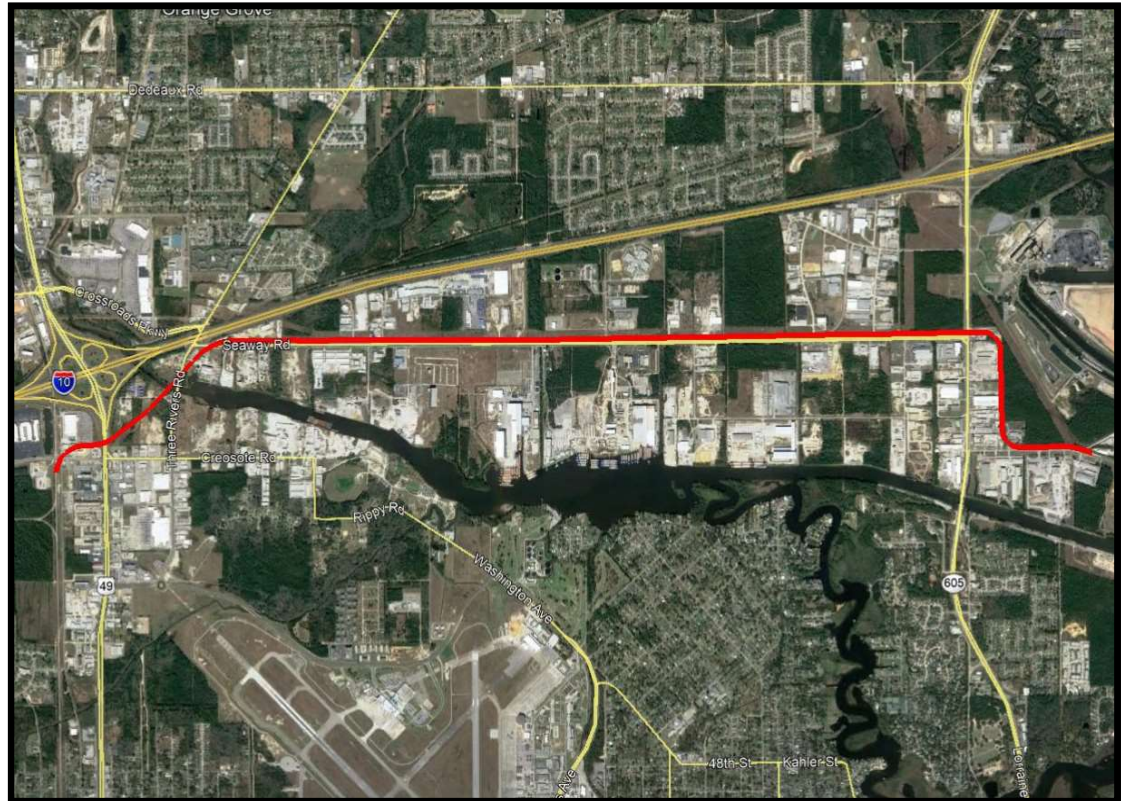
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# NEW PROJECTS — BUCKET 1 — HARRISON COUNTY RAIL LINE UPGRADES

**LOCATION:**  
INDUSTRIAL SEAWAY  
HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

**NEW PROJECT  
FUNDING AMOUNT:**  
\$2,300,000

- RAIL SPUR OUT OF SERVICE SINCE 2016 DUE TO HEAVY RAINS
- RAIL LINE SERVES TENANTS ALONG INDUSTRIAL SEAWAY
- NEGATIVELY IMPACTING CURRENT TENANTS
- NEGATIVELY IMPACTS NEW INDUSTRY RECRUITMENT



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# NEW PROJECTS — BUCKET 1 — MS GULF COAST AIR SERVICE GROWTH PROGRAM

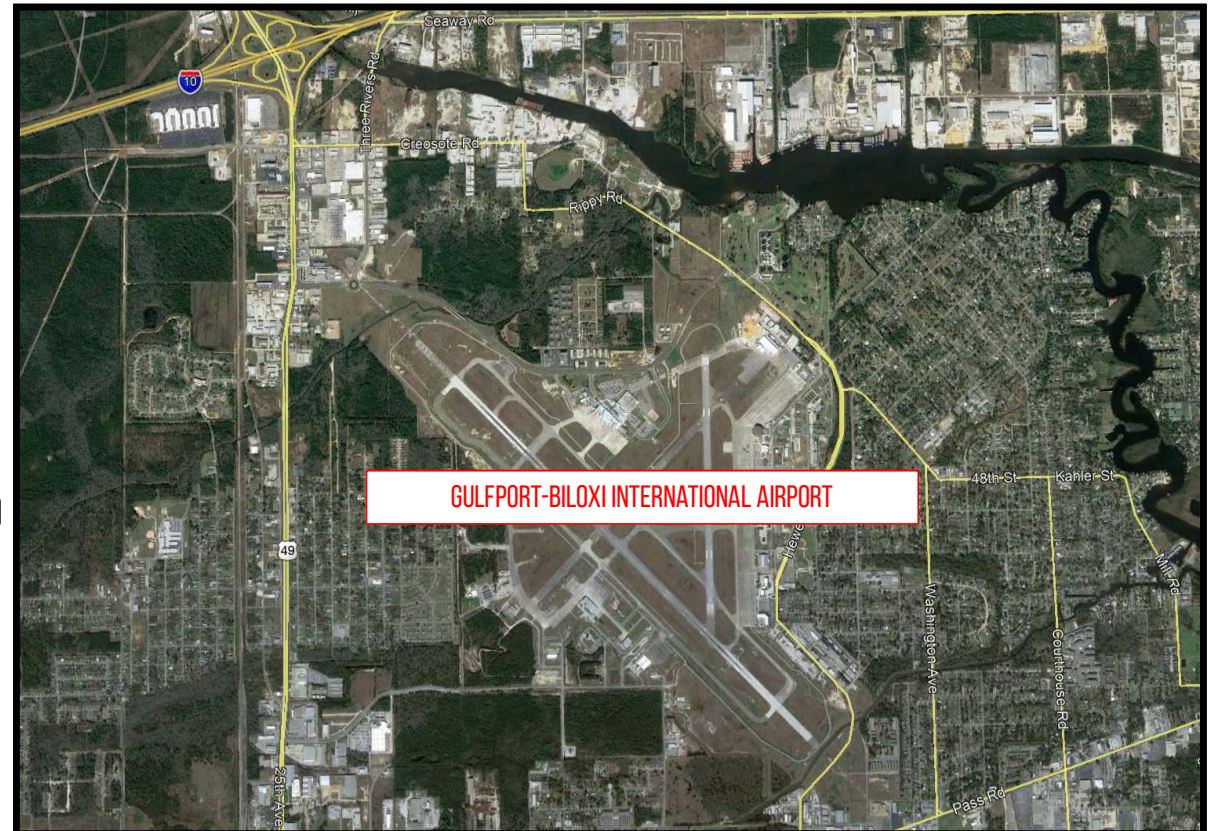
## LOCATION:

GULFPORT BILOXI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

## FUNDING AMOUNT:

\$1,200,000

- EXPAND AIR SERVICE OFFERING TO GULFPORT TO INCREASE VISITATION
- PROGRAM SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED WITH FUNDING THROUGH MDA AND FAA — AND DEMONSTRATED RETURN ON INVESTMENT
- ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED TO ENHANCE EFFORTS



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# NEW PROJECTS — BUCKET 1 — GULF SEAFOOD MARKETING PROGRAM

LOCATION:  
COAST-WIDE, MISSISSIPPI

NEW PROJECT  
FUNDING AMOUNT:  
\$400,000

- FUNDING TO SUPPORT DMR'S SEAFOOD MARKETING PROGRAM EFFORTS
- FUNDING WOULD COVER 3 YEARS





# BUCKET 3 NEW PROJECTS



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

## NEW PROJECTS BUCKET 3 - 2018

When amending the State Expenditure Plan, we:

- Identify eligible projects, programs, and activities for inclusion on the MSEP;
- Ensure that eligible projects, programs, and activities contribute to the overall ecological and economic recovery of the Gulf Coast;
- Ensure the MSEP takes into consideration and is consistent with the goals, objectives, and commitments of the RESTORE Council's Comprehensive Plan;
- Promote funded projects to be as successful and sustainable as possible.



# NEW PROJECTS BUCKET 3 – HANCOCK MARSH LIVING SHORELINE – PHASE 6

## LOCATION:

HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

## ADDITION TO AN EXISTING PROJECT

## FUNDING AMOUNT:

\$6,000,000

- LEVERAGE EXISTING NRDA HCMLS PROJECT
  - \$50 MILLION, 6 MILES OF LIVING SHORELINE
- PRIMARY PURPOSE: PROVIDE RESILIENCE TO MARSH BY REDUCING FURTHER MARSH LOSS



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# NEW PROJECTS BUCKET 3 – OYSTER SHELL RECYCLING PROGRAM

**LOCATION:**  
COAST WIDE

**NEW PROJECT  
FUNDING AMOUNT:**  
\$650,000

- PROGRAM WILL COLLECT, ACCUMULATE AND RECYCLE DISCARDED OYSTER SHELLS
- TWO COMPONENTS:
  - ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY ANALYSIS
  - IMPLEMENTING THE OYSTER SHELL RECYCLING PROGRAM



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# NEW PROJECTS BUCKET 3 — BU PROGRAM FOR MARSH CREATION AND RESTORATION

**LOCATION:  
COAST WIDE**

**NEW PROJECT  
FUNDING AMOUNT:  
\$12,000,000**

- CAPITALIZE ON DREDGE MATERIAL TO ACCELERATE MARSH CREATION AND RESTORATION
- LEVERAGE RESTORE B2 AND NFWF BU EFFORTS TO MAXIMIZE MARSH CREATION



## **FPL BUCKET 2 – PROCESS UPDATE**

**THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI HAS BEGUN COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS. MEETINGS THAT HAVE OCCURRED:**

**HAVE MET WITH:**

- **STATE OF LOUISIANA**
- **STATE OF FLORIDA**
- **USEPA**
- **USDA**

**MEETINGS LINED UP:**

- **STATE OF ALABAMA**
- **STATE OF TEXAS**
- **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/NOAA**

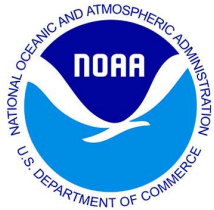


MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# NRDA MS TIG UPDATE

# NRDA MS TIG UPDATE

## MEMBERS OF THE MS TIG



### THE MS TIG IS WORKING ON 2 ITEMS:

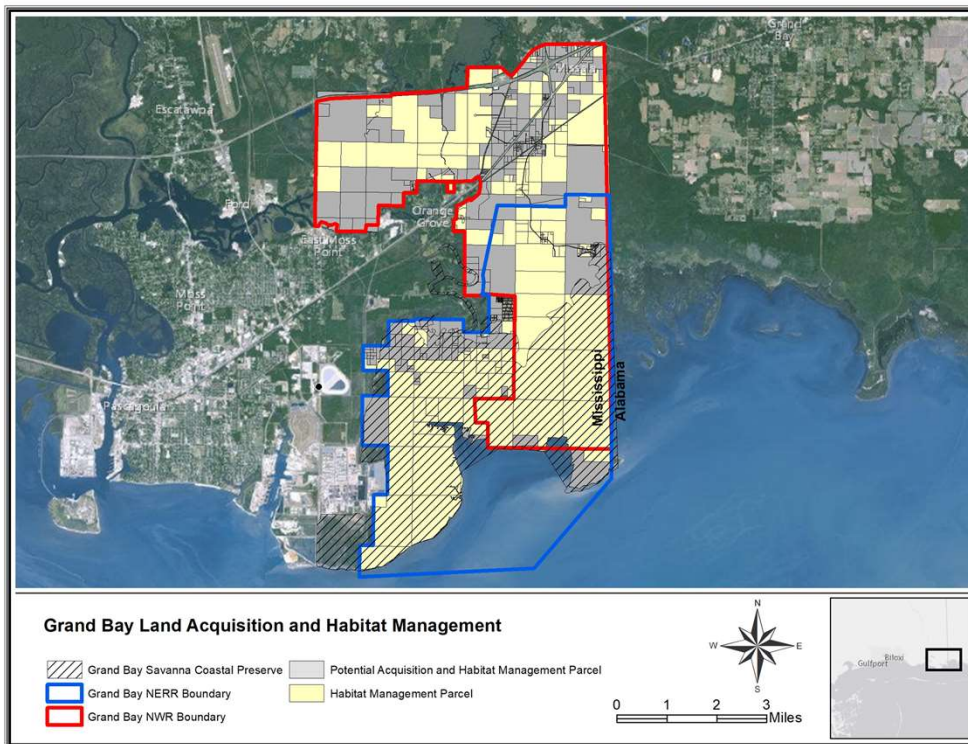
- SUPPLEMENT TO RESTORATION PLAN #1 – GRAND BAY LAND ACQUISITION AND HABITAT MANAGEMENT-ADDITIONAL FUNDS
- RESTORATION PLAN #2





# NRDA MS TIG UPDATE – RESTORATION PLAN #1A

## Supplement to Restoration Plan 1- Grand Bay Land Acquisition and Habitat Management



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

**IMPLEMENTING TRUSTEES:** MDEQ and DOI

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** MDMR Coastal Preserves/Grand Bay NERR, USFWS

**PDARP GOALS:**

- Restore and Conserve Habitat: Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats
- Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources: Birds

## Supplement Intent:

We are considering increasing the budget to expand the habitat management, enhance the monitoring and adaptive management, and potentially acquire more properties/habitat in the Grand Bay Area.



# NRDA MS TIG UPDATE – RESTORATION PLAN #2

## NRDA Restoration Types Considered for RP#2:

- Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats
  - Nutrient Reduction (Nonpoint Source)
    - Oysters
    - Sea Turtles
    - Marine Mammals



# NRDA MS TIG UPDATE – PLANNING SCHEDULE RP #2

## Tentative Planning Schedule (16-20 months)

- **June 11, 2018:** Notice to the Public to Solicit Project Ideas
  - <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/restoration/project-portal/>
  - <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration/give-us-your-ideas/suggest-a-restoration-project/>
- **August 10, 2018:** Project Ideas submittal deadline
- **October 5, 2018:** Notice of Initiation of Restoration Planning in Mississippi
- **November 13, 2018:** Status of the MS TIG Planning Activities
- **Spring 2019:** Draft RP/EA (Restoration Plan 2)
- **Late 2019:** Final RP/EA (Restoration Plan 2)



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS UPDATE

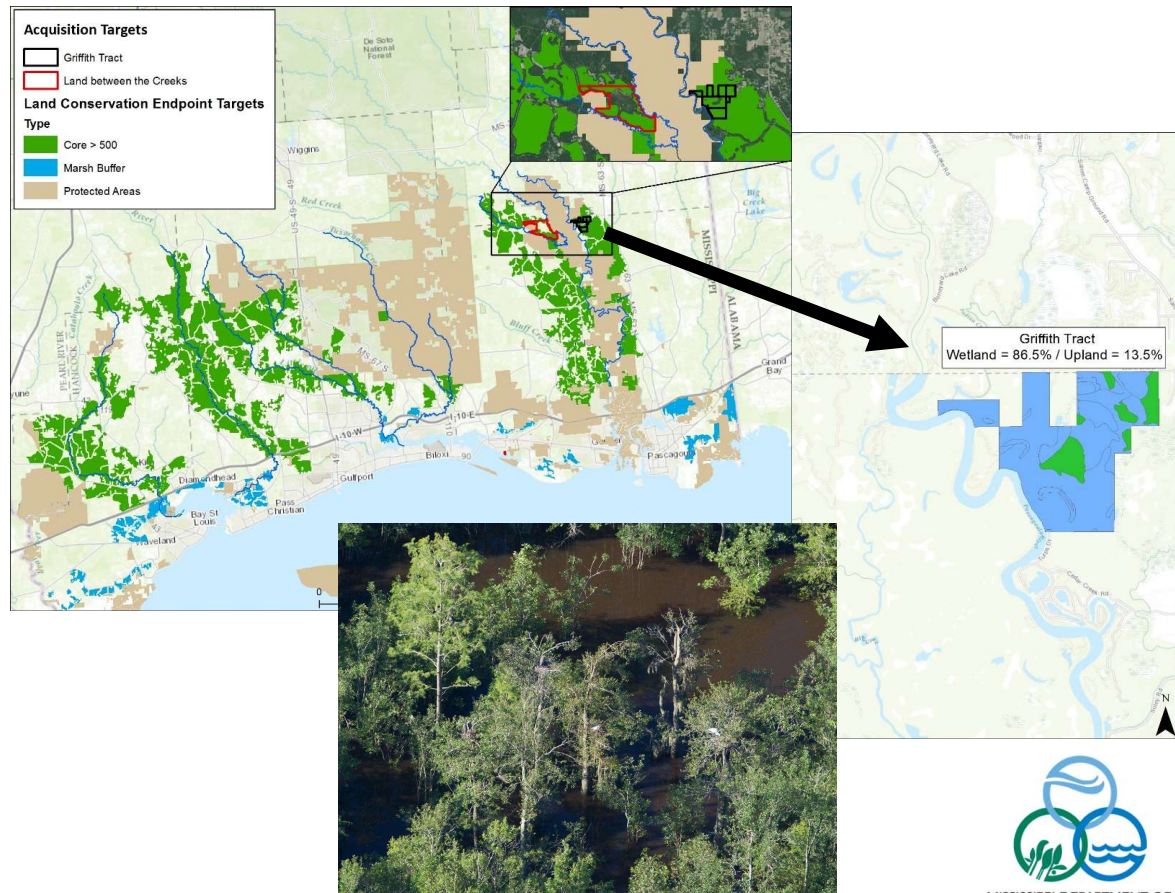


MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS UPDATE — NFWF GEBF

## PASCAGOULA RIVER CORRIDOR LAND ACQUISITION

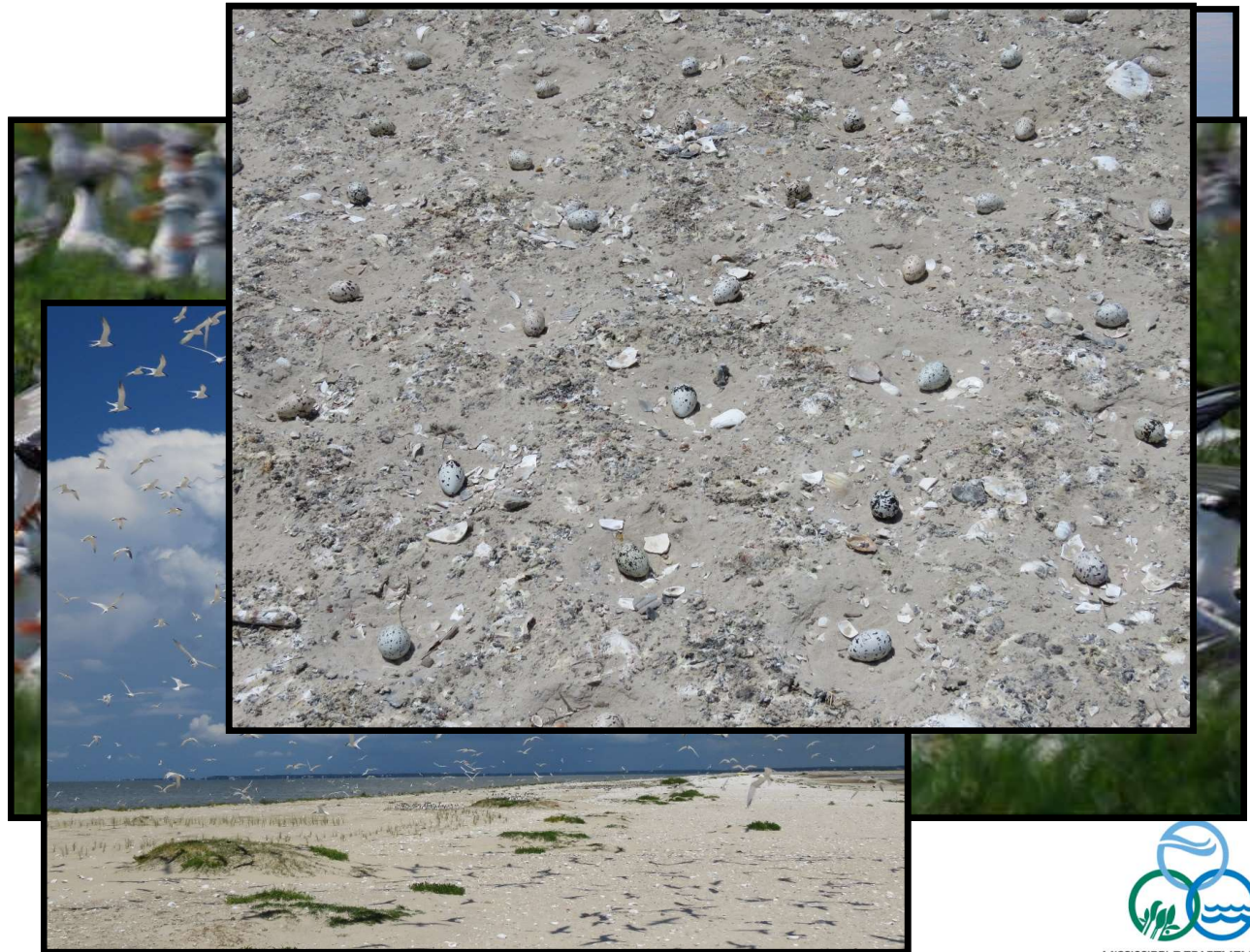
- PART OF THE COASTAL HEADWATERS PROGRAM
- +/- 1100 ACRES OF PRISTINE BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST
- IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO PASCAGOULA WMA
- BIRD SPECIFIC ACQUISITION



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS UPDATE — NFWF GEBF

## BU MARSH CREATION PROJECT - ROUND ISLAND

- 220 ACRES
- BIRD DIVERSITY RECORDS FOR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS UPDATE — EARLY RESTORATION NRDA PHASE III

## INFINITY SCIENCE CENTER

- COMPLETE — JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> 2018
- 3D THEATER, BIOME BOARDWALK
- 11 NEW EXHIBITS;  
REFURBISHMENT OF
- XSPHERIENCE THEATER



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS UPDATE – EARLY RESTORATION NRDA PHASE III

### HANCOCK MARSH LIVING SHORELINE

- 6 MILES OF LIVING SHORELINE HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED
- 46 ACRES OF OYSTER REEF CONSTRUCTED
- REMAINING COMPONENT 46 ACRES OF MARSH





# ACCOMPLISHMENTS UPDATE – RESTORE BUCKET 1

## WILLIAM CAREY PHARMACY SCHOOL AT TRADITION

- RECEIVED RESTORE FUNDING ON 2016 MIP
- FACULTY HIRED
- RIBBON CUTTING HELD
- 120 APPLICANTS TO FIRST CLASS
- 64 STUDENTS ACCEPTED – FULL CAPACITY!
- CLASSES STARTED JULY 2018



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS UPDATE – RESTORE BUCKET 1 AND 3

## WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

- SOURCE TRACKING UNDERWAY
- MULTIPLE PROJECT APPLICATIONS COMPLETE
- 2019 SUMMIT – DATA AND PROJECT STATUS UPDATE



CHRIS WELLS

DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF RESTORATION / CHIEF  
OF STAFF, MDEQ

[CWELLS@MDEQ.STATE.MS.GOV](mailto:CWELLS@MDEQ.STATE.MS.GOV)



THANK YOU

# ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION



THANK YOU