



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

RECIPIENTS

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

AWARD AMOUNT

\$23,624,000

PARTNERS

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

United State Army Corps of Engineers

LOCATION

Mississippi Gulf Coast

AWARD DATE

November 2017

MISSISSIPPI

Utilization of Dredge Material for Marsh Restoration in Coastal Mississippi—Phase II

Phase II of the Mississippi beneficial use (BU) of dredge material project will focus on continued utilization of material from various maintenance dredging activities to restore and create additional marsh habitat. This effort will enhance the ecological functioning of priority bays and estuaries along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Specifically, Phase II proposes the construction of two additional beneficial use sites and the expansion of two existing sites.

Under its Coastal Restoration Plan, the State of Mississippi has established a goal of protecting and restoring over 6,000 acres of coastal marsh across its coast. Coastal marshes not only play a vital role in the ecological integrity of open shoreline habitats but also, and perhaps more critically, are integral components of ecosystem health within a broader landscape context of coastal ecosystems. Marsh sustainability will be a key focal component of containment structure design, which will have benefits to associated benthic communities in bays and estuaries.



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.

Round Island pictured above is the main achievement from Phase I of the Beneficial Use project.