

# Graveline Bay Land Acquisition and Management

## Mississippi Restoration Area

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Graveline Bay Land Acquisition and Management project includes acquisition, preservation, and habitat management on acquired parcels and on publicly-owned lands in the Graveline Bay Coastal Preserve, Jackson County, Mississippi.

The project will preserve and enhance up to 1,410 acres of habitat (see map). Acquisition and preservation includes the purchase of land from willing sellers and preservation in perpetuity in order to protect natural habitats. Habitat management includes a combination of mechanical, chemical, and prescribed fire treatments as well as debris removal and/or road repair and/or removal and culvert replacement to help restore habitats. Target habitats include estuarine marsh, shoreline (beach), and other coastal riparian habitats which provide foraging, loafing, and nesting for bird species that were injured in the spill. Restoration measures will serve to decrease habitat fragmentation and increase habitat connectivity to other large conservation parcels in the area. They will also help restore injuries to wetlands, coastal, and nearshore habitats in Mississippi, as well as provide benefits to wading birds and other bird species injured by the spill. Acquisition and management is being implemented with available funding for up to 10 years.

### Implementing Trustees and Project Partners

Implementing Trustees for the project are the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (lead) working with the Department of the Interior. The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is a project partner.

### Leveraging

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund previously provided funding for land acquisition and management in the Graveline Bay project area.

### ALLOCATION:

\$11,500,000

#### Chris Wells

*Mississippi Department of  
Environmental Quality  
Director – Office of Restoration*

515 E. Amite Street  
Jackson, MS 39201-2709  
Office Phone: 601-961-5171  
cwells@mdeq.ms.gov

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