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MDEQ Announces Beach Outfalls Challenge

(BILOXI, Miss.) – The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) announced at the Mississippi Restoration Summit in Biloxi yesterday that registration for the Beach Outfalls Challenge will begin January 9.

The challenge is being implemented to address the water quality impact of beach outfalls along the Mississippi Sound by soliciting design ideas and solutions from the public. Individuals, students, companies, and teams can compete to create innovative solutions for untreated stormwater and improve water quality. It is expected that the designs will be implemented at a larger scale across the Mississippi Coast.

Beginning January 9, 2017, until March 15, registrations will be accepted at <http://beachoutfallschallenge.org/#sthash.jyKPBOpd.cSIF7CVk.dpbs>. The top twelve finalists will be announced in May, along with an opportunity to vote on these finalists during the following weeks. More information about the submission and the judging process will be available on the website and

on the challenge's Facebook page: [@BeachOutfallsChallenge](#).

The Beach Outfalls Challenge is a project funded by a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund grant of \$544,600 to MDEQ to improve natural resources following the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill.

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