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### Grants Approved for Two Mississippi RESTORE Projects

(JACKSON, Miss.) – Gov. Phil Bryant announced Thursday that grants for two Mississippi restoration projects have been approved by the RESTORE Council. These projects were announced by Gov. Bryant in December 2015 at a meeting of the RESTORE Council in Biloxi. They are two of the four projects recommended by the State of Mississippi that focused on ecosystem restoration under Bucket 2 of the RESTORE Act.

“On Tuesday I announced the latest round of restoration projects to improve, restore and enhance our natural resources and our economy. These two projects were announced last year, and it is rewarding to see that they are even closer to being implemented after the funding has been approved,” said Gov. Bryant.

The two projects receiving the grants are:

***Enhancing the Opportunities for Beneficial Use of Dredge Sediments in the Mississippi Sound (\$2.18 million)*** -- This project will provide funding for planning, engineering and design, and permitting to use dredge material for coastal restoration.

***SeaGrant Education and Outreach – Undertake education and outreach activities to describe the***

***values of land protection for habitat, water quality improvement and for securing the future of the Gulf of Mexico in Mississippi (\$750,000)*** -- This project will establish an education and outreach program in Mississippi. The program will provide grants to fund education activities focused on restoration activities such as land conservation, habitat stewardship, and water quality.

The RESTORE Council consists of representatives from the five Gulf states and six federal agencies. It was established by the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act).

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