

Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries Phase IV Early Restoration

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries project will restore intertidal and subtidal reefs and use living shoreline techniques in four bays in Mississippi. Projects are located in Grand Bay, Graveline Bay, Back Bay of Biloxi and vicinity, and St. Louis Bay in Jackson and Harrison Counties, Mississippi.

The project includes construction of 1.8 miles of living shoreline/breakwaters, 137 acres of subtidal reef habitat creation, and 5 acres of intertidal reef habitat creation.

Breakwaters will reduce shoreline erosion and marsh loss by dampening wave energy. Over time, the breakwaters, intertidal and subtidal restoration areas will develop into reefs that support benthic secondary productivity including, but not limited to, oysters/bivalve mollusks, annelid worms, shrimp, and crabs. The ecological benefits that will be gained by this restoration are anticipated to help address injuries resulting from the Oil Spill, including losses to secondary productivity and salt marsh in Mississippi.

Implementing Trustee

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality is the Implementing Trustee for the project.

Leveraging

This project builds on recent collaborative projects implemented by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Nature Conservancy.

ALLOCATION:

\$30,000,000

Chris Wells

Executive Director

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