

Welcome To The Mississippi Restoration Summit 2022



Chris Wells
Executive Director - MDEQ

Housekeeping

- This is a hybrid presentation as we are currently LIVE on Facebook.
- This presentation will be available on MDEQ's Restoration website.
- Polling features are open to the in-person audience as well as the LIVE Facebook audience.



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**Is this your first time attending the
Mississippi Restoration Summit?**

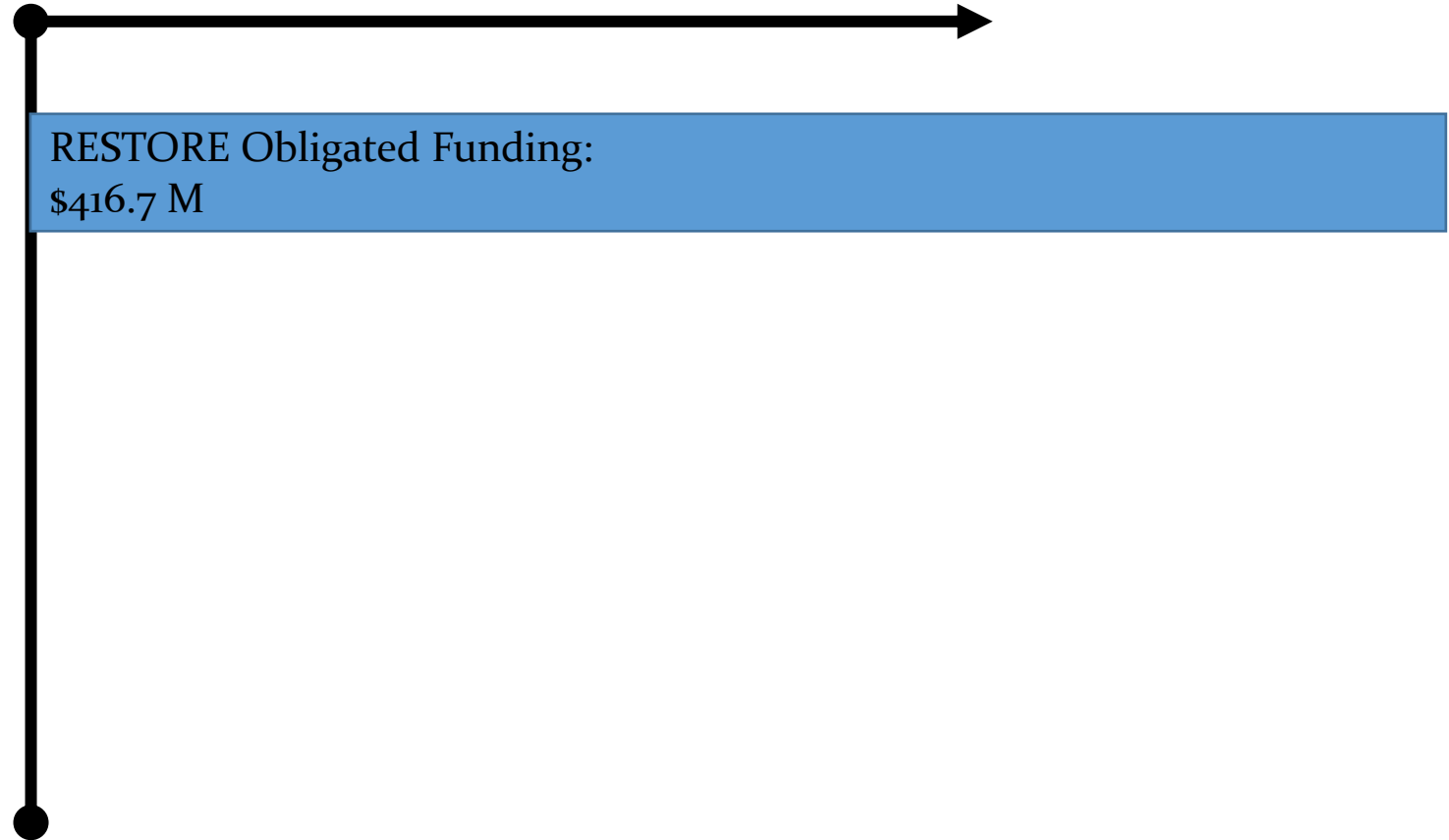
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Restoration Funding Streams (MDEQ)

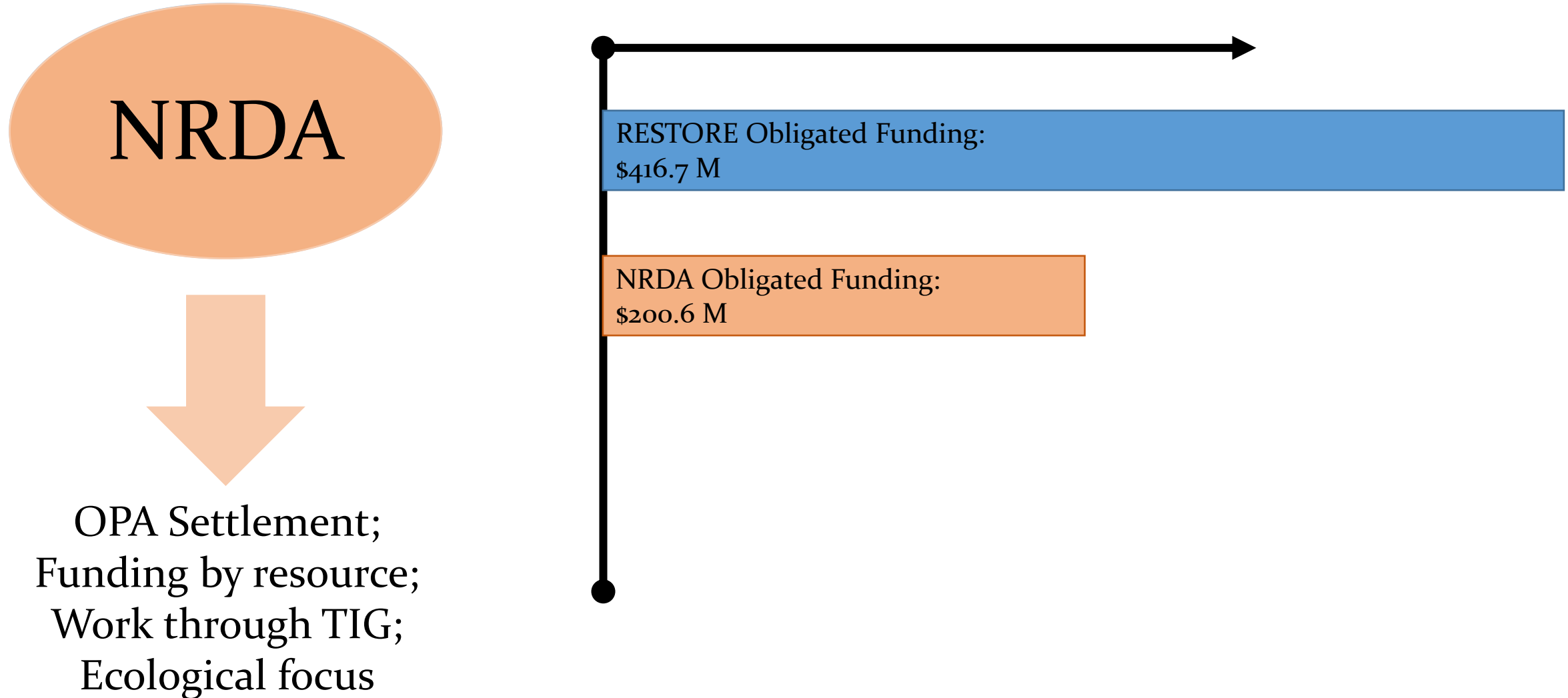
RESTORE



Civil Settlement;
Ecological and Economic;
5 buckets;
RESTORE Council and
Treasury Administered



Restoration Funding Streams (MDEQ)

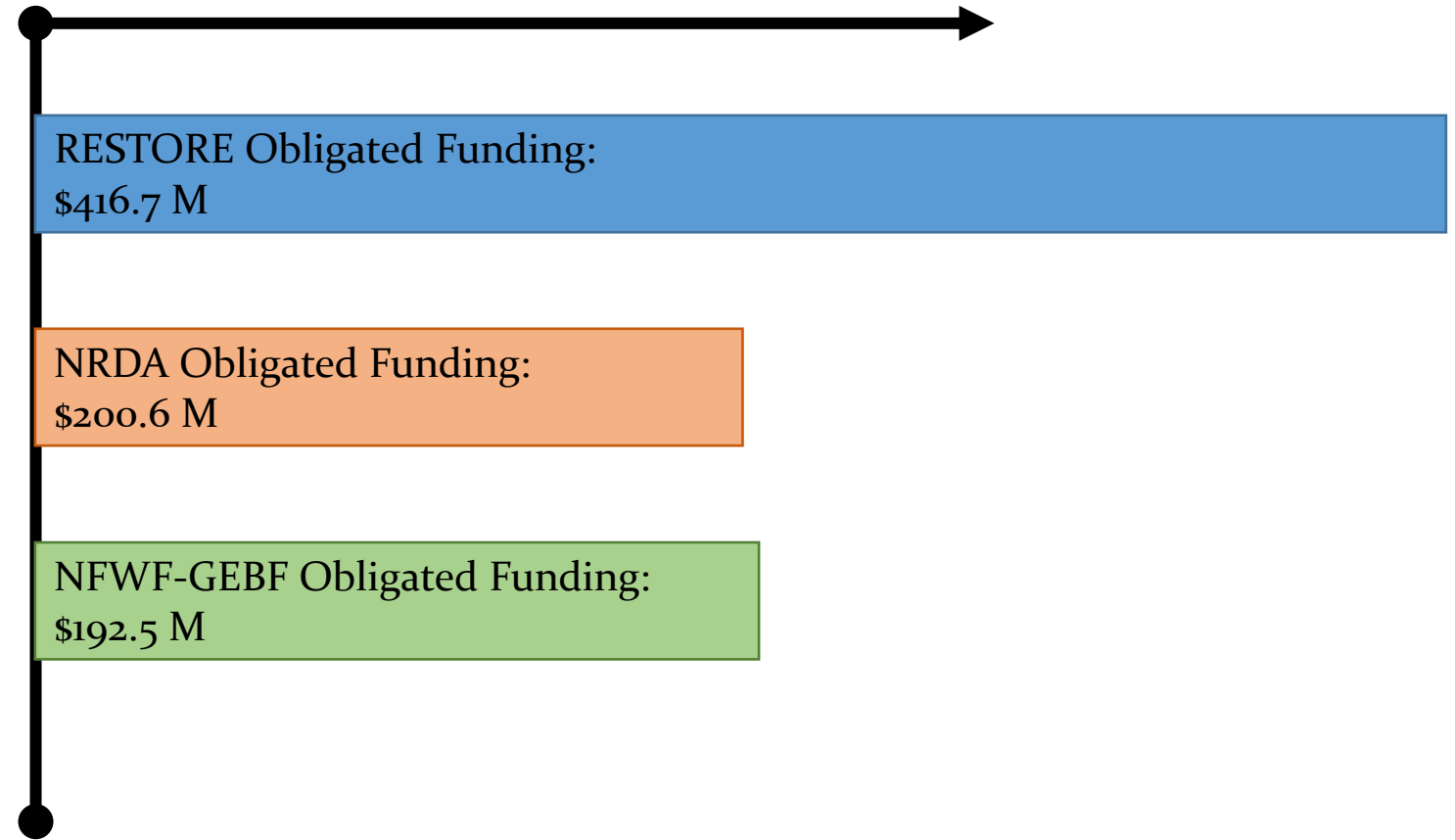


Restoration Funding Streams (MDEQ)

NFWF
GEBF



Criminal Settlement;
Plea Agreements;
Damage to Resources affected
by Spill;
Ecological focus



Total Funds Obligated: \$809.8 M

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How many projects do you think the state has implemented through Restoration from 2013-Present?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



Teresa Ree
Accountant II
“To date, we have over
120 projects that we are working
with on a daily basis.”

RESTORATION SUMMIT PURPOSE

The Restoration Summit was created for a number of purposes, including:

- A single venue to announce restoration projects
- Provide the coastal community an update on restoration projects
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity for feedback, input, and suggestions on restoration priorities
- Serves as the MS TIG's Annual Meeting

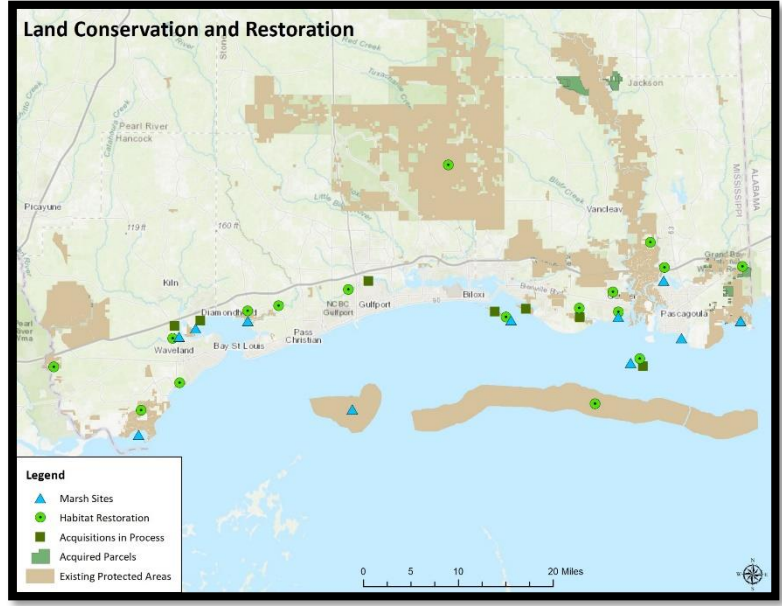
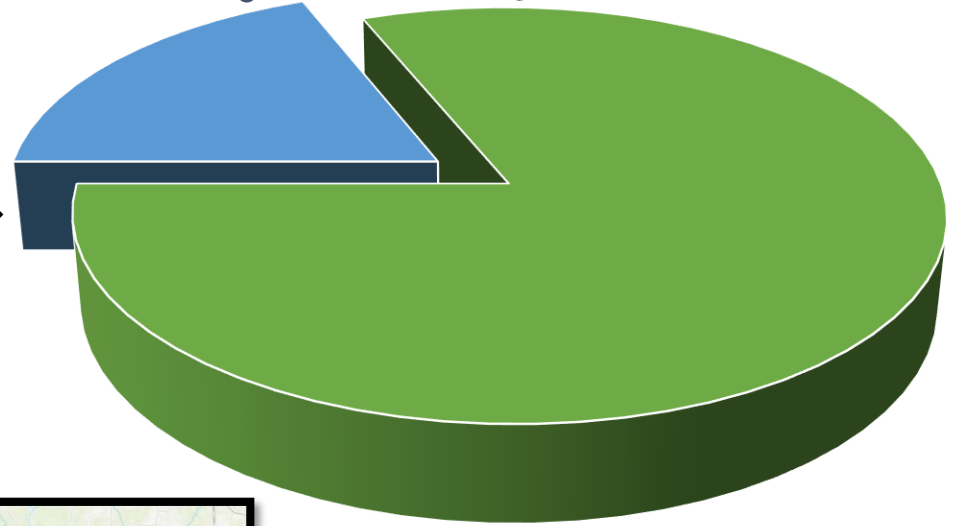


In 2020 – FOCUS: Progress



19.5%
Economic
Restoration

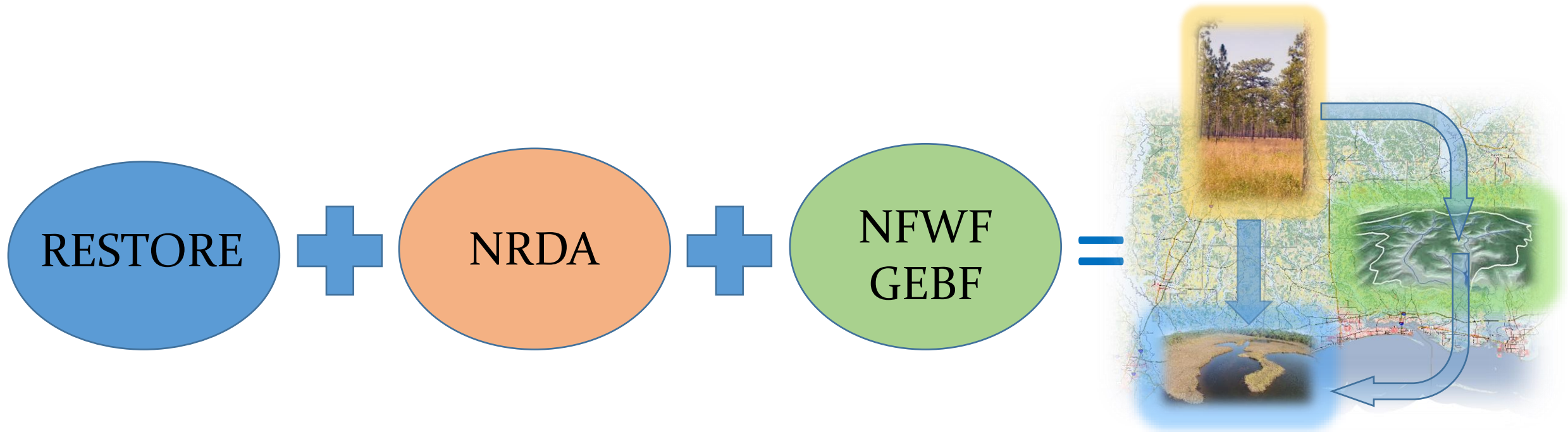
80.5%
Ecological
Restoration



In 2021 – FOCUS: IMPACT



A Coordinated Effort



Purposeful
Restoration

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Is it important to you to understand where individual projects are funded? i.e., whether a project is funded under RESTORE, NRDA, or NFWF?

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In 2022 – FOCUS: PURPOSEFUL

Gulf Economy
Workforce
Development

Oysters

Coastal
Habitat

Water
Quality

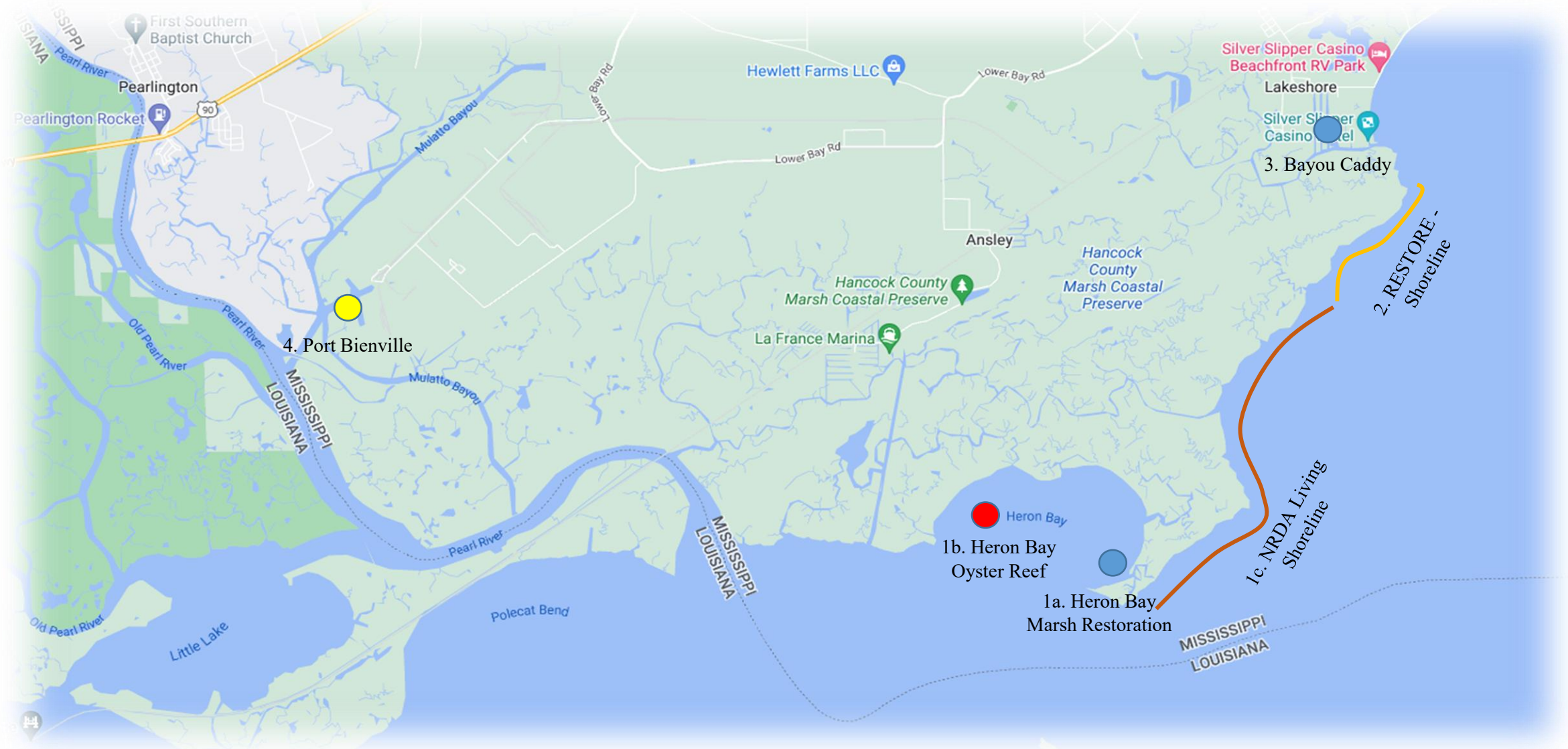


PC: Getty im

Purposeful Restoration Overview



Purposeful Restoration Example #1



Click Here to Play Video:
Purposeful
Restoration Example #1

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How many cubic yards of sediment do you think it took to create 46 acres of marsh in Heron Bay?

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Tracye Moore-Thomas
Environmental/Natural Resource Specialist Team Lead

“It’s amazing that over 500,000 cubic yards of material that needed to be removed from navigational areas could be used to create marsh habitat!”



Purposeful Restoration Example #2



Click Here to Play Video:
Purposeful Restoration
Example #2

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How many oyster rings were used in the creation of the breakwater at Wolf River? Each oyster ring is approximately 5ft in diameter.

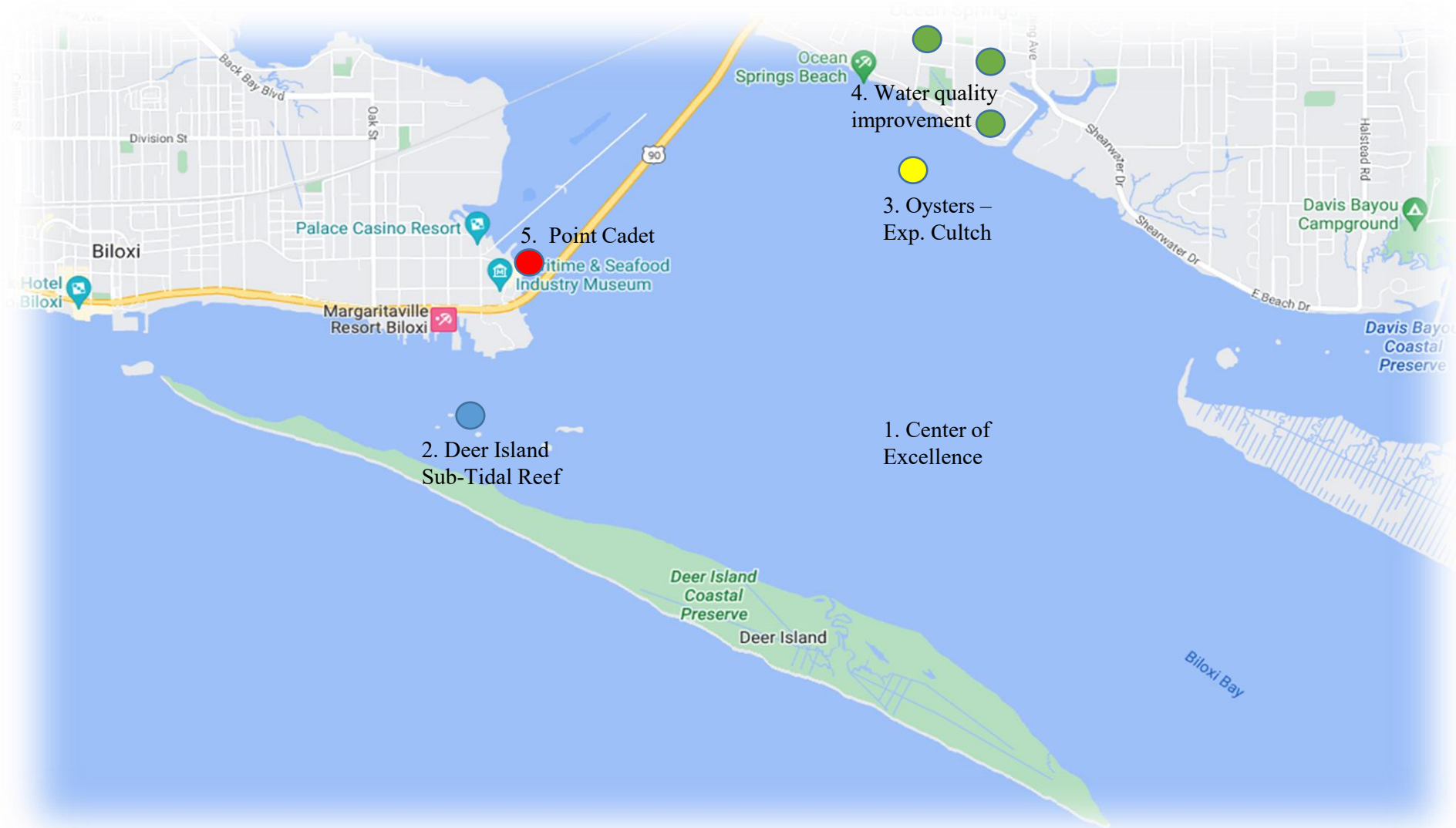
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Angela Shelby
Environmental/Natural Resources
Team Lead

"It's great to see new to Mississippi
technology go into the water. 589
Oyster Break rings were installed
at Wolf River."

Purposeful Restoration Example #3



Click Here to Play Video:
Purposeful Restoration
Example #3

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How many cubic yards of reef material were deployed to create the Deer Island reef?

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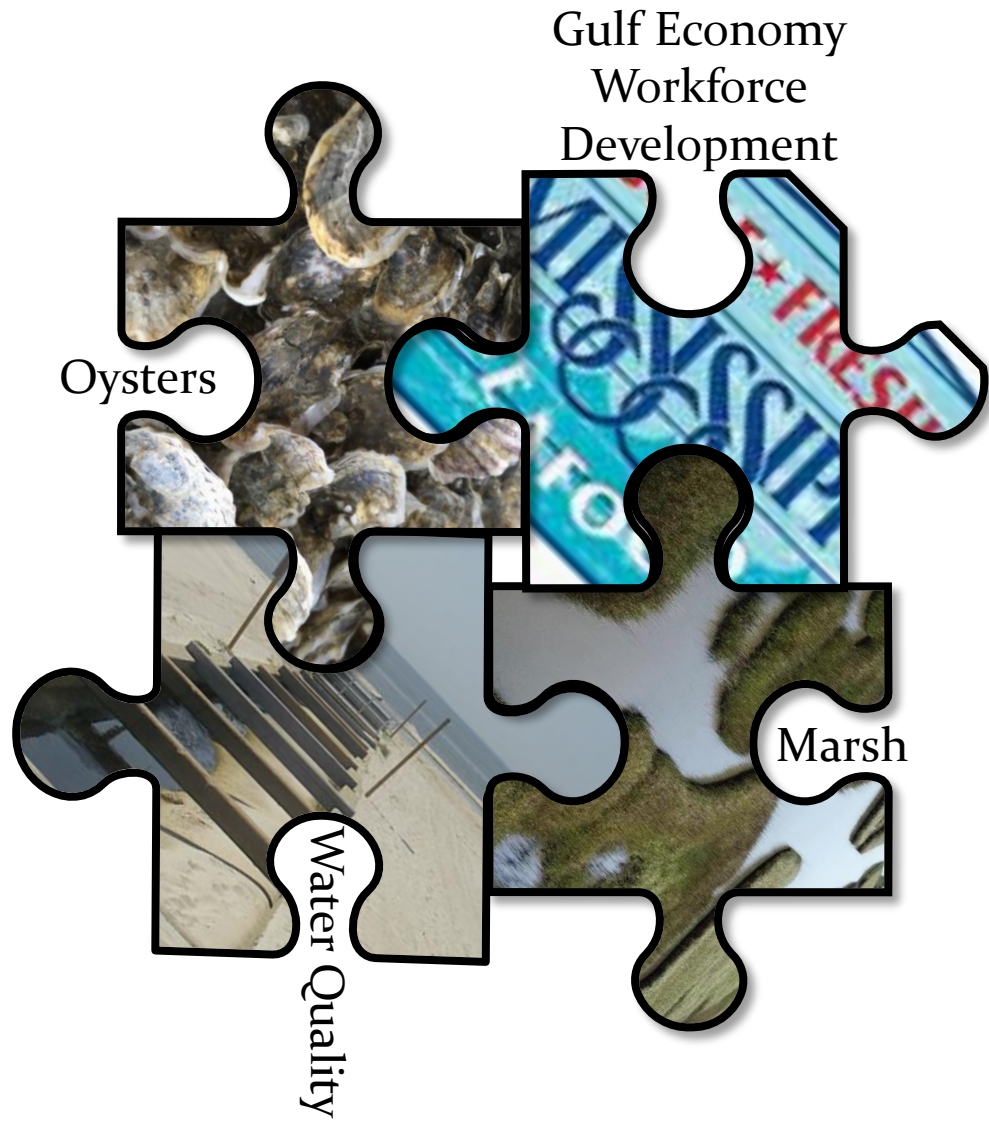
Eric Kunjappy

Admin Support III

“Over 45,000 cubic yards of rock went into building the Deer Island Reef.”



Constant consideration of PURPOSEFUL restoration



New Project Announcements



NFWF-GEBF



2022 NFWF-GEBF

Wolf River Tract

Goal: Acquire approximately 14,000 acres along the Wolf River south of Hwy 53.

Activity:


- Acquire 14,000 acres within the lower Wolf River watershed
- Provide opportunities for water quality and quantity enhancements
- \$15 million leveraged with Forest Legacy Program to finalize the acquisition

Project Partners: MFC, TNC, and MSU

Project Cost: \$15,103,000



NFWF




MISSISSIPPI


Wolf River Headwaters Acquisition

This project will acquire and permanently protect over 14,000 acres along the Wolf River and its headwaters. Acquiring this significant acreage will close large gaps between existing conservation areas and enhance and protect water quality in St. Louis Bay. The previously funded Coastal Headwaters Protection Assessment project provided necessary assessment and due diligence to advance the Wolf River tract as a priority for protection. Conservation of lands adjacent to the Wolf River provides opportunities to manage important habitats at a meaningful scale to improve ecological function and provide water quality benefits to downstream receiving water bodies.

Once acquired, the lands would be owned by Mississippi State University and managed by the MSU Forest and Wildlife Research Center. While the pine upland portions of the acquired property would be used as a teaching forest for the management and restoration of pine habitats, the bottomland hardwood portions of the property that are the focus of the GEBF investment would be protected from harvest and managed to protect and enhance downstream water quality benefits. The wetland and floodplain acreage represents 50% of the total property. The project has been highly ranked for Federal Forest Legacy funding, which is expected to provide leverage for the GEBF award.



This project will protect and conserve habitat and water quality along the Wolf River and its tributaries (pictured above) for the benefit of St. Louis Bay.



The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF), administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 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 GEBF, view a comprehensive project map go to www.nfwf.org/Gulf

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

AWARD AMOUNT:
\$15,103,000

LEVERAGE:
\$14,180,000

PARTNERS:
Mississippi Forestry Commission

The Nature Conservancy

Mississippi State University

LOCATION:
Harrison County

AWARD DATE:
November 2022

STATUS:
Awarded

2022 NFWF-GEBF

Gulf Islands National Seashore – Phase II

Goal: Continue the invasive species removal and control work out on the Gulf Islands National Seashore with the National Park Service

Activity:

- Invasive species control and removal
- Monitoring success outcomes

Project Partners: National Park Service

Project Cost: \$1,578,000



NFWF



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Habitat Restoration: Federal Lands Program - Phase II

In 2015, the GEBF funded the first phase of the Habitat Restoration on Federal Lands Program as part of a broader strategy to improve coastal habitats across federal lands, state parks, and wildlife management areas in Mississippi. Funding for phase two will focus on continued habitat restoration efforts and management needs within the Gulf Islands National Seashore (GUIS). The efforts will include monitoring, mapping, and removing non-native and invasive species from the sensitive barrier island ecosystem. Non-native mammals on the GUIS are posing a threat to the native plants which trap sand and stabilize the sand dunes on these barrier islands. Additionally, invasive plant species threaten bird nesting habitat and create potential fire hazards. The barrier island ecosystems in the GUIS are relatively undeveloped, high-quality beach and dune habitat that was directly affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, documented as part of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process.

The proposed scope of work for Phase II also includes continued prescribed burns on portions of the GUIS that are on the mainland (Davis Bayou). In total, NPS seeks to treat over 360 acres to enhance the ecological integrity and improve water quality in the bayou.



This project would benefit beach and barrier island habitat like the primary dune and vegetation shown above and provide suitable habitat for beach nesting birds.



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AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:
National Parks Service (NPS)

AWARD AMOUNT:
\$1,578,000

LOCATION:
Gulf Islands National Seashore

AWARD DATE:
November 2022

RESTORE



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

What can be Funded under RESTORE?

Environmental
(Eco-Restoration,
Research and Education)



All things habitat restoration and conservation

Infrastructure
(Infrastructure)



Any infrastructure that benefits the Gulf Economy

Economy
(Small business,
Tourism, Workforce, Economic
Development, Seafood)



Any Workforce and Economic Development that will benefit the Gulf Economy including marketing, tourism, and seafood

2022 Governor's Gulf Coast Advisory Committee

- 6 Sub-Committees
 - Eco-Restoration
 - Economic Development
 - Seafood
 - Tourism
 - Small Business
 - Workforce Development / Research and Education
- Recommended projects to the Governor for selection
- \$51.2 million selected between Direct and Oil Spill Components (Buckets 1 and 3)

2022 MIP Project Selections

RESTORE Direct Component Bucket 1

Total MIP: \$28,390,000

Project Title	Eligibility	Funded Amount
Lowery Island Restoration	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$4,400,000
PRCC Hancock Aviation Aerospace Workforce Academy	Workforce Development	\$2,090,000
The Kiln Utility and Fire District – Water and Sewer Expansion Project	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$3,000,000
HWY 609 Washington Street Gateway Phase II	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$5,500,000
Trent Lott International Airport North Apron Expansion	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$2,400,000
Magnificent Mile: I-10 HWY 63 Corridor Improvement	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$5,500,000
Gulfport Airport Secondary Runway Extension	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$2,200,000
Port Bienville Railroad Intermodal Expansion	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$3,300,000

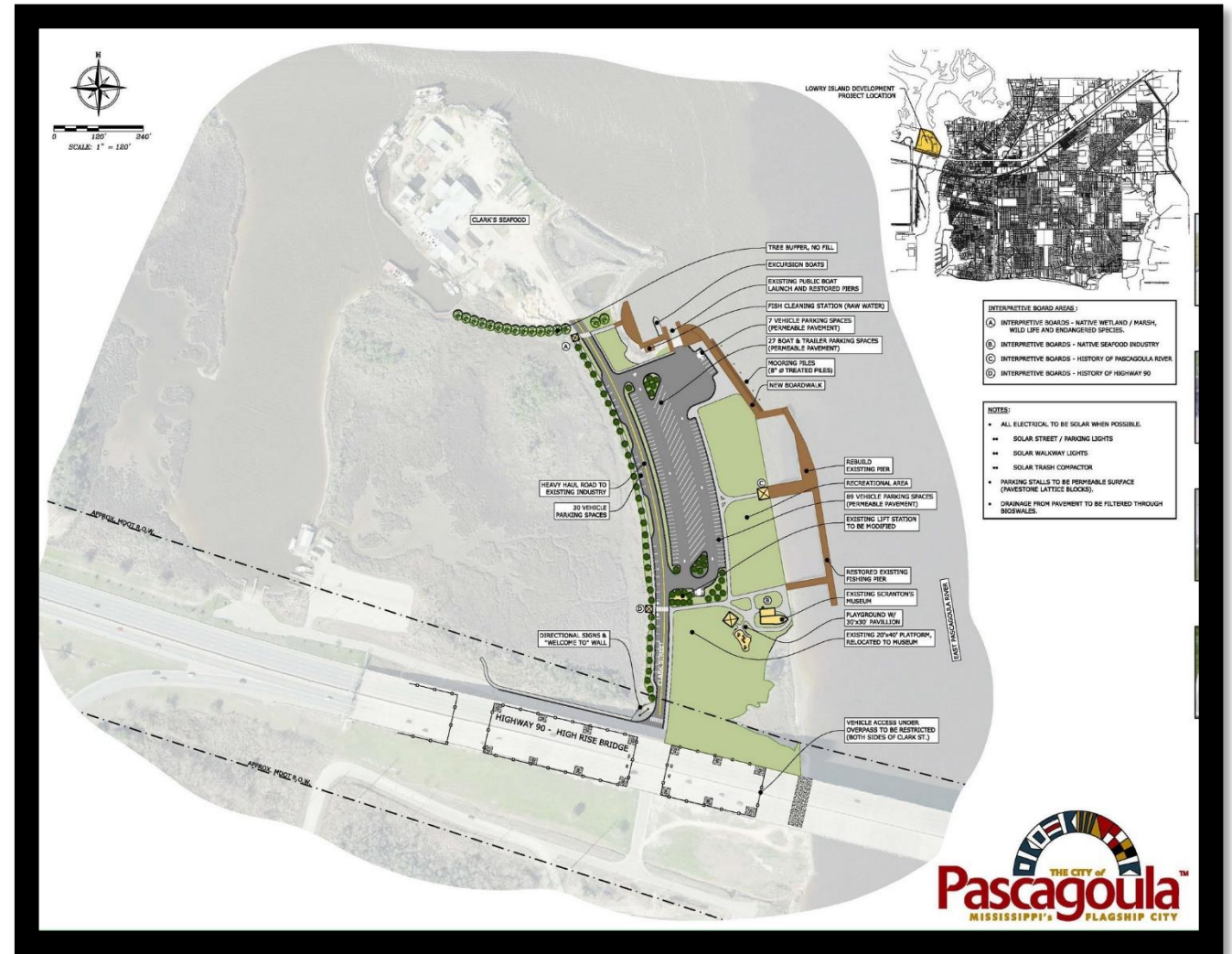
2022 RESTORE MIP

Lowery Island

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: Leveraging these funds with previously acquired funds to complete the restoration of Lowery Island from an underutilized park to a marina and successful mixed-use district.

Cost: \$4,400,000



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2022 RESTORE MIP

PRCC Hancock Aviation Aerospace Workforce Academy

Eligibility: Workforce Development

Activity: Project funding for the purchase of equipment and program needs to support the establishment of the PRCC Aerospace Workforce Academy.

Cost: \$2,090,000



PRCC HANCOCK AVIATION AEROSPACE
WORKFORCE ACADEMY
03.09.2020



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2022 RESTORE MIP

The Kiln Utility and Fire District – Water and Sewer Expansion Project

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: This project will expand utilities, specifically water and sewer on several major roads in the Kiln District in anticipation of increased development.

Cost: \$3,000,000



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2022 RESTORE MIP

HWY 609 Washington Street Gateway Phase II

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: Construct pedestrian friendly features including sidewalks, a crosswalk, and a landscaped median from Old Fort Bayou Road to Highway 90.

Cost: \$5,500,000



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2022 RESTORE MIP

Trent Lott International Airport North Apron Expansion

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: The project would expand the north apron of Trent Lott International Airport.

Cost: \$2,400,000



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2022 RESTORE MIP

Magnificent Mile: I-10 HWY 63 Corridor Improvement

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: Investment in road infrastructure to allow for commercial development as well as create an alternative route for I-10 traffic, alleviating congestion and traffic.

Cost: \$5,500,000



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2022 RESTORE MIP

Gulfport Airport Secondary Runway Extension

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: This project will support the expansion of the secondary runway at the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport.

Cost: \$2,200,000



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2022 RESTORE MIP

Port Bienville Railroad Intermodal Expansion

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: Construction of a 7-track classification yard and the addition of a truck-to-rail intermodal facility expansion.

Cost: \$3,300,000



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2022 SEP Project Selections

RESTORE Oil Spill Component Bucket 3

Total SEP: \$21,851,500

Project Title	Eligibility	Funded Amount
Jones Park Expansion – Parking Areas	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$1,650,000
Walter Anderson Museum of Art Creative Complex	Tourism	\$1,210,000
Workforce Training – Meeting the Need of the Supply Chain	Workforce Development	\$5,500,000
Health Professions for our Community (HEALP): Health Professions Center of Excellence	Workforce Development	\$6,600,000
Marina at Front Beach	Infrastructure Benefiting the Economy	\$5,500,000
IMMS Outreach and Ecotourism	Tourism	\$825,000
St Stanislaus & Ocean Springs Environmental Education	Infrastructure Benefiting Ecological Resources	\$566,500

2022 RESTORE SEP

Jones Park Expansion – Parking Areas

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: Jones Park is a central location for tourism and recreation for the City of Gulfport. This project will expand the parking areas of Jones Park.

Cost: \$1,650,000



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2022 RESTORE SEP

Walter Anderson Museum of Art Creative Complex

Eligibility: Tourism

Activity: Provide funding for facility construction and new program development for increased tourism opportunities.

Cost: \$1,210,000



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2022 RESTORE SEP

Workforce Training – Meeting the Need of the Supply Chain

Eligibility: Workforce Development

Activity: MGCCC will develop curricula to meet today's job market needs (e.g., commercial truck driving, autonomous training, etc.) that will increase workforce development on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Cost: \$5,500,000



2022 RESTORE SEP

Health Professions for Our Community (HEALP): Health Professions Center of Excellence

Eligibility: Workforce Development

Activity: Project will focus on developing a Health Professions Center of Excellence.

Cost: \$6,600,000



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2022 RESTORE SEP

Marina at Front Beach

Eligibility: Infrastructure

Activity: Project will convert a derelict shrimp processing plant into a marina and events center in Ocean Springs.

Cost: \$5,500,000



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2022 RESTORE SEP

IMMS Outreach and Ecotourism

Eligibility: Tourism

Activity: Institute for Marine Mammal Studies will enhance and expand outreach and ecotourism around gulf coast marine resources.

Cost: \$825,000



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2022 RESTORE SEP

St. Stanislaus & Ocean Springs Environmental Education

Eligibility: Infrastructure
Benefiting Ecological Resources

Activity: To enhance
environmental science education
related to marine ecosystem
education at St. Stanislaus and
Ocean Springs High Schools.

Cost: \$566,500



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NRDA

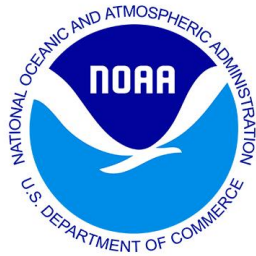


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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group (MS TIG) Annual Update

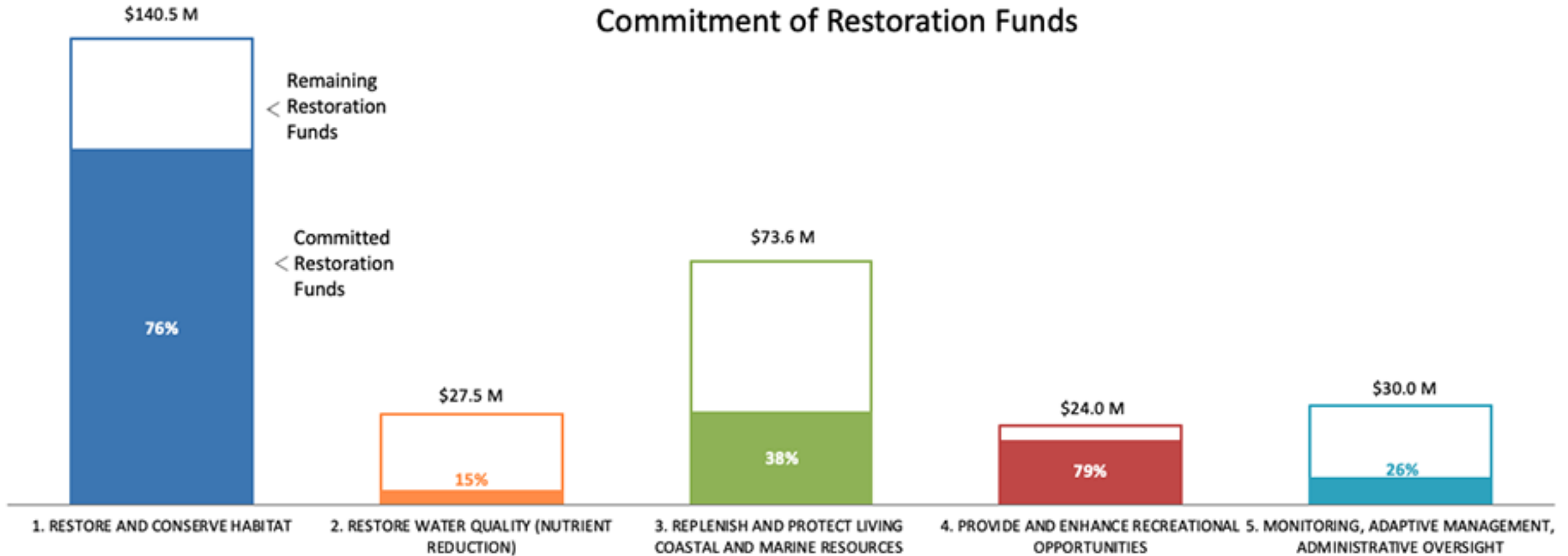
NRDA MS TIG Annual Update

Members of the MS TIG



NRDA MS TIG

Commitment of Restoration Funds



Data current as of May 2022

Mississippi TIG RP4 Restoration Type Fund Availability

Restoration Type	Total MS TIG Settlement Funds	Funds Allocated to Early Restoration projects	Funds Previously Allocated (RP1, RP2 and RP3)	Total Funds Remaining
Nutrient Reduction	\$27,500,000		\$4,000,000	\$23,500,000
Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats	135,500,000	\$80,000,000	\$22,387,500	\$33,112,500
Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities	\$23,957,000	\$18,957,000	\$1,986,000	\$3,014,000

NRDA MS TIG

Proposed Reasonable Range of Restoration Alternatives for Draft MS TIG Restoration Plan 4/EA	Estimated Project Costs
Restoration Type: Nutrient Reduction (NR)	
NR1. Big Cedar Creek – Rocky Creek Nutrient Reduction Project	\$2,500,000
NR2. Back Bay – Biloxi Davis Bayou Nutrient Reduction Project	\$2,500,000
NR3. Big Cedar Creek – West Pascagoula River Nutrient Reduction Project	\$2,500,000
Restoration Type: Wetlands Coastal Nearshore Habitats (WCNH)	
WCNH1. Coastwide Habitat Acquisition Project	\$5,000,000
WCNH2. Living Shoreline Bulkhead Alternative Project	\$3,000,000
WCNH3. Sand Dune Restoration Project	\$2,000,000
Restoration Type: Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities (REC)	
REC1. Jourdan River Boardwalk	Up to \$2,500,000
REC2. Shepard State Park Recreational Enhancements	\$833,000 - \$2,955,000 (depending on which components are funded)



NRDA MS TIG Project Updates

NRDA MS TIG Update

Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries

Big Island Living Shoreline






Wolf River Living Shoreline and Subtidal Reef

NRDA MS TIG Update

Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries



Legend

-  NRDA Phase IV Project Area
-  St. Louis Bay Living Shoreline Concept
-  Navigation Channels

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles



NRDA MS TIG Update

Hancock County Marsh Living Shoreline Marsh Creation



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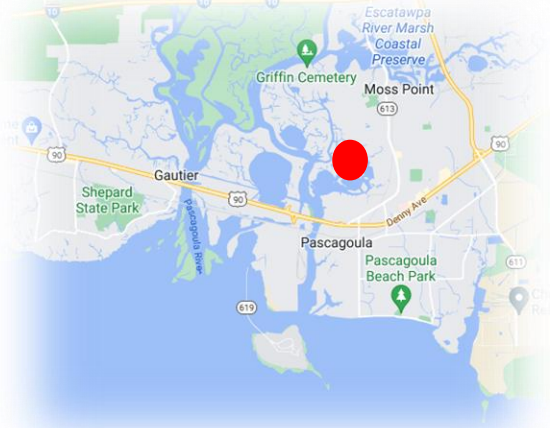
What are the priorities that ecological restoration should focus on?

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PROGRAM UPDATES



Apple Snails



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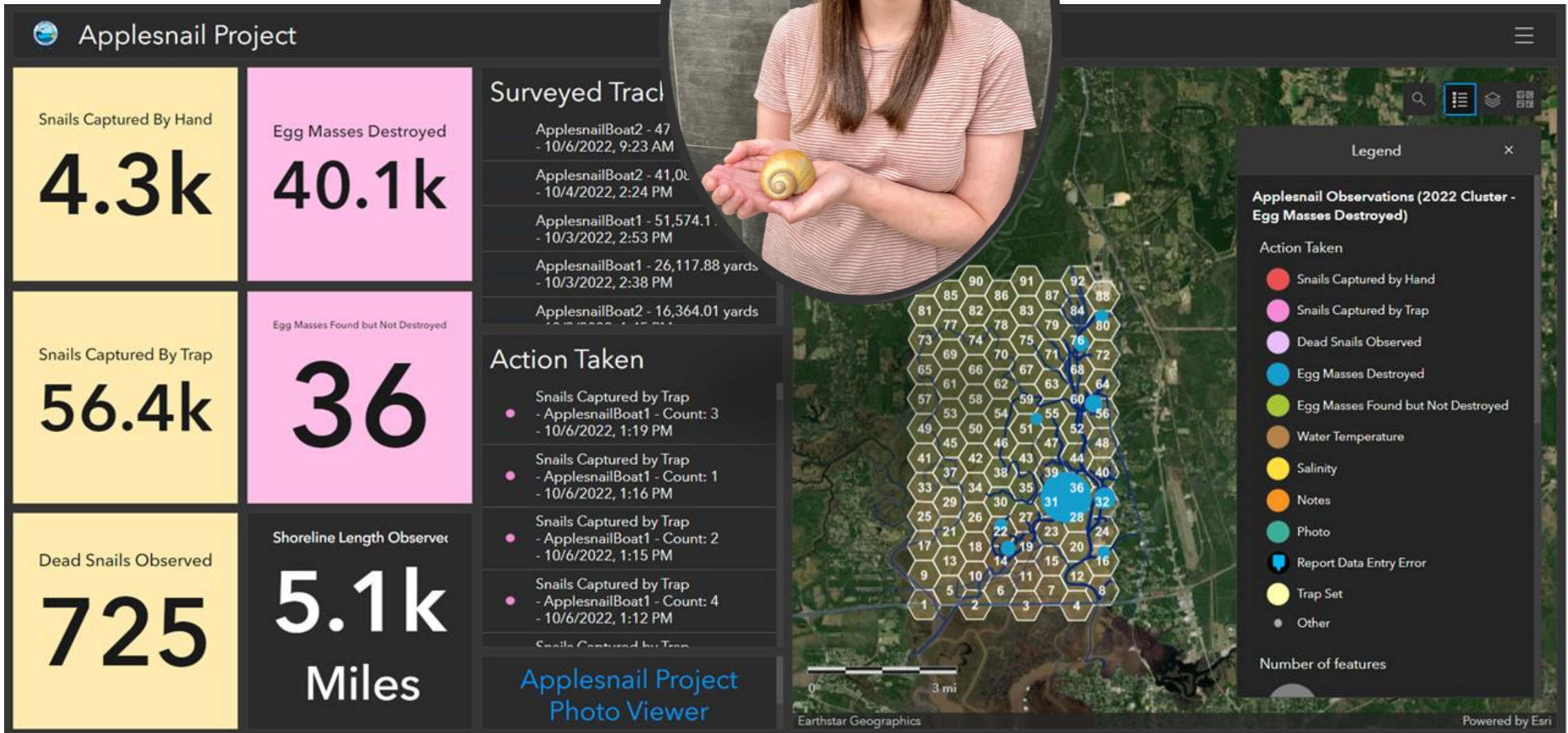


How many Apple Snails (Egg Masses and Live Snails) have been caught during the project?

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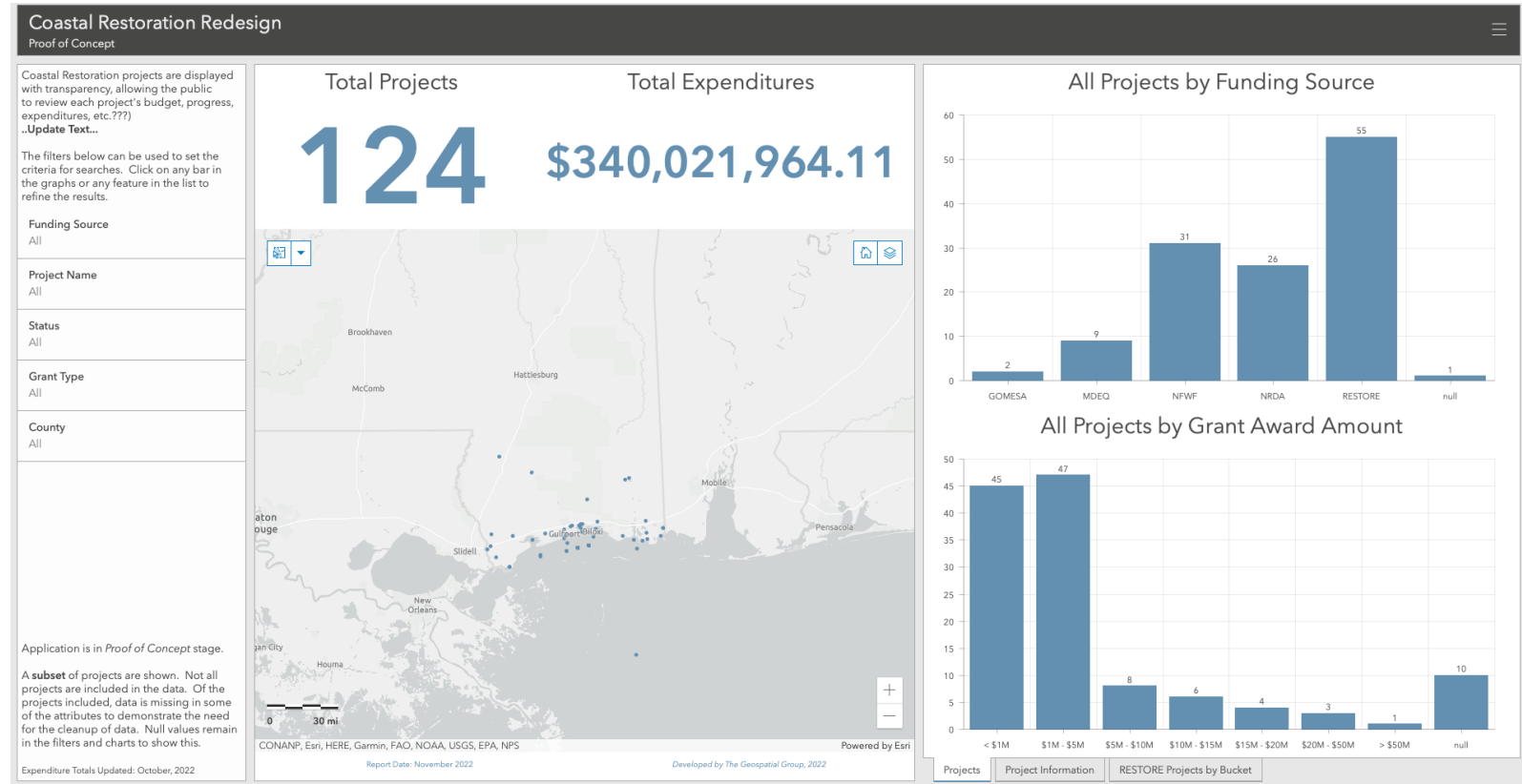
Fun Fact: Apple Snails

Jessica Katzenmeyer
Environmental/Natural Resources
Team Lead
“The dashboard for Apple Snails helps me see the impact of what we are doing.”



The Coastal Restoration Application

The MDEQ Story Map is undergoing a major overhaul. We have listened to the stakeholders and the new website will be more interactive and more detailed to projects.



Spring 2023 for Release

The PORTAL Clean Up

In early 2022, MDEQ alerted the public to an update and archiving of the portal. This exercise has streamlined restoration planning across all funding streams.

Total Number of Projects in Portal
January 1, 2022:

1,514

All Projects submitted to the portal
before January 1, 2018, and not updated
were archived.

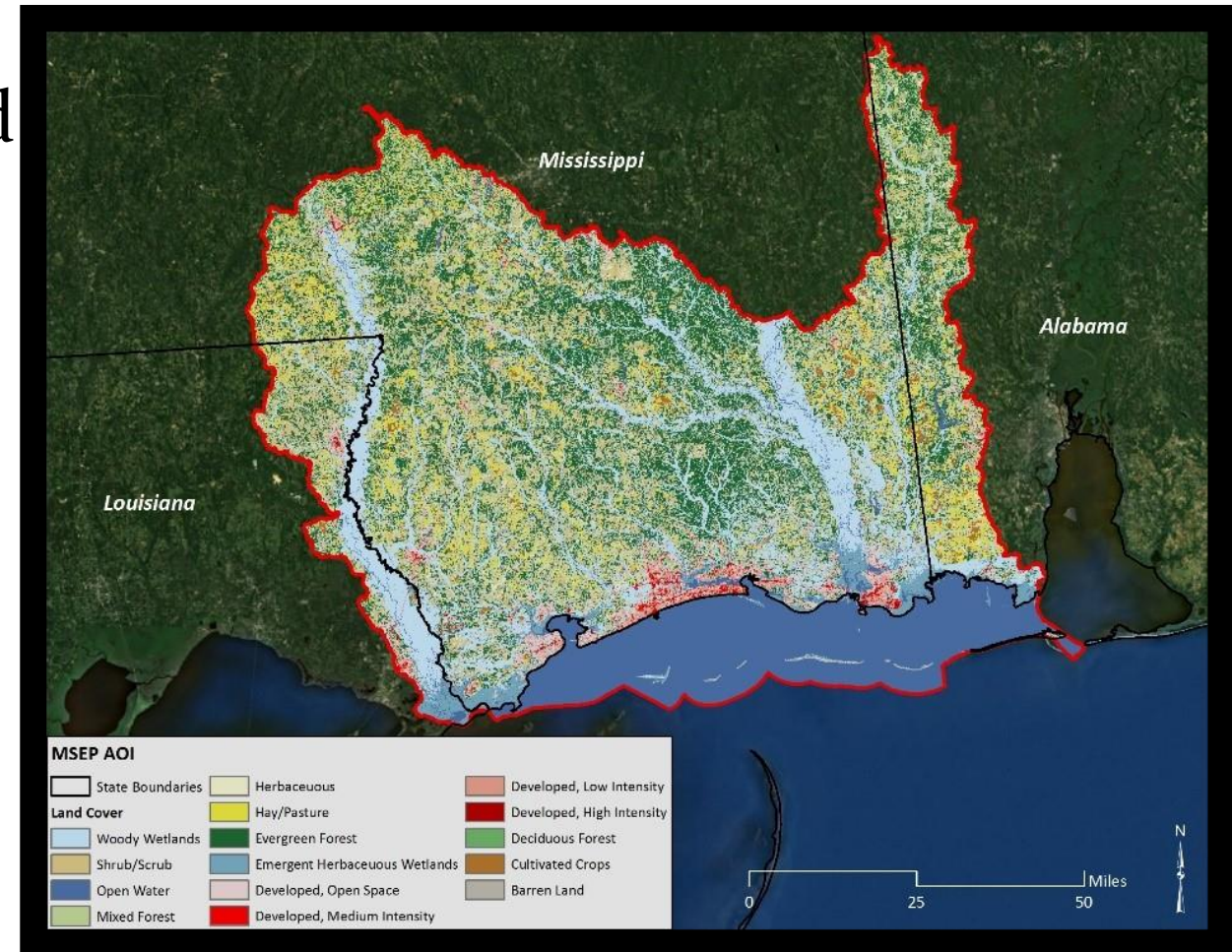
Total Projects Archived:

1,112

The Mississippi Sound Estuarine Program

MDEQ will be soliciting proposals via an RFP from IHL institutions and non-profits to administer and operate the Mississippi Sound Estuarine Program.

The Estuarine Program's purpose is to outlast Deepwater Horizon Funding.



Scheduled: January 2023 for Release

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How can MDEQ better inform you about restoration progress, restoration actions, and accomplishments in the future?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

THANK YOU

Please join us for Round Table Community Discussions

Chris Wells

Executive Director - MDEQ

