



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

RECIPIENTS

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

AWARD AMOUNT

*\$556,088

LOCATION

Mississippi Sound, Mississippi

AWARD DATE

November 2015

STATUS

Closed

PROJECT UPDATE

Three proposals to improve water quality associated with beach outfalls were down-selected for advancement. Engineering, design and construction of pilot-scale demonstrations for each are expected to move forward in the near future. All project tasks have been completed and the project is closed. (June 2018)

**Project was amended in July 2018 to add \$11,576 for unanticipated costs that exceeded initial estimates.*

The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), 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 NFWF, go to www.nfwf.org.

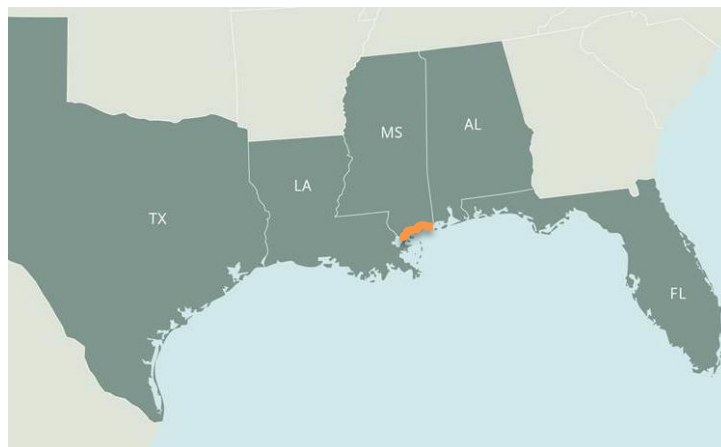
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Design Challenge for Improvement of Water Quality from Beach Outfalls – Phase I

The design challenge will encourage individuals and teams to compete to create innovative “green” solutions to address the water quality impacts of beach outfalls. The winning design is expected to be implemented and replicated at a larger scale across the Mississippi Coast. Finalists will have their proposed restoration solutions peer reviewed by key stakeholders and technical experts, with additional input from the public. Design challenge implementation locations are expected to be based on proximity and net benefit to coastal resources such as oyster reefs, artificial reefs and marshes.

This project will fund a design competition to find innovative eco-solutions for water quality impairments associated with beach outfalls in Mississippi. A major threat to water quality in the Mississippi Sound is associated with outfall areas that drain untreated stormwater directly into the Sound.

Numbering well in excess of 200 and found throughout all three coastal counties, these outfalls provide an important municipal stormwater function but currently provide minimal treatment. The untreated effluent adds significant sediment and nutrient loading to the sound, to the detriment of species and habitats.



This project will identify cost-effective and creative ‘green’ solutions to address water quality impacts associated with the more than 200 stormwater outfalls that discharge directly into the Mississippi Sound.