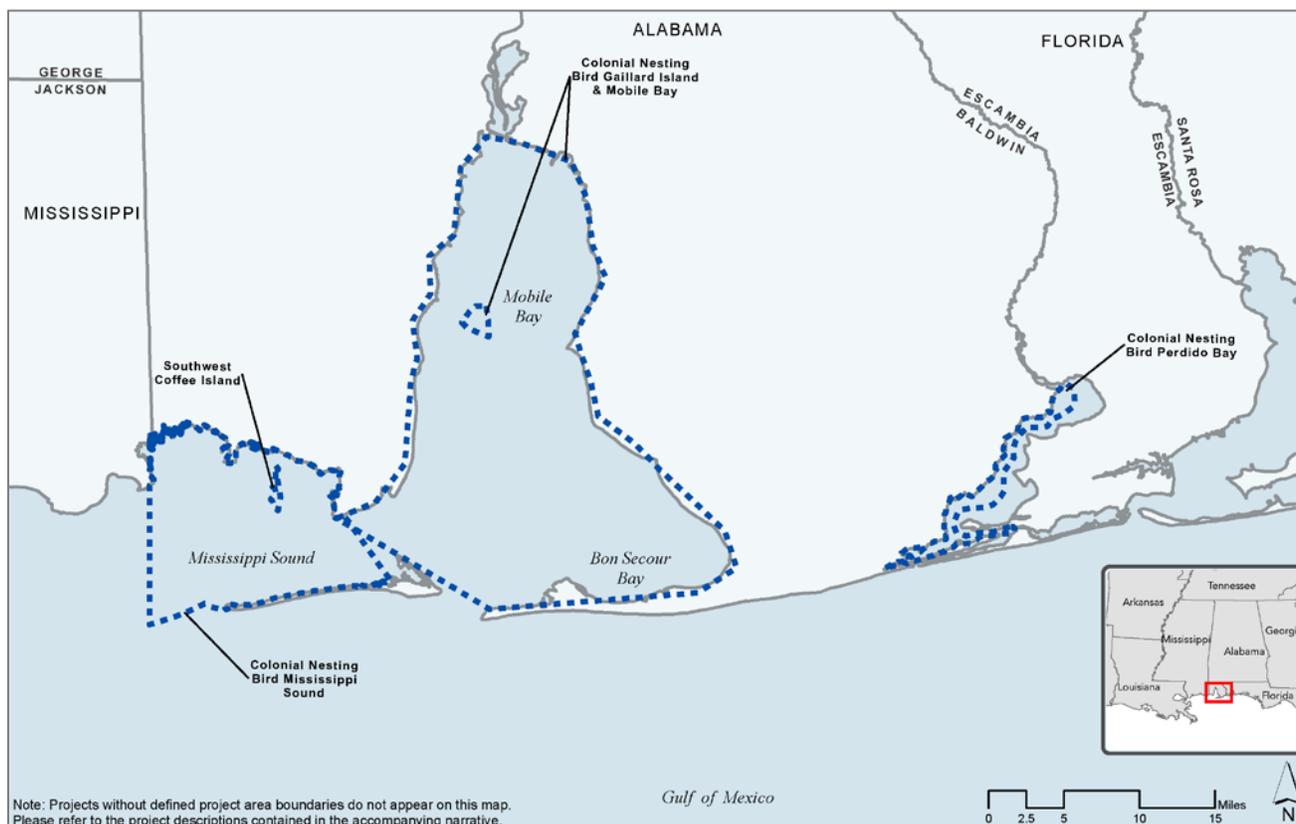


Alabama Restoration Area Birds Restoration Type Draft Restoration Plan II



The projects selected for inclusion in the Birds reasonable range of alternatives utilize the following restoration approaches identified in the *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill Final Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan and Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement:

- Restore and conserve bird nesting and foraging habitat.
- Establish or reestablish breeding colonies.
- Protect and conserve marine, coastal, estuarine and riparian habitats.

In screening projects for Draft Restoration Plan II under this Restoration Type, Alabama Trustee Implementation Group (AL TIG) Trustees considered whether projects, at a minimum, would:

1. Increase reproduction or decrease mortality for DWH injured species where restoration is not largely complete (i.e., for wading birds and seabirds including brown pelicans and land birds); or
2. Fill important information/data gaps needed to inform future bird restoration efforts in the Alabama Restoration Area.

Alabama Restoration Area

Bird Projects Proposed for Implementation in Draft Restoration Plan II

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED COST
REPLENISH AND PROTECT LIVING COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES – BIRDS		
Colonial Nesting Wading Bird Tracking and Habitat Use Assessment (Two Species)	This project proposes a telemetry tracking study of the movements of two bird species breeding along the Alabama coast—tricolored heron and either little blue heron or white ibis, based on additional recommendation from AL TIG Trustee bird experts. The goals of the study would be to better understand the extent to which declines in colonial nesting wading bird populations result from habitat limitations versus other potential causes such as increased prevalence of predators or human disturbance. The proposed study would (1) determine daily and seasonal movements among nesting colonies at three important breeding areas—Mississippi Sound, Gaillard Island, and Perdido Bay; (2) determine seasonal and annual home ranges for birds marked at sites identified above and document fidelity to specific nesting colonies, dispersal timing, and regional dispersal among colonies; (3) document average foraging distances, time away from nests, and important foraging areas within the study area; and (4) determine weekly and seasonal habitat use within the study area. The U.S. Department of the Interior (USDOI) would be the implementing Trustee.	\$1,547,500
Southwestern Coffee Island Habitat Restoration Phase I (Engineering and Design Only)	This project would fund planning activities related to the restoration and creation of colonial nesting bird breeding habitat and tidal wetlands along the southwestern shoreline of Coffee Island, located in Mississippi Sound in south Mobile County, Alabama. Phase 1 would include 1) a synthesis of certain bird data in coastal Alabama, and 2) E&D and permitting to evaluate restoration of habitat on Coffee Island for further development in a later plan. This project was evaluated under both the Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats (WCNH) and Birds Restoration Types and is proposed to be funded through both types. The ADCNR would be the implementing Trustee.	\$825,225 (Shared with Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats Restoration Type funding)

For additional information, contact:

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