



# Mississippi Restoration Area

June 2023



## RECENT ACTIVITIES

In February 2022, we began the planning of Restoration Plan 4/ Environmental Assessment. We anticipate releasing a draft version of the plan this summer. We have also been busy overseeing the implementation of 20 restoration projects, including the projects approved in the MS TIG restoration plans 1-3, and continuing with the implementation and monitoring of our early restoration projects.

## WHAT WE DO

Our work in the Mississippi Restoration Area focuses on living and coastal marine resources such as sea turtles, marine mammals, birds, and oysters. We also restore and conserve wetlands, coastal, and nearshore habitats. Our restoration work also includes nonpoint source nutrient reduction to watersheds, partnerships to conserve habitats on federal lands, and enhancement of recreational opportunities.

The Trustee Representatives for the Mississippi Restoration Area are:

- Chris Wells, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- Erin Plitsch, U.S. Department of the Interior
- Stella Wilson, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Ron Howard, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Troy Pierce, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency





## Restoration Overview

### \$185 million committed to approved projects

#### RECENT NEWS // Bird Stewardship and Enhanced Monitoring in Mississippi

This project is helping to restore coastal nesting shorebirds injured by the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill by implementing stewardship activities to reduce human disturbance of birds and predation of nests and chicks by wildlife. It will also address critical information gaps for populations of colonial waterbirds breeding along the Mississippi Coast by banding, marking and placing transmitters on individual birds to document habitat usage. The Trustees approved \$6.1M in Bird Restoration Type through MS TIG RP3/EA.



Collin Stempien, Audubon staff

#### RECENT NEWS // Wolf River Coastal Preserve Habitat Management – DuPont Tract and Bell’s Ferry Tract Project



Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

This 10-year project provides habitat management within 2,500 acres of the Wolf River Coastal Preserve boundaries adjacent to the St. Louis Bay in Pass Christian, Mississippi. Habitat management activities include hydrologic restoration, a combination of mechanical, chemical, and prescribed fire treatment, and prescribed grazing. The Trustees approved \$3.1M in Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats Restoration Type through MS TIG RP2/EA.





## Funding Overview

Restoration Type	Settlement Allocation	Funds Committed Through May 2023	Percent Funds	
			Committed	Remaining
<b>Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats</b>	\$135,500,000	\$107,137,500	79%	21%
<b>Habitat Projects on Federally Managed Lands</b>	\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000	60%	40%
<b>Nutrient Reduction</b>	\$27,500,000	\$4,000,000	15%	85%
<b>Sea Turtles</b>	\$5,000,000	\$2,500,000	50%	50%
<b>Marine Mammals</b>	\$10,000,000	\$5,440,000	54%	46%
<b>Birds</b>	\$25,000,000	\$11,355,500	45%	55%
<b>Oysters</b>	\$33,600,000	\$22,474,129	67%	33%
<b>Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities</b>	\$23,957,000	\$20,943,000	87%	13%
<b>Monitoring and Adaptive Management</b>	\$7,500,000	\$0	0%	100%
<b>Administrative Oversight and Comprehensive Planning</b>	\$22,500,000	\$8,350,000	37%	63%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$295,557,000</b>	<b>\$185,200,129</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>37%</b>

In February 2022, we initiated the planning of Restoration Plan 4, which will focus on the following restoration types: Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats; Nutrient Reduction (Nonpoint source); and Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities. The draft plan will be released later this summer.



MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE



[www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/mississippi](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/mississippi)

