

Deepwater Horizon NRDA
Alabama
Restoration Area

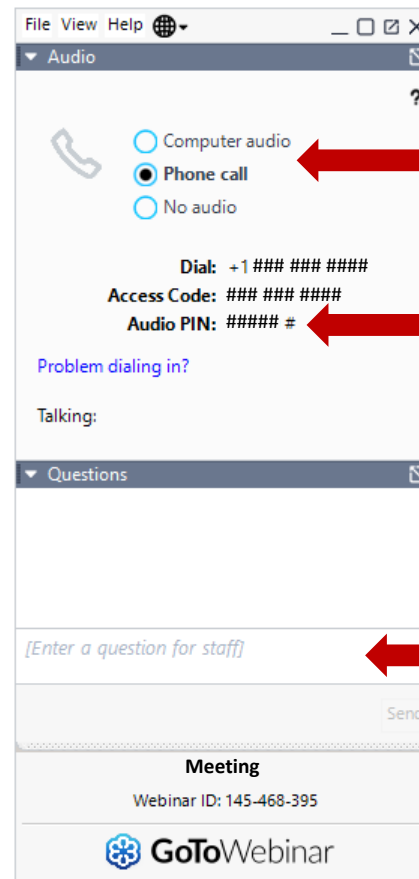


**Alabama Trustee
Implementation Group**
Draft Restoration Plan IV Public Webinar
July 10, 2024

Webinar Participation



- If you're using a phone, turn off your computer's microphone and speakers.
- We will take verbal comments at the end of the presentation.
- Presentation will be posted on DWH Trustee website:
www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov



If you call into the webinar with a phone, do not select computer audio.

If you use a phone, your **unique** audio pin will be here. You must enter this to speak on the call. (Computer audio users do not need a PIN)

To communicate with staff, type questions here.

AL TIG Representatives



ALABAMA
Amy
Hunter



DOI
Cody
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Chris
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USDA
Craig
Johnson

Draft Alabama Restoration Plan IV and EA Overview



- Proposes restoration for Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats; Nutrient Reduction; Birds; Oysters; and Provide & Enhance Recreational Opportunities
- Evaluates 11 restoration projects identified through screening of past restoration planning efforts
- Proposes 7 “preferred” projects (i.e., projects proposed for funding) for an estimated cost of \$22.7 million

The poster features a background image of a person walking on a beach at sunset. The text is overlaid on a dark green and purple background.

JUNE 2024

Credit: Steve Hillebrand

ALABAMA TRUSTEE IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL

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Draft Restoration Plan IV and Environmental Assessment:
Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats; Nutrient Reduction; Birds; Oysters; and Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities (Draft RP IV/EA)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
June 24, 2024 –
July 24, 2024

The poster includes logos for the Alabama Trustee Implementation Group, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Forestry, the Alabama Department of Transportation, the Alabama Department of Public Safety, and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

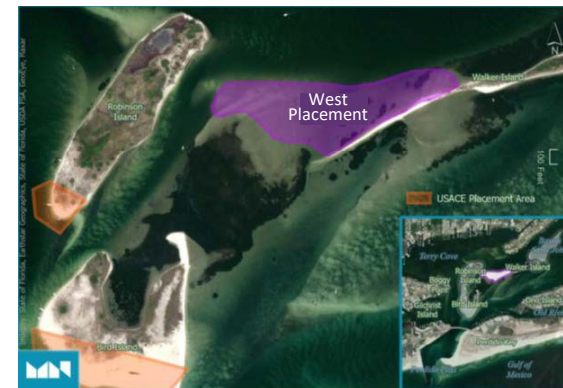
Draft Alabama Restoration Plan IV and EA

Preferred Alternatives – Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats and Birds



Lower Perdido Islands Habitat Restoration – Phase II

- Would build on the AL TIG RPII Lower Perdido Islands Restoration – Phase I project which resulted in the development of a Conservation Management Plan for the islands and 30% restoration design plans for Robinson and Walker Islands
- Includes construction to restore 23 acres of connected coastal habitat at Walker Island
- Separate NOAA transformational habitat grant would create 7 acres of habitat at Robinson Island
- Estimated Cost: \$8,132,000



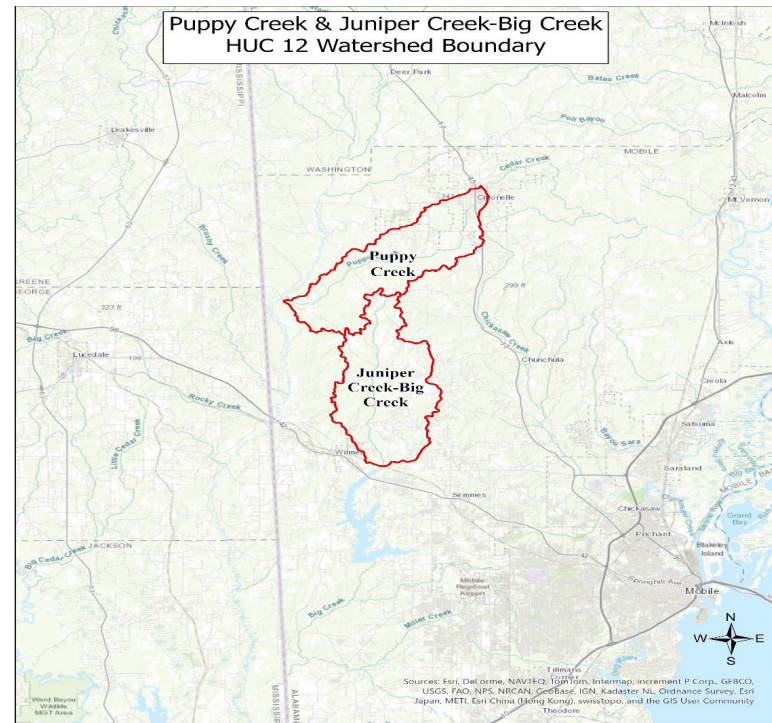
Draft Alabama Restoration Plan IV and EA

Preferred Alternatives – Nutrient Reduction



Puppy Creek – Juniper Creek-Big Creek Nutrient Reduction

- Would provide outreach and technical assistance to voluntary participants (private landowners)
- Develop conservation plans
- Implement nutrient reduction-related conservation practices
- Estimated cost: \$1,520,900

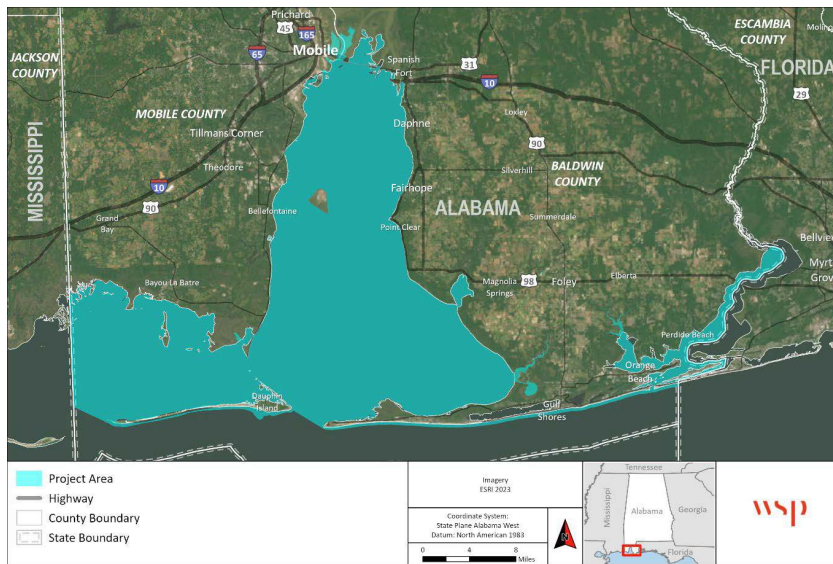


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Preferred Alternatives – Birds



Stewardship of Coastal Alabama Beach Nesting Bird Habitat – Phase II



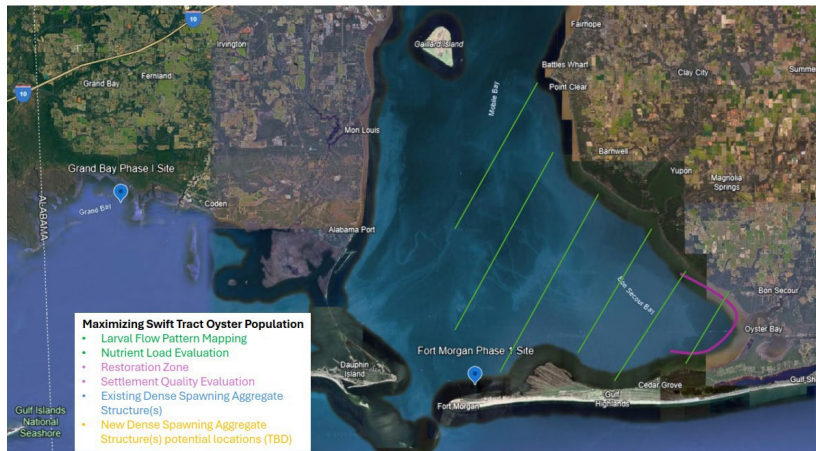
- Would continue the Stewardship of Coastal Alabama Beach Nesting Bird Habitat Project from RPIII
- 5 components:
 - Stewardship to reduce human disturbances
 - Predator management
 - Monitoring
 - Deployment of decoys
 - Habitat and nesting area enhancements
- Estimated cost: \$4,740,456

Draft Alabama Restoration Plan IV and EA

Preferred Alternatives – Oysters



Oyster Grow-Out and Restoration Reef Replacement – 5 Year Continuation



- Would continue the efforts of the original Oyster Grow-Out and Restoration Reef Replacement project approved by the AL TIG in RP II/EA
- Grow out oysters to one year old and place them on existing reef sites
- Evaluate nutrient concentrations, substrate quality, recruitment potential, and larval distribution patterns
- Installation of dense spawning aggregate structures
- Estimated cost: \$1,369,827

Draft Alabama Restoration Plan IV and EA

Preferred Alternatives – Provide & Enhance Recreational Opportunities



Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvement—Phases IIa and IIb

- Would provide additional funding to the RPIII Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvement – Phases IIa and IIb project needed to address increased construction costs
- Estimated cost: \$2,200,000



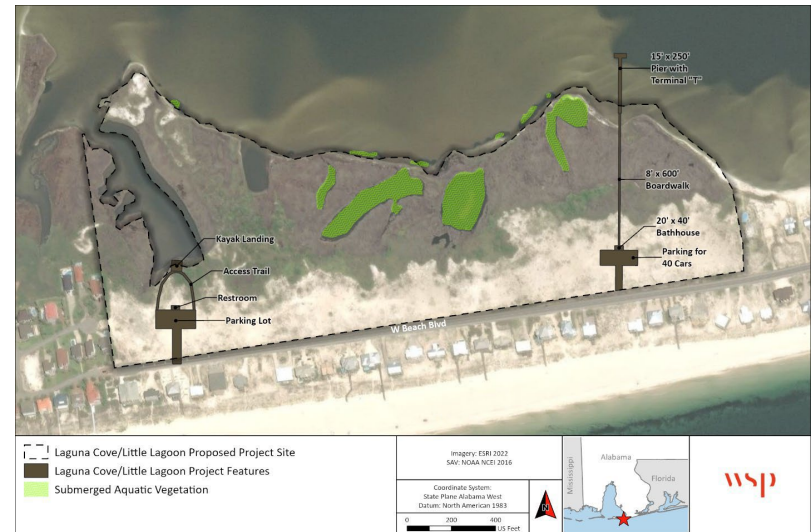
Draft Alabama Restoration Plan IV and EA

Preferred Alternatives – Provide & Enhance Recreational Opportunities



Laguna Cove Little Lagoon Natural Resource Protection – Small-Scale Amenities

- Would provide additional funding to the RPI Laguna Cove Little Lagoon Natural Resource Protection project needed for increased construction costs
- Removes certain amenities from the original project such as the bathhouse and the fishing pier
- Project will still have parking, boardwalk, kayak launch, ADA-accessible restrooms, and sea turtle-friendly lighting
- Estimated cost: \$2,000,000



Draft Alabama Restoration Plan IV and EA

Non-preferred Alternatives



Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats

- *Walker Island Expansion*

Nutrient Reduction

- Bayou La Batre Nutrient Reduction

Birds

- *Walker Island Expansion*

Oysters

- Oyster Grow-Out and Restoration Reef Replacement – 3 Year Continuation

Provide & Enhance Recreational Opportunities

- Laguna Cove Little Lagoon Natural Resource Protection – Large Scale Amenities

Public Comment



How to Submit Comments

Verbal public comment session: During today's webinar

Online: Link to the RP/EA's Planning, Environment, and Public Comment portal by navigating first to www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/alabama

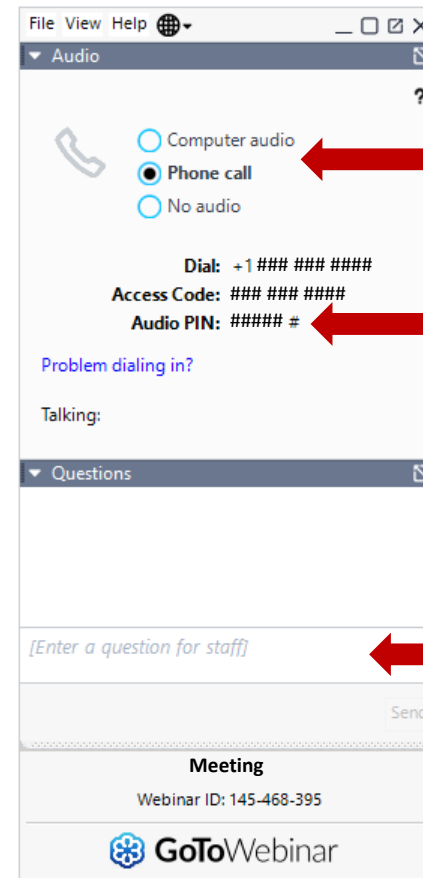
By mail: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf Restoration Office, 1875 Century Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30345. Mailed submissions must be postmarked on or before the comment deadline period.

COMMENT DEADLINE IS
JULY 24, 2024

Public Comment Session



- All attendees are muted automatically.
- Please enter your audio PIN if you plan on speaking via phone – you will be unmuted by staff at the beginning of your comment.
- Enter your name in the questions box to request a speaking slot.



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Thank You