

## Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries

### Phase IV Early Restoration Project

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries project will restore intertidal and subtidal reefs and use living shoreline techniques in four bays in Mississippi. Projects are located in Grand Bay, Graveline Bay, Back Bay of Biloxi and vicinity, and St. Louis Bay in Jackson, Harrison, and Hancock Counties, Mississippi. The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality will implement the project which will provide for the construction of over four miles of breakwaters, five acres of intertidal reef habitat and 267 acres of subtidal reef habitat at four locations across the Mississippi Gulf Coast (Figure 1).

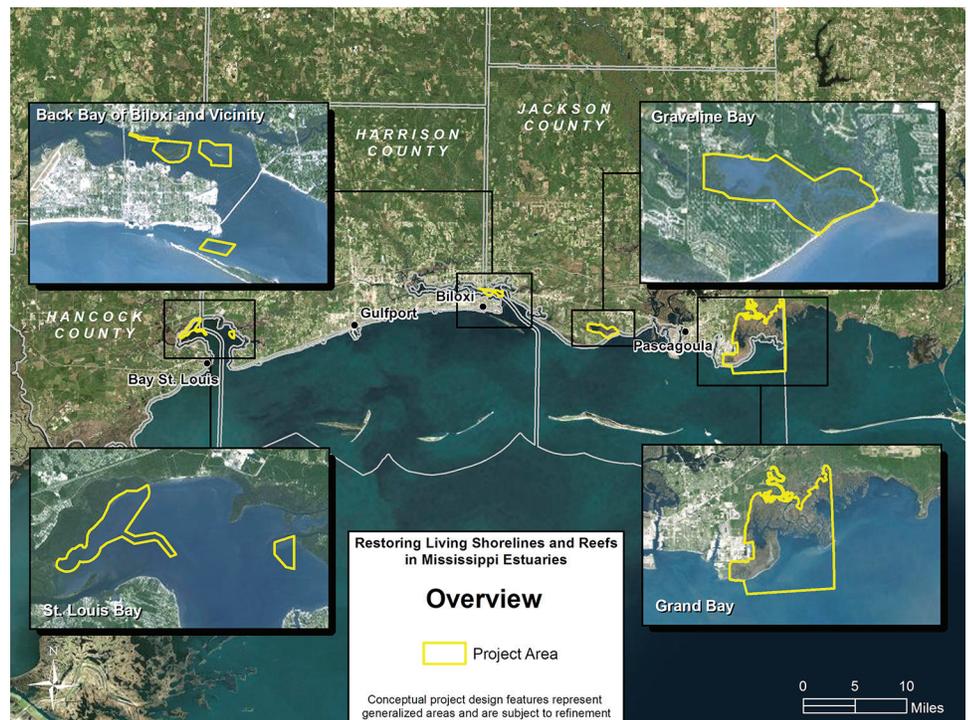


Figure 1: Restoring Living Shorelines and Reefs in Mississippi Estuaries Vicinity Map Depicting Project Locations and Project Areas

The living shoreline approach includes constructing multiple breakwaters made of suitable manufactured and/or natural materials. Breakwaters will reduce shoreline erosion and marsh loss by dampening wave energy. Over time, the breakwaters, intertidal and subtidal restoration areas will develop into reefs that support benthic secondary productivity, including, but not limited to, oysters/bivalve mollusks, annelid worms, shrimp, and crabs. The ecological benefits that will be gained by this restoration are anticipated to help compensate the public for injuries resulting from the Oil Spill, including losses to secondary productivity and salt marsh in Mississippi.

ESTIMATED COST: \$30,000,000.

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