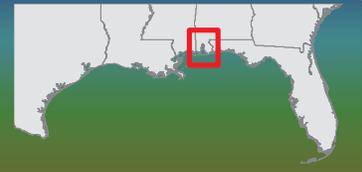




Gulf Coast
Ecosystem
Restoration
Council

Mobile Bay Watershed

Marsh Restoration in Fish River, Weeks Bay
(DOC_RESTORE_001_006-008_Cat1/Cat2)



Project Name: Marsh Restoration in Fish River, Weeks Bay, Oyster Bay & Meadows Tract

Costs: Category 1: \$907,954 | Category 2: \$2,250,089

Responsible Council Member: Department of Commerce/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Partnering Council Member: State of Alabama (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources)

Project Details: This project is part of the Connecting Coastal Waters (CCW) initiative NOAA would lead with partners to implement projects that restore the extent, functionality, and resiliency of Gulf Coast wetlands and provide a science-based inventory of wetland hydrology restoration projects that make the greatest contribution to that goal. The project would complete planning with local partners to restore a natural hydrology to a total of 470 acres of wetlands at three sites within the Mobile Bay ecosystem in Alabama.

Activities: The proposed project includes activities in two FPL categories. Category 1 activities would complete the planning, modeling and flow regime analysis, engineering, and design required to restore wetlands at three sites across the Mobile Bay watershed. A restoration plan, engineering design, regulatory compliance, monitoring and evaluation plan, and outreach and education plan would be completed to implement three project activities to restore coastal wetlands.

Category 2 activities are proposed for potential future funding, and if implemented would complete implementation of this project. Category 2 restoration activities would restore 70 acres of estuarine marsh by restoring dead-end canals in Fish River/Weeks Bay that are degrading water quality and attracting invasive plants; 150 acres of estuarine marsh in Oyster Bay by replacing undersized culverts, removing nuisance vegetation, and planting native species; and restore tidal exchange to 250 acres of marsh and forested wetlands in the Meadows Tract by replacing undersized culverts. The project would develop plans for a robust monitoring and evaluation approach using objective measures of success for each project activity. An outreach and education plan would be developed to engage the public and transfer best practices to restoration practitioners.

Environmental Benefits: The Category 2 activities, if fully implemented, would restore a natural hydrology to a total of 470 acres of wetlands at three sites within the Mobile Bay ecosystem in Alabama.

Duration: Category 1 planning activities are expected to take two years to complete. If funded, Category 2 activities are expected to take three years to complete.

More information on these activities can be found in Appendix F. Mobile Bay; Unique Identifier: DOC_RESTORE_001_006-008_Cat1 and DOC_RESTORE_001_006-008_Cat2.



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

Mobile Bay Watershed

Marsh Restoration in Fish River, Weeks Bay, Oyster Bay, and Meadows Tract

 Marsh and Hydrologic Restoration

Cost: Category 1: \$907,954; Category 2: \$2,250,089

Sponsor: Department of Commerce

Project Status: Planning/Implementation

Purpose: **Planning** - This project would complete the planning, engineering, and design required to restore wetlands at three sites across Mobile Bay. These sites include:

1) Fish River and Weeks Bay Marsh Restoration, 2) Oyster Bay Marsh Restoration, and 3) Meadows Tract Marsh Restoration.

Implementation - If funded in the future, this project would implement restoration activities, conduct monitoring to assess restoration outcomes, and engage in outreach and educational activities.



Map Date: August 10, 2015

Gulf of Mexico

Mobile Bay

Weeks Bay

Oyster Bay