

# Draft Phase I Early Restoration Plan



December 2011

## MISSISSIPPI ARTIFICIAL REEF HABITAT

### GENERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat project proposes to deploy nearshore artificial reefs in Mississippi Sound. Nearshore artificial reefs provide valuable hardbottom habitat with foraging and shelter sites for various species of larvae and sessile epifauna and infauna (invertebrates and vertebrates). Currently there are 67 existing reefs areas that are each approximately 3 acres in size. At present, approximately half of the existing reef areas have a low profile and consist of crushed concrete or limestone. With the proposed project, approximately 100 acres of crushed limestone would be added to the 201-acre footprint of the existing reef areas.

### RESOURCE BENEFITS AND RELATIONSHIP TO INJURY

The Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat project would restore injured shallow-water resources in benthic habitats in the Mississippi Sound, resulting from exposure to oil, dispersant, and/or response activities undertaken to prevent, minimize, or remediate oiling from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

### METHODS AND RESULTS OF OFFSETS ESTIMATION

For the purposes of negotiations with BP in accordance with the Framework Agreement, the Trustees used widely accepted methodologies. A method called Resource Equivalency Analysis was used to quantify the restoration benefits estimated to be provided by this project ("Offsets"), resulting in expected production of infaunal and epifaunal biomass at nearshore artificial reefs. Offsets reflect estimated kilograms of biomass produced, and would be applied against secondary productivity injuries in the Mississippi Sound from the Oil Spill as determined by the Trustees' total assessment of injury. A number of factors were considered in estimating biomass production, including, but not limited to, typical productivity in the proposed project area, estimated project life span and the size of the project. Total estimated Offsets for the Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat project are 763,609 Discounted Kilogram (Dkg) Years of infaunal and epifaunal biomass (ash-free-dry-weight) at nearshore artificial reefs in Mississippi.

### ESTIMATED COSTS

Total estimated project costs are \$2.6 million.

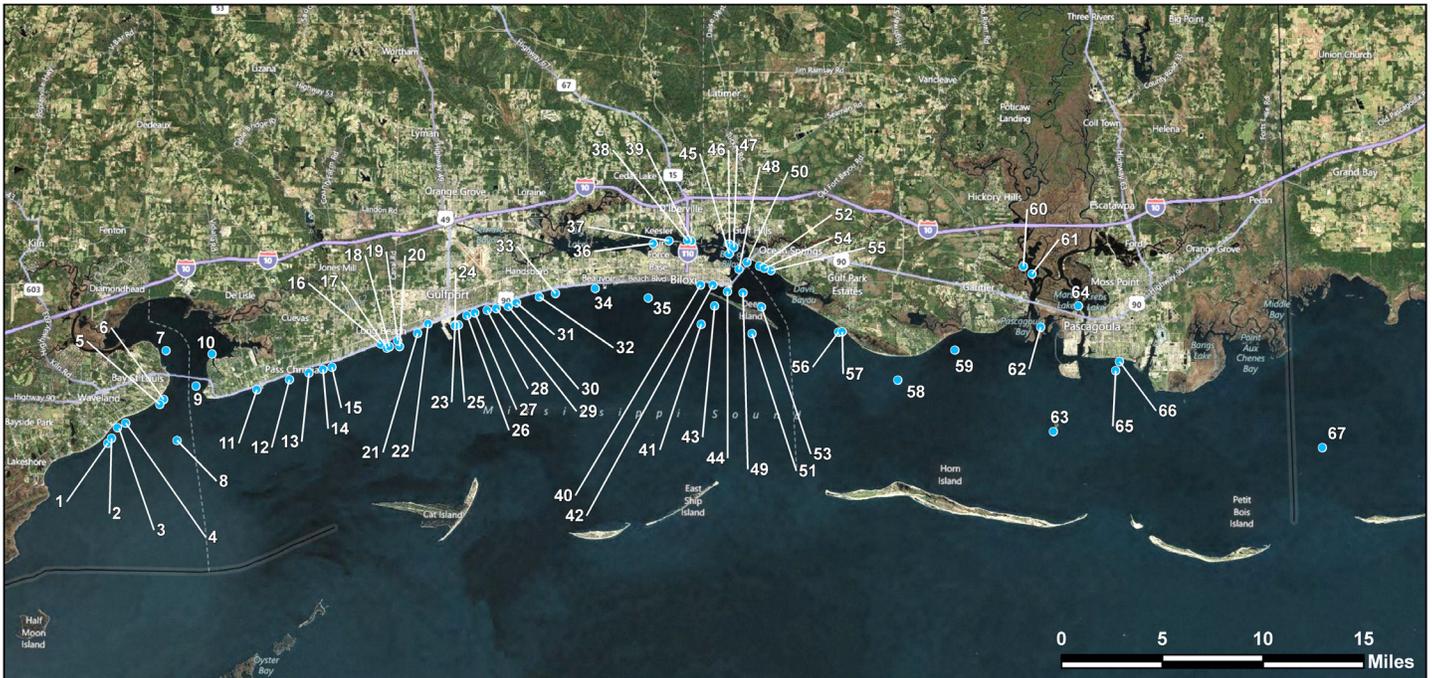
### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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## Mississippi's Existing Nearshore Artificial Reefs

- |                                  |                              |                                     |                                      |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Oak Street Reef               | 19. USM Reef                 | 38. d'Iberville Marina Reef         | 54. Ocean Springs Pier Reef          |
| 2. St. Claire Reef               | 20. Long Beach East Reef     | 39. d'Iberville Bridge Reef         | 55. Ocean Springs Harbor Pier Reef   |
| 3. Waveland Rubble Reef 2        | 21. Fournier Ave. Reef       | 40. Biloxi Harbor Reef              | 56. Gulf Park Estates Reef           |
| 4. Monroe Street Reef            | 22. Charles Walker Pier      | 41. Keesler Rubble Reef             | 57. Gulf Park Estates Pier Reef      |
| 5. Amer. Legion Launch Reef      | 23. Urie Pier North          | 42. Kuhn Street Pier Reef           | 58. Bellefontaine Reef               |
| 6. Amer. Legion Pier Reef        | 24. Urie Pier South          | 43. South Deer Island Barge Reef    | 59. Graveline Reef                   |
| 7. Cedar Point Reef              | 25. Moses Pier Reef          | 44. Joe Thornton Hull Reef          | 60. Pascagoula River Reef Site 3     |
| 8. Square Handkerchief Key       | 26. Thornton Ave. Reef       | 45. Spoil Island South Reef         | 61. Pascagoula River Reef Site 4     |
| 9. BSL Train Bridge Reef         | 27. Kelly Ave. Reef          | 46. Fort Bayou Reef                 | 62. Pascagoula West River Mouth Reef |
| 10. Mellini Point Reef           | 28. Hewes Avenue Reef        | 47. Spoil Island North Reef         | 63. Round Island Jetty               |
| 11. Pass Harbor Pier Reef        | 29. VA Hospital Reef         | 48. Old Highway 90 Bridge Reef West | 64. Pascagoula River Reef Site 1     |
| 12. Lang Ave. Reef               | 30. Courthouse Rd. Pier Reef | 49. East Biloxi Channel Reef        | 65. Pascagoula Front Beach Reef      |
| 13. Japonica Drive Reef          | 31. Tegarden Reef            | 50. Old Highway 90 Bridge Reef East | 66. Pascagoula Municipal Pier        |
| 14. Emerald Street Reef          | 32. Naval Hospital Reef      | 51. Katrina Key Reef                | 67. Waveland Pier Reef               |
| 15. Walmart Reef                 | 33. Legacy Towers Reef       | 52. Ocean Springs Comm. Pier Reef   |                                      |
| 16. Jeff Davis Ave. Pier Reef    | 34. Broadwater Harbor Reef   | 53. Deer Island North Reef          |                                      |
| 17. Long Beach Harbor Jetty Reef | 35. Whitehouse Reef          |                                     |                                      |
| 18. Long Beach Harbor Pier Reef  | 36. Keesler Harbor Reef      |                                     |                                      |
|                                  | 37. Goat Island Reef         |                                     |                                      |