

Alabama Restoration Area

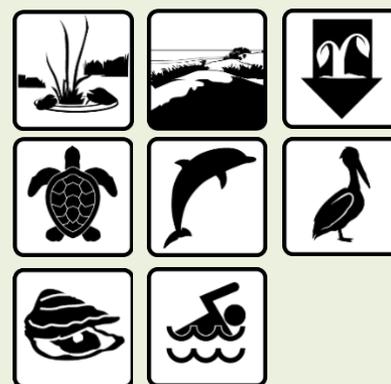
June 2021

Snowy Plover Chick in Fort Morgan
by Sophia Charlotte Haines



WHAT WE DO

Our work in the Alabama Restoration Area focuses on restoring and conserving habitat and replenishing and protecting wildlife such as sea turtles, marine mammals, birds, and oysters. We are also providing and enhancing recreational opportunities, restoring water quality, and restoring habitats on federally managed lands.



WHO WE ARE

The Trustee Representatives for the Alabama Restoration Area are:

- Kelly Swindle, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Seth Newton, Geological Survey of Alabama
- Erin Plitsch, U.S. Department of the Interior
- Stella Wilson, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Ron Howard, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Chris McArthur, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

RECENT ACTIVITIES

In the past year, we have been busy overseeing the continued planning, engineering, design, implementation, and monitoring of restoration projects. In January 2021 we approved an Addendum to the Final Restoration Plan III, which authorizes the use of earned interest for two recreational use projects. Also in January 2021, 838 acres of beach/dune habitat were conserved on the West End of Dauphin Island benefiting coastal waterbird populations.

Alabama Restoration Area

RESTORATION OVERVIEW

For more information, visit www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/alabama

Projects by Restoration Goal



Approximately \$180 million committed to approved projects

RECENT NEWS // As of June 2021, 838 acres of beach/dune habitat were conserved on the West End of Dauphin Island benefiting coastal waterbird populations. A bird management plan will be developed in 2021 to determine next steps in the management of the land as an important coastal waterbird habitat.

Restoration Projects by Goal

REPLENISH AND PROTECT LIVING COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES

- Alabama Estuarine Bottlenose Dolphin Protection: Enhancement and Education (🔄 \$686K)
- Alabama Oyster Cultch Restoration (🟢 \$3.2M)
- Coastal Alabama Sea Turtle (CAST) Habitat Usage and Population Dynamics (🔄 \$1.6M)
- CAST Protection: Enhancement and Education (🔄 \$907K)
- CAST Triage (🔄 \$622K)
- CAST Conservation Program (🔄 \$935K)
- Colonial Nesting Wading Bird Tracking and Habitat Use Assessment – Two Species (🔄 \$1.5M)
- Dauphin Island West End Acquisition (🔄 \$7.9M)
- Enhancing Capacity for the Alabama Marine Mammal Stranding Network (🔄 \$2.4M)
- Improving Habitat Injured by Spill Response: Restoring the Night Sky (🔄 \$100K)
- Oyster Cultch Relief and Reef Configuration (🔄 \$480K)
- Oyster Grow-Out and Restoration Reef Placement (🔄 \$962K)
- Oyster Hatchery at Claude Peteet Mariculture Center – High Spat Production with Study (🔄 \$2.9M)
- Osprey Restoration in Coastal Alabama (🟢 \$62K)
- Side-scan Mapping of Mobile Bay Relic Oyster Reefs (E&D) (🔄 \$104K)
- Southwestern Coffee Island Habitat Restoration Project – Phase I (E&D) (\$825K also included under Restore and Conserve Habitat) (🔄 \$825K)
- Stewardship of Coastal Alabama Beach Nesting Bird Habitat (🔄 \$2M)

🔄 In progress 🟢 Monitoring/O&M ✓ Complete

Alabama Restoration Area

RESTORE AND CONSERVE HABITAT

- Alabama Dune Restoration Cooperative Project (✓ \$737K)
- Alabama Swift Tract Living Shoreline (● \$5M)
- Little Lagoon Living Shoreline (○ \$260K)
- Lower Perdido Islands Restoration – Phase I (E&D) (○ \$994K)
- Magnolia River Land Acquisition (Holmes Tract) (● \$5.1M)
- Marsh Island (Portersville Bay) Restoration Project (● \$11.3M)
- Point aux Pins Living Shorelines (○ \$3.8M)
- Weeks Bay Land Acquisition (East Gateway Tract) (● \$3.3M)
- Weeks Bay Land Acquisition (Harrod Tract) (○ \$3.6M)

PROVIDE AND ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvements (○ \$1M)
 - Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvement Phases IIa and IIb (○ \$4.7M)
 - *Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge Recreation Enhancement—Mobile Street Boardwalk (\$1.2M)
 - Dauphin Island Eco-Tourism and Environmental Education Area (○ \$1.8M)
 - Fort Morgan Pier Rehabilitation Restoration (○ \$3.2M)
 - Gulf State Park Enhancement Project (● \$29.2M)
 - Gulf State Park Lodge and Associated Public Access Amenities Project (● \$56.3M)
 - Gulf State Park Pier Renovation (● \$2.4M)
 - Laguna Cove Little Lagoon Natural Resource Protection (○ \$4.4M)
 - Mid-Island Parks and Public Beach Improvements Project (Parcels B & C) (○ \$1.2M)
 - *Perdido Beach Public Access Coastal Protection (\$383K)
 - Perdido River Land Acquisition (Molpus Tract) (○ \$4.8M)
- *These projects were conditionally approved in the Alabama Trustees' Restoration Plan III and will be implemented once funds become available.*

RESTORE WATER QUALITY

- Fowl River Nutrient Reduction (○ \$1M)
- Toulmins Spring Branch Engineering and Design (○ \$479K)
- Weeks Bay Nutrient Reduction (○ \$2M)

MONITORING, ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT

- Assessment of Alabama Estuarine Bottlenose Dolphin Populations and Health (○ \$3.2M)
- Restoring the Night Sky – Assessment, Training, and Outreach (E&D) (additional \$223K included under Restore and Conserve Habitat) (○ \$263K)

○ In progress ● Monitoring/O&M ✓ Complete