PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Popp's Ferry Causeway Park Project would improve City of Biloxi property within Back Bay, Mississippi, by expanding a park environment where visitors could experience the coastal estuarine ecosystem. The intent is to restore lost recreational use. The estimated cost for this project is $4.7 million.

The mostly unimproved 10-acre Popp's Ferry Causeway property is a parcel of land and marsh located just west of the Popp's Ferry Bridge. It is surrounded by water on all sides, including the Biloxi River to the north, Big Lake to the west and the Back Bay to the south and east.

Construction of an interpretive center, nature trails, boardwalks, piers and other recreational features are being proposed. Visitors could fish and crab as well as enjoy boardwalks and nature trails for viewing the waterfront and marshes. One of the project goals is to build upon what the public perceives to be the "best fishing spot without a boat in Biloxi, Mississippi."

Improvements would include roadway repair and lighting, a concession and bait stand, kayak rentals, construction of new fishing piers and boardwalks, and continuation of an eight-foot-wide concrete and wooden walkway. Coupled with the walkway would be the addition of benches and lighting - all of which would enhance visitor access to coastal habitats.

For additional shoreline stabilization, riprap would replace existing water edge treatments west of the walkway. Within the upland area, a marsh overlook and boardwalk would be constructed, along with picnic areas, nature trails, visitor parking, and a new interpretive center with outdoor exhibits.

As a result of the spill, the public was unable to or limited in the ability to use and enjoy natural resources along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Completion of this project would help restore lost recreational uses of the shoreline by providing access to the natural resources.

ESTIMATED COST $4.7 million
The proposed Popp's Ferry Causeway Park Project would expand an area within Back Bay, Mississippi that is owned by the City of Biloxi by providing a park environment where people could experience the coastal estuarine ecosystem.

One of the goals of the project is to build upon what the public perceives to be the "best fishing spot without a boat in Biloxi, Mississippi."