



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

RECIPIENTS

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

AWARD AMOUNT

\$102,345,700

LOCATION

Plaquemines and Jefferson Parishes, Louisiana

AWARD DATE

November 2016

LOUISIANA

Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion: Engineering & Design – Phase II

This project will build on the initial efforts funded in 2013 by the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund to complete the engineering and design of the Mid-Barataria sediment diversion. Once constructed, the diversion is anticipated to convey up to 75,000 cubic feet per second of sediment-rich river water, introducing approximately 150 million tons of new sediment into Barataria Basin over a 50-year projection. Earlier investments advanced this project to a critical phase of design and these funds will result in a fully designed and permitted project ready to be constructed.

Under development for decades, the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion project is regarded by many as one of the most important river reconnection projects contained in Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan. This sediment diversion will mimic delta-building processes that created the ecologically productive coastal wetland landscape of south Louisiana. This effort is expected to restore significant habitat in the Barataria Basin, including fresh, intermediate, and brackish marshes by reintroducing the sediment and nutrients which historically built and maintained the affected area, which is projected to lose 105,000 – 150,000 acres of wetlands by 2060, depending on future environmental conditions.



The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), supports projects to remedy harm and eliminate or reduce the risk of harm to Gulf Coast natural resources affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. To learn more about NFWF, go to www.nfwf.org.

The two above mockups represent the proposed intake structure (left) and outfall area (right).