

State of Mississippi

Enhancing opportunities for beneficial use of dredge sediments

Synergistically linking sediment management and habitat creation helps address habitat loss through sustainable resource management of sediment being dredged. This Gulf-wide proposal aims to provide funding to multiple Gulf states towards beneficial use of dredge sediments (BU). The proposal will provide funding towards planning, engineering and design, and permitting of sites to receive BU within Texas, Alabama, and Mississippi. The proposal's main purpose is to get sites construction ready so that a significant amount of habitat can be created when additional funds become available. There is a significant need for planning prior to establishing a BU site. Planning requires the identification of BU sites, appropriate prioritization of site selection using environmental characteristics of bathymetry, wave climate, prevailing winds, as well as logistical considerations to accessibility and proximity to dredge sediments. Planning also then allows containment options to be considered based on the environment (as appropriate). Engineering and design is required for both the containment as well as the habitat that will be created. Once designed and sited, permits will need to be acquired through the respective permitting authorities. Once all of these steps are completed containment can be constructed to create the site that will receive BU. Requested funding amount: \$6,180,000.