

# DAUPHIN ISLAND EAST END BEACH & DUNE RESTORATION FACTSHEET



# #1

SUMMER 2021



The Town of Dauphin Island has successfully secured funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (NFWF GEBF) to conduct an engineering and design phase to restore the beach and dunes along the East End of the island. This project will renourish and extend the beach restoration project built in 2015-2016, which has performed very well at halting the erosion losses that damaged this beach and dune habitat for decades. Approximately two-thirds of the sand placed in March 2016 is still within the project limits (after Hurricanes



New project area

Nate, Michael, Sally and Zeta) and the rest of the sand is on the island beaches to the west. This new project was identified as the highest priority in the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Final Alabama Barrier Island Restoration Assessment Report, 2020. Healthy beaches and dunes provide unique habitats for a variety of species. The publicly-accessible East End beach also protects the Audubon Bird Sanctuary and other upland resources from storms. South Coast Engineers, working with Moffatt & Nichol, has been contracted to conduct the engineering and design phase, which includes public outreach, engineering and design, and permitting.



East End Beach,  
March 2021  
(courtesy of  
Sam St. John)

## LATEST NEWS

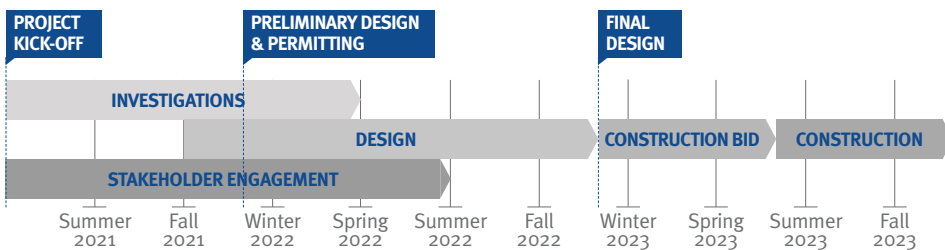
The project team, including many of the same scientists and engineers involved with the successful 2015-2016 project, will conduct field investigations in the spring and summer of 2021. Beach-goers may see surveyors on the beach and small boats in shallow water conducting topographic and bathymetric surveys. Anglers may see larger vessels investigating possible sand sources in the vicinity of Sand Island Lighthouse.

Coastal scientists, engineers, and archeologists will use the data collected during the field investigations to develop a borrow area and beach and dune design over the next 6 months to meet project goals and to address stakeholder input.

The Town will apply for a joint Alabama-USACE coastal permit for the project in approximately six months, in which a formal public comment period, probably including a public meeting, will be available. However, we encourage and welcome questions and input during these early stages of the project (see contacts panel).

Construction of the project is estimated for 2023. When construction is complete, and the dune vegetation has established, landowners along the East End can expect a sand dune and beach system similar to what exists today in the 2015-2016 project limits.

## TIMELINE



## PROJECT GOALS

The goals of the project are to restore and protect beach, dune, and maritime forest habitats on the East End of the island. This project will also help the beach southwest of Fort Gaines that the public uses extensively.

Contacts: Town of Dauphin Island, 1011 Bienville Blvd, Dauphin Island, AL 36528 Tel: 251-861-5525 or Scott Douglass, Project Engineer, South Coast Engineers, PO Box 72, Fairhope, AL 36532 Tel: 251-510-2903 email: scott@southcoastengineers.com or Beau Buhring, Project Manager, South Coast Engineers Tel. 251-295-2426 email: beau@southcoastengineers.com