State of Alabama

Alabama Barrier Island Restoration Through Beneficial Use of Dredged Sediments

Building upon prior activities, the State of Alabama proposes that RESTORE funds be provided to the United States Army, Corps of Engineers, Mobile District to allow the placement of additional sandy material from the Sand Island Beneficial Use Area (SIBUA) into the local littoral transport system. Placement of sandy material into the Sand Island/Pelican Island complex will help maintain a sediment transport complex in a manner that will reestablish the flow of sand on to the western region of Dauphin Island and enhance restoration of valuable habitat. The project will enhance utilization of navigation maintenance sediment and contribute to maximizing use of dredge material for effective and sustainable coastal restoration.

Secondarily, the project activities also further goals to Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy, Replenish and Protect Living Coastal and Marine Resources, and Enhance Community Resiliency. For example, strategically placing the material will direct littoral sediment to the beaches of Dauphin Island, reduce damaging effects of hurricanes and severe storms to properties and environmental resources along the coastal region, help to stabilize or restore the shoreline, and provide numerous ecological benefits to barrier island species such as piping plovers, terns, gulls, sea turtles and similar species. Implementation of this project would occur in two phases. The first phase will involve feeding the Sand Island/Pelican Island complex using dredged material from the SIBUA; requested funding for this phase is $6 million. The second phase placement strategy would be the same as described for the first phase but would beneficially utilize material directly from maintenance dredging of the Mobile bar channel; requested funding for this phase is $12 million. Requested funding amount: $18,500,000.