



## Jackson County Board of Supervisors

# PUBLIC NOTICE

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Jackson County Administrator Office  
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### **Coast-Wide Beach & Dune Ecosystem Restoration, Jackson County, Mississippi Project**

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) continue to develop the design of a Coast-Wide Beach & Dune Ecosystem Restoration Project. The project focuses on two (2) of Jackson County's three man-made beaches, Ocean Springs Front Beach, and the western portion of Ocean Springs East Beach, with primary objectives being:

- Increase the resiliency of the beaches.
- Provide incidental hurricane and storm damage risk reduction benefits.
- Expand nesting habitat for shorebirds and other marine animals.

To achieve these goals, the design may consider widening the beach into the Gulf to accommodate the construction of vegetated dune fields. The dunes will be located approximately 50 feet seaward of the existing beach seawalls. Also, jetties would be constructed at selected locations to capture sand as it is transported along the shoreline by the natural currents, in an effort to minimize future beach renourishment needs and increase resiliency of the beaches and proposed vegetated dune fields.

**During the next few weeks, equipment will be seen on the beaches as geotechnical investigations of the MS Sound adjacent to the beaches are conducted to aid in the design of the proposed jetties. These geotechnical investigations should be completed by the end of May.**

The design of the project has progressed substantially since it started at the beginning of 2024, but due to the complexity of the project will likely not be completed until the end of 2025. The year-long construction phase could potentially begin as soon as mid-2026.

The Federal share of the Coast-Wide Beach and Dune Ecosystem Restoration Project is 65% and is funded by the FY 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The remaining 35% of the estimated \$20M project will be funded by Jackson County, MS through its Seawall tax fund and potential other grant sources. Also, a portion of the design and modeling is funded by the Mississippi Legislature, 2023 Tidelands Trust Fund, through the Secretary of State, Michael Watson, as well as the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors thanks the public for their patience and understanding while this important project is being developed. For any questions about the project please contact Matthew Hosey, Jackson County Project Manager at (228) 769-3088.

**Background and The Mississippi Coastal Improvements Program Comprehensive Plan (MsCIP)**

This project originated from the MsCIP which was developed by the Department of Defense (DoD) after the hurricanes of 2005, and as a response to legislation contained in the DoD Appropriations Act of 2006. MsCIP is a systemwide approach linking structural and nonstructural hurricane and storm damage risk reduction elements with ecosystem restoration elements, all with the goal of providing for a coastal community that is more resilient to hurricanes and storms.