

Oyster Reef Project Spurs Innovation and Community Cohesion in Alabama

Jeff DeQuattro
Coastal Projects Manager
Mobile, Alabama

Photo by Beth Young

Alabama ARRA Project





Coastal Alabama Economic Recovery and Ecological Restoration Project: Creating jobs to protect shorelines, restore oyster reefs, and enhance fisheries production.

- Create healthy oyster reefs to act as living shoreline breakwaters in Mobile Bay, Alabama
- Enhance critical habitat for many species of fish and invertebrates
- Protect shorelines by slowing, stopping, or reversing erosion
- Create approximately 35-40 jobs
- Learn about project success thorough pre-and-post restoration scientific monitoring.
- Demonstrate an alternative to bulkheads, riprap, and other non-living hardened shorelines.
- Socio-Economic Survey to understand Coastal AL Resident's feelings towards restoration.
- Demonstrate how larger-scale oyster restoration improves environmental/economic resiliency.

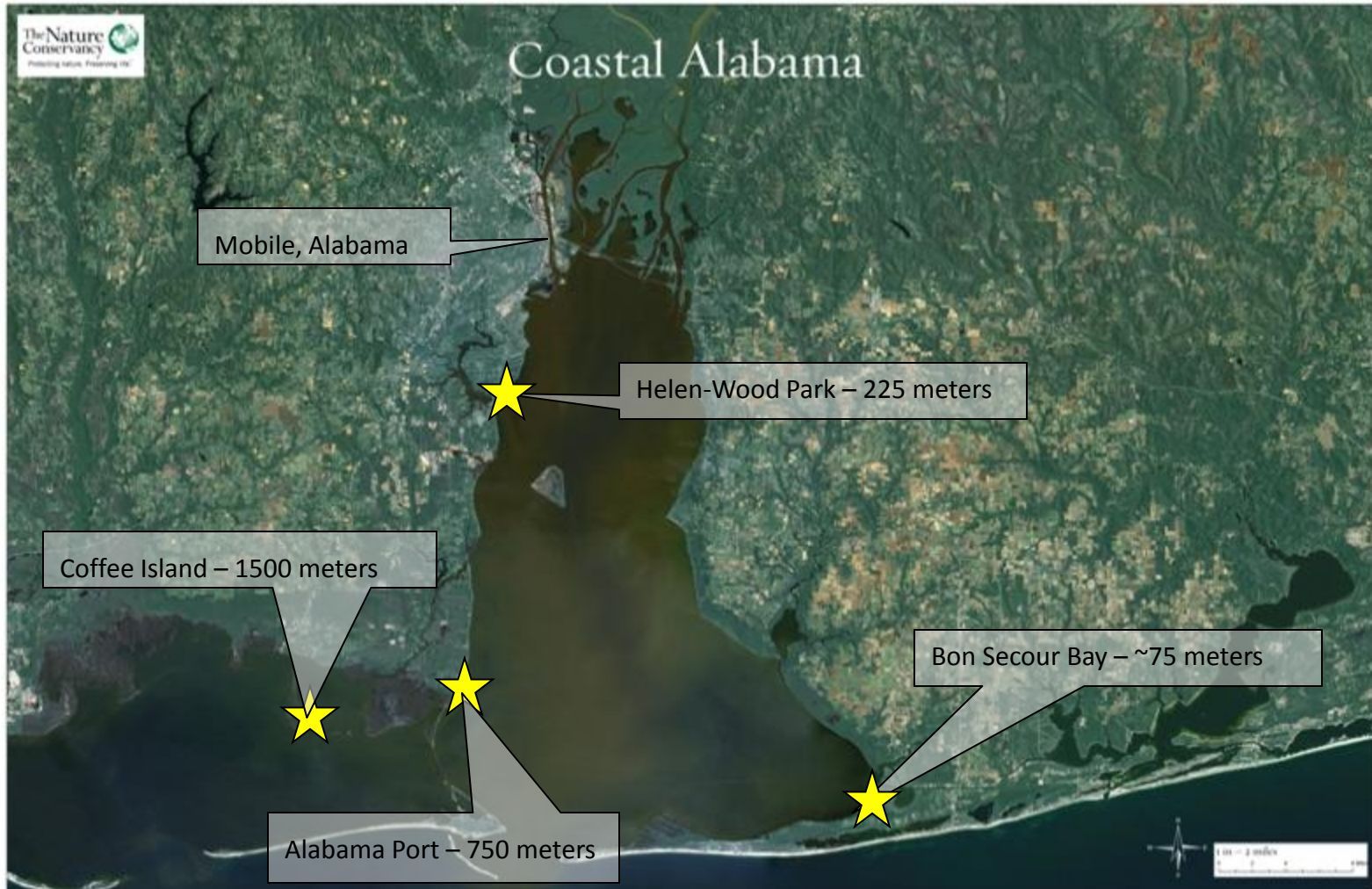


Project Timeline Alabama ARRA Project



Photos by Beth Young

Alabama ARRA Project



Bagged Oyster Shell



- Full time crew of 12 to 20 people
- ~150,000 bags of oyster shell

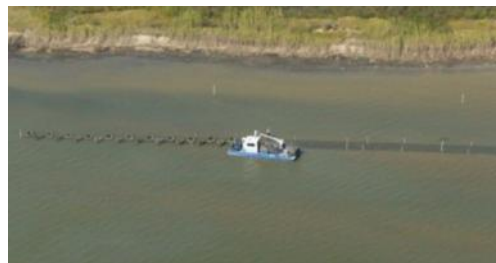


Reef Balls

- Full time crew of about 6 people
- 3,168 Mini-Bay Reef Balls



ReefBLK

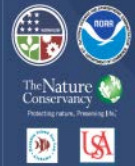
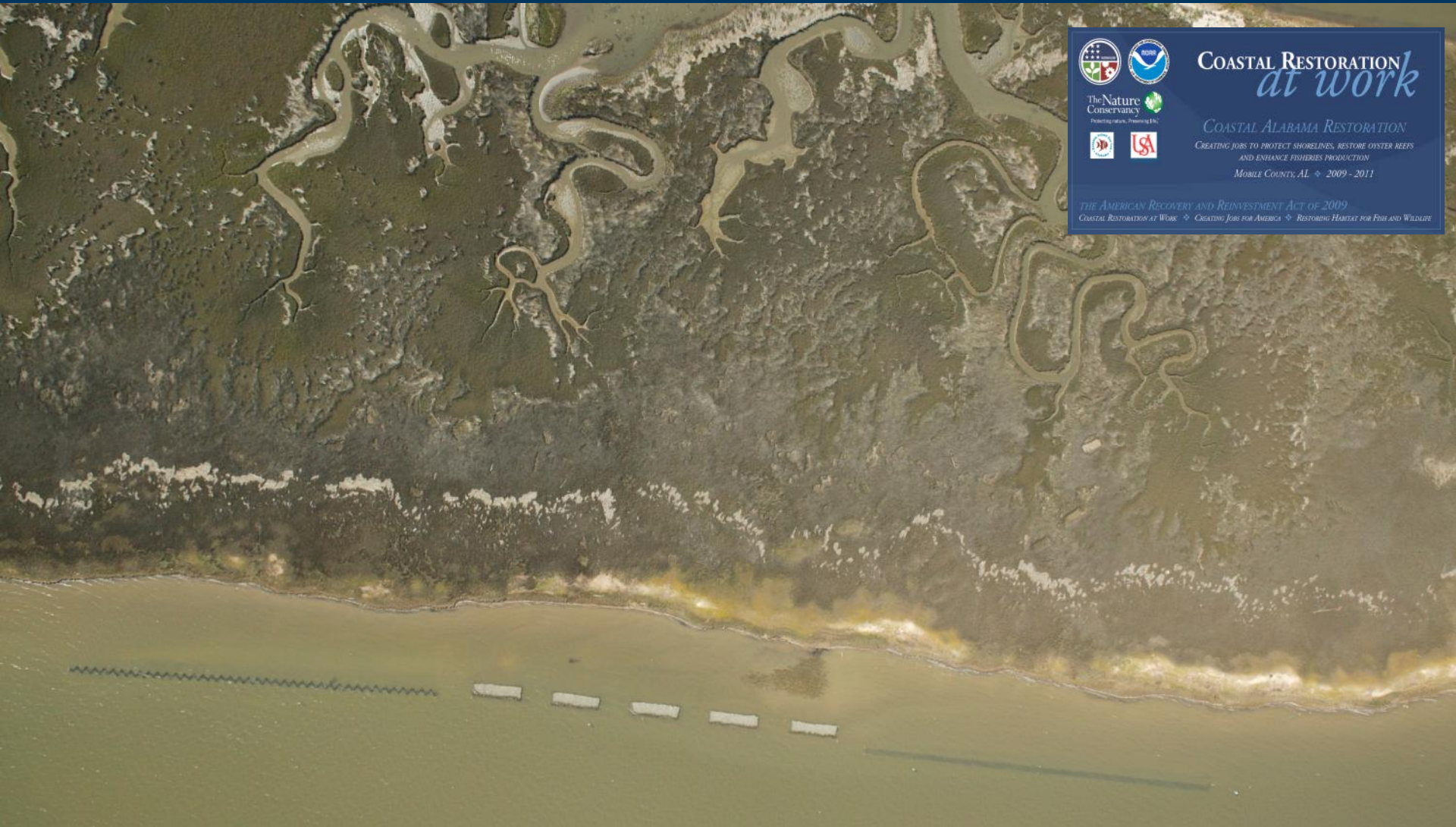


- Full time crew of about 8 to 10 people
- 492 ReefBLK units



Photos by Beth Young and JoeBay Aerials

Coffee Island



COASTAL RESTORATION
at work

COASTAL ALABAMA RESTORATION
CREATING JOBS TO PROTECT SHORELINES, RESTORE OYSTER BEEDS
AND ENHANCE FISHERIES PRODUCTION
MOBILE COUNTY, AL ♦ 2009 - 2011

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009
COASTAL RESTORATION AT WORK ♦ CREATING JOBS FOR AMERICA ♦ RESTORING HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE

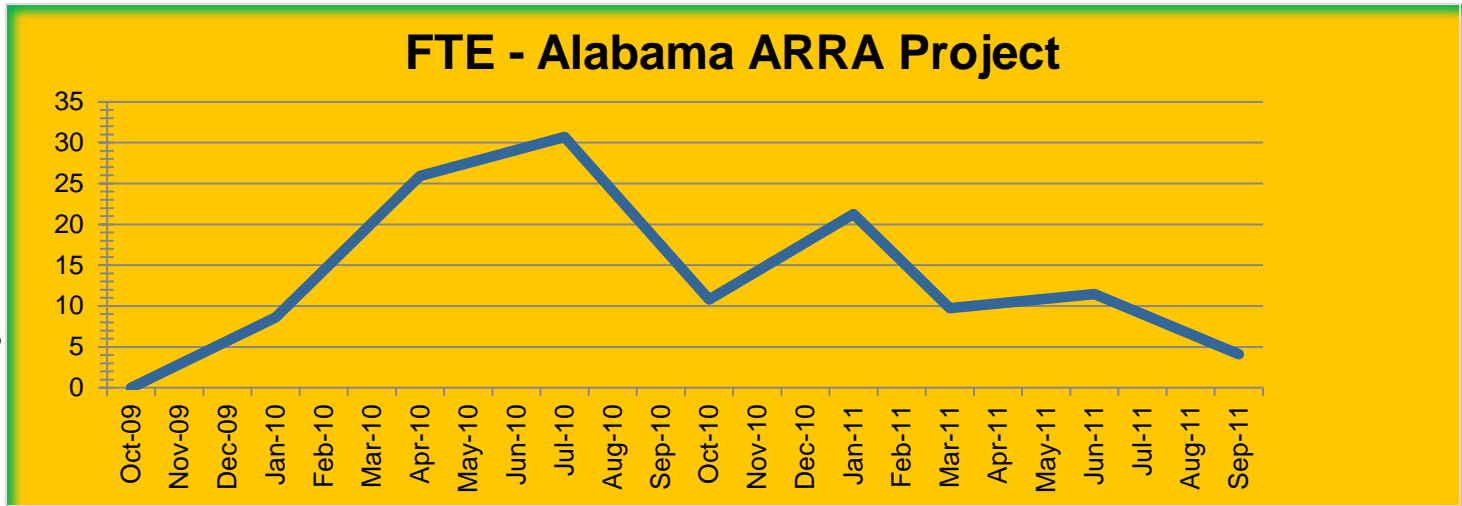
Socio-economics of the ARRA Project in Alabama

Full Time Employees:
FTE at **Height** of the
Project **30.68 FTE = 83**
positions

61,534 Total Labor Hours

**Contributed to Paychecks
of at least 137 people!**

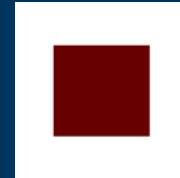
Project to end June 2012



Photos by Beth Young and Andrew Kornylak



The Nature
Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



ARRA efforts leading to larger scale restoration



Identified areas to restore by consulting with...

- Natural Resource Managers
- Scientists
- Commercial Fishers
- Charter Fishers
- Recreational Fishers
- Community Leaders
- Underserved Communities
- Best Available Data

Socio-Economics of Restoration – Workforce Development



The first quarter-mile of 100-1000 was installed on January 22 and 23. Thanks to a partnership between TNC and Boat People S.O.S., about 23,000 bags of oyster shell were filled with unemployed members of the Southeast Asian fishing community from Bayou la Batre, AL.



Photos by Andrew Kornylak

Socio-economics of Restoration – Workforce Development

“You have given hope to those who had no hope”

Grace Scíre, Boat People SOS



Photos by Andrew Kornylak

Socio-Economics of Restoration – Volunteerism



Calling all volunteers!

Bring your rubber boots and gloves, and get your hands dirty with us in the **Gulf of Mexico!**

Join Alabama Coastal Foundation, Mobile Baykeeper, The Nature Conservancy and The Ocean Foundation as we kick off the **100-1000: Restore Coastal Alabama** project.

We're laying the first quarter-mile of what will ultimately be 100 miles of oyster reef to protect and create 1,000 acres of marsh. We need 2,000 people to help move 23,000 bags of oyster shell from the land to the water launching an important effort towards the long-term restoration of the Gulf of Mexico.

January 22-23, 2011
Alabama's Helen Wood Park
(on western Mobile Bay)

Details and online registration are available at <http://100-1000.org/events>

Due to the heavy work involved in the event, it is not suitable for children under 14.

See you there!

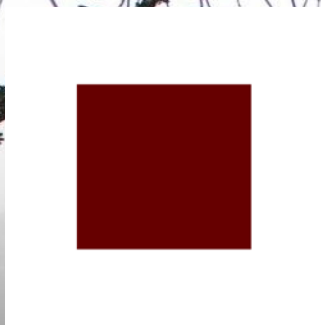


Socio-economics of Restoration – Volunteerism





Special thanks to our partners!



Weeks Bay
FOUNDATION

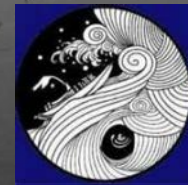


Photo by Jeff DeQuattro