Funded by the RESTORE Act, GulfCorps was launched in 2017. It is led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), The Nature Conservancy, Student Conservation Association, and The Corps Network. The program aims to restore habitats damaged by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010 while also restoring the economy of the Gulf states. GulfCorps is building an environmental job base across the Gulf by providing experience, hands-on training, and professional workforce development skills to young adults in the five Gulf states. GulfCorps crews work on a range of conservation and restoration projects on local, county, state, and federal lands and waters. The first GulfCorps grant (GC1.0) ended in October 2021, investing an estimated $8.245 million in the Gulf over four years. The RESTORE Council awarded a second grant (GC2.0) for $11.9 million in April 2021 for the program to continue for another four years.

LOCATION Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida
INVESTMENT $20.145 million over 8 years
PROGRAM PARTNERS The Nature Conservancy, The Corps Network, Student Conservation Association, The Ember Alliance
AGENCIES Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (RESTORE), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (sponsor)
PROJECT DATES 2017 – 2025
GC 1.0 By The Numbers

- **267,354** TOTAL GULFCORPS HOURS
- **15,528** TOTAL ACRES IMPACTED
- **77,631** PAID TRAINING HOURS
- **176** PROJECTS WORKED
- **6,765** ACRES BEING MONITORED
- **3,146** ACRES OF WETLAND ENHANCEMENT
- **1,754** ACRES OF INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT
- **6,753** ACRES OF UPLAND ENHANCEMENT
- **94** ACRES OF WETLAND RESTORATION
SHORT-TERM JOBS CREATED

280

Job Placement Rate (average) = 83%

Job Placement Numbers
- Returned as GulfCorps member: 48
- Returned as GulfCorps member in promoted position: 22
- Hired as GulfCorps organization staff: 6
- Placed in environmental type position (6 or more months): 36
- Placed in environmental type position (6 or less months): 34
- Placed in non-environmental type position: 57

Placements-Total: 203

PLACEMENT TYPES

Permanent
Boise Wildland Firefighter, Disaster Recovery Specialist, Youth Crew Coordinator, Crew Field Coordinator, Program Assistant, Wildlife Technician, State Park Ranger, Museum Exhibit Technician, Field Technician, Biologist Aide, Herbicide Application Spray Technician

Temporary
Nesting Technician, Mote Marine Laboratory Intern, Invasive Species and Prairie Management Specialist Intern, Padre Island National Seashore Turtle Crew, Summer Intern LA Senator Bill Cassidy’s office, Oyster Gardening Technician, Pittsburgh Herpetofauna Crew Intern
Through this project, NOAA, TNC and partners are

- Providing support to local conservation corps that recruit young adults from their communities. These young adults want to better their communities through restoration and conservation work. GulfCorps aims to recruit 75% of each crew from Gulf Coast communities.

- Providing young adults with the highest quality training, including project-related training, industry-recognized certifications, and workforce development opportunities. This combination of training, work experience and professional development fuels placements in environmental jobs, internships, externships and post-secondary educational opportunities.

- Working with stakeholders to select restoration projects that address ecological impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and that are consistent with the RESTORE Act’s Comprehensive Plan.

- Monitoring progress over the course of the entire program to make certain the work is producing the desired environmental results.

**Conservation Corps Participants:**

- Conservation Corps of the Forgotten and Emerald Coasts in Franklin, Bay and Escambia Counties, FL
- Student Conservation Association in Mobile, AL and Corpus Christi, TX
- Climb Community Development Corporation Conservation Corps in Gulfport, MS
- Limitless Vistas, Inc., in New Orleans, LA
- American Youthworks as Louisiana Conservation Corps in Baton Rouge, LA and as Texas Conservation Corps in Galveston/Houston, TX
- American Conservation Experience in Corpus Christi, TX

**Sample Project Partners**

US Fish and Wildlife Service (FL, AL, LA, TX) National Forest Service (MS), National Park Service (FL, MS, LA, TX), National Estuarine Research Reserves (FL, AL, TX)

**Florida** – St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve, St. Andrews Bay Resource Management Association, Northwest Florida Water Management District, Florida Forest Service

**Alabama** – South Alabama Land Trust, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Dog River Clearwater Revival, Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuary

**Mississippi** – Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain

**Louisiana** – Louisiana Office of State Parks, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, North Lake Nature Center

**Texas** – Armand Bayou Nature Center, Artist Boat, City of Port Aransas, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Galveston Bay Foundation

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