# Gulf State Park

## Enhancement Project Update

August 2016

ALABAMA'S GULF STATE PARK

**Gulf State Park** will be an international benchmark for environmental and economic sustainability demonstrating best practices for outdoor recreation, education, and hospitable accommodations.

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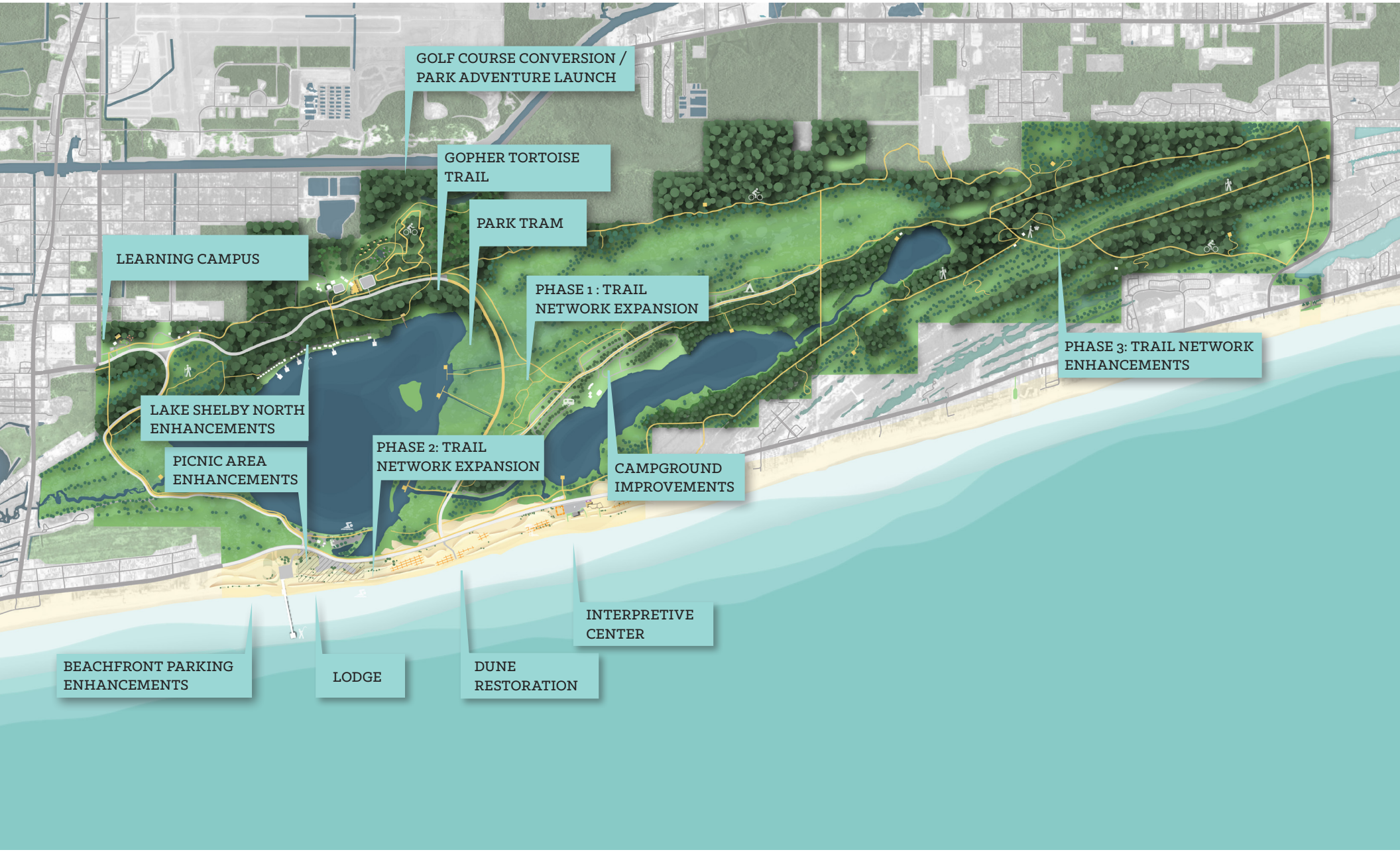
PROJECT OVERVIEW:

# Master Plan

A Comprehensive Approach

**GULF STATE PARK SATELLITE IMAGE**




**Master Plan elements developed as a result of 2,600 online survey respondents, 12 stakeholder meetings, and 6 community open houses.**

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

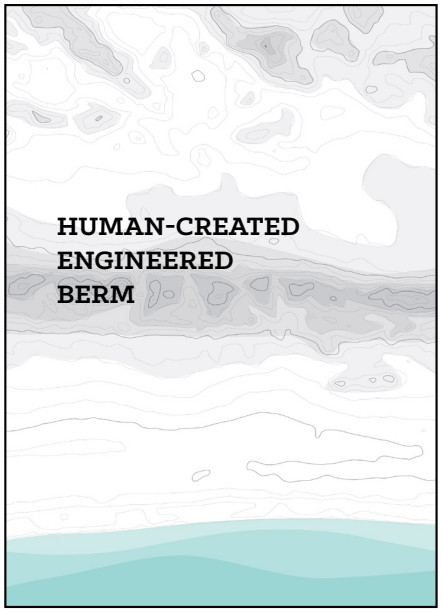
# Dune Restoration

An Innovative Return to Natural Systems

**Goal: Restore natural systems so the dunes can regrow themselves over time.**

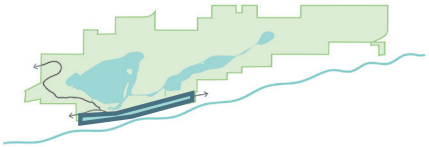
**Strategies:**

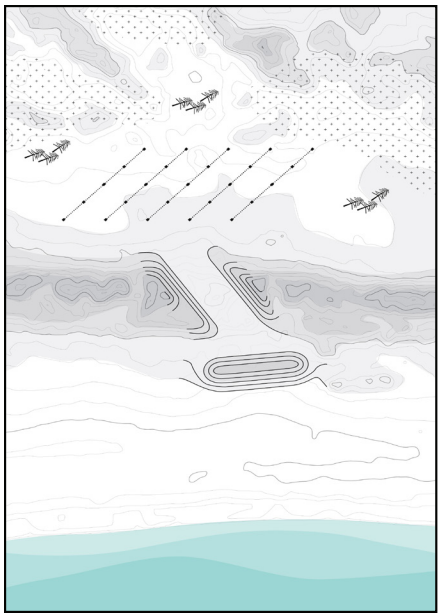
- **Strategic cuts in berm allow sand to reach inland parts of the dune system**
- **Planting native plant species**
- **Removal of invasive species**
- **Educational signage**
- **Continue to restore dunes with recycled Christmas trees and sand fencing**
- **Ensure visitors cross the dunes only at designated walkovers**




PRE-EXISTING CONDITION

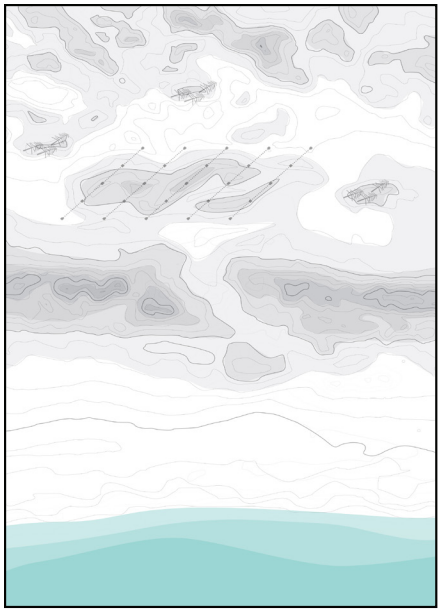
VIEW OF HUMAN-CREATED ENGINEERED BERM





CUT IN BERM

VIEW OF BERM AT TIME OF CUT



FUTURE SCENARIO

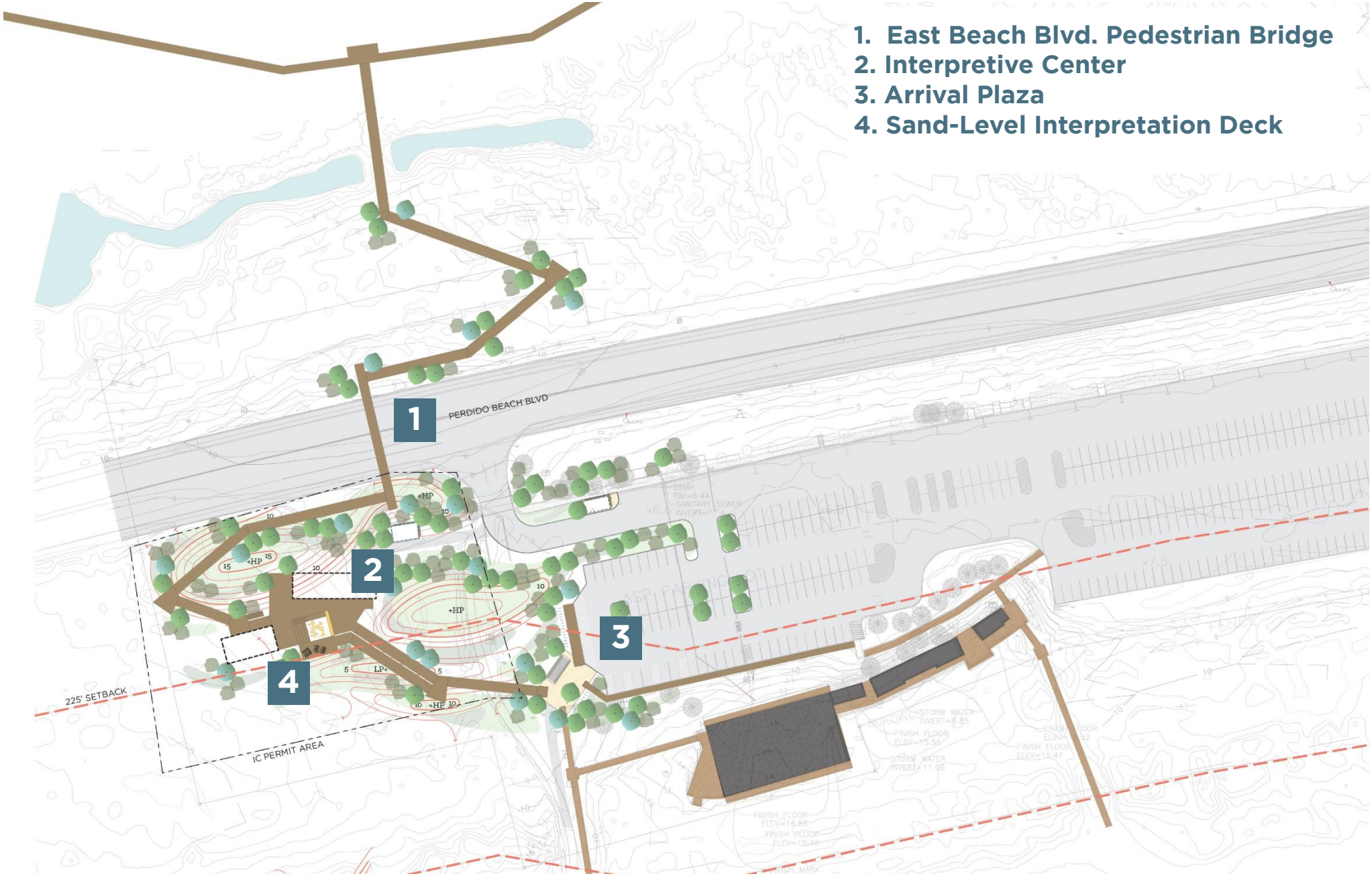
VIEW OF BERM CUT AFTER 30 DAYS OF ACCUMULATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

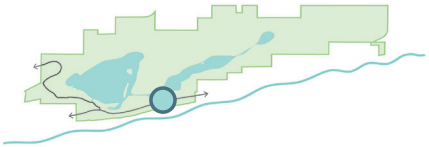
# Interpretive Center

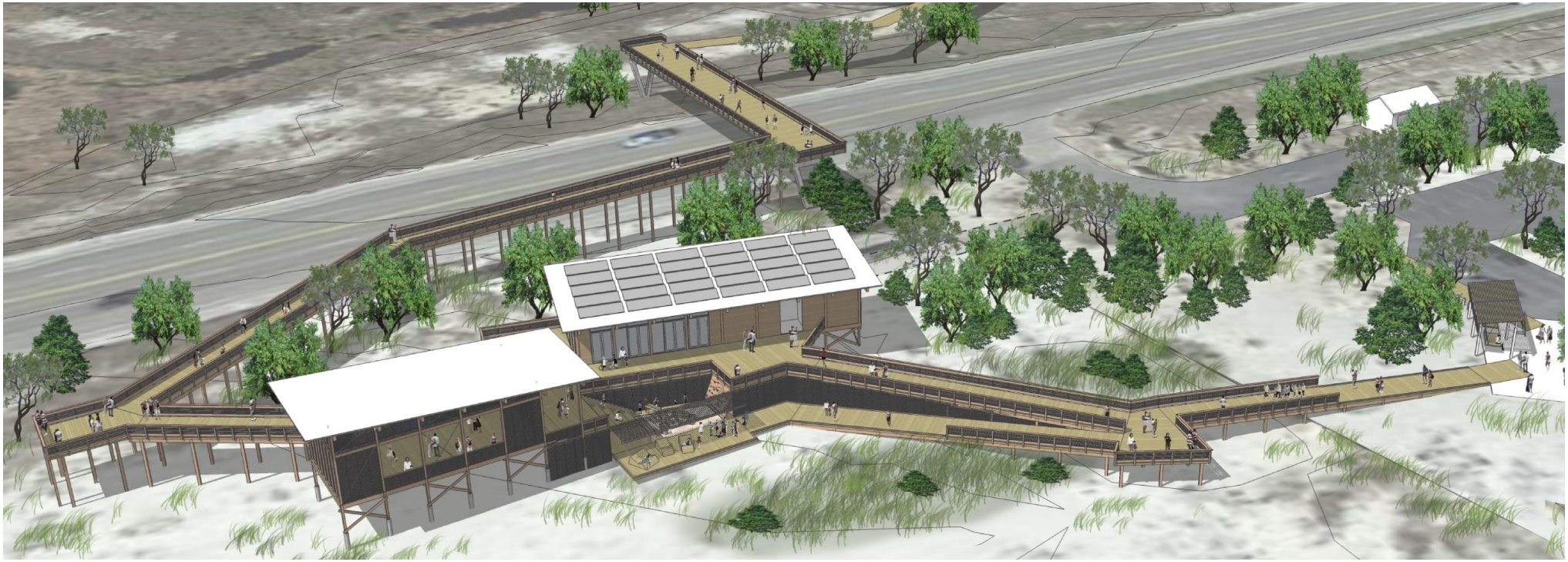
The Launching Point into the Park

1. East Beach Blvd. Pedestrian Bridge
2. Interpretive Center
3. Arrival Plaza
4. Sand-Level Interpretation Deck




**SITE PLAN**





**SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM**

**SCHEMATIC RENDERING**

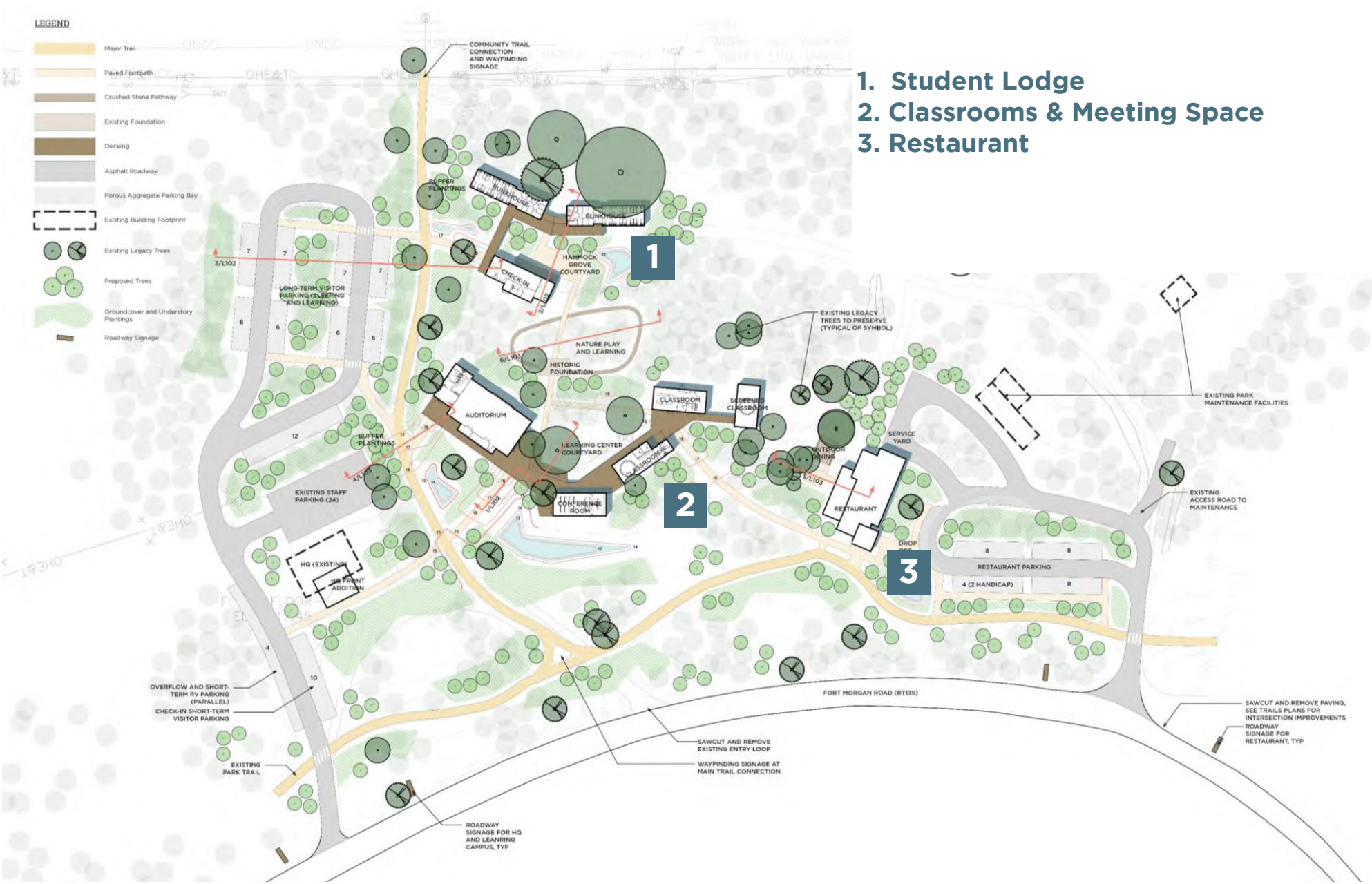
**SCHEMATIC RENDERING**

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

# Learning Campus

The Gateway to Learning

1. Student Lodge
2. Classrooms & Meeting Space
3. Restaurant




**SITE PLAN**

**Supervised and affordable lodging with rentable bunks and gathering spaces**

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

# Rebuilding the Lodge

A Beautiful Place

**SITE PLAN**

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

# Rebuilding the Lodge

A Beautiful Place

**DUNESIDE LOBBY PORCH**

ARRIVAL EXPERIENCE

## Lobby

- An entry experience unrivaled on the Gulf with sweeping views across the beach

- Coffee bar serving morning and daytime service to the lobby and outside porch

- Vaulted space recalling the Lodges of National Parks across the country

LOBBY INTERIOR RENDERING

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

# Rebuilding the Lodge

A Beautiful Place

**RESTAURANT PORCHES WITH GULF VIEWS**

VIEW FROM RESTAURANT PORCH

## Restaurant

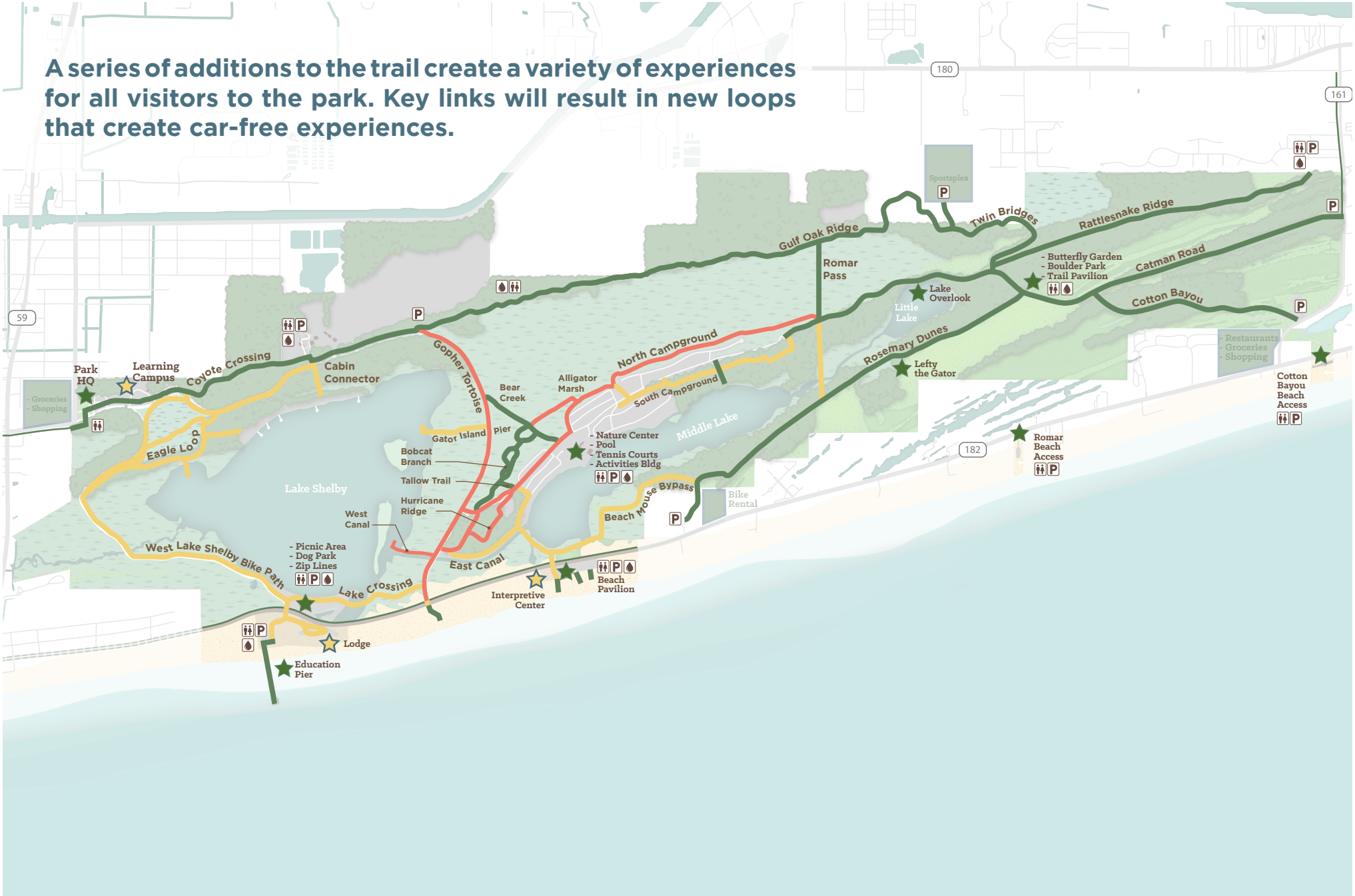
- Family-friendly first floor
- Social focused second floor
- All spaces have Gulf views
- Interior seating for 200
- Exterior seating for 150

FIRST FLOOR RESTAURANT INTERIOR RENDERING

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

# Trail Enhancements

Connecting the Park on Feet and Wheels



**VIEW FROM HURRICANE RIDGE TRAIL**

**TYPICAL WETLAND CROSSING**

**GOPHER TORTOISE TRAIL LANDSCAPE ISLAND**