

## Love to design Hampton Island course

Davis Love III is pursuing his 14th design project on Hampton Island, a small island along the Georgia coast 35 miles south of Savannah.

Wade Shealy, managing partner of Hampton Island Preservation LLC, selected Love Golf Design, which is in its 10th year of operation, for the job.

John McKenzie, vice president and director of project development of Love Golf Design, said he expects the Hampton Island project will be a high-profile venture that will help enhance Love's reputation as a top designer.

The course will be built on the 4,000-acre Hampton Island, an ecologically sensitive environment characterized by low-density development. The 18-hole course will weave through the island's historic rice fields and equestrian areas. A nearby coastal sanctuary will be part of the course design. The project cost has yet to be determined.



Scenic sanctuary will add Love course.

Love's company has 13 course designs under its belt, primarily in the Carolinas, Georgia and Mississippi. They include Ocean Creek Golf Course on Fripp Island, S.C.; Laurel Island Links in Kingsland, Ga.; Linkscorp Windemere in Cummings, Ga.; Barefoot Landing Resort and Golf Club in North Myrtle Beach, S.C.; and Shell Landing in Biloxi, Miss.

Short-term plans for Love Golf Design's include designing three courses per year while Love remains on the PGA Tour. As his golf career begins to

slow down, the company plans to increase its workload and expand from the Southeast into other markets, possibly including the West Coast.

Hampton Island has sold 22 lots at prices of \$1.5 million or more, including the one-time club membership fee, which is currently priced at \$250,000. One of the first members was actor Ben Affleck, who reportedly paid \$7.1 million for the property he purchased from retired money manager John Morgan.

—Erik Hamilton