















Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment & Restoration

# Public Meeting and Comment Session

January 28, 2025

### Background



- Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill April 20, 2010
- \$8 Billion in Natural Resources Damages
- Seven State and Federal agencies make up the Texas Trustee Implementation Group















- Today we present Restoration Plan #3 and invite public comments
- https://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/

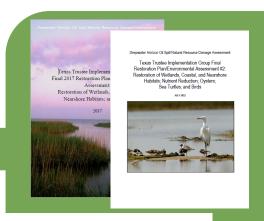
## Restoration Planning (and Implementation)





#### PDARP/PEIS

- Framework document for future projectspecific restoration plans
- Identifies approaches and techniques for restoration



#### **Restoration Plans**

- Evaluates specific projects for restoration types established in PDARP/PEIS
- Multiple restoration plans released over time
- Projects must be consistent with restoration goals, types, approaches, and techniques identified in PDARP/PEIS



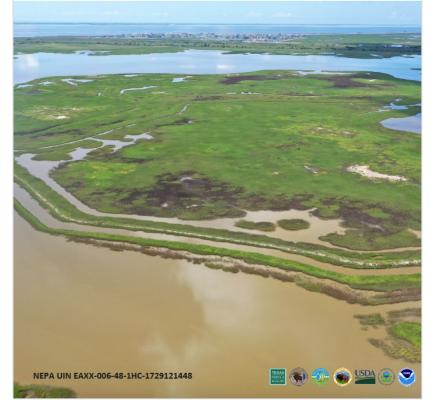
#### **Restoration Projects**

- Multiple restoration projects under each restoration plan
- Must be implemented in accordance with PDARP/PEIS and restoration plan

### Draft RP/EA #3



Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment
Texas Trustee Implementation Group
Draft Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment #3:
Restoration of Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats
January 2025



### What is BUDM?



Beneficial uses are defined as "productive and positive uses of dredged material, which cover broad use categories ranging from fish and wildlife habitat development, to human recreation, to industrial/commercial uses."

> -USACE Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material, Engineer Manual 1110-2-5026

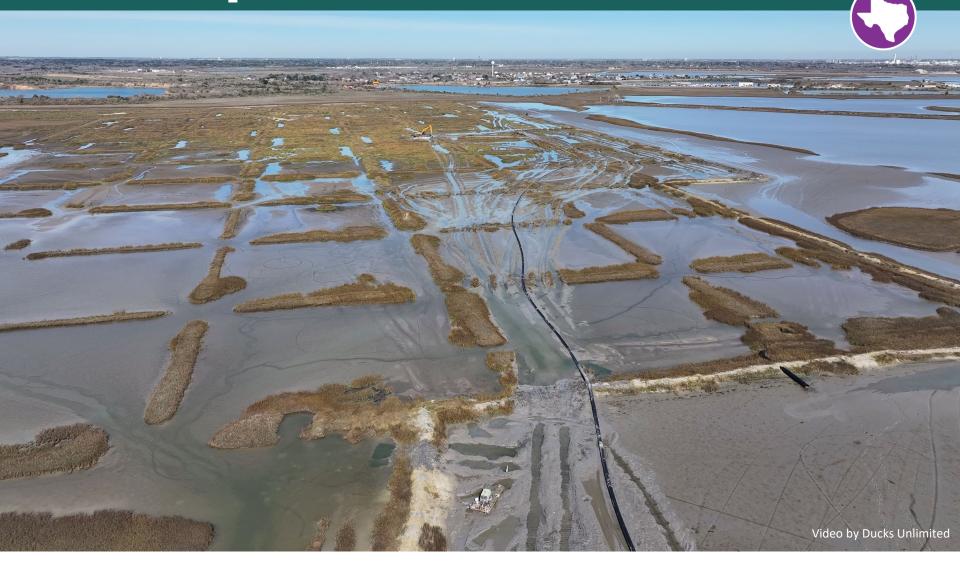




### **LEARN MORE**

www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil -Works/Beneficial-Use-Program/

## **Example: Pierce Marsh**



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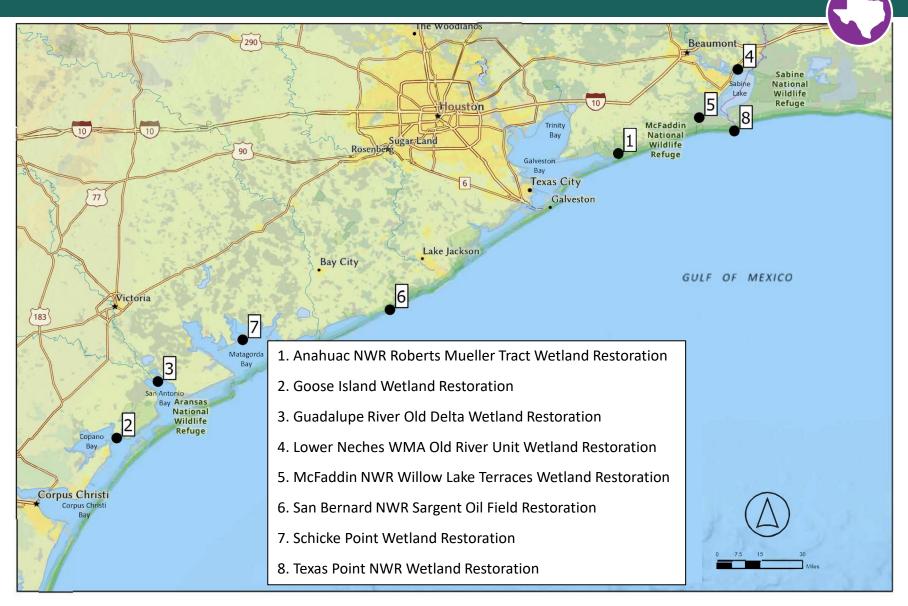
## Dredged Material Planning for Wetland Restoration

- In October 2017, Texas's RP/EA #1 allocated funding for this project
- 8 sites identified with partners and stakeholders
- NOAA played an excellent Implementing Trustee and Project Management role
- Final Report in 2022

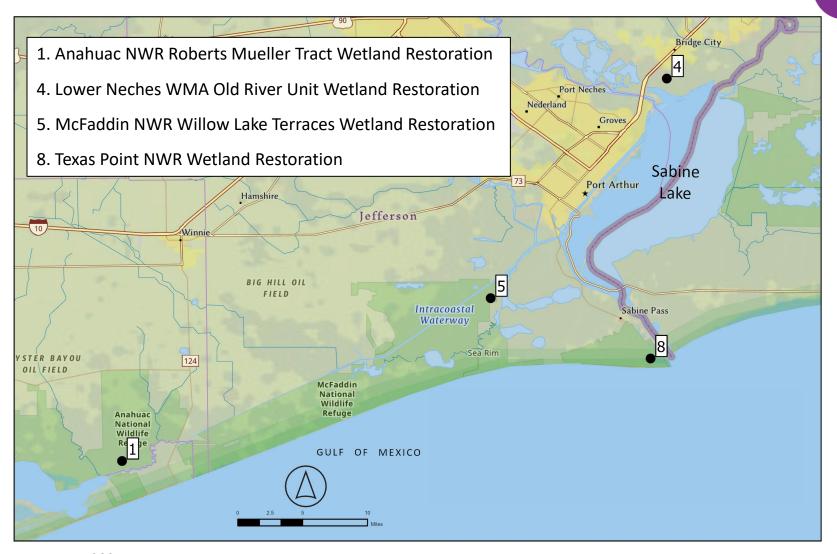
We gave a sneak peek during the 2023 public meeting



## **The 8 Proposed Sites**

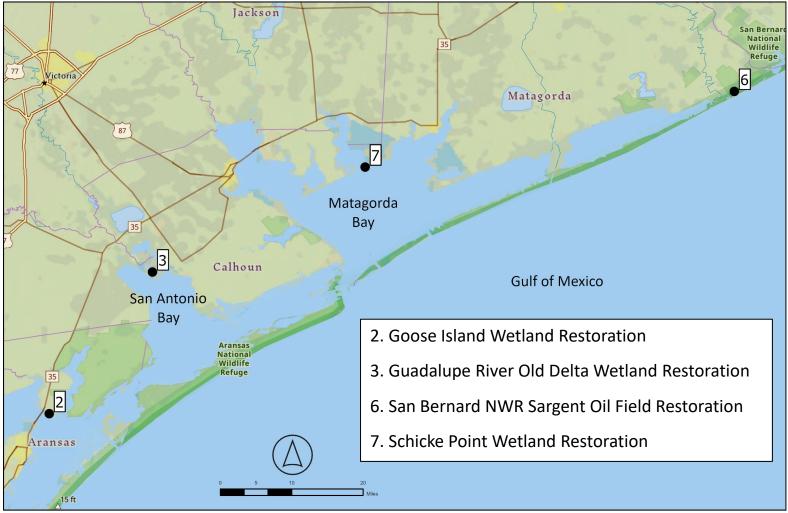


### **Proposed Sites – Chenier Plains**



### **Proposed Sites - Central**





## Proposed Project Alternatives

Alternative	Potential Acres	Preferred or Not Preferred
Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge Roberts Mueller Tract Wetland Restoration	550	Preferred
Goose Island Wetland Restoration	40	Preferred
Guadalupe River Old Delta Wetland Restoration	1,140	Not preferred
Lower Neches Wildlife Management Area Old River Unit Wetland Restoration	224	Preferred
McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge Willow Lake Terraces	218	Preferred
San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge Sargent Oil Field Wetland Restoration	200	Preferred
Schicke Point Wetland Restoration	72	Preferred
Texas Point National Wildlife Refuge Wetland Restoration	623	Preferred

### **BUDM Project Funds**



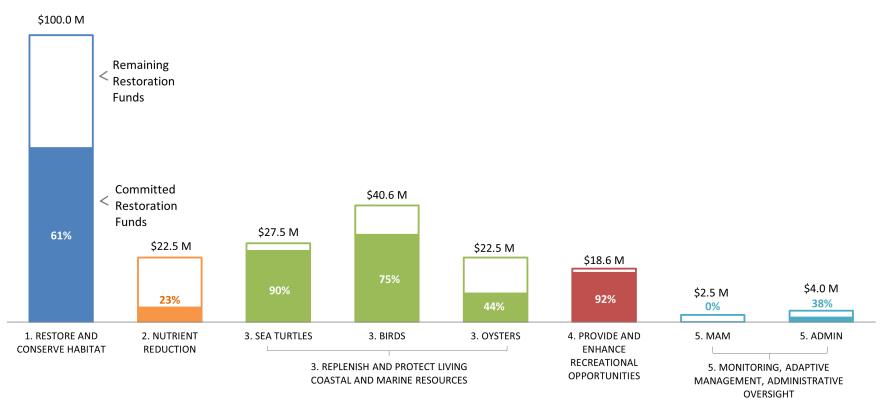


- Proposing 7 preferred project alternatives
- \$40 Million for implementation
- BUDM is a costeffective restoration technique

## Budget



### **Commitment of Restoration Funds**



Data current as of December 2024

### **Submit Your Comments**



- Verbally at a public meeting
- Online using the computer at the back of the room
- Online: <a href="https://parkplanning.nps.gov/TXTIGRP3">https://parkplanning.nps.gov/TXTIGRP3</a>
- Mail to:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf Restoration Office 1875 Century Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30345

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** February 18, 2025

### **Verbal Comments**



- Please approach the microphone if you would like to give a public comment
- Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker
- Comments will be captured by the court reporter for the record

