



Texas Restoration Area

June 2024



Texas Rookery Islands – Dickinson Bay Island II

The Trustee representatives for the Texas Restoration Area are:

- Angela Schrift, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Allison Fischer, Texas General Land Office
- Michael Cave, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Erin Chandler, U.S. Department of the Interior
- Jamie Schubert, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Ron Howard, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Doug Jacobson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Notable accomplishments from the past year encompass the successful construction completion of the Pierce Marsh Wetland Restoration project and the initiation of the Texas Breeding Shorebird and Seabird Stewardship Project. Additionally, we are in the second year of monitoring the Dickinson Bay Island II project and bird use has surpassed expectations. Additional project status updates can be found on the following pages.

WHAT WE DO

Work in the Texas Restoration Area focuses on restoring wetlands and other coastal habitats and reducing nonpoint source pollution. We are also restoring wildlife injured by the spill, including oysters, birds, and sea turtles.

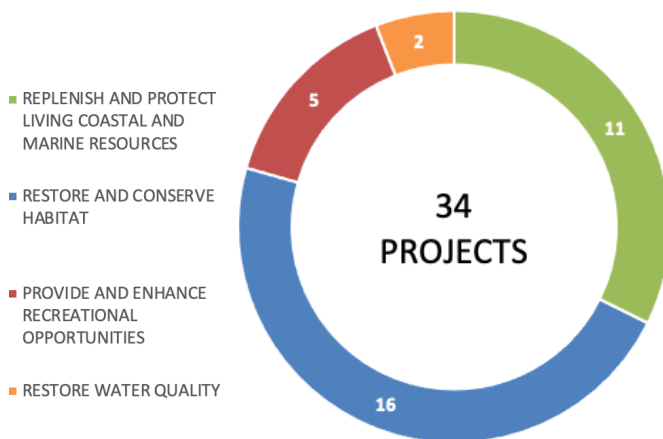




Restoration Overview

\$150 million committed to approved projects

PROJECTS BY RESTORATION GOAL



RECENT NEWS // Texas Breeding Shorebird and Seabird Stewardship



Photo by : Kristen Vale, American Bird Conservancy

In the spring of 2024, project implementation was initiated. Personnel will be conducting surveys to identify bird nesting areas and intervention activities such as installing temporary fencing to protect bird nesting and foraging habitat. These activities would alert the public to avoid the nesting area.

RECENT NEWS // Pierce Marsh Wetland Restoration



Construction of Pierce Marsh has been successfully completed. NOAA partnered with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Texas General Land Office, Ducks Unlimited and the Galveston Bay Foundation to restore marsh elevation for 115 acres of intertidal marsh in Pierce Marsh in West Galveston Bay, Texas. Over 280,000 cubic yards of sediment dredged from federally managed navigation channels was placed into the site during two dredging phases, one in January 2022 and early 2024. Ducks Unlimited will monitor sediment settlement, and the Galveston Bay Foundation will lead vegetation planting and monitoring efforts. This endeavor is part of a broader, long-term initiative aimed at restoring the 800-acre Pierce Marsh system.





Funding Overview

Restoration Type	Settlement Allocation	Funds Committed Through May 2024	Percent Funds	
			Committed	Remaining
Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats	\$100,000,000	\$59,625,652	60%	40%
Nutrient Reduction	\$22,500,000	\$5,106,163	23%	77%
Sea Turtles	\$27,465,000	\$24,791,362	90%	10%
Birds	\$40,603,770	\$30,010,432	74%	26%
Oysters	\$22,500,000	\$9,915,607	44%	56%
Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities	\$18,582,688	\$18,582,688	100%	0%
Monitoring and Adaptive Management	\$2,500,000	\$0	0%	100%
Administrative Oversight and Comprehensive Planning	\$4,000,000	\$1,517,295	38%	62%
Total	\$238,151,458	\$149,549,200	63%	37%

FUTURE RESTORATION PLANNING

The Texas Trustee Implementation Group began developing the Draft Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment (RP/EA #3). This plan focuses on evaluating construction associated with the Dredged Material Planning for Wetland Restoration project, which was previously approved in the RP/EA #1.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE
www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/texas

