

Texas Restoration Area



WHO WE ARE

The Trustee representatives for the Texas Restoration Area are:

- Don Pitts, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Angela Sunley, Texas General Land Office
- Richard Seiler, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Chip Wood, U.S. Department of the Interior
- Jamie Schubert, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Michele Laur, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Doug Jacobson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

WHAT WE DO

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



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EARLY RESTORATION PROJECTS

| | PROJECT DESCRIPTION | STATUS | ESTIMATED COST |
|--|--|---|----------------|
| REPLENISH AND PROTECT LIVING COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES | | | |
| Texas Rookery Islands | Restore and protect three rookery islands in Galveston Bay and one in East Matagorda Bay to increase nesting pairs of colonial waterbirds, such as pelicans, gulls, and herons. Restoration will increase the amount of available nesting habitat and enhance habitat quality. Islands will be protected by expanding island size, establishing vegetation, and building protective features like breakwaters. Texas and the Department of the Interior are working together to implement this project. |  | \$20M |
| Sea Turtle Early Restoration Project | Includes complementary components: (1) Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle Nest Detection and Enhancement; (2) Enhance the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network and (3) Texas Enhanced Fisheries Bycatch Enforcement, to address threats to sea turtles on nesting beaches and in the marine environment. The Department of the Interior and Texas are working together to implement this project. |  | \$20M |
| PROVIDE AND ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES | | | |
| Freeport Artificial Reef Project | This project will increase the amount of reef materials in an existing artificial reef site, in the Gulf of Mexico, approximately 6 miles from Freeport, Texas. The project will place predesigned concrete pyramids in the remaining portions of the 160-acre permitted area at a water depth of 55 feet. These improvements will enhance recreational fishing and diving opportunities. Construction of the concrete pyramids is complete. We expect to place the reef material during the fall of 2016. |  | \$2.2M |
| Galveston Island State Park Beach Redevelopment | The Galveston Island State Park Beach Redevelopment project includes building multi-use campsites, tent campsites, dune access boardwalks, equestrian facilities, and restroom and shower facilities on the beach side of the park. We have selected the design team and we expect the engineering and design to be completed in the spring of 2018. |  | \$10.7M |
| Matagorda Artificial Reef Project | This project will create a new artificial reef site within Texas state waters in the Gulf of Mexico, approximately 10 miles offshore of Matagorda County, at a water depth of 60 feet. The project will enhance recreational fishing and diving opportunities. We expect to place reef materials in during the fall of 2016. |  | \$3.6M |
| Mid/Upper Texas Coast Artificial Reef Ship Reef Project | This project will create a new artificial reef site in waters of the Gulf of Mexico, about 67 miles south-southeast of Galveston. The project will create an artificial reef by sinking a ship in waters that are approximately 135 feet deep. The project will enhance recreational fishing and diving opportunities. We have acquired a 371-foot long cargo carrier, the Kraken, which is now being cleaned in preparation of environmental clearances. We expect to deploy the ship to the reef site by the spring of 2017. |  | \$1.9M |
| Sea Rim State Park Improvements | Sea Rim State Park is located along the upper Texas coast in Jefferson County, southwest of Port Arthur. The project would construct two wildlife viewing platforms (Fence Lake and Willow Pond), one comfort station, and one fish cleaning shelter in the park. The engineering and design is underway; we expect it to be completed in the fall of 2016. |  | \$210K |

 In progress  Monitoring  Complete