Texas Trustee Implementation Group 2017 Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment: Restoration of Wetlands, Coastal, and Nearshore Habitats; and Oysters

The Texas Trustee Implementation Group (TIG) prepared this plan as part of its restoration planning efforts to compensate the public for the injury to natural resources and resource services caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

As part of the restoration planning effort, the Texas TIG solicited project ideas from the public, and reviewed more than 800 restoration project ideas. To screen projects and identify a reasonable range of alternatives, the Texas TIG considered multiple factors including:

- project screening factors identified in the Oil Pollution Act regulations;
- restoration goals and other criteria identified in the Deepwater Horizon Trustees' Final Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement;
- current and future availability of funds allocated by restoration type to Texas under the Deepwater Horizon natural resource damage assessment settlement; and
- Texas TIG preference to focus on three restoration types for the current round of restoration planning: 1) replenish and protect oysters; 2) restore and conserve wetlands, coastal, and nearshore habitats; and 3) restore water quality through nutrient reduction (nonpoint source).

Projects Evaluated

After consideration of the nutrient reduction related projects submitted, the Texas TIG decided to undertake additional

restoration planning efforts. The planning effort will determine appropriate selection criteria for nutrient reduction projects and evaluate restoration techniques to identify which would have the greatest impact.

The draft plan evaluated two oyster alternatives and 14 habitat alternatives. The Texas TIG Final Restoration Plan includes the following restoration projects:

Oyster Project Oyster Restoration Engineering	\$309,000
Habitat Engineering Projects Bird Island Cove Habitat Restoration	Ψ303,000
Engineering Essex Bayou Habitat Restoration	\$206,000
Engineering Dredged Material Planning for Wetland	\$372,000
Restoration	\$1,964,000
Habitat Construction Projects McFaddin Beach and Dune Restoration Bessie Heights Wetland Restoration Pierce Marsh Wetland Restoration Indian Point Shoreline Erosion Protection Bahia Grande Hydrologic Restoration	\$15,874,000 \$4,905,000 \$3,095,000 \$2,199,000 \$5,050,000
Habitat Acquisition Projects Follets Island Habitat Acquisition Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Habitat	\$2,037,000
Acquisition Bahia Grande Coastal Corridor Habitat	\$2,082,000
Acquisition Laguna Atascosa Habitat Acquisition	\$2,271,000 \$5,397,000
Total funding proposed in draft plan	\$ 45,761,000





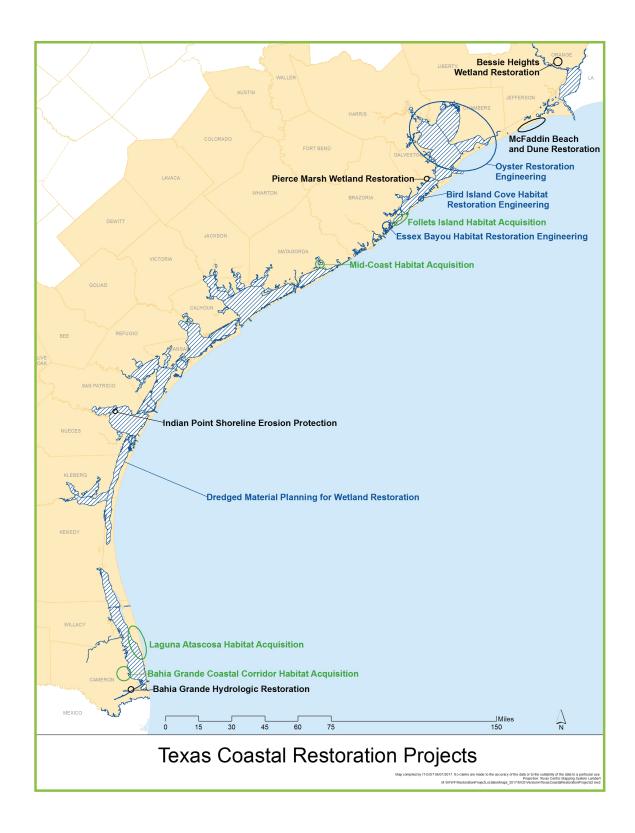












For more information on these projects or any others, you can access the full Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Texas Trustee Implementation Group 2017 Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment: Restoration of Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats; and Oysters online at www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/texas













