COASTAL TX PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

Texas Association of Environmental Professionals Study Update

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01/16/2020

"The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation." Dianna Ramirez Regional Manager Upper Coast Field Office, Coastal Resources, Texas General Land Office



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US ATTILY COTPS Of Engineers. STUDY SUMMARY

Study Name: Coastal Texas Protection & Restoration Feasibility Study

Authorization: Sec. 4091, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007 Public Law 110-114

Appropriation: 2014-2019 yr increments thru public law 2020-2021 thru Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018

Budget: \$20.18 Million (\$12.282 Federal: \$7.898 Cost-shared)

Non-Federal Sponsor: Texas General Land Office

Schedule: Recon: 2014-2015 Feasibility Study Start: Oct 2016 Scheduled Completion: May 2021

Multi-Purpose: Coastal Storm Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration

Scope:

Develop a *comprehensive plan* to determine the feasibility of carrying out projects for flood damage reduction, *hurricane* and *storm damage reduction*, and *ecosystem restoration* in the coastal areas of the State of Texas.

The comprehensive plan shall provide for the *protection*, *conservation*, and *restoration* of wetlands, barrier islands, shorelines, and related lands and features that *protect critical resources, habitat, and infrastructure* from the impacts of coastal storms, hurricanes, erosion, and subsidence





US ATTRY COTPS OF Engineers. NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

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Population Centers

- >\$125B assets at risk, growing to \$200B
- 18 coastal counties
- 6.1 million residents, growing to 9M in 50 yrs
- >24% of the TX population

Critical Infrastructure

- Nationally ranked deep-draft ports
- 450 miles of Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW)
- 40% of the Nation's petrochemical industry
- 25% of national petroleumrefining capacity
- NASA
- UTMB Level 4 Viral Laboratory



Coastal Ecosystems

- Wetlands, seagrass beds, oyster reefs, dunes, and beaches
- Critical threatened and endangered species habitat
- Nursery habitat and significant commercial fisheries for oysters, shrimp, and finfish

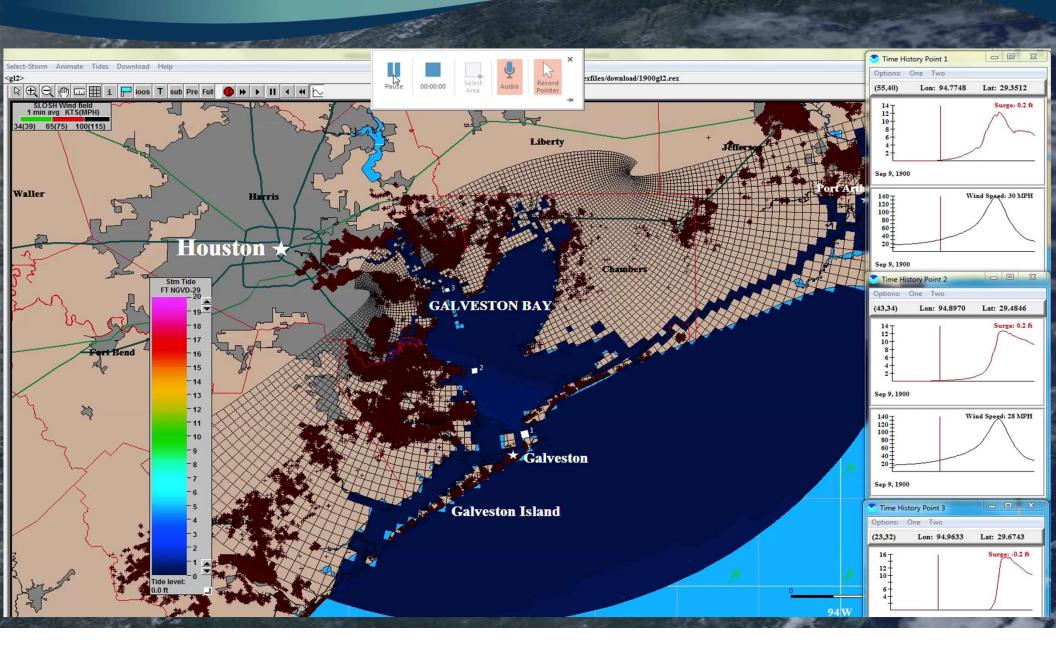
Critical Natural Features

- 2 National Estuary Program sites
- Central Flyway Migration
 Corridor
- The Laguna Madre a rare hypersaline lagoon
- Padre Island National Seashore
- 12 National Wildlife Refuges



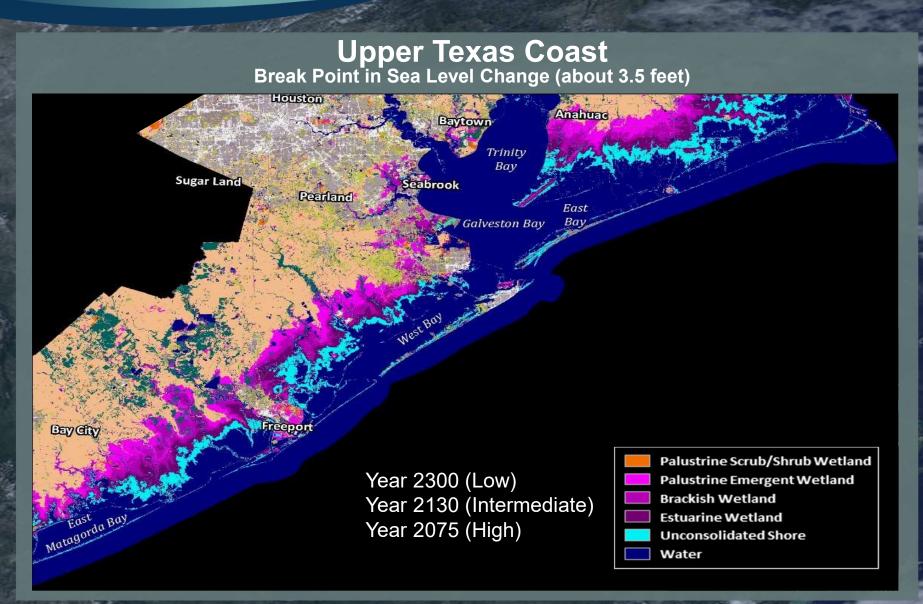
US Army Corps Of Englineers. STORM OF 1900

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ANTICIPATED RELATIVE H-H US Army Corps Of Engineers **SEA LEVEL CHANGES**

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US Army Corps Of Engineers. MULTIPLE LINES OF DEFENSE http://CoastalStudy.Texas.gov f CoastalTXStudy



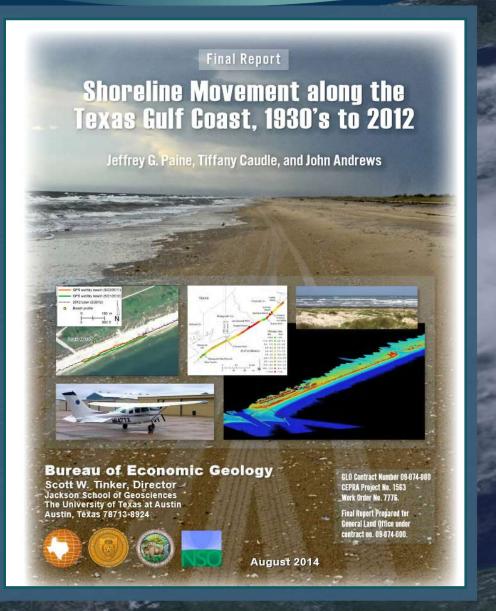
1st Line: Hardened Perimeter at the Gulf Inlet Storm Surge Gates

Next Lines: Lateral and Interior Features Dune Flanks Ring Barrier Upper West Bay – Clear Creek, Dickinson & Non-Structural GIWW Breakwaters Oyster Reefs ER Site-specific restoration features (e.g., marsh creation)



US Army Corps Of Engineers. SHORELINE EROSION

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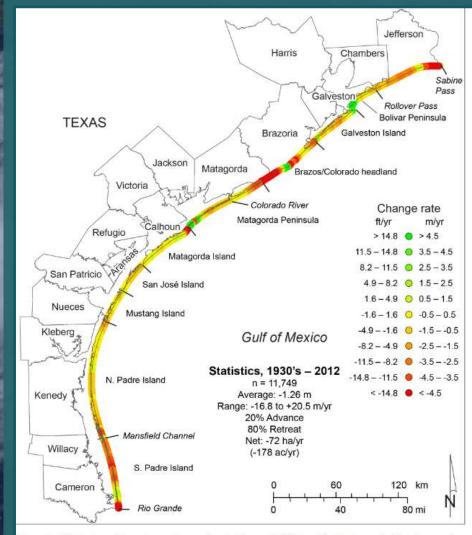


Figure 14. Net rates of long-term change for the Texas Gulf shoreline between Sabine Pass and the Rio Grande calculated from shoreline positions between the 1930's and 2012. Change rates at 11,749 measurement sites are available on the accompanying data CD in GIS-compatible format.



SITE SELECTION STRATEGY

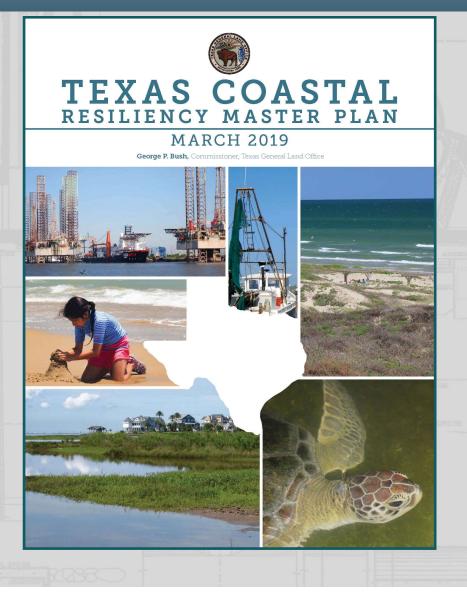


The Goal: Synergize with ongoing initiatives to promote resilience at a systems scale:

- TX GLO's MP
- RESTORE Act Sites
- USFWS NWRs
- > NRDA

Our Approach

- Formulated a list of potential sites
- **Developed** site selection criteria to characterize the sites
- **Used** Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to screen and select sites based on these criteria
- **Quantified** the benefits using Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP) & compared that to the costs (construction/operations/maintenance)
- Recommended a combination of sites for inclusion in the comprehensive Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP)





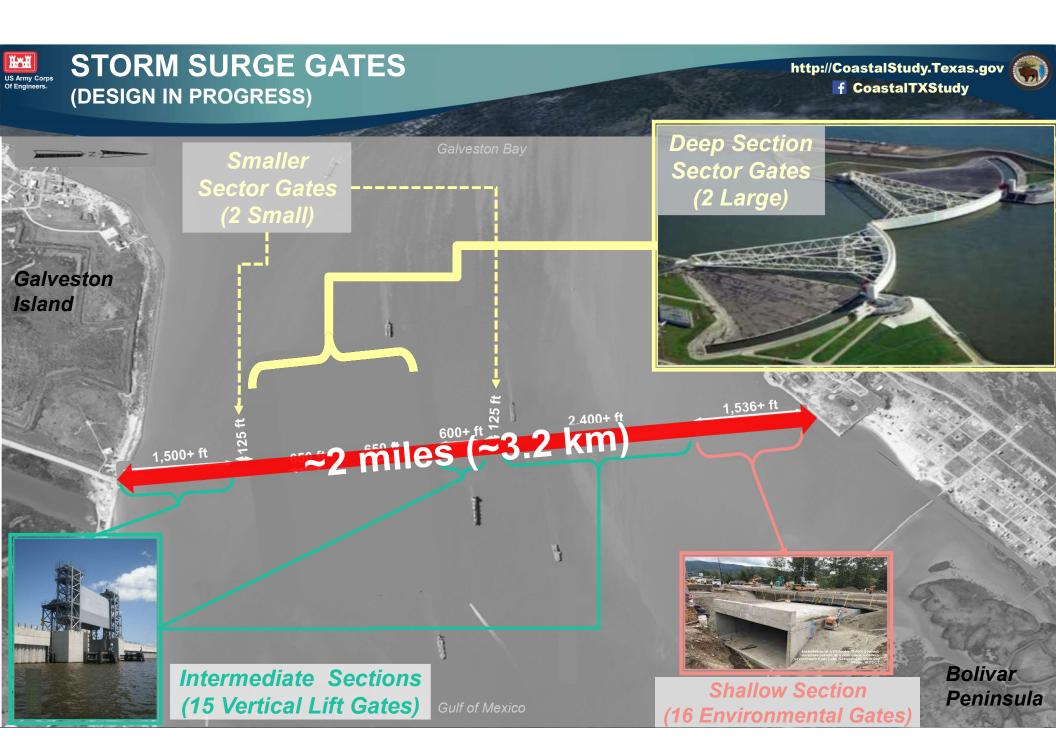
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Coastal Storm Risk Management

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Revised Coastal Resilience Comprehensive Strategy

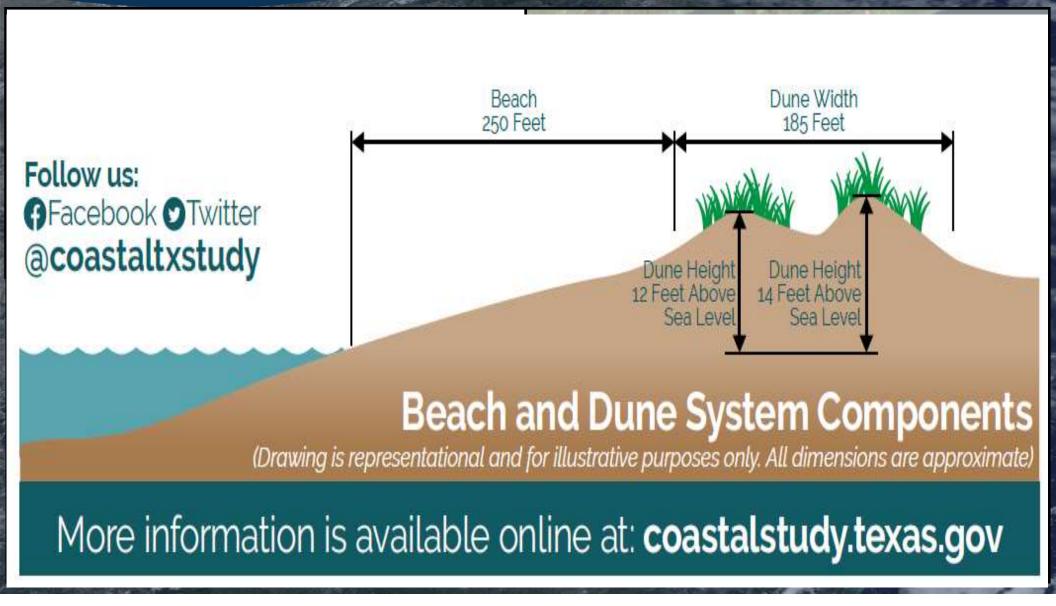




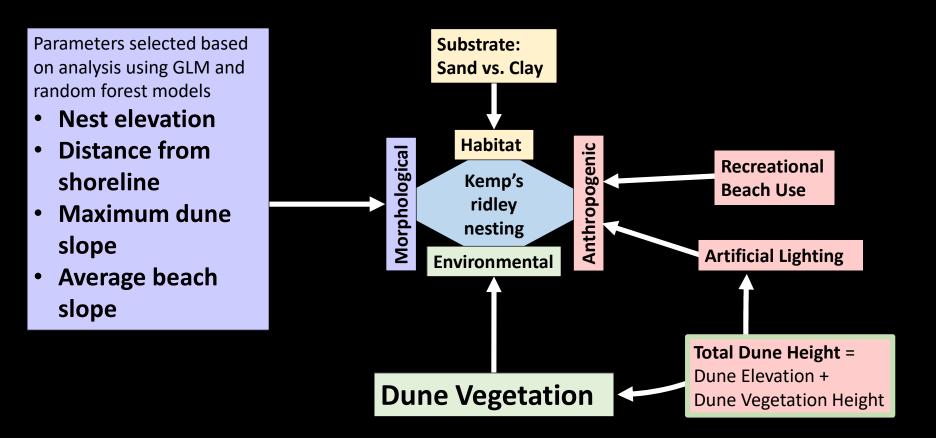


NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: DUNE & BEACHES

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Conceptual Model 11, 2019 using Agency (GLO, NPS, TPWD, and ERDC) FeedbackUpdated on December

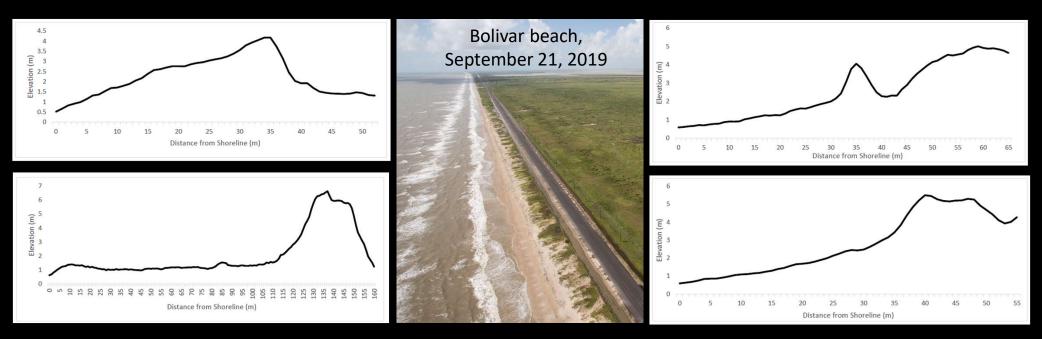


 $HSI = \sqrt[3]{Elevation * \sqrt{Total Dune Heigh * Substrate * \sqrt{Max Dune Slope * Average Beach Slope}}}$





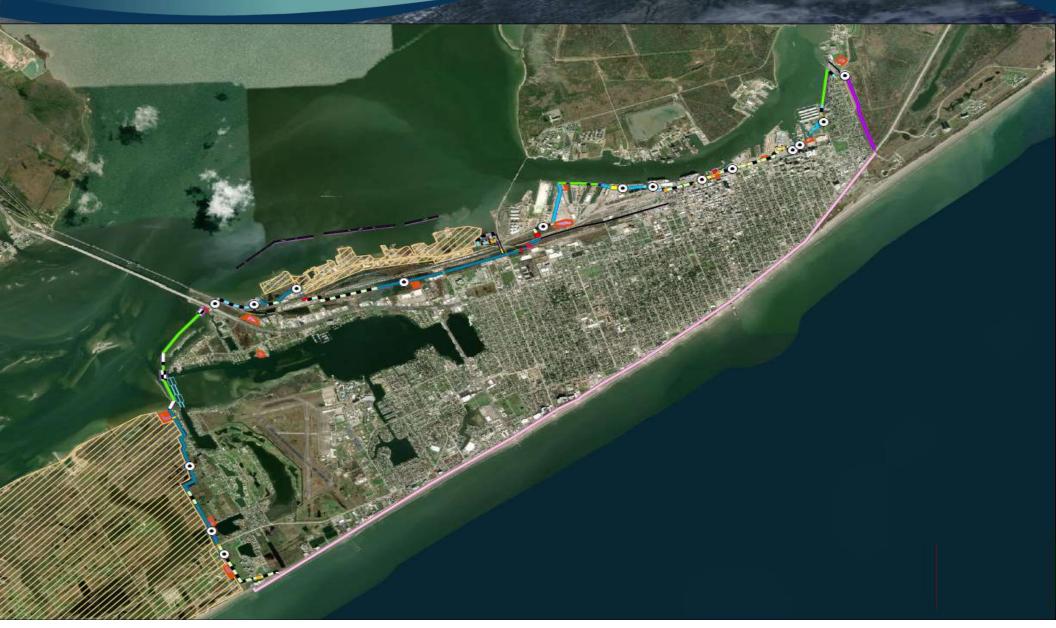
- Kemp's Ridley sea turtle chosen as target species for modeling because they are the most frequent sea turtle nester on the Texas Gulf Coast and they are considered sentinel species
- Figures from M.S. Thesis by Michelle F. Culver (2018), Beach Geomorphology and Kemp's Ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*) Nest Site Selection along Padre Island, TX, USA

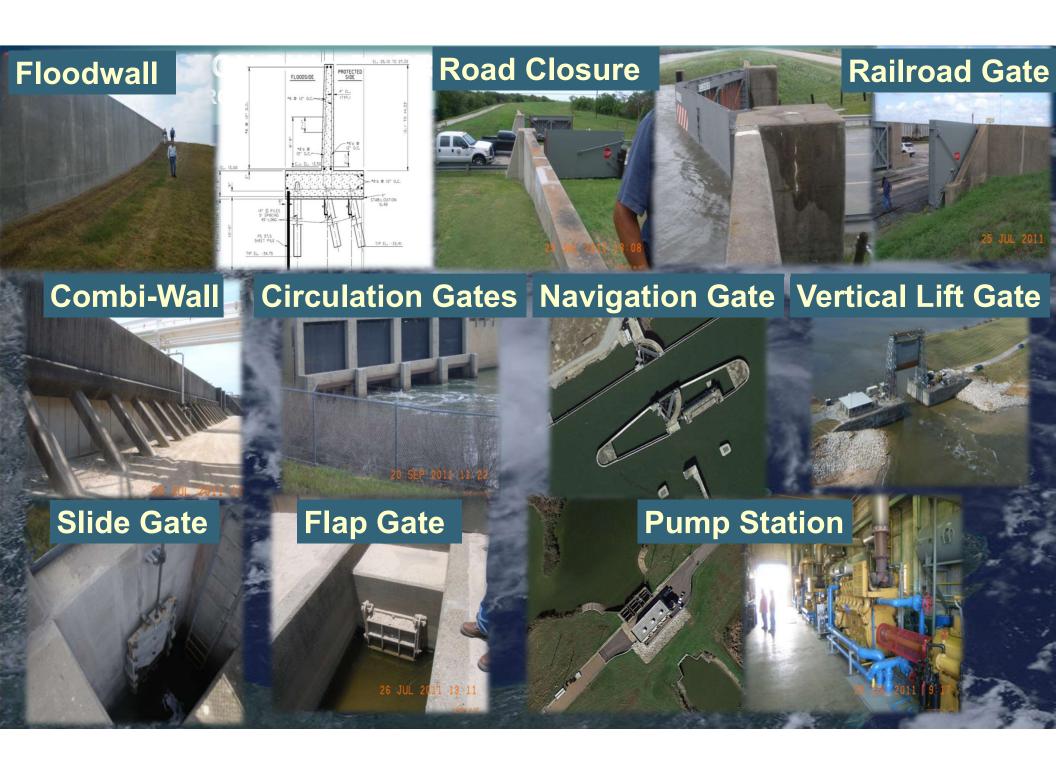




GALVESTON RING BARRIER (DESIGN IN PROGRESS)

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ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (DESIGNS IN PROGRESS)

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- 1. Shoreline Protection Reduce/prevent shoreline erosion of barrier system shorelines, estuarine bay shorelines, and channel shorelines.
- 2. Hydrologic Connectivity restore and/or create hydrologic connectivity of sensitive estuarine systems.
- **3.** Estuarine Bay Systems Restoration Restore, create, and/or protect critical estuarine wetlands, tidal flats, etc.
- 4. Barrier Beach, Dune and Back Marsh Restoration Nourish and protect barrier beach, dune, and back mar
- 5. Oyster Reef Restoration Restore and/or create important oyster reefs.
- Neotropical Migratory Bird Habitat Restoration Restore and/or create important habitat used by migratory birds
- 7. Bird Island Rookeries Restoration Restore and/or create important islands used as bird rookeries.
- 8. Restore Habitat Used by Species of Concern Restore and/or create habitat (important, critical, essential, and other habitat types) used by species of concern, such as federally- listed species, shorebirds, federally-managed aquatic species (e.g., essential fish habitat [EFH]), and others.

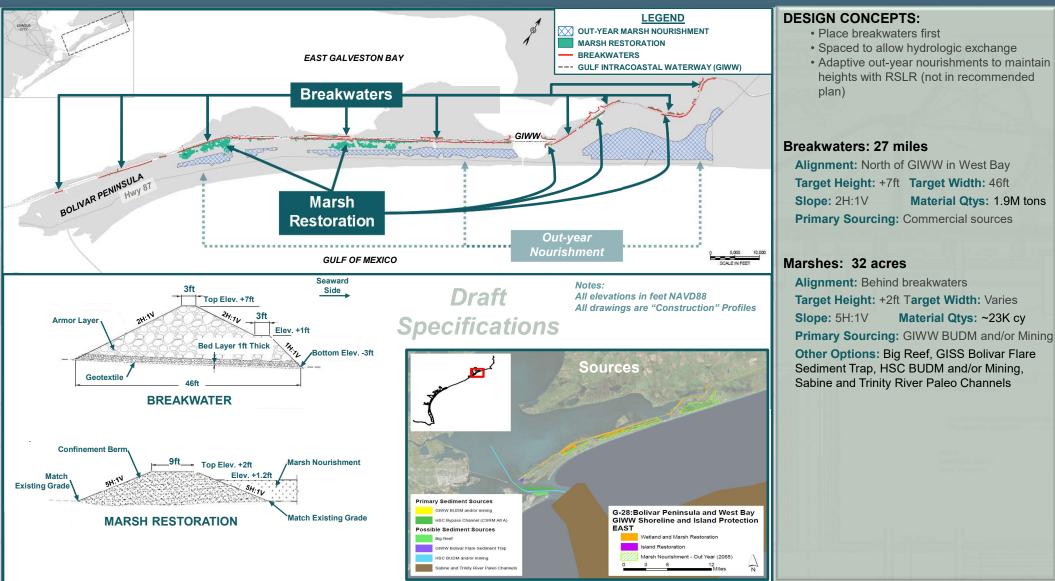




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G28 - BOLIVAR PENINSULA AND WEST BAY GIWW SHORELINE AND ISLAND PROTECTION







NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) 1969

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Environmental Impact Analysis

- NEPA is the nation's foremost environmental law
- NEPA drives our process by requiring the identification of direct, indirect and cumulative impacts
- Tiered NEPA has been authorized for this study

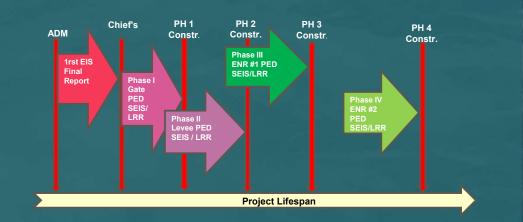
Analyses Underway

• Direct Impacts

- Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP)
 - Quality x Quantity of Species Habitat
- Advanced Hydrologic Modeling
 - Salinity, Velocity & Sediment Transport
- Particle Track Modeling
 - Larval Movement & Recruitment Success
- Indirect & Cumulative Impacts

Mitigation Planning Underway

Conceptual Tiered NEPA Approach





PUBLIC OUTREACH US Army Corps

Formal Comment Period (45 days) •

- Formal Meetings (NEPA Required)
- **Public Open Houses** •
- **CWGs** •
- Social Media
- Tech Talks
- Newsletters
- **Email lists**
- **Stakeholder Briefings** •

More opportunities to engage are on the project horizon remember Tiered NEPA!

COASTAL TEXAS STUDY IH US Army Corps of Engineers STUDY UPDATE



WE HEARD YOU!

exas Study has already begun considering the feedback received during the comment period for the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and ronmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS). Based upon your input, the

Establishing Texas General Land Office (GLO)-led Community Working Groups Dropping the barrier levee along Galveston Island and Bolivar Peninsula from the study completely, and investigating a dune-and-beach system along Bolivar Peninsula beach

le-aligning the Galveston Ring Barrie Evaluating non-struct

Exploring the use of s

Additionally, the study to Continue collaboration & Evacuation from Di at Galveston Further storm model Coordinate and hold a summer of 2020 (inclu Evaluate feedback r Design Workshop More infor

CO Coastal Texas Shudy - Stud

ed plan would protect only highly and the nation. Comprehensive risk reduction in the region opulated areas and not all parts of the Texas coastline requires a combined effort of federal, state, and private agencies increasing the area's ability to prepare for, withstand, that have been impacted by past weather events. The Coastal resolution of the Coastal resolution of ecosystem respond, and adapt to coastal risk. Industries in the Houston estoration (ER) and coastal storm risk management (CSRM) area will contribute to risk reduction through investments measures located throughout the 18 coastal counties of the in their own facilities that contribute to the success of the larger features was Gulf Coast

provide you with "Nothing But the Facts."

COASTAL TEXAS STUDY

NOTHING BUT THE FACTS

Large, long-term studies like the Coastal Texas Study often face misconceptions

The purpose of this document is to clear up some of these misconceptions and

disconception: The study would use emir acquire and demolish any property along the pro arrier alignment. The non-federal sponsor will have the responsibility of acquiring all necessary real estate interests for the project and ensuring that relocation of utilities and facilities is accomplished. Where necessary, voluntary relocations and acquisitions will be pursued, and eminent domain would only he imposed by a local sponsor as a last resor

THE STUDY AREA

lisconception: The Coastal Texas Study is only being proposed to protect the industrial facilities in the Houstor alveston area

ires reduce risk to the community at large, that were selected were the most destructive scenarios for storm surge and wave conditions. Additional storm modeling not just the concentration of industrial facilities in Houston. Surrounding areas are filled with residences, as well as railways and port facilities that serve Houston, Galveston, is currently being conducted to optimize the plan

More information is available online at: coastalstudy.texas.gov.

Coastal Texas Shudy - Nothing But the Facts



dustrial hub for the United Stat he Texas Gulf Coast is home to a coastal ecosystem vital to the nationa phomy that provides valuable

COASTAL TEXAS STUDY

http://CoastalStudy.Texas.gov

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Community Work Group Fact Sheet

Version 1.5, Updated July 26, 2019

Key Study Facts:

These key talking points are expanded on in the following pages

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- 1) The Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study, also known as the Coastal Te engineering, economic, and environmental analyses on large-scale civil works projects
- 2) The purpose of the Coastal Texas Study is to identify coastal storm risk management (CSRM) and ecosyster restoration (ER) measures that would protect the health and safety of Texas coastal communities, reduce the risk of storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy, and address critical coastal ecosystems in need of restoration
- 3) The goal of the Coastal Texas Study is to form a system of resilient, robust, and adaptable projects that will work

gressional authorization to identify and evaluate a of wetlands, barrier islands, shorelines, and related nd infrastructure from the impacts of coastal storms

mprised of the USACE and Texas General Land Office each consultants. d GLO, and their public outreach consultant

5.5-year study process

pastal Texas Study process.

truly examine what can be done to restore ecologic

edback received during the public review an and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) that

nately \$23 to \$32 billion.

ast were modeled and analyzed with the purpose of management alternatives and ecosystem restoratio

thin the Houston/Galveston a annroach/strateg

heights with and without the barrier systems. The storm



nception: The Coastal Texas Study is only o past. historical flood events Over 600 storms that could potentially impact the Texas oast were modeled and analyzed. These possible tropical torms include the entire range of storm factors, such as storm intensity, storm size, forward speed and angle of approach on top of the landfall locations along the entire Texas coast. The storms range from very weak and small tropical storm events all the way to catastrophically strong and large Category 5 storms and beyond Based on this data, a sample of 170 storms was taken thro the Advanced Circulation model (ADCIRC - Certified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for use in performing storm surge analyses) to determine storm surge

Summer 2010 | Dane

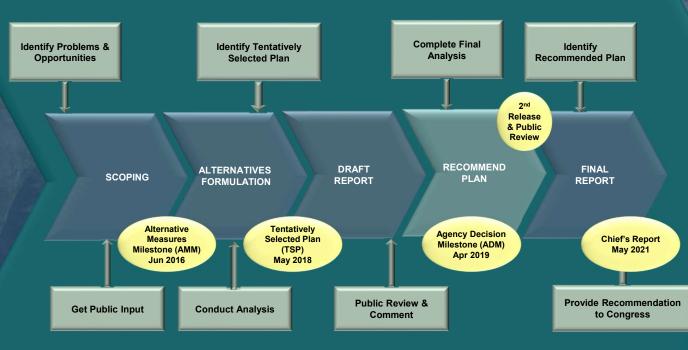




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STUDY





http://CoastalStudy.Texas.gov

50+ Years

(Project Life)



ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

Study Complete - Request Congressional Authorization for Project(s) 2021

STUDY WE ARE HERE

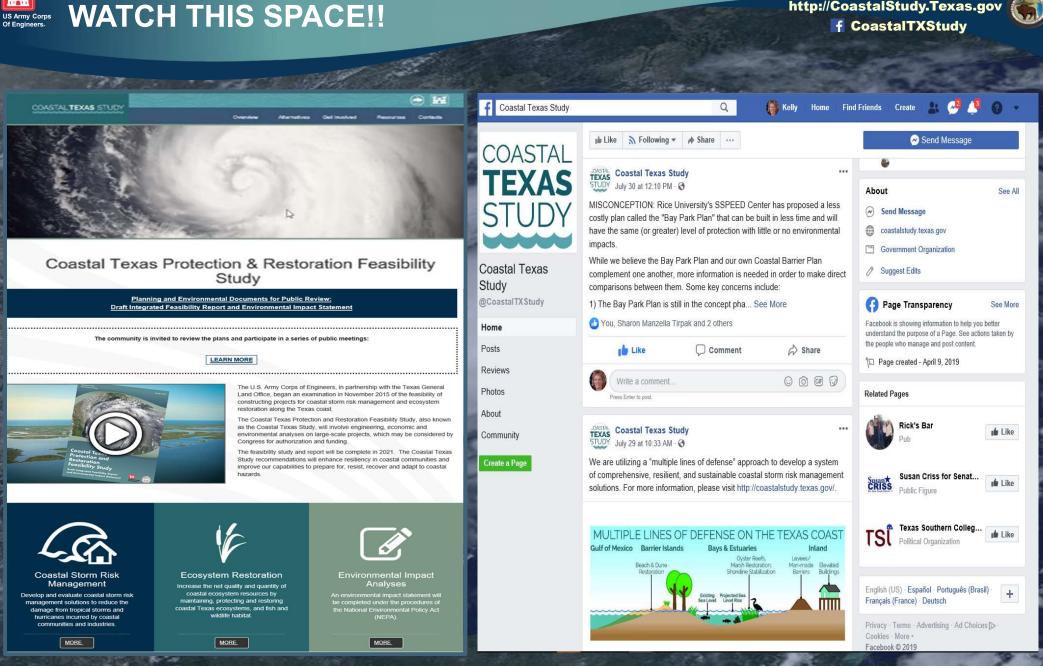


Maintain Project

Local Sponsor(s)

BUILD 10-15 Years Dependent on Congress (Estimated)

Congressional Appropriations for Authorized Projects



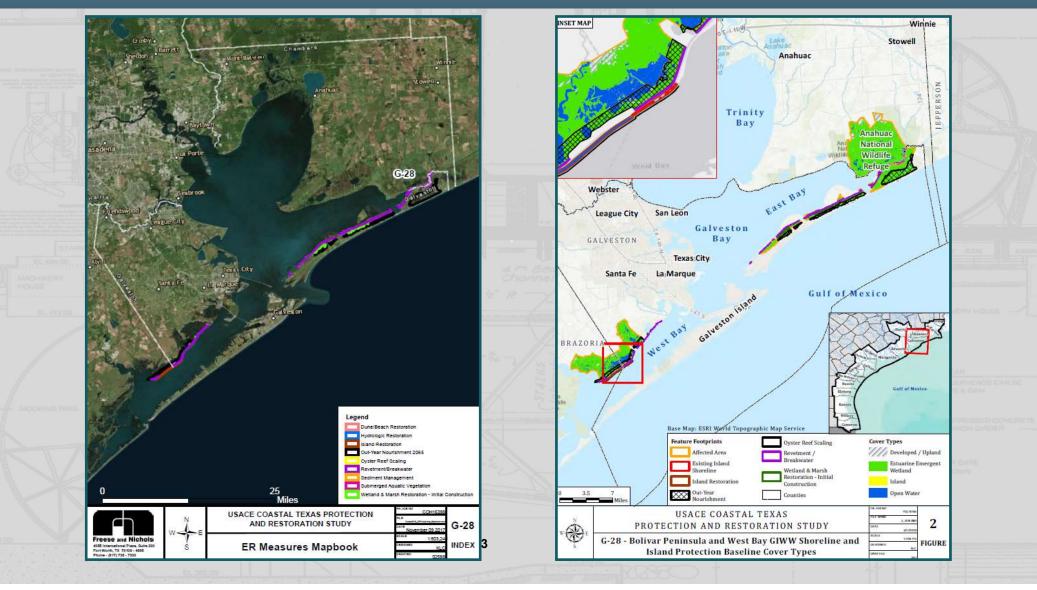
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G28 - BOLIVAR PENINSULA AND WEST BAY GIWW SHORELINE AND ISLAND PROTECTION



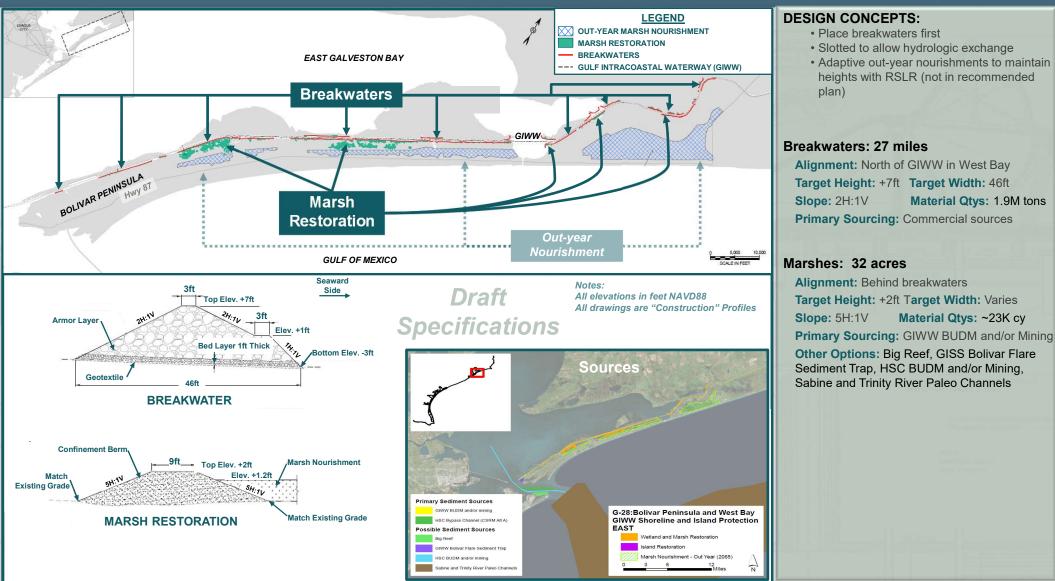




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G28 - BOLIVAR PENINSULA AND WEST BAY GIWW SHORELINE AND ISLAND PROTECTION



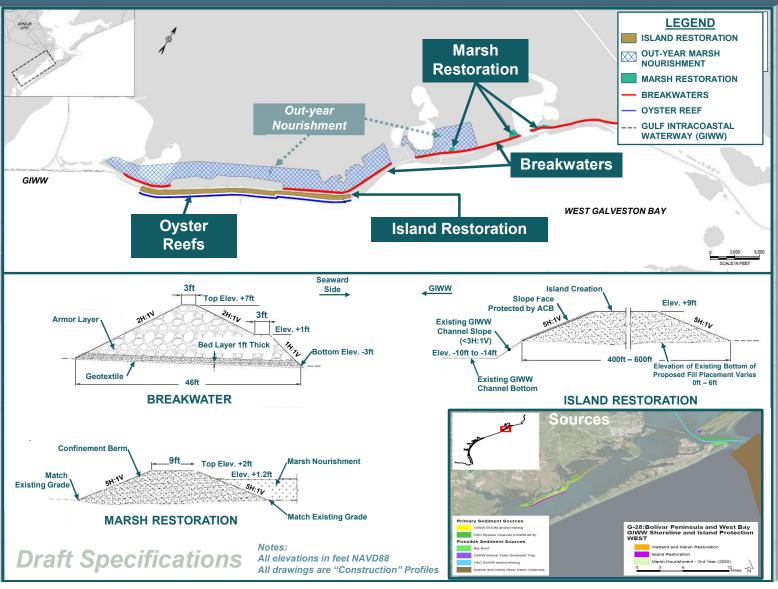




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G28 (WEST) - BOLIVAR PENINSULA AND WEST BAY GIWW SHORELINE AND ISLAND PROTECTION





DESIGN CONCEPTS:

- Place breakwaters first
- Slotted to allow hydrologic exchange
- Adaptive out-year nourishments to maintain heights with RSLR (not in recommended plan)
- Culch placed within reef template final elevation and slopes TBD

Breakwaters: 9 miles

Alignment: North of GIWW in West BayTarget Height: +7ftTarget Width: 46ftSlope: 2H:1VMaterial Qtys: ~627K tonsPrimary Sourcing: Commercial sources

Marshes: 640 acres

Alignment: Behind breakwaters Target Height: +2ft Target Width: Varies Slope: 5H:1V Material Qtys: ~459K cy Primary Sourcing: GIWW BUDM and/or Mining Other Options: Big Reef, GISS Bolivar Flare Sediment Trap, HSC BUDM and/or Mining, Sabine and Trinity River Paleo Channels

Islands: 326 acres (5 mi long)

Alignment: South of GIWW in West BayTarget Height: +9ft Target Width: 400-600ftSlope: 5H:1VMaterial Qtys: 5.8mcyPrimary Sourcing: Dredging

Oyster Reefs: 18 acres (26,280 linear ft)

Alignment: South of GIWW & islands complexes

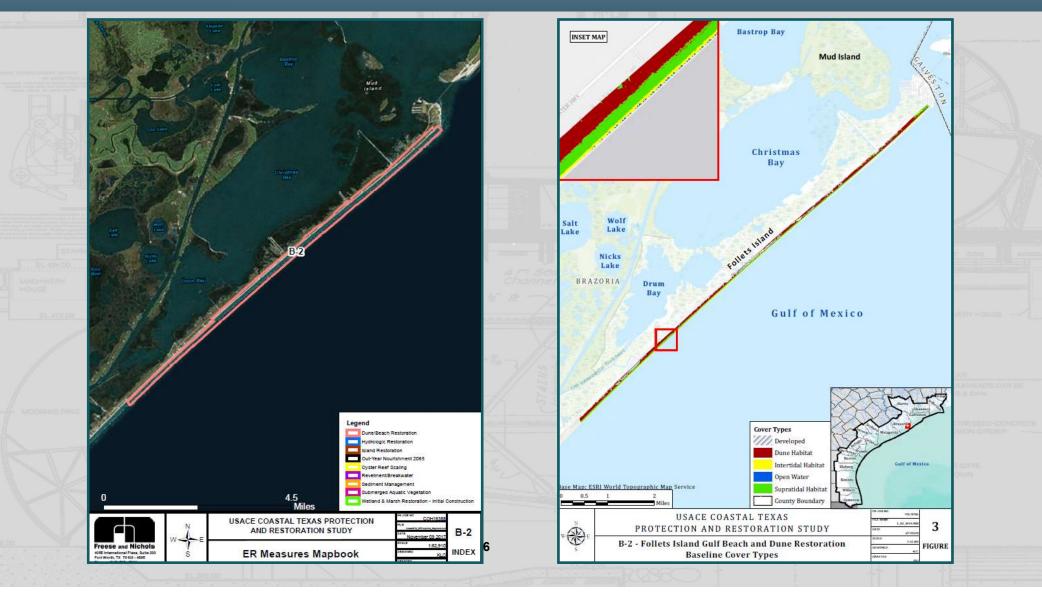
Benefits: 589 Net AAHUs

Cost: \$757K - \$989K (w/o out-yr nourishments)



B2 – FOLLETS ISLAND GULF BEACH AND DUNE RESTORATION

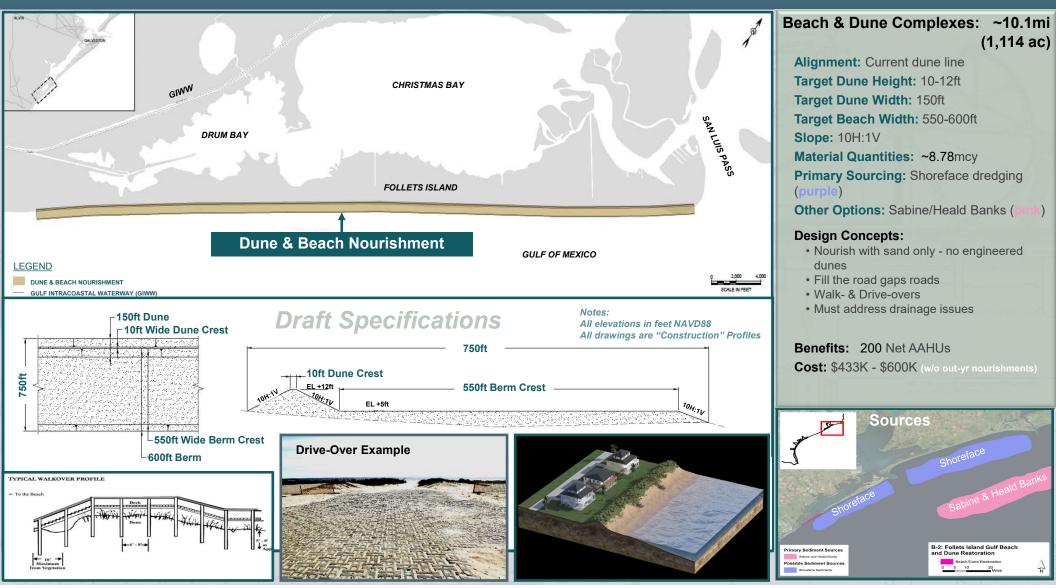






B2 – FOLLETS ISLAND GULF BEACH AND DUNE RESTORATION

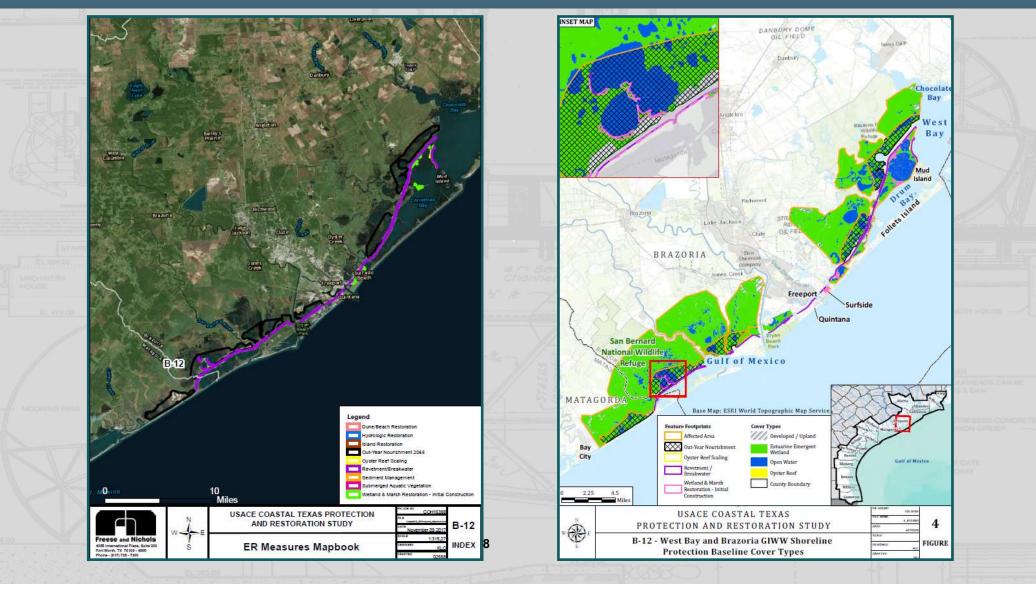






B12 - BASTROP BAY, OYSTER LAKE, WEST BAY, AND GIWW SHORELINE RESTORATION



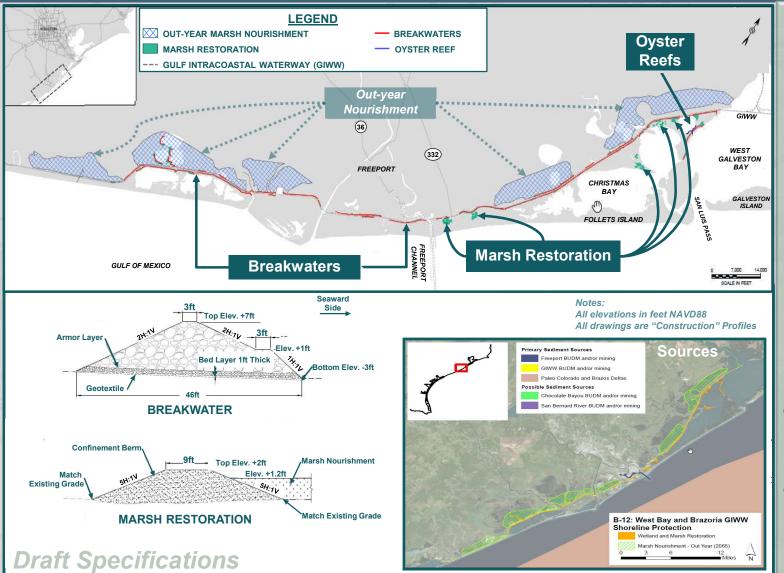




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B12 – BASTROP BAY, OYSTER LAKE, WEST BAY, AND GIWW SHORELINE RESTORATION





DESIGN CONCEPTS:

- Place breakwaters first
- Slotted to allow hydrologic exchange
 Adaptive out-year nourishments to maintain heights with RSLR (not in recommended
- plan) • Culch placed within reef template – final
- elevation and slopes TBD

Breakwaters: 43.2 miles

Alignment: Western side of West Bay, and Cowtrap Lakes, and along selected segments of the GIWW in Brazoria County

Target Height: +7ftTarget Width: 46ftSlope: 2H:1VMaterial Qtys: ~3.0M tonsPrimary Sourcing: Commercial sources

Marshes: 551 acres

Alignment: Behind breakwaters

Target Height: +2ft Target Width: Varies

Slope: 5H:1V Material Qtys: ~2mcy

Primary Sourcing: GIWW BUDM and/or Mining

Other Options: Big Reef, GISS Bolivar Flare Sediment Trap, HSC BUDM and/or Mining, Sabine and Trinity River Paleo Channels

Oyster Reefs: 3,708 linear ft

Alignment: Designed to reduce breaching of Oyster Lake into the West Bay

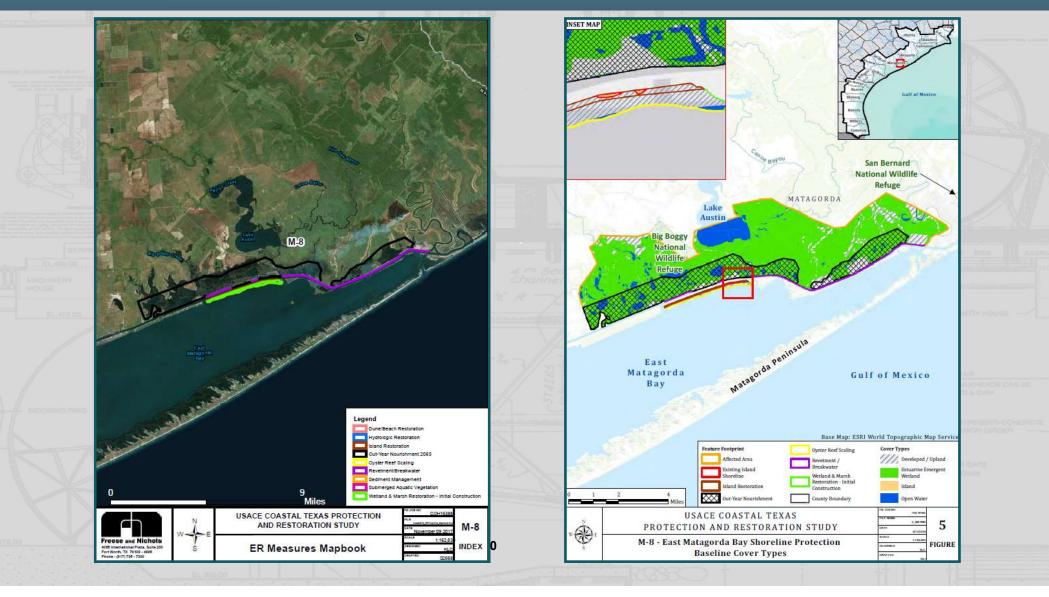
Benefits: 1,031 Net AAHUs

Cost: \$517K - \$718K (w/o out-yr nourishments)



M8 = EAST MATAGORDA BAY SHORELINE PROTECTION



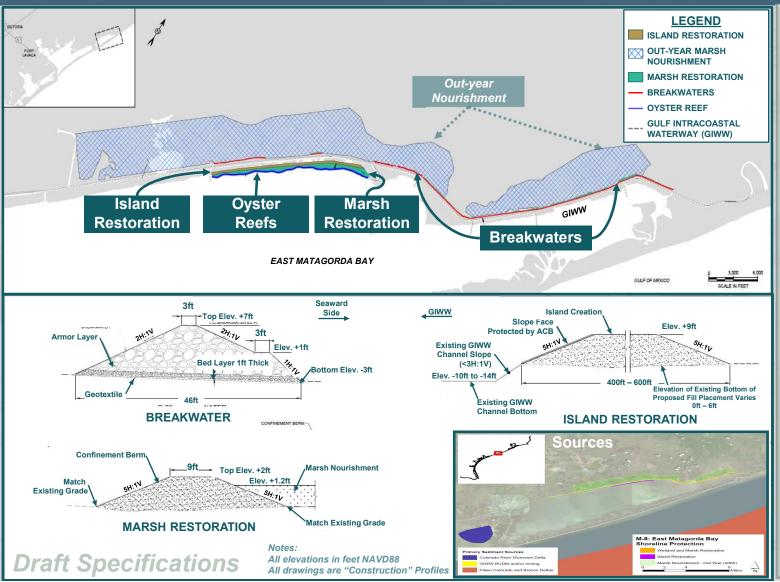




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M8 = EAST MATAGORDA BAY SHORELINE PROTECTION





DESIGN CONCEPTS:

- Place breakwaters first
- Slotted to allow hydrologic exchangeAdaptive out-year nourishments to maintain
- heights with RSLR (not in recommended plan)
- Culch placed within reef template final elevation and slopes TBD

Breakwaters: 8.9 miles

Alignment: Along unprotected segments of the GIWW, along the Big Boggy NWR shoreline, and eastward of the end of East Matagorda Bay (not where the GIWW is stabilized adjacent to PAs)

Target Height: +7ftTarget Width: 46ftSlope: 2H:1VMaterial Qtys: ~634K tonsPrimary Sourcing: Commercial sources

Marshes: 239 acres

Alignment: Behind breakwaters Target Height: +2ft Target Width: Varies Slope: 5H:1V Material Qtys: ~670,000cy Primary Sourcing: CO River Diversion Delta, GIWW BUDM and/or mining, Paleo Colorado/Brazos Deltas

Islands: 92.7 acres (3.5 miles)

Alignment: South of GIWW in West BayTarget Height: +9ftTarget Width: 400-600ftSlope: 5H:1VMaterial Qtys: 2mcyPrimary Sourcing:Dredgin

Oyster Reefs: 31,355 linear ft

Alignment: bayside of channel

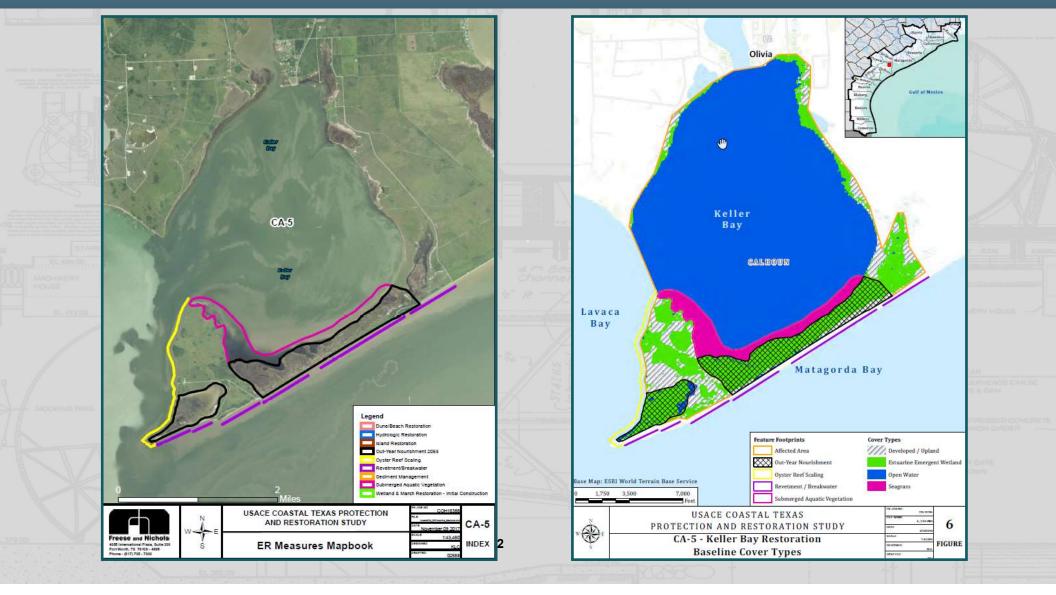
Benefits: 144 Net AAHUs

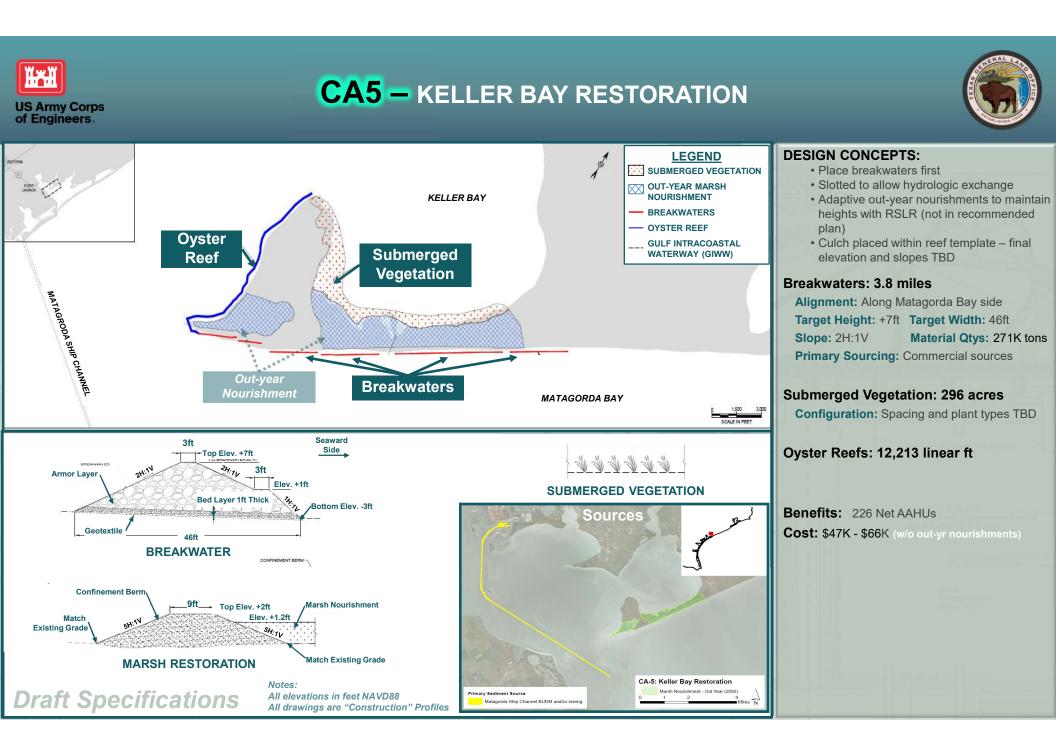
Cost: \$150K - \$210K (w/o out-yr nourishments)



CA5 – KELLER BAY RESTORATION

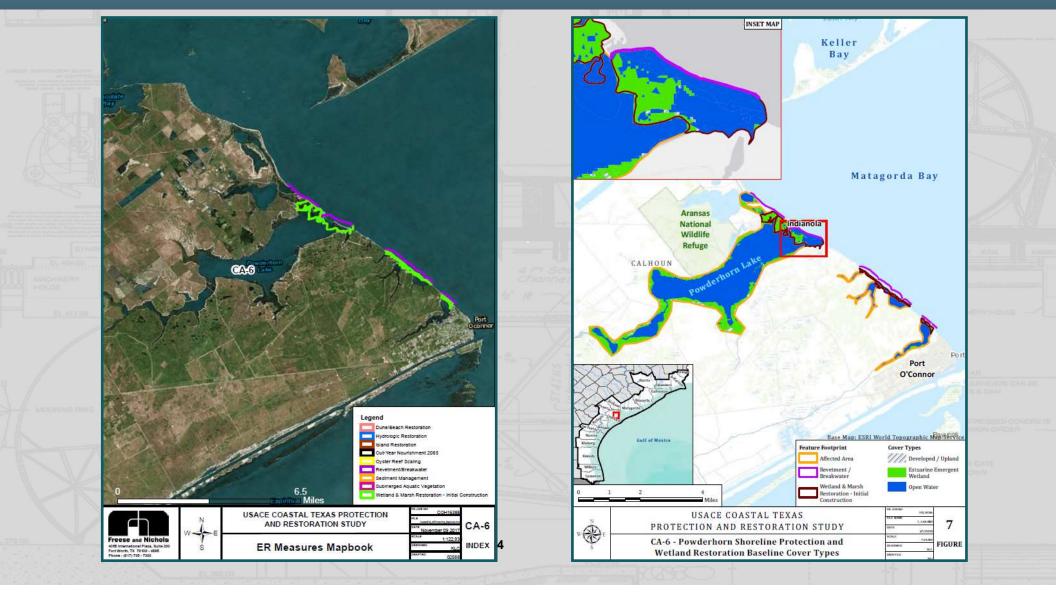












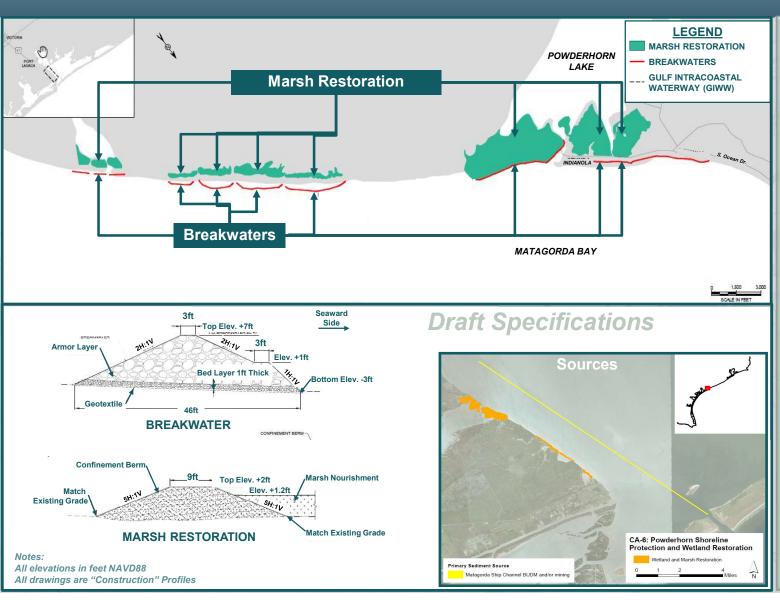
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CA6 – MAGNOLIA TO PORT O'CONNOR SHORELINE PROTECTION AND RESTORATION





DESIGN CONCEPTS:

- Place breakwaters first
- Slotted to allow hydrologic exchange
- Adaptive out-year nourishments to maintain heights with RSLR (not in recommended plan)
- Culch placed within reef template final elevation and slopes TBD

Breakwaters: 5 miles

Alignment: For shoreline stabilization fronting portions of Indianola, Powderhorn Lake estuary, and TPWD's Powderhorn Ranch

Target Height: +7ftTarget Width: 46ftSlope: 2H:1VMaterial Qtys: 356K tonsPrimary Sourcing: Commercial sources

Marshes: 531 acres

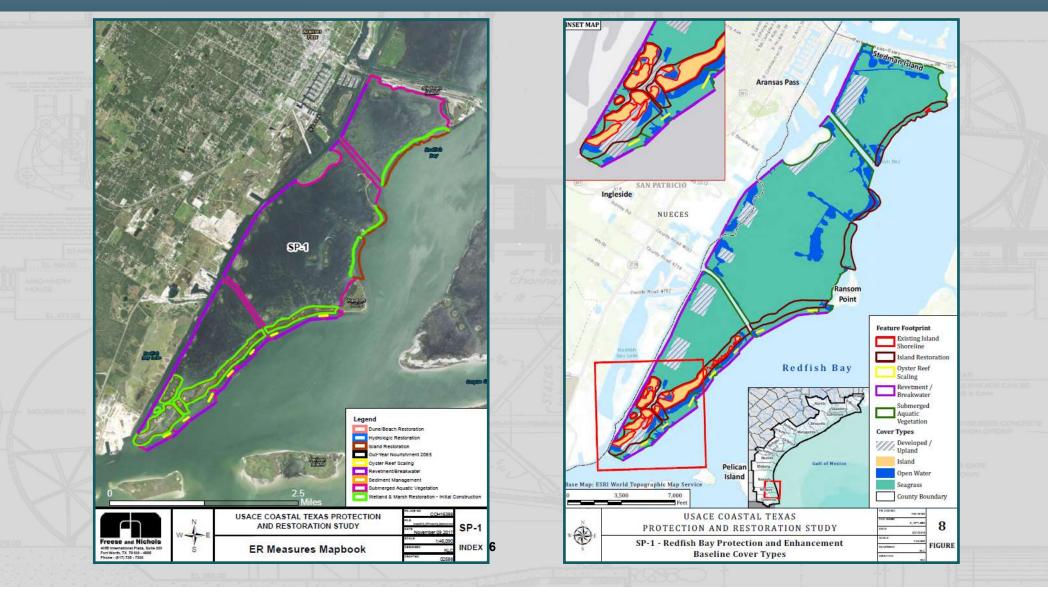
Alignment: Behind breakwaters Target Height: +2ft Target Width: Varies Slope: 5H:1V Material Qtys: ~641,000cy Primary Sourcing: Matagorda Ship Channel BUDM and/or mining

Benefits: 20 Net AAHUs Cost: \$64K - \$88K (w/o out-yr nourishments)



SP1 – REDFISH BAY PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT



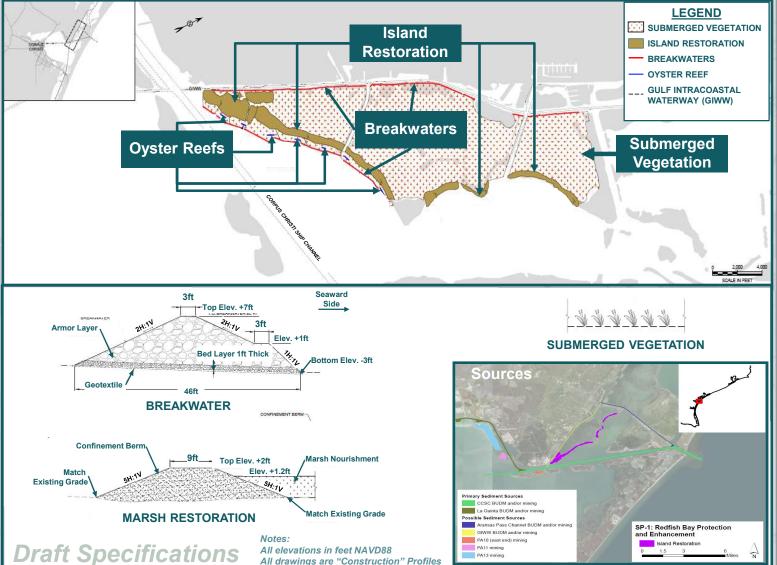




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SP1 – REDFISH BAY PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT





DESIGN CONCEPTS:

- Place breakwaters first
- Slotted to allow hydrologic exchange
- Adaptive out-year nourishments to maintain heights with RSLR (not in recommended plan)
- Culch placed within reef template final elevation and slopes TBD

Breakwaters: 7.4 miles

Alignment: Along the unprotected GIWW shoreline, along the backside of Redifish Bay, and on the bayside of the restored islands

Target Height: +7ftTarget Width: 46ftSlope: 2H:1VMaterial Qtys: 524K tonsPrimary Sourcing: Commercial sources

Islands: 391.4 acres

Alignment: South of GIWW in West BayTarget Height: +9ft Target Width: 400-600ftSlope: 5H:1VMaterial Qtys: 2mcyPrimary Sourcing: Dredgin

Submerged Vegetation: 3,026 acres

Configuration: Spacing and plant types TBD

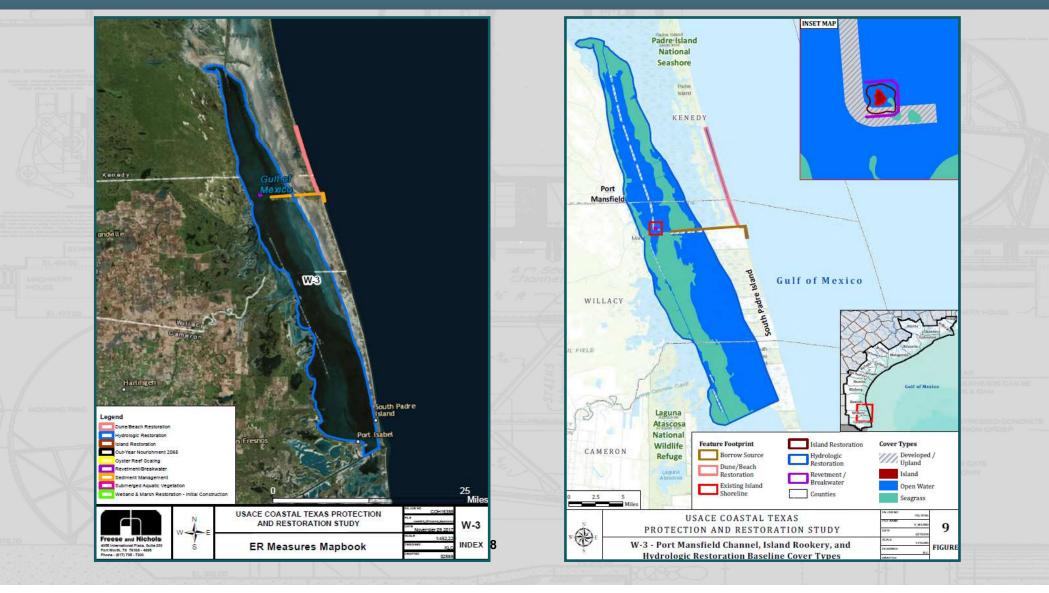
Oyster Reefs: 7,392 linear ft

Benefits: 3,184 Net AAHUs Cost: \$274K - \$384K (w/o out-yr nourishments)



W3 - PORT MANSFIELD CHANNEL AND ISLAND ROOKERY RESTORATION



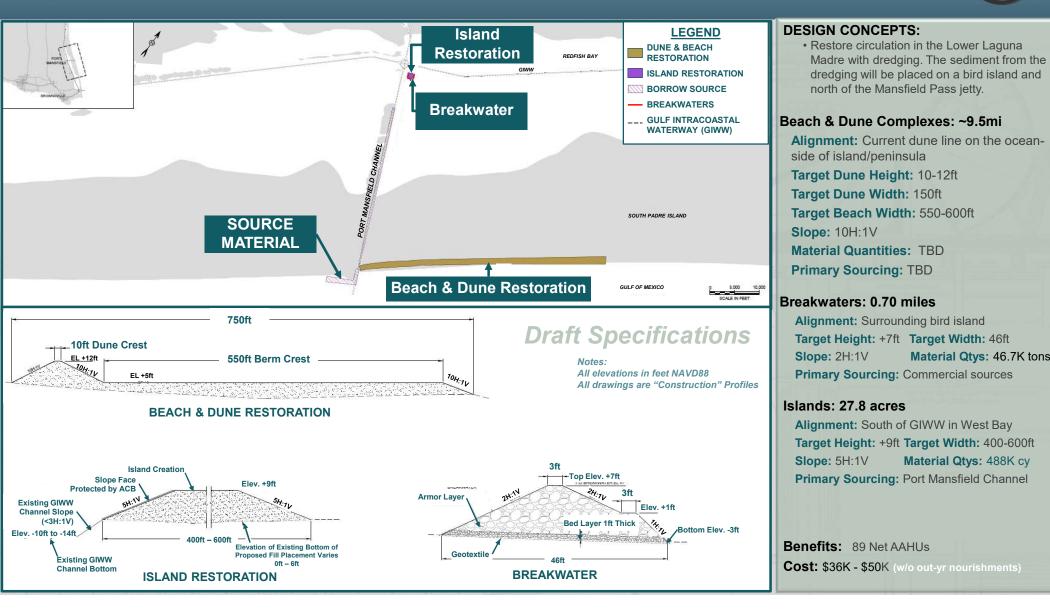




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W3 - PORT MANSFIELD CHANNEL AND ISLAND ROOKERY RESTORATION







STUDY UPDATE: HOW DID WE GET HERE?

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ALT B: MODIFIED BARRIER (TX CITY)



ALT C: MID-BAY BARRIER



ALT D1: UPPER BAY (SH 146)



ALT D2: BAY RIM





PROJECT COSTS IS IT WORTH IT?

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The NED/NER Plan must balance:

- ✓ Engineering soundness
- Environmental acceptability
- ✓ Economically justifications
- Unity: Benefits Equal Cost
- Benefits include quantitative, qualitative, monetized & nonmonetized units
- SRM 60% Locally Preferred Plan (LPP) is a plan that is preferred by the non-Federal sponsor over the NED/NER plan, and is sometimes recommended for project authorization instead (with caveats)

LPPs must be evaluated just as the Federal Plan (costs, impacts, benefits)

Projected Costs

40%

ESTIMATED

TOTAL

COST FOR

TSP

\$23B - \$32B

TOTAL	: \$23B - \$32B
South Padre CSRM:	<u>\$71.6-\$83.1M</u>
Ecosys. Restoration	: \$8.9B-11.9B
Coastal Barrier:	\$14.2B-\$19.9B

Recovery Costs for Past Storms:

Hurricane Ike (2008): Hurricane Harvey (2017):

\$38**B** \$125B