

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



