NFWF | Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

TEXAS

Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration

This project will construct 2,660 feet of shoreline to create up to 20 acres of coastal salt-marsh habitat. Additionally, the investment will protect and preserve the adjacent coastal prairie within the 212 acre Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area. Funding for this project will be used to carry out surveying, engineering and construction of the breakwater. The breakwater will create salt marsh habitat critical to colonial waterbirds by promoting accretion of sediment between it and the existing shoreline.

This project will slow the erosion of coastal and near-shore habitats, in particular marshes, at a critical site in East Galveston Bay, Texas. Since 1933, the shoreline of what is now the wildlife management area has retreated between 23 and 196 feet. Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area is designated as a Globally Important Bird Area for the Gulf Coast Prairie Bird Conservation Region. Additional funding for this important project is provided through NFWF's Shell Marine Habitat Program.



The construction of this breakwater structure will protect the Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area as well as creating valuable coastal salt-marsh habitat.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

AWARD AMOUNT: *\$1,045,000

LEVERAGE AMOUNT: \$310,000

PARTNERS: Ducks Unlimited

LOCATION: East Galveston Bay

AWARD DATE: November 2015

STATUS: Active

PROGRESS UPDATE:

Project is moving forward with permitting for cultural clearance, lease applications, and a coastal boardary survey. TPWD is developing a monitoring plan with DU and reviewing proposals from potential surveyors to complete the Coastal Boundary Survey.

*Project amended November 2018 to add \$800,000 for higher than anticipated construction costs due to a more substantial final design.

The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF), administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, supports projects to remedy harm and eliminate or reduce the risk of harm to Gulf Coast natural resources affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. To learn more about GEBF and view a comprehensive project map go to www.nfwf.org/Gulf