TEXAS

Cow Trap Lake Bird Nesting Island Improvements

This project will enhance and complete two critical colonial waterbird and coastal seabird nesting islands within the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge. These two islands, recently constructed by Ducks Unlimited, support several coastal bird species including priority conservation species like the Reddish egret, Black skimmer, and the Gull-billed tern. Funding for this project will allow Ducks Unlimited to make improvements on the islands by placing 6 inch layers of crushed shell, oyster, limestone, or other similar materials on the island crowns, providing suitable nesting material and reducing the growth of undesirable vegetation. Monitoring of success will commence following placement of the material.

This project will bolster populations of Gulf Coast birds by protecting and restoring critical nesting habitat within the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge. San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge consists of more than 24,000 acres of coastal prairies and salt marshes in southern Matagorda and Brazoria counties. The Refuge offers habitat to more than 400 species of wildlife, including some 250 bird species.



This project will enhance two bird nesting islands that support species such as the Reddish egret (left) and Black skimmer (right) pictured above.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:

Ducks Unlimited

AWARD AMOUNT:

*\$626,400

PARTNERS:

USFWS

LOCATION:

Bernard National Wildlife Refuge

AWARD DATE:

November 2015

STATUS:

Active

PROGRESS UPDATE:

All project tasks are complete save finalizing the bird monitoring report for 2019. Project is preparing for closure.

*Project was amended in November 2017 to add \$186,000 to enhance habitat and signage following damage from Hurricane Harvey

