## NFWF | Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

## TEXAS Swan Lake Marsh Restoration

This project will restore nearly 80 acres of coastal marsh within Swan Lake, an embayment within the Galveston Bay system near Texas City. Historically, Swan Lake provided critical habitat and shoreline protection from open water conditions of Galveston Bay. Restoration of the marsh complex within Swan Lake will provide an important aquatic nursery and wildlife habitat, protecting hundreds of acres of adjacent coastal marsh and prairie habitat for fishes, crabs, shrimp, and coastal birds. Coastal marsh restoration will be completed through using dredged material to increase intertidal elevation. Additionally, the project will help increase resilience by decreasing wave energy and abating impacts from storms.

This project is a part of a larger restoration effort within Swan lake to restore marsh habitat lost from erosion and industrialization, which includes National Resource

Damage Assessment (NRDA) funding. Project implementation contributes towards the high priority goal of wetland restoration, creation, and protection, as identified in the Galveston Bay National Estuary Program's Comprehensive **Conservation and Management Plan** for the Galveston Bay Ecosystem. This project is complimentary to similar shoreline protection and restoration projects at Dollar Bay/Moses Lake and Virginia Point also located along the western shore of Galveston Bay. Working in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Shell Oil, this project was also awarded \$3 million through the National Coastal Resilience 2019 grant slate.



Funds from GEBF will restore coastal marsh within Swan Lake, such as the restored marsh habitat on the north east side of Swan Lake pictured above.



## **AT A GLANCE**

**RECIPIENT:** Texas General Land Office

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$5,000,000

LOCATION: Galveston County

AWARD DATE: November 2019

**STATUS:** Active