



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

TEXAS

Virginia Point Shoreline Protection and Estuarine Restoration

This project will protect nearly 10,000 feet of fragile shoreline and restore nearly 25 acres of marsh within the 3,000-acre Scenic Galveston Coastal Preserve, one of the largest privately owned contiguous nature preserves on the upper Texas coast. Virginia Point includes important coastal bay habitat along the northern shore of West Galveston Bay but has been eroding at an estimated rate of 7 to 10 feet per year since the 1960s. The investment will protect this fragile shoreline by installing rock breakwaters to protect the fragmented shoreline, and restoring 25 acres of marsh, including planting of native material and increased accretion of sediment behind the breakwaters.

Overall, the protection of this fragile shoreline will contribute to the larger landscape-scale conservation efforts in West Galveston Bay. The Galveston Bay system has lost over 35,000 acres of intertidal wetlands since the 1950s, all critical habitat and feeding grounds for dozens of species of birds, and estuarine-dependent species including shrimp, red drum, and blue crab.



This Project will protect and restore coastal wetlands, prairies, and other important habitats within the Virginia Point Preserve.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:
Texas General Land Office

AWARD AMOUNT:
\$2,000,000

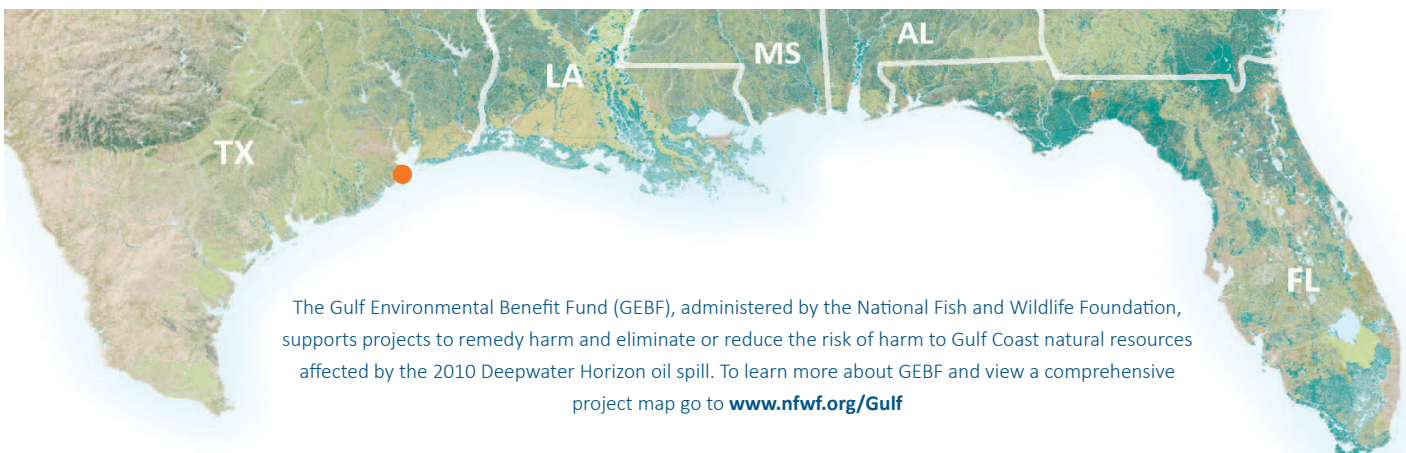
PARTNERS:
Scenic Galveston, Inc., USFWS, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, NOAA

LOCATION:
West Galveston Bay

AWARD DATE:
November 2014

STATUS:
Active

PROGRESS UPDATE:
Project construction, planting, and monitoring are complete. Project is preparing for closure. Project was also awarded the "Best Restored Shoreline" by the American Shoreline and Beach Preservation Association in Sept 2019.



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