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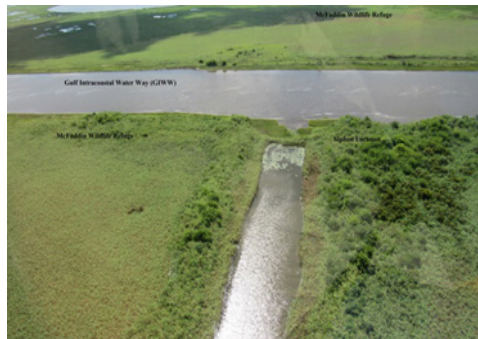
Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

TEXAS

Hydrologic Restoration of the Salt Bayou Watershed

This construction project built two fresh water siphons that restored freshwater flow to over 18,000 acres of wetlands within the Salt Bayou Watershed, the largest contiguous estuarine marsh complex in Texas. The siphons reconnected freshwater flows from north of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway to the fragile coastal wetlands to the south. This fresh water flushes saltwater out of the wetlands and prevents erosion and conversion of marshes to open water.

Overall, this project is a component of the larger Salt Bayou Restoration Plan, an effort to restore and protect the 139,000 acre landscape that includes freshwater to estuarine marsh, coastal prairie grasslands, tidal flats, creeks and basins, and associated fish and wildlife species. The wetland habitats in the Salt Bayou Watershed provide foraging and nesting habitats for numerous species of birds along one of the most important migratory flyways in the world, as well as essential nursery habitat for ecologically, commercially, and recreationally important species of fish and invertebrates.



Siphon construction at locations, such as the above pictured, will reconnect freshwater flows across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:
Jefferson County

AWARD AMOUNT:
\$5,186,400

PARTNERS:
Ducks Unlimited, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Texas General Land Office, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Water Development Board, USACE, USFWS, Lamar University

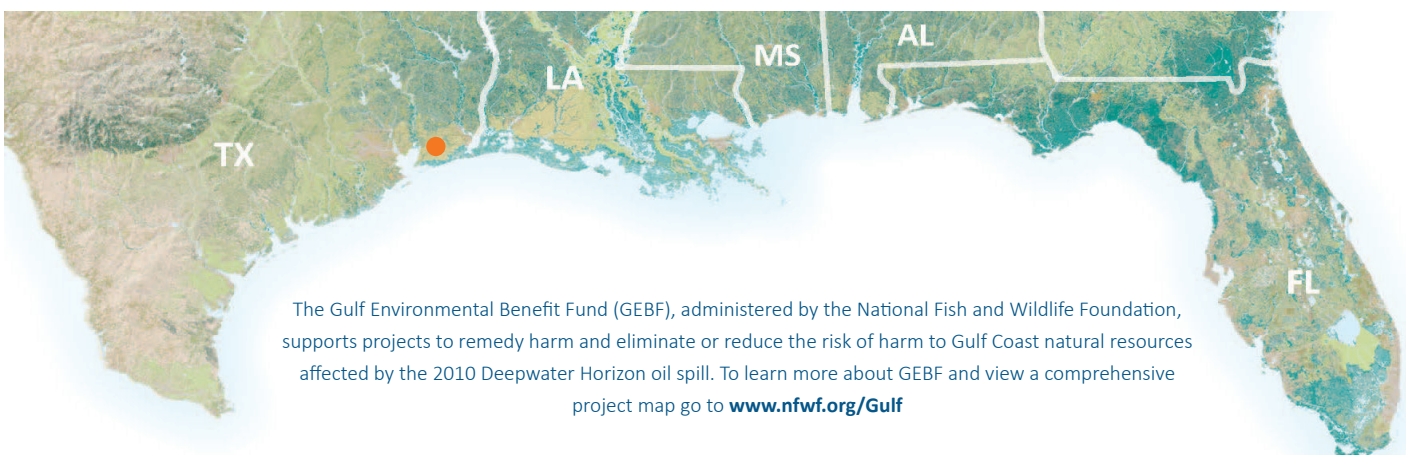
LOCATION:
Jefferson County

AWARD DATE:
November 2016

STATUS:
Closed

PROGRESS UPDATE:
Project closed September 2020.

**Project was amended in August 2019 to add \$436,400 to the project budget*



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