



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

TEXAS

Powderhorn Ranch Land Acquisition

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation acquired the 17,351 acre Powderhorn Ranch in Calhoun County with the assistance of a multi-partner coalition. In addition to the acquisition to the property, the project includes initial habitat restoration and management activities, as well as funding for a long-term stewardship endowment. Once the project has been completed, Powderhorn Ranch is expected to be operated as a state park and wildlife management area with appropriate public access.

Due to Powderhorn Ranch's proximity the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and other conservation lands, this project offers the opportunity to protect and strengthen a unique mosaic of coastal habitats along Texas's mid-coast. The ranch includes more than 11 miles of tidal bay front sheltering substantial nearshore seagrass beds and mollusk reefs, which provide extremely important nursery habitat for shrimp, crabs and finfish. The ranch also includes thousands of acres of emergent wetlands including extensive tidal marshes, bayous, fresh and intermediate potholes, and wet prairie that support waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds. Powderhorn Ranch has been a top priority land acquisition for state, federal and non-profit partners for over twenty years and was recognized as the largest remaining component in a long-term strategy to conserve Texas's coastal ecosystems.



Acquisition and restoration of the 17,351 acre Powderhorn Ranch will significantly strengthen the existing network of Texas mid-coast conservation areas.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation (TPWF)

AWARD AMOUNT:

*\$34,653,800

PARTNERS:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

The Conservation Fund

The Nature Conservancy

LOCATION:

Calhoun County

AWARD DATE:

August 2014

STATUS:

Active

PROGRESS UPDATE:

TPWF acquired Powderhorn Ranch. Property is to be conveyed to TPWD for inclusion in the WMA and State Park in Fall 2021.

**Project was amended November 2018 to add \$160,000 to facilitate the transfer of an estimated 15,000 acres of the ranch to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.*



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