NFWF | Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

TEXAS Falcon Point Ranch Conservation and Wetland Restoration

This project conserved 600 acres and completed the contiguous protection of intermediate and brackish wetlands, wet prairies, and shorelines on San Antonio Bay. In addition to providing protected and enhanced habitat for a variety of shorebirds and waterfowl, these areas are prime nesting grounds for the endangered whooping crane. The critical timing of this investment has helped to head off the negative impacts of planned development that would have imperiled this essential coastal habitat.

This project preserved important coastal and near-shore habitats along the highly productive shores of San Antonio Bay. The Texas mid-coast area supports a diversity and abundance of birds, in particular shorebirds. Its beauty and bounty brings continual threats of development, and therefore this property has been a protection priority for conservation organizations for some time. In conjunction with this project, NRCS is restoring hydrology to important freshwater wetlands on an adjacent 11,000 acre private ranch to enhance migratory bird habitat. Overall, this investment complemented existing conservation efforts within the nearby Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and the newly protected Powderhorn Ranch.



The project conserved habitat for many shorebirds and migratory birds that use the project area to nest, especially the above pictured whooping crane.

AT A GLANCE

RECIPIENT: The Nature Conservancy

AWARD AMOUNT: \$2,905,156

LEVERAGE AMOUNT: \$75,000

PARTNERS: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Texas General Land Office

USDA Nature Resources Conservation Service

LOCATION: Calhoun County

AWARD DATE: November 2015

STATUS: Closed

PROGRESS UPDATE: Project closed November 2017.

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**