

Habitat Engineering and Design Restoration Projects

TEXAS RESTORATION AREA

Bird Island Cove Habitat Restoration Engineering

The Bird Island Cove Habitat Restoration project conducts E&D necessary to restore and conserve wetlands and coastal habitats in Galveston Bay. This phase of the project will investigate ongoing issues associated with habitat degradation and develop strategies to protect and restore existing estuarine habitats with the goal of increasing the productivity and longevity of up to 170 acres of estuarine marsh complex (marsh, sand flat, and protected shallow water). The estimated cost for the project is \$206,000.

Essex Bayou Habitat Restoration Engineering

The Essex Bayou Habitat Restoration Engineering project includes the E&D necessary to restore and conserve coastal and nearshore habitats. The E&D is necessary to understand the factors that contribute to high salinities within Essex Bayou and the Slop Bowl Marsh system and to develop solutions that will create a more stable estuarine system. Subsequent phases to be funded at a later time would implement restoration actions, such as improving tidal flow, closing man-made channels, enhancing watershed inflows, and/or planting marsh vegetation to increase the stability and diversity of estuarine habitats. The estimated cost for this project is \$372,000.

Dredged Material Planning for Wetland Restoration

The Dredged Material Planning for Wetland Restoration project identifies priority locations, develops up to 60% design work, and prepares permit application packages for the beneficial use of dredge material (BUDM) for marsh restoration at eight sites along the Texas coast. This project will coordinate efforts to prioritize sites and produce guidelines to restore currently degrading intertidal habitats. The

estimated cost for the project is \$1,964,000. Implementation of the BUDM to construct intertidal wetlands will take place in subsequent phases of the project.

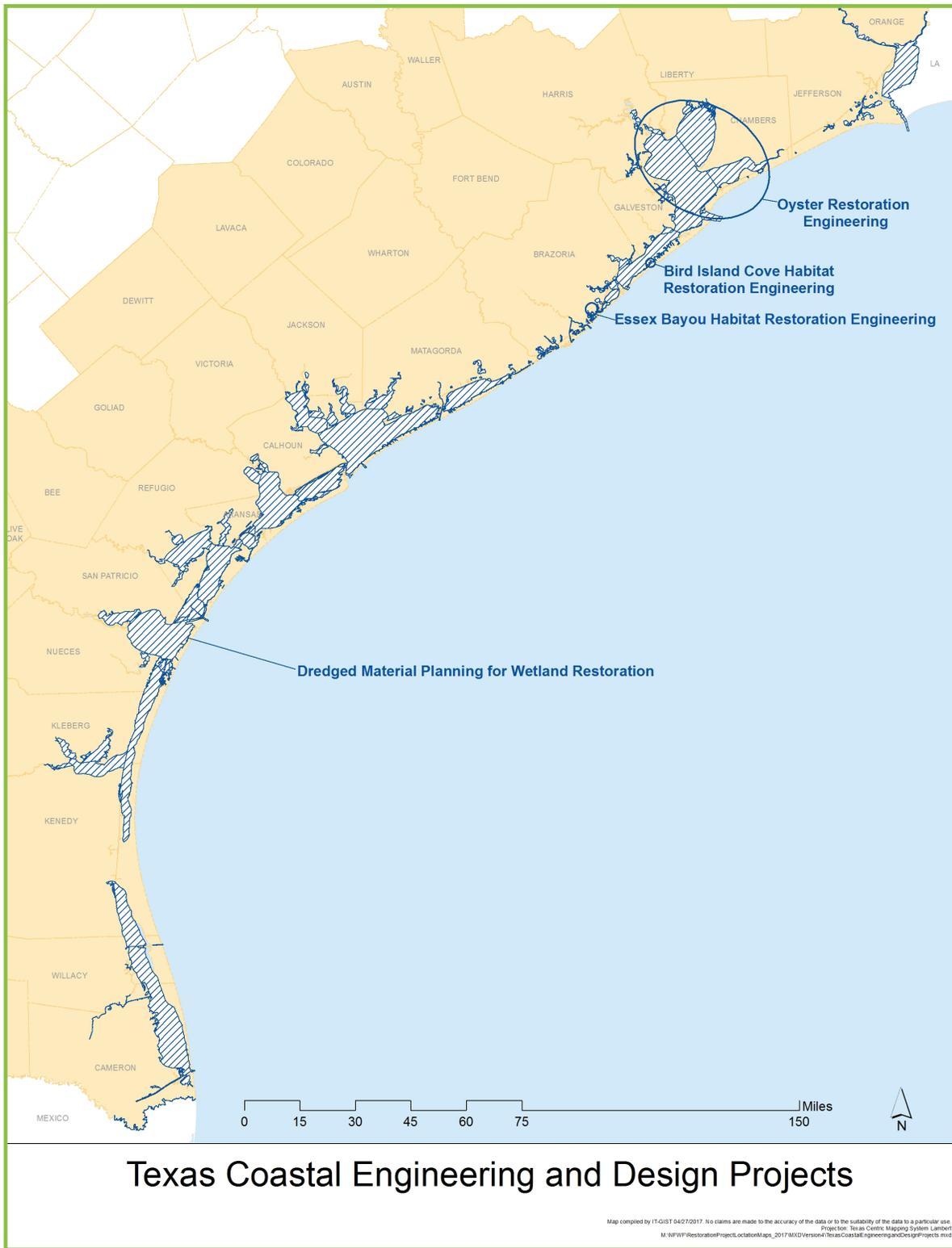
Oyster Restoration Engineering

The Oyster Restoration Engineering project consists of an initial alternative analysis to identify the best management practices for rehabilitating oyster reefs buried by sediment and for constructing intertidal oyster reefs within the Galveston Bay System. Results of this analysis will be used to develop location-specific engineering, design, and environmental permitting documents for one or more oyster restoration projects that could be readily implemented. The estimated cost for the project is \$309,000.



Biologists conduct a field survey.





For more information on these projects or any others, you can access the full Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Texas Trustee Implementation Group 2017 Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment: Restoration of Wetlands, Coastal and Nearshore Habitats; and Oysters online at www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/texas



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