

Office of Communications • Mark Dallas Loeffler, Director 1700 N. Congress Ave. • Austin, TX 78701-1495 • 512-463-5339 • Fax: 512-475-1415

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Contact: Jim Suydam (512) 463-5339 (512) 417-5382 cell

Biggest coastal protection effort in Texas history begins

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson to announce \$25 million post-Ike coastal recovery

AUSTIN — Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson is set to announce details of the biggest coastal protection effort in Texas history at 10 a.m. Monday at the end of the Galveston Seawall, one year after the recovery efforts from Hurricane Ike began.

Patterson will present details of a \$25 million plan to engineer the Texas coast with a mix of state and federal money over the next two years. Work on the projects — from South Padre Island to McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge — will begin immediately.

"This \$25 million won't just help recover from Hurricane Ike, but will help us protect the coast from the next big storm," Patterson said. "The Texas coast has needed a Texas-size care-package like this for a long time."

Patterson will make the announcement standing at the end of the Galveston Seawall, which the Texas General Land Office recently protected with a wide beach renourishment project after Hurricane Ike undermined Galveston's only protection against deadly storm surges. "Last year, we brought the beach back to Galveston and the results were spectacular," Patterson said. "But this year, we'll embark on our biggest effort yet."

Patterson said his \$25 million effort to begin engineering the coast is funded with a blend of state and federal money.

WHO: Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office

WHAT: Details of a \$25 million coastal protection plan

WHEN: 10 a.m. Monday, September 14

WHERE: At the end of the Galveston Seawall, 10100 Seawall Blvd.,

Galveston

DIRECTIONS: Drive west on Seawall Boulevard (aka FM 3005) past the destroyed 89th Street pier about 8-10 blocks, then turn left at cross-over. FM 3005 continues down the hill and out west. After stopping at stop sign proceed across FM 3005 to the end of the road. Parking lot is the western terminus of Seawall Boulevard.

WHY: To reveal details of the biggest coastal protection effort in Texas.