

NAME: McAllis Point Estuarine Habitat Restoration

LOCATION: City of Galveston/Galveston County/Texas

ACRES: 75 acres

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR:

Texas General Land Office

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project will restore approximately 75 acres of intertidal marsh complex in West Bay along the north shore of West Galveston Island. Estuarine habitat to be restored includes salt marsh, soft bottom/sand flat, uplands, and shallow open water. The restoration work will be accomplished by dredging sediment from a nearby borrow area to artificially raise the elevation of the 60 acre area. Following bulking, the area will be planted with smooth cordgrass to ensure stability and long-term success.

EXPECTED BENEFITS:

This project is part of a larger effort to restore over 1000 acres of estuarine habitat along West Galveston Island. The project design includes diverse elevations typical of habitats within the natural elevation gradient, including sand flats and high marsh supratidal habitat. The inclusion of high marsh will allow for the upward migration of the intertidal marsh as sea level rises. The resulting marshes, seagrass beds, tidal flats, and shallow open water areas will provide outstanding recreational opportunities for fisherman and ecotourists and help to sustain the commercial fishing industry in Galveston Bay.

STATUS: Post-construction Monitoring