

Deepwater Horizon Restoration in the Bahia Grande, Texas-Leveraging and Partnering to Implement Ecosystem Restoration

Jamie Schubert NOAA Restoration Center

Deepwater Horizon Background





DWH Settlement and Funding Structure



Bahia Grande Hydrologic Restoration







- RESTORE funded E&D and partial implementation
- Ducks Unlimited to conduct engineering, design and permitting
- USFWS personnel from the LANWR and Coastal Program assisted with black rail monitoring







Project Design Features

- 1) Box Culverts
- 2) Conveyance Channel

3) Weir







Interbasin Hydrologic Connectivity-Paso Corvinas

• The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund provided funds to USFWS to restore hydrology to the Paso Corvinas wetlands





Habitat Conservation



Habitat Conservation

- DWH related funding has been used to conserve numerous land tracts
- Focus is on creating a corridor between the Laguna Atascosa Unit and Bahia Grande Unit
- This will provide connectivity for target species and buffers the estuarine habitats from development





Habitat Conservation-Bahia Grande Corridor Acquisition Project

- Funding provided by the DWH NRDA Texas TIG, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, Peregrine Fund and the Meadows Foundation
- Acquisition facilitated by The Nature Conservancy





Habitat Conservation-Bahia Grande Corridor Acquisition Project



Preserved 670 acres of marine, estuarine and freshwater aquatic habitats

Preserved 766 acre of upland habitats including Tamaulipan Thorn-scrub and salty prairie





Habitat Conservation-Laguna Atascosa Habitat Acquisition



- Funded by DWH NRDA Texas TIG and the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund
- Acquisition was facilitated by the Conservation Fund



Habitat Conservation-Laguna Atascosa Habitat Acquisition



 Habitats conserved include over 2550 acres of wind tidal flats and 462 acres of Gulf beach and dunes



Bird Rookery Restoration and Protection



Bird Rookery Restoration and Protection-Bahia Grande Bird Islands



- 17 acre of bird rookery protected from erosion
- Funded by the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund and Implemented by the USFWS



Bird Rookery Restoration and Laguna Vista Bird Island Habitat Protection Project

- Construction and final designed funded by the Deepwater Horizon NRDA Texas TIG
- Initial design funded by the TGLO and USFWS
- TGLO is constructing rookery protection features
- USFWS is providing input into project design
- Island is managed by the Corpus Christi Bend Bays and Estuaries Program















RCH 3















