



NFWF

# Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

**RECIPIENTS**

The Conservation Fund

**AWARD AMOUNT**

\$4,000,000

**LEVERAGE AMOUNT**

\$1,525,000

**PARTNERS**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

**LOCATION**

Cameron County

**AWARD DATE**

November 2015

**PROGRESS UPDATE**

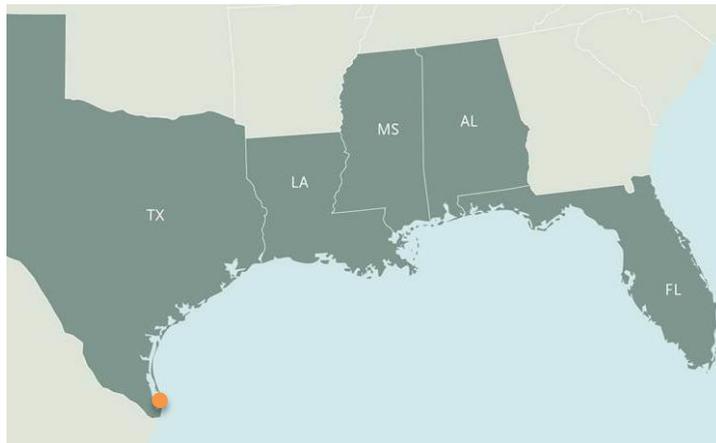
The Conservation Fund now owns the target tract and surveying is complete. Closing will occur after the United States Fish and Wildlife Service finalizes closing documents to transfer the property to the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge. (August 2016)

**TEXAS**

## Bahia Grande Conservation Corridor – Boswell-Jenkins Tract Acquisition

This project will acquire and restore a critical 1,780 acre parcel containing coastal prairie, freshwater wetlands, bayfront and tidal saltmarsh habitat along Laguna Madre, one of seven hypersaline lagoons in the world. The diverse habitats on the Boswell-Jenkins tract support numerous shorebird, waterfowl and waterbird species. Once acquired, the property will be conveyed to the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge to be managed and restored by the USFWS.

This project is a part of a larger and continuing effort to conserve and restore essential coastal and near-shore habitats in the lower coast of South Texas within the proposed Bahia Grande Coastal Conservation Corridor (BGCC). The acquisition of the Boswell-Jenkins tract will provide an essential link within the BGCC, a 7,000-acre corridor that will connect the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), the Bahia Grande Unit of the NWR, units of the Lower Rio Grande NWR, and Boca Chica State Park, resulting in a contiguous 105,000-acre conservation landscape. This conservation landscape, in turn, is linked to more than 3 million acres of large ranches in south Texas and conservation lands in Mexico in the globally-significant Laguna Madre region of the South Texas and Northern Mexico Gulf Coast. Additional parcels within the BGCC are proposed to be protected through RESTORE and other funding sources.



This 1,780 acre acquisition will protect critical coastal habitat and link key parcels within the Bahia Grande Conservation Corridor.

The Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), 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 NFWF, go to [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org).