



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

RECIPIENTS

Colorado River Land Trust

AWARD AMOUNT

\$1,000,000

PARTNERS

Lower Colorado River Authority

LOCATION

East Matagorda Peninsula, Matagorda County, Texas

AWARD DATE

November 2016

TEXAS

Matagorda Wetlands Acquisition and Conservation

This project will acquire and permanently conserve over 600 acres of coastal wetland habitat on the East Matagorda Peninsula near the mouth of the Colorado River, along East Matagorda Bay, Texas. The Colorado River Land Trust will provide permanent protection of the property, which is immediately adjacent to an existing nature park managed by the land trust.

The Matagorda Bay system comprised of Matagorda Bay and East Matagorda Bay, make up a high-priority coastal area for conservation in Texas. Conservation of the project area is important due to immediate threats in the vicinity including development of land for vacation homes that historically have often included bulkheads, substandard utilities, and other potential threats to natural resources. The property includes dunes, coastal prairie, tidal flats, and extensive fringing tidal marshes lining the edge of the bay. These are extremely diverse and productive habitats, and include most of the habitat types and species that were harmed by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.



The target parcel contains a variety of important habitat such as coastal prairie (above right) and tidal marshes (above left).

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.