



NFWF

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund

RECIPIENT

Texas General Land Office

AMOUNT

\$2,000,000

LEVERAGE

\$1,800,000

PARTNERS

SCENIC GALVESTON, Inc.

USFWS

Texas Parks & Wildlife
Department

Texas Commission on
Environmental Quality

NOAA

LOCATION

West Galveston Bay, Texas

AWARD DATE

November 2014

STATUS

Active

PROGRESS UPDATE

Construction of breakwater was completed in 2017. The final Year 2 Monitoring Report was submitted to the GLO, following monitoring to analyze post-construction recovery. (January 2019)

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.

TEXAS

Virginia Point Shoreline Protection and Estuarine Restoration

This project will protect nearly 10,000 feet of fragile shoreline and restore nearly 25 acres of marsh within the 3,000-acre Scenic Galveston Coastal Preserve, one of the largest privately owned contiguous nature preserves on the upper Texas coast. Virginia Point, important coastal bay habitat along the northern shore of West Galveston Bay, has been eroding at an estimated rate of 7 to 10 feet per year since the 1960s. The investment will protect this fragile shoreline by installing rock breakwaters to protect the fragmented shoreline, and restoring 25 acres of marsh, including planting of native material and increased accretion of sediment behind the breakwaters.

Overall, the protection of this fragile shoreline will contribute to the larger landscape-scale conservation efforts in West Galveston Bay. The Galveston Bay system has lost over 35,000 acres of intertidal wetlands since the 1950s, all critical habitat and feeding grounds for dozens of species of birds, and estuarine-dependent species including shrimp, red drum, and blue crab.



This Project will protect and restore coastal wetlands, prairies, and other important habitats within the Virginia Point Preserve.