



Gulf Coast
Ecosystem
Restoration
Council

Laguna Madre Watershed

Bahia Grande System Restoration
(DOC_RESTORE_001_001_Cat1/Cat2)



Project Name: Bahia Grande Wetland System Restoration

Costs: Category 1: \$404,318 | Category 2: \$968,863

Responsible Council Member: Department of Commerce/National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Partnering Council Members: Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Project Details: The Bahia Grande Wetland System Restoration project is part of the Connecting Coastal Waters (CCW) initiative NOAA would lead with partners to implement projects that restore the extent, functionality, and resiliency of Gulf Coast wetlands, and provide a science-based inventory of wetland hydrology restoration projects. Bahia Grande is a large coastal wetland ecosystem that has been greatly affected by hydrological modifications such as channelization, ditching, and road construction.

Activities: The proposed project includes activities in two FPL categories. Category 1 activities would complete planning and design with local partners to restore a natural hydrology to 600 acres of wetlands within the Bahia Grande ecosystem. This would include developing a restoration plan, engineering design, regulatory compliance, monitoring and evaluation plan, and outreach and education plan to implement a project to restore freshwater flows to La Laguna Larga in the upper Bahia Grande wetland system.

Category 2 activities are proposed for potential future funding, and if approved would implement restoration activities with partners to restore freshwater flows to 600 acres of wetlands.

Category 2 activities, if implemented, would be accomplished by re-routing freshwater flow north of Highway 100 into the Bahia Grande wetland system. NOAA would also work with partners to conduct monitoring of restoration outcomes, outreach and educational activities to share restoration practices and engage stakeholders.

Environmental Benefits: Category 2 activities, if they were implemented, would bring back natural wetland hydrology by restoring the flow of freshwater from north of Highway 100 to La Laguna Larga and moderating salinity levels to 600 acres of this section of the Bahia Grande wetland system.

Duration: Planning activities are expected to take approximately two years to complete. If Category 2 activities are implemented, restoration activities are expected to take three years to complete.

More information on these activities can be found in Appendix A. Laguna Madre; Unique Identifiers: DOC_RESTORE_001_001_Cat1 and DOC_RESTORE_001_001_Cat2.



**Gulf Coast
Ecosystem
Restoration
Council**

Laguna Madre Watershed

**Bahia Grande Wetland
System Restoration**

 Wetland Restoration

Costs: Category 1: \$404,318 | Category 2: \$969,863
Sponsor: Department of Commerce
Project Status: Planning/Implementation
Purpose: **Planning** - This project would complete planning and design with local partners to restore the flow of freshwater to La Laguna Larga and moderate salinity levels to 600 acres of the Bahia Grande wetland system. **Implementation** - If funded in the future, this project would restore freshwater flows to 600 acres of wetlands by re-routing freshwater flow into the Bahia Grande wetland system, conduct monitoring of restoration outcomes, and conduct outreach and educational activities to share restoration practices.



Map Date: August 08, 2015