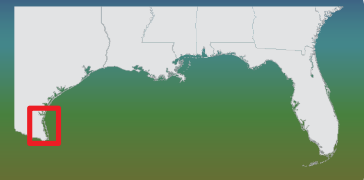




Gulf Coast  
Ecosystem  
Restoration  
Council

## Laguna Madre Watershed

Abandoned Oil Well Plugging and Reclamation  
(DOI\_RESTORE\_003\_049-051\_Cat1)



**Project Name:** Plug Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells – Implementation

**Cost:** Category 1: \$1,317,567

**Responsible Council Member:** Department of the Interior

**Partnering Council Member:** State of Texas

**Project Details:** Unplugged abandoned oil and gas wells pose numerous risks to human safety and the environment. These risks increase with time due to continued deterioration, as does the cost to address them.

The National Park Service, working with the State of Texas, proposes to plug and reclaim 11 abandoned oil and gas wells located in Padre Island National Seashore. These wells have the following identifiers: Tract 980S #1, Tract 1008S #1, Dunn McCampbell A-4, Dunn McCampbell 11-4, Dunn McCampbell A-8, State Tract 991-S #1, Dunn-Peach #1, Dunn-Peach #4ST, Dunn-Peach #5, Dunn-Peach #6, and Plug Dunn-Peach #7C/7T.

The 11 abandoned wells would be plugged in accordance with standards established by the Railroad Commission of Texas.

**Activities:** Plugging operations would include removing the tubing, packer, and other completion equipment; pumping cement across producing zones; and placing cement plugs at various depths to protect freshwater zones. Finally, a cement plug would be set at the surface to cap the well, and wellhead equipment would be cut off. A permanent abandonment marker would be placed to identify the well's location, when appropriate.

**Environmental Benefits:** Removal of these abandoned oil and gas wells could help eliminate the potential for more contamination, and would result in:

- Protection of water quality in the adjacent waterways;
- Improved habitat for dependent wildlife including endangered and migratory species; and
- Improved visitor safety.

**Duration:** Well plugging would be completed within a year from the time funds are received, and would be considered a permanent fix for potential contamination.

**More information on this activity can be found in Appendix A. Laguna Madre; Unique Identifier:** DOI\_RESTORE\_003\_049-051\_Cat1.



## Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

### Laguna Madre Watershed

#### Plug Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells

 Plug Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells

**Cost Category 1:** \$1,317,567

**Sponsor:** Department of Interior

**Project Status:** Implementation

**Purpose:** The Railroad Commission of Texas and the National Park Service would plug 11 abandoned wells located at Padre Island National Seashore. While proper plugging of wells and reclamation of well sites involve relatively small land areas, they represent significant sources of petroleum pollution that can impact groundwater, springs and seeps, and surface water.



Map Date: August 08, 2015

Gulf of Mexico

Padre Island

Baffin Bay