Project Name: Texas Beneficial Use and Marsh Restoration - Planning
Cost: Category 1: $968,000

Responsible Council Member: State of Texas

Project Details: The State of Texas proposes the Beneficial Use of Dredged Material (BUDM) Project. Design Phase I would provide funding for advance planning for three proposed BUDM projects: Marsh Restoration in the Nelda Stark Unit of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Lower Neches Wildlife Management Area (WMA) within the Sabine Lake-Neches River Watershed; Marsh Restoration in the Salt Bayou Unit of the J.D. Murphree WMA in the Salt Bayou Watershed; and Marsh Restoration in Pierce Marsh on West Bay in the Galveston Bay Estuary.

Activities: The project sites would be located in Orange, Jefferson and Galveston counties and would facilitate the beneficial use of dredge materials through careful site selection, preparation of engineering and design plans, environmental compliance and permitting.

In addition, the project would involve coordination with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and private dredging operations, where necessary, to identify potential source materials and timelines for placement of dredge materials.

Environmental Benefits: The successful completion of this design project would add many additional acres of BUDM marsh from dredge projects that may have been too small in scope to afford the engineering and design costs. The project would take advantage of the economies of scale and enable building more marsh.

Duration: The design and permitting activity would be completed within 12-24 months.

More information on this activity can be found in Appendix C. Galveston Bay; Unique Identifier: TX_RESTORE_004_001-003_Cat1.