

Brooke T. Paup, *Chairwoman*
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Tonya R. Miller, *Commissioner*
Kelly Keel, *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

December 11, 2025

Laura Van Voorhees, Program Director
Office of Gulf Coast Restoration
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Ms. Voorhees:

The State of Texas welcomed the opportunity to submit and obtain approval of its initial Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) by the U.S. Department of the Treasury in 2017. Since that time, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), through the flexibility provided in the approved MIP, has been able to award projects that are the most vital at the time, can be quickly initiated, and reflect the current priorities of the state.

The attached amendment to the initial MIP advances the goals of the federal RESTORE Act and represents an additional investment in a project that has significant support. Through MIP Amendment -01, TCEQ proposes to add one activity — the Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project (Bessie Heights Project) — to its MIP. The attached amendment and additional documentation were developed in accordance with statutory and regulatory requirements governing the RESTORE program established by the federal RESTORE Act.

The Bessie Heights Project in Orange County was one of several projects selected under Bucket 2 Funding Priorities List 3b (FPL3b) Water Quality and Quantity Program. However, it was recently deemed ineligible because it did not include an ecosystem restoration component. Due to the overwhelming federal, state, and local support, TCEQ proposes to fund the project through Direct Component funding. The project is in the coastal zone and is eligible under the coastal flood protection criteria.

This amendment was put forth to the public through a transparent process and is in full compliance with applicable federal and state laws. Adding the Bessie Heights Project to the state's MIP will continue to fulfill the identified needs of the Texas coastal region and further the goals of the RESTORE program. TCEQ welcomes the opportunity to address questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Schar".

Steven Schar
Deputy Executive Director

Enclosure

RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Plan Matrix — Department of the Treasury											OMB Approval No. 1505-0250
Applicant Name:		Steven Schar, Deputy Executive Director, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality									
1. MULTIYEAR PLAN VERSION (INITIAL OR AMENDMENT NUMBER):			-01			2a. DATE OF INITIAL MULTIYEAR PLAN ACCEPTANCE (mm/dd/yyyy):			12/18/2017		2b. DATE OF LAST MULTIYEAR PLAN ACCEPTANCE:
3. CUMULATIVE DIRECT COMPONENT ALLOCATION AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION TO APPLICANT:			\$245,417,672.70			4. TOTAL ALLOCATIONS PLUS KNOWN FUNDS NOT YET DEPOSITED IN TRUST FUND FOR DIRECT COMPONENT:			\$111,665,137.07		
5. Primary Direct Component Eligible Activity Further Described in Application	6. Activity Title (Static Field)	7. Location (Static Field)	8. Estimated Total Funding Contributions For Proposed Activity(ies)(refer to Instructions)						9. Proposed Start Date mm/dd/yyyy	10. Proposed End Date mm/dd/yyyy	11. Status (refer to Instructions)
8a. Direct Component Contribution	8b. Other RESTORE Act Contribution	8c. Other Third Party Contribution	8d. Total Contribution								
Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region	1. Lower San Bernard River Eco System 2. Shamrock Island Restoration 3. Salt Bayou Watershed 4. Galveston Beneficial Dredge	1. Brazoria County 2. Nueces County 3. Jefferson County 4. Galveston County	\$31,712,166.07	\$0.00	\$93,099,450.89		\$124,811,616.96		5/1/2019	2/28/2029	1. Closed, 4/20/2023 2. POP ends 10/31/2025 3. POP ends 10/31/2025 4. POP ends 4/30/2026; plan for Contract Amd to extend to 8/31/2028
Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources	1. Texas Reef Initiative 2. Lavaca River Abandoned Oil Wells - WITHDRAWN 3. Port Lavaca Shoreline Clean-Up and Sediment 4. Removal of Unauthorized Oil and Gas Well Stubs and Associated Material - WITHDRAWN	1. Calhoun and Jefferson Counties 2. n/a 3. Calhoun County 4. n/a	\$4,076,320.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$4,076,320.00		9/30/2022	9/29/2026	1. In progress, POP ends 3/31/2026 2. WITHDRAWN 3. In progress, POP ends 3/31/2026 4. WITHDRAWN
Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region	1. Protecting and Restoring: Shrimp Fishery Recovery and Improvement Program - WITHDRAWN 2. Gulf Shrimp Consumption, Tourism and Marketing Proposal	1. n/a 2. Coastwide	\$2,564,140.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$2,564,140.00		7/1/2022	6/30/2026	1. WITHDRAWN 2. In progress, POP ends 12/31/2025
Planning assistance	1. Texas Master Plan for Beneficial Use of Dredged Material	1. Coastwide	\$2,372,845.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$2,372,845.00		2/1/2022	1/1/2027	1. In progress, POP ends 6/30/2026
Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including recreational fishing	1. Sea Turtle Education Complex 2. E.K. Atwood Park Pavilion Improvements 3. Padre Balli and Magee Beach Parks 4. Upper Coast Tourism Marketing & Mobile Wayfinding - WITHDRAWN 5. Quintana Beach Public Fishing Pier 6. Laguna Madre Boat Ramp & Education, Conservation and Tourism 7. Bolivar Peninsula Nature Trail 8. East End Lagoon Phase I-A	1. Cameron County 2. Cameron County 3. Nueces County 4. n/a 5. Brazoria County 6. Cameron County 7. Galveston County 8. Galveston County	\$23,690,667.00	\$0.00	\$8,206,929.00		\$31,897,596.00		5/1/2020	4/30/2027	1. In progress, POP ends 12/31/2025 2. In progress, POP ends 1/31/2027 3. In progress, POP ends 1/31/2027 4. WITHDRAWN 5. In progress, POP ends 10/31/2026 6. In progress, POP ends 7/31/2026 7. In progress, POP ends 1/31/2027 8. In progress, POP ends 11/30/2025; plan for Contract Amd to extend POP to 1/31/2027

Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure	1. Town Resaca 2. Raymondville Drain Project - Phase 2 Restoration and Flood Control 3. Texas City Hurricane Protection Levee Repair - Phase 1 4. Village of Surfside Beach Groin 5. Bay Shore Drive Erosion, Mitigation and Shoreline Stabilization 6. Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project	1. Cameron County 2. Willacy County 3. Galveston County 4. Brazoria County 5. Aransas County 6. Orange County	\$33,721,495.00	\$0.00	\$5,125,021.00	\$38,846,516.00	7/1/2019	6/30/2026	1. In progress, POP ends 12/31/2025 2. In progress, POP end 12/31/2025 3. In progress, POP ends 12/31/2025; plan for Contract Amd to extend POP to 6/30/2026 4. In progress, POP end 12/31/2025 5. Closed 6/17/2025 6. New activity for MIP Amd -01
Workforce development and job creation	1. Oyster Resource & Recovery 2. Workforce/Economic Development to Enhance Offshore Energy Systems	1. Matagorda County 2. Harris County	\$13,527,504.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,527,504.00	5/1/2020	9/30/2025	1. In progress, POP ends 11/30/2025; plan for Contract Amd to extend POP to 3/31/2027 2. In progress, POP ends 3/31/2027
	12. ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ACTIVITY(IES) (refer to Instructions)		\$111,665,137.07	\$0.00	\$106,431,400.89	\$218,096,537.96	Please note: Grant awards may reflect non-material changes in proposed dates and estimated funding.		

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1505-0250. Comments concerning the time required to complete this information collection, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information, should be directed to the Department of the Treasury, Office of Gulf Coast Restoration, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20220.

RESTORE ACT Direct Component Multiyear Implementation Plan Narrative

Department of the Treasury

OMB Approval
No. 1505-0250

Directions: Use this form for the Initial Multiyear Implementation Plan and any subsequent amendments to an accepted Multiyear Implementation Plan. For amendments, include only new and/or materially modified activities.

Multiyear Implementation Plan Version (Initial or Amendment Number):	Amendment -01
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Eligible Entity Name:	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Name and Contact Information of the Person to be contacted (POC) on matters concerning this Multiyear Implementation Plan:	
POC Name:	Melissa Porter
POC Title:	RESTORE Program Manager
POC Email:	Melissa.Porter@tceq.texas.gov
POC Phone:	512-239-0627

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

1. Please provide the following for EACH proposed activity (i.e. project or program) listed in the matrix:
 - Description of the proposed activity (i.e. project or program);
 - If the activity includes third-party funding, describe the amount and current status of funding (e.g., for another grant, whether the funds have been requested or awarded; if requested, where they are in the approval process) from other sources and provide a description of the specific portion of the project to be funded by the RESTORE Act Direct Component;
 - Need (i.e., What is the problem this activity seeks to address, or the anticipated benefit to the community?),
 - Purpose and objective(s) (i.e., How will the proposed activity address the need? What are the desired outcomes?);
 - Anticipated milestones (i.e. What are key phases and milestones by which the entity will monitor progress towards completion?);
 - Milestones for each activity

-Criteria applicant will use to evaluate the success of each activity (project or program), (i.e., How will the entity determine that the activity achieved its objectives and solved or ameliorated the problem the activity (project or program) sought to address or provided the anticipated benefits? Note that this does not need to be at the level of proposed performance metrics, which will be negotiated with Treasury at the time of application for an award.) Please also provide either a) an individual map of each and every proposed activity listed on the matrix, clearly showing the location of the activity or b) a single map showing all proposed activities listed on the matrix. Note that all proposed activities must be carried out in the Gulf Coast Region, as defined by 31 C.F.R. 34.2 and pursuant to 31 CFR 34.201, except activities designed for the promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast Region, including promotion of recreational fishing; the promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast Region; and planning assistance.

This plan adds one project to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) initial Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) -00, accepted by Treasury in December 2017, and TCEQ's award RDCGR480090 | FY19 RESTORE Flood Protection (Bucket 1), which began July 1, 2019. Activities include, but are not limited to, TCEQ's program oversight and management, development, coordination, and entering of a grant award amendment between TCEQ and Treasury; and subrecipient's scope of work activities through a subaward between TCEQ and subrecipient.

Please see "Narrative Details" for the remainder of the information on the new project, including criteria for success identified as "Performance Measures," and updates on FY19 RESTORE Flood Protection (Bucket 1) activities since TCEQ's initial MIP -00.

2. Please summarize the process for developing the draft multiyear implementation plan, including how projects were initially evaluated and prioritized, and how the entity made the draft multiyear implementation plan available for a minimum of 45 days for public review and comment, in a manner calculated to obtain broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, Indian tribes, and non-profit organizations, such as through public meetings, presentations in languages other than English, and postings on the Internet.

Attach:

- Documentation (e.g., a copy of public notices) to demonstrate that the entity made its multiyear implementation plan available to the public for at least 45 days;
- A copy of all meaningful public comments received (OGCR defines "meaningful" as all comments pertaining to the selection of each activity (projects and programs) or the approach to or design of any proposed activities (projects and program));
- Any responses provided to meaningful public comments;
- A list of changes made as a result of meaningful public comments. If critical comments were received but no changes were made, the entity should explain why incorporating these comments is infeasible or not in keeping with the public interest; and
- A letter from the applicant's leadership approving submission of the multiyear implementation plan to Treasury or a resolution approving the applicant's multiyear implementation plan.

TCEQ followed the multiyear implementation plan process, posting a draft of the MIP Amendment -01 for public review. Meaningful input from the public, including broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations, was solicited.

Please see "Narrative Details" for a summary of TCEQ's public notice process and results; and a letter from leadership approving the MIP.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):
RESTORE Program**

**Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP)
Amendment -01
Application: Narrative Details**

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MIP Amendment -01: Narrative Details

Updates since Initial MIP -00

FY19 RESTORE Flood Protection (Bucket 1) | Award # RDCGR480090

TCEQ's initial Award for FY19 RESTORE Flood Protection (Bucket 1) started with a period of performance from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2024. The initial Award had a total budget of Direct Component RESTORE funds \$27,108,813.00, with no Third-party funds.

Award Amendment -01 was a no-cost amendment approving the transfer of subrecipient responsibilities from the Village of Surfside to the State of Texas General Land Office (TXGLO) for the Village of Surfside Beach Groin subrecipient project. All other aspects of the original scope of work remained the same.

Award Amendment -02 had no change in the period of performance; it provided additional funds to TCEQ for grant oversight and management. Total budget of Direct Component RESTORE funds \$27,353,506.00, and no Third-party funds.

Award Amendment -03 extended the period of performance to June 30, 2026, and provided additional funds to TCEQ for grant oversight and management, additional contractual funds to the Town Resaca subrecipient project, and additional Third-party funds to the Texas City subrecipient project. As a result of this amendment, a total budget of Direct Component RESTORE funds was \$29,609,046.00, and Third-party funds were \$1,396,979.00.

Award Amendment -04 had no change in the period of performance, minor adjustment of funds to TCEQ for grant oversight and management, and additional contractual funds to the Raymondville Drain subrecipient project. After this amendment, a total budget of Direct Component RESTORE funds was \$34,201,522.00, and there was no change to Third-party funds.

Current Subrecipient Projects

Bay Shore Drive Erosion Mitigation and Shoreline Stabilization

This activity's period of performance was extended to December 31, 2025. Direct Component RESTORE funds remain at \$2,400,000.00, Third-party funds \$70,696.00 were added, for an activity total of \$2,470,696.00. The project is completed and will be closed out with the next Award Amendment.

Raymondville Drain Project - Phase 2

Period of performance was extended to December 31, 2025. Direct Component RESTORE funds \$10,401,924.28, and no Third-party funds.

Texas City Hurricane Protection Levee Repair - Phase 1

Period of performance was extended to December 31, 2025. Direct Component RESTORE funds \$6,528,960.00, Third-party funds \$1,396,979.00, for an activity total of \$7,925,939.00.

Town Resaca Watershed

Period of performance was extended to December 31, 2025. Direct Component RESTORE funds \$6,588,274.00, and no Third-party funds.

Village of Surfside Beach Groin

Period of performance was extended to December 31, 2025. Direct Component RESTORE funds \$6,200,000.00, and no Third-party funds.

New Subrecipient Project

Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project

The Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project (Bessie Heights Project) in Orange County was one of several projects selected under Funding Priorities List 3b (FPL3b) Water Quality and Quantity Program. It was recommended by staff representing the Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the Texas General Land Office (TXGLO), and county judges located within Texas' coastal zone boundary for RESTORE Act projects.

This Bessie Heights Project was evaluated by the Bucket 2 State/Federal workgroup, as well as a work group representing Non-Governmental Organizations in Texas. Its selection reflected the ideas that were discussed by the work groups, the elected officials, and the Office of the Governor. Recently, the Project was deemed ineligible under Bucket 2 FPL3b funding because it did not include an ecosystem restoration component, and it was considered to be a flood mitigation project.

The Bessie Heights Project aligns with Direct Component Bucket 1 under coastal flood protection and related infrastructure criteria. This project is expected to reduce flooding from storm events by constructing approximately 3,925 linear feet of drainage channel to move excess rainfall run-off out of

neighborhoods and away from residential and commercial structures to mitigate future flood damages.

The Bessie Heights Project consists of the improvement of a portion of the existing Bessie Heights Drainage Ditch (the Ditch) on the south side of Highway 1442, and new channelization and extension of the Ditch to shallow open water at the edge of the densely vegetated section of marsh to improve efficiency of conveying excess rainfall run-off out of neighborhoods and away from residential and commercial structures to mitigate future flood damages.

Various routes for the proposed outfall extension were evaluated. Through extensive coordination with local representatives of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), the currently proposed route, along the northern edge of the marsh, was selected as the preferred project path to convey water from the existing Bessie Heights Drainage Ditch westward to shallow open water area. This path will achieve the project goals to improve drainage in the area while minimizing both direct and indirect impacts to the wetlands. The Project also includes a small extension of the Bessie Heights Road Ditch, which will intersect with the Bessie Heights Drainage Ditch extension.

The Orange County Drainage District (the District) will construct 3,925 linear feet of extension channel to serve the Bessie Heights Drainage Ditch. This project will be constructed and maintained within the District's rights-of-way. The existing Bessie Heights Road Ditch will be extended south to the proposed Bessie Heights Drainage Ditch Extension. These improvements will increase discharge of stormwater by a rate of 2,000 cfs (cubic feet per second), while minimizing the impact to the natural environment. The District has coordinated with United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) and TPWD to develop the least disruptive path through the marsh to open water. The Project will include the construction of 2.4 acres of high-quality wetland habitat within the TPWD Wildlife Area through the beneficial use placement of suitable excavated materials and plantings of select wetland vegetation.

This project is fully designed and permitted, and once implemented, will help enhance community resilience as it will reduce the risk of flooding and property damage in the affected area, protect and help improve water quality and provide valuable wetland habitat for many species including the Eastern Black Rail.

Requested RESTORE Direct Component funds for this project is \$916,952.00, and planned Third-party funding is \$3,728,042.00, for a total of \$4,644,994.00.

Milestones

- Permitting
- Engineering & design
- Bidding
- Construction
- Project oversight
- Project completion

Meets Criteria: This project is in the coastal zone and is eligible under the coastal flood protection criteria. It will increase the capacity of storm water runoff; reduce flooding, and reduce damage caused by flooding, surface water, and storm events; improve water quality; and provide a wetland habitat.

Performance Measures

- Number of feet of extension channel constructed
- Number of acres constructed for high-quality wetland habitat

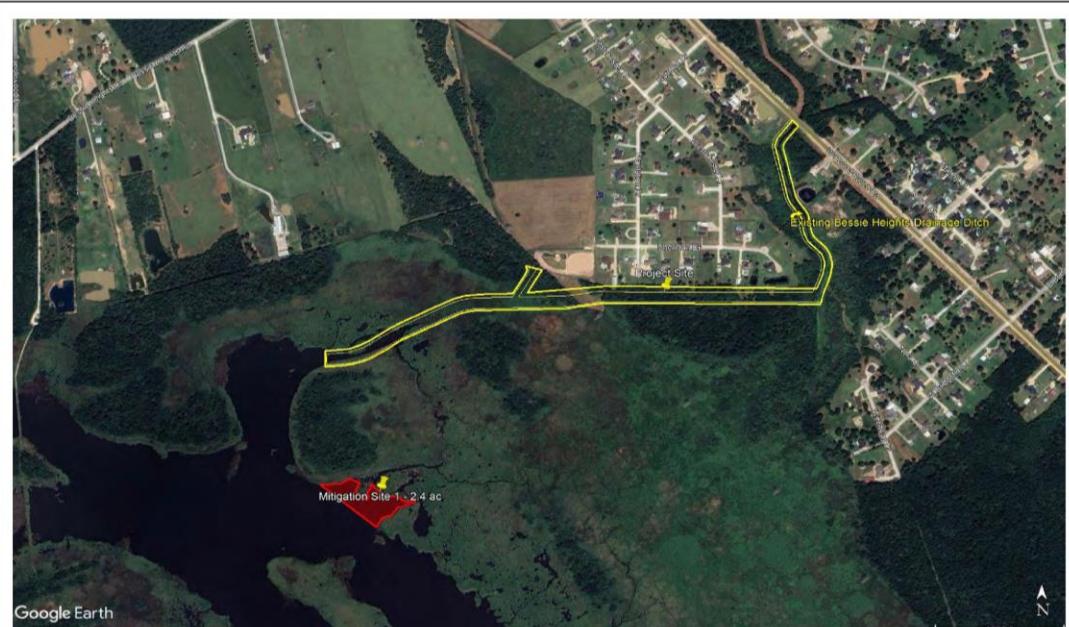


FIGURE 1
MITIGATION LOCATION
BESSIE HEIGHTS DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS

Horizon
Environmental Services, Inc.

Bessie Heights Project Location

Summary of Process

Selection of New Project

Although the Bessie Heights Project was deemed ineligible for Bucket 2 Funding Priorities List 3b (FPL3b) Water Quality and Quantity Program because it did not include an ecosystem restoration component, it aligns with Bucket 1 Direct Component under coastal flood protection and related infrastructure criteria. This project reflects the ideas discussed by work groups, elected officials, and the Office of the Governor, and TCEQ RESTORE staff worked with Orange County to transfer its RESTORE Council application to a Treasury Direct Component application.

45-day Public Notice

TCEQ posted the 45-day Public Notice on the Texas RESTORE website on October 7, 2025 (link:

<https://www.restorethetexascoast.org/category/restore/#mip-amendment-01-45-day-public-notice>). The posting included drafts of the following federally required documents and a notice for public comment by November 21, 2025.

Please see the supporting documents:

- RESTORE TCEQ MIP Amd -01 45DPN Public Notice.pdf
- RESTORE TCEQ MIP Amd -01 45DPN required documents.pdf
 - a matrix providing general information on activities, including costs to implement the activities;
 - a narrative describing elements of the activities; and
 - a map showing the location of the activities.

Notification of the posting was distributed via TCEQ's newsletter subscription service, which covers many topics including "Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill: Funding Availability and Other Updates." (link:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTCEQ/subscriber/new>). At the time of distribution, October 8, 2025, 3,446 subscribers received the email "Notice of Public Input Period on the Draft of Texas' Multiyear Implementation Plan Amendment."

Posting screenshots

RESTORE THE TEXAS COAST
Coastal Restoration Funding for Texas from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

Home **Background** **Funded Project Maps** **NFWF** **NRDA** **RESTORE Act** **Contact Us** **Log in**

What's New:

MIP Amendment –01: 45-day Public Notice 10/07/2025
Notice of Public Input Period on the Draft of Texas' Multiyear Implementation Plan Amendment

ANNOUNCEMENT: PUBLIC MEETING BKT 2/FUNDED PRIORITIES LIST (FPL) 4 PROGRAMS 08/21/2025
The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (RESTORE Council) is holding two public meetings in Texas to receive comments on the 2026 FPL 4.

ANNOUNCEMENT: BKT 2/FUNDED PRIORITIES LIST (FPL) 3B PROJECTS 08/05/2025
TCEQ RESTORE staff are preparing federal applications for submission to the RESTORE Council to receive grant awards for Bucket 2 funds.

Texas Trustee Implementation Group Releases Third Final Restoration Plan 07/30/2025
The Texas Trustee Implementation Group (TX TIG) has released the final version of its third restoration plan to compensate for injuries to natural resources caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

RESTORE Council 2025 Status Report | Reflections on Restorations and Partnerships 04/10/2025

Applications Closed
From October 1, 2020, through December 10, 2020, the Texas Trustee agencies (GLO, TPWD, and TCEQ) accepted restoration project ideas that will address injuries caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to consider in their next restoration plan. Submissions are no longer being accepted.

Deepwater Horizon Project Tracker
The Deepwater Horizon Project Tracker allows you to access a map and information of the restoration, research and recovery projects resulting from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Prepared by the Gulf of Mexico Alliance, the Deepwater Horizon Project Tracker provides project location points and project summaries.

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (NFWF)
Learn about restoration funded by the criminal case settlements from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Where the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is working with state and federal agencies to administer spill restoration.

RESTORE Archives - RESTORE

MIP Amendment -01: 45-day Public Notice

Notice of Public Input Period on the Draft of Texas' Multiyear Implementation Plan Amendment

Steven Schar, Deputy Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), announces the opportunity for the public to provide input on its draft [Multiyear Implementation Plan \(MIP\) Amendment -01](#) to secure funds under the Direct Component (Bucket 1) section of the federal RESTORE Act.

The federal RESTORE Act (Act) was signed into law in 2012 in response to the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill. It established the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (RESTORE Trust Fund) in the U.S. Treasury Department. Deposits come from 80% of all administrative and civil penalties paid by responsible DWH parties under the Clean Water Act. The funds are available for programs, projects, and activities that restore and protect the environment and economy of the Gulf Coast region.

In his capacity as Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Schar was appointed by the Governor to perform RESTORE-related duties for Texas. TCEQ, on behalf of the Governor and Mr. Schar, assists in the implementation of the federal RESTORE Act in Texas.

RESTORE funds are distributed through different allocations (also referred to as Buckets), which are established under different sections of the Act. To secure funds under the Bucket 1 Direct Component section, Gulf Coast states, including Texas, are required to develop a MIP for specific coastal area activities. TCEQ developed and obtained meaningful public input for the initial MIP, which was submitted to and accepted by Treasury in 2017. As of April 2025, more than \$138 million is available to Texas under the Bucket 1 Direct Component grant program.

Through MIP Amendment -01, TCEQ proposes to add one activity to its MIP:

Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project

The Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project (Bessie Heights Project) in Orange County is expected to reduce flooding from storm events by constructing approximately 3,925 linear feet of drainage channel to move excess rainfall run-off out of neighborhoods and away from residential and commercial structures to mitigate future flood damages. The Bessie Heights Project was evaluated by the Bucket 2 State/Federal workgroup, as well as a work group representing Non-Governmental Organizations in Texas. Its selection reflected the ideas that were discussed by the work groups, the elected officials, and the Office of the Governor.

The Bessie Heights Project was one of several projects selected for funding under Bucket 2 Funding Priorities List 3b (FPL3b) Water Quality and Quantity Program, but was ultimately determined to be ineligible for Bucket 2 FPL3b funding. However, TCEQ considers the proposed activities for the Bessie Heights Project to be eligible for Bucket 1 Direct Component funding, as it proposes to improve coastal flood protection and related infrastructure. Therefore, TCEQ now proposes to add this project to the MIP.

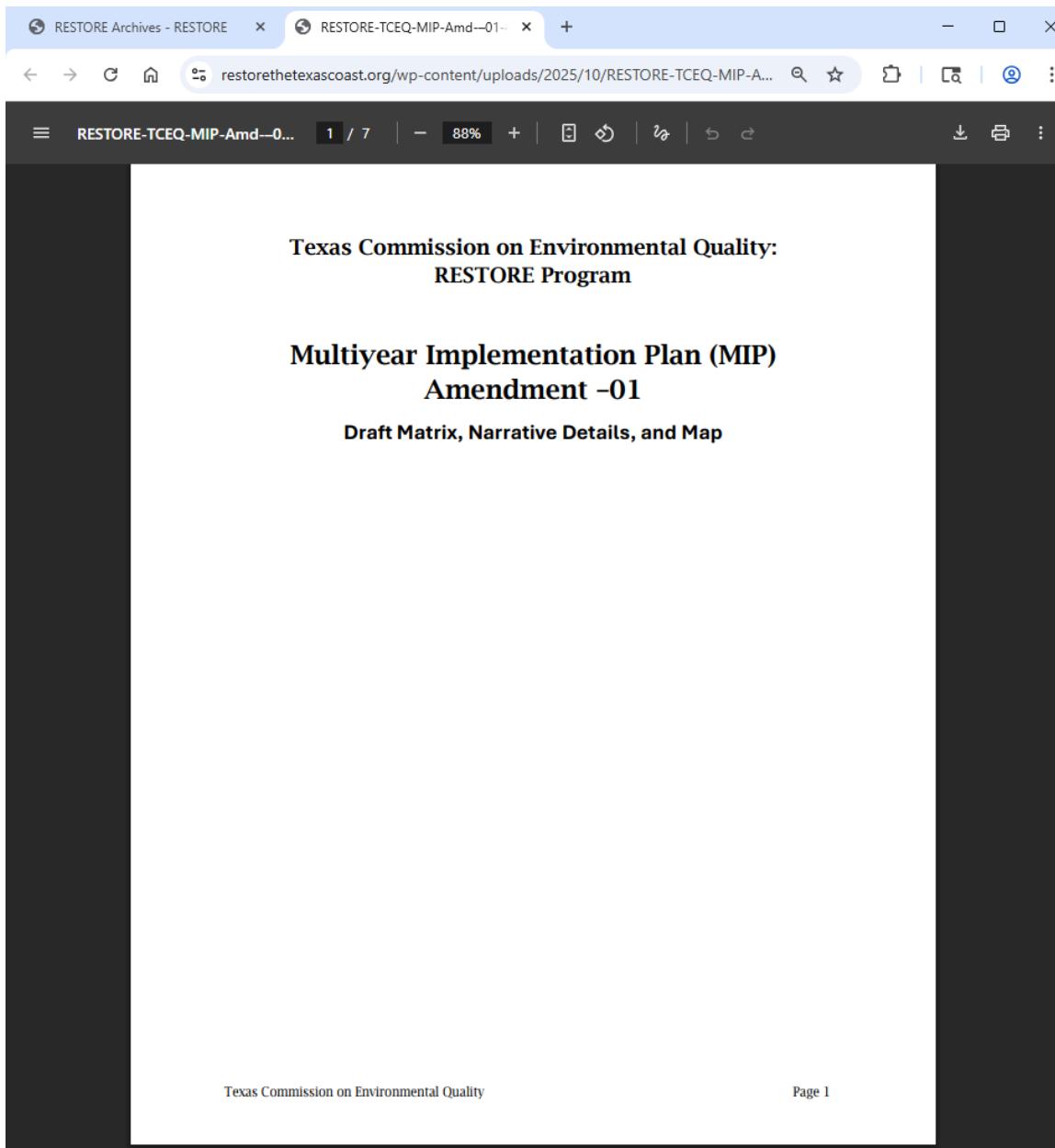
Prior to finalizing the MIP Amendment -01 for submission to the U.S. Treasury Department, the draft must be published for a 45-day public input period. Meaningful input from the public, including broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations, is required for the evaluation process to determine activities for inclusion in Texas' MIP.

The draft MIP Amendment -01 includes the following federally required [documents](#):

- a matrix providing general information on activities, including costs to implement the activities;
- a narrative describing elements of the activities; and
- a map showing the location of the activities.

Written comments on the draft MIP Amendment -01 should be submitted electronically no later than 5:00 p.m. central time on Friday, November 21, 2025, to restoretexas@tceq.texas.gov.

Melissa Porter
RESTORE Program Manager
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



From: Gwen Ricco
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 4:10 PM
To: Carla Click
Subject: FW: Courtesy Copy: Notice of Public Input Period on the Draft of Texas' Multiyear Implementation Plan Amendment

Categories: TCEQ

Here is that courtesy copy of the bulletin!

From: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality <tceq@service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 1:10 AM
To: John Conger <John.Conger@tceq.texas.gov>; Jasmine Reese <Jasmine.Reese@tceq.texas.gov>; Gwen Ricco <Gwen.Ricco@tceq.texas.gov>; Digna Flores <digna.flores@tceq.texas.gov>; Renee Carlson <renee.carlson@tceq.texas.gov>; Khrystian Briggs <Khrystian.Briggs@tceq.texas.gov>; Michael Eagan <Michael.Eagan@tceq.texas.gov>; Rebecca Jarosh <Rebecca.Jarosh@tceq.texas.gov>
Subject: Courtesy Copy: Notice of Public Input Period on the Draft of Texas' Multiyear Implementation Plan Amendment

This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Gwen Ricco.

This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:

Subscribers of Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill: Funding Availability and Other Updates (3446 recipients)

MIP Amendment –01: 45-day Public Notice

Notice of Public Input Period on the Draft of Texas' Multiyear Implementation Plan Amendment

Steven Schar, Deputy Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), announces the opportunity for the public to provide input on its draft Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) Amendment –01 to secure funds under the Direct Component (Bucket 1) section of the federal RESTORE Act.

The federal RESTORE Act (Act) was signed into law in 2012 in response to the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill. It established the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (RESTORE Trust Fund) in the U.S. Treasury Department. Deposits come from 80% of all administrative and civil penalties paid by responsible DWH parties under the Clean Water Act. The funds are available for programs, projects, and activities that restore and protect the environment and economy of the Gulf Coast region.

In his capacity as Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Schar was appointed by the Governor to perform RESTORE-related duties for Texas. TCEQ, on behalf of the Governor and Mr. Schar, assists in the implementation of the federal RESTORE Act in Texas.

RESTORE funds are distributed through different allocations (also referred to as Buckets), which are established under different sections of the Act. To secure funds under the Bucket 1 Direct Component section, Gulf Coast states, including Texas, are required to develop a MIP for specific coastal area activities. TCEQ developed and obtained meaningful public input for the initial MIP, which was submitted to and accepted by Treasury in 2017. As of April 2025, more than \$138 million is available to Texas under the Bucket 1 Direct Component grant program.

Through MIP Amendment –01, TCEQ proposes to add one activity to its MIP:

Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project

The Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project (Bessie Heights Project) in Orange County is expected to reduce flooding from storm events by constructing approximately 3,925 linear feet of drainage channel to move excess rainfall run-off out of neighborhoods and away from residential and commercial structures to mitigate future flood damages. The Bessie Heights Project was evaluated by the Bucket 2 State/Federal workgroup, as well as a work group representing Non-Governmental Organizations in Texas. Its selection reflected the ideas that were discussed by the work groups, the elected officials, and the Office of the Governor.

The Bessie Heights Project was one of several projects selected for funding under Bucket 2 Funding Priorities List 3b (FPL3b) Water Quality and Quantity Program, but was ultimately determined to be ineligible for Bucket 2 FPL3b funding. However, TCEQ considers the proposed activities for the Bessie Heights Project to be eligible for Bucket 1 Direct Component funding, as it proposes to improve coastal flood protection and related infrastructure. Therefore, TCEQ now proposes to add this project to the MIP.

Prior to finalizing the MIP Amendment –01 for submission to the U.S. Treasury Department, the draft must be published for a 45-day public input period. Meaningful input from the public, including broad-based participation from individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations, is required for the evaluation process to determine activities for inclusion in Texas' MIP.

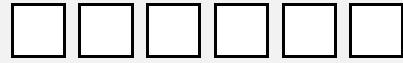
The draft MIP Amendment –01 is posted at Texas RESTORE website <https://www.restorethetexascoast.org>, and includes the following federally required documents:

- * a matrix providing general information on activities, including costs to implement the activities;
- * a narrative describing elements of the activities; and
- * a map showing the location of the activities.

Written comments on the draft MIP Amendment –01 should be submitted electronically no later than 5:00 p.m. central time on Friday, November 21, 2025, to restoretexas@tceq.texas.gov.

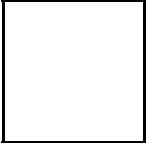
Melissa Porter, RESTORE Program Manager, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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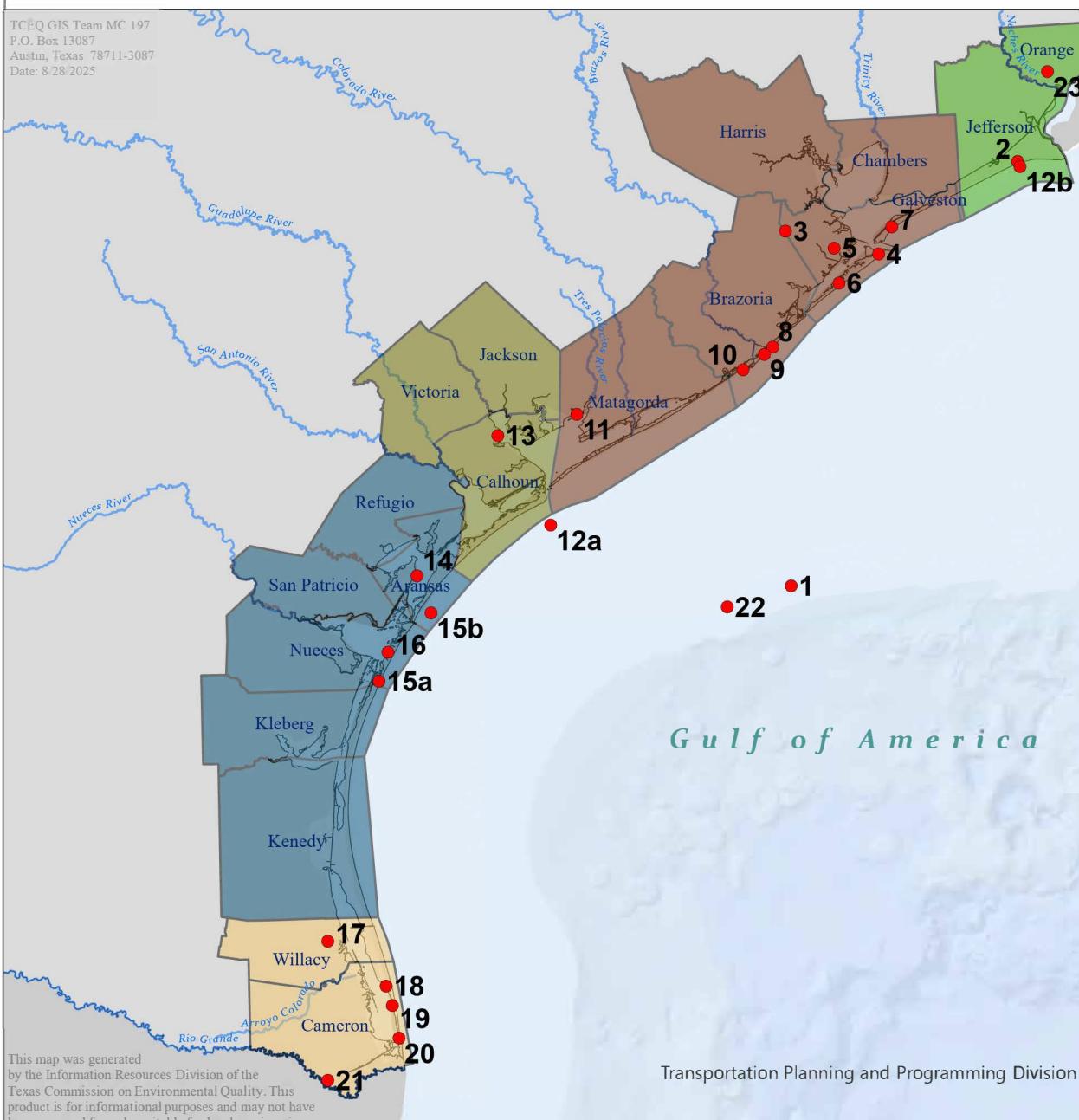
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A program of the TCEQ

RESTORE Act: Texas Projects

MIP Amendment -01



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Date: 8/28/2025



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Transportation Planning and Programming Division - Data Management
Section

512-486-5052

TPP-GIS@txdot.gov, Esri, GEBCO, Garmin, NaturalVue

0 30 60 Miles

ID	Project
1	Texas Master Plan for Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
2	Salt Bayou Watershed
3	Workforce and Economic Development to Enhance Offshore Energy Systems
4	East End Lagoon Phase 1-A
5	Texas City Hurricane Protection Levee Repair
6	Galveston Beneficial Dredge
7	Bolivar Peninsula Nature Trail
8	Village of Surfside Beach Groin
9	Quintana Beach Public Fishing Pier Restoration
10	Lower San Bernard Ecosystem Restoration
11	Oyster Resource and Recovery Center
12a-12b	Texas Reef Initiative - Sabine and Port O'Connor Sites
13	City of Port Lavaca Shoreline Clean up, Debris and Submerged Structures Removal and Sediment Investigations
14	Bay Shore Drive Erosion Mitigation and Shoreline Stabilization
15a-15b	Padre Balli and I.B. Magee Beach Parks Restoration and Recreational Access
16	Shamrock Island Restoration Phase II
17	Raymondville Drain Phase 2 – Restoring Drainage and Flood Control
18	E.K. Atwood Park Pavilion Improvements
19	Sea Turtle Incorporated Education Complex
20	Laguna Madre Area
21	Town Resaca Watershed Restoration
22	Texas Gulf Shrimp Consumption, Tourism and Marketing Proposal
23	Bessie Heights Drainage Outfall Repair and Improvement Project