

Year 2008 Projects

Project Name	Activity	Project Description	Habitat Type	Acreage	Linear Miles
East Bay Shoreline Protection at Robinson Bayou	Protection/Maintenance	This project protects rapidly eroding shoreline and adjacent marsh and prairie habitats along a 1,900-foot unprotected section of East Bay shoreline. Hurricane fencing, demonstrated in previous projects to be an effective, low cost erosion control technique, protects 200 acres of intertidal marsh, 200 acres of salt prairie ridge, and 1,000 acres of intermediate and fresh marsh on the Anahuac NWR. Other indirect benefits of the project include improved water quality, as marsh vegetation will aid to filter suspended solids and pollutants from adjacent waters. As in similar nearby efforts, significant intertidal marsh accretion is expected to occur over time behind the erosion control structures.	Freshwater Marsh	1,400	0
Japhet Creek Greenbelt, Ohmart Tract Acquisition	Protection/Maintenance	This project involves the acquisition of 3 acres of riparian habitat along Japhet Creek, a critical tributary to Buffalo Bayou in Houston. Funding for this acquisition was made possible through a combination of federal CELCP dollars, with matching funds provided by the Buffalo Bayou Partnership through a grant awarded by the Houston Endowment. This effort to establish a greenway along Japhet Creek-the first "green finger" along Buffalo Bayou, will provide important habitat for wildlife and contribute significantly to the quality of life in a highly urbanized neighborhood.	Forest/Woodland	3	0
North Deer Island Protection and Restoration Project Phase II	Protection/Maintenance	This was the final phase of a larger effort to the entire perimeter of North Deer Island, the most important colonial waterbird rookery in the Galveston Bay System, through a system of onshore and offshore breakwater structures. Phase II protected approximately 4500 feet of the north shoreline of the island adjacent to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW), which is rapidly eroding due to impacts of ship wake, and will protect the remaining half, or 72 acres of the island. Additionally, five acres of wetlands were restored behind the protective structures. Volunteers planted restored marshes with cordgrass during Marsh Mania 2008. North Deer Island features intertidal wetlands, high marsh, tidal flats, and upland shrub habitats ideally suited for colonial waterbird nesting. Houston Audubon estimates that up to 30,000 nesting pairs of 19 waterbird species, including the endangered Brown Pelican and threatened Reddish Egret and White-faced Ibis, utilize the island during the nesting season. This project was awarded a 2008 First Place Gulf Guardian Award in the Partnership category, and has received considerable local and national media attention.	Tidal Wetland	75	0
Virginia Point Invasive Species Control Project	Enhancement	The Virginia Point Peninsula Preserve includes 1500 acres of a rich diversity of coastal habitats, the majority of which are wetlands, including intertidal marsh, high marsh meadows, and palustrine wetlands, as well as tidal flats, shallow submerged areas, and oyster reefs on and adjacent to the property. However, the preserve's habitat diversity is significantly threatened by invasive species, particularly Chinese tallow. This project restored and enhanced the rich diversity of habitats within the Preserve, a Gulf Ecological Management Site, by controlling invasive species in the diverse wetland and coastal habitats within the Preserve, involving local community members.	Freshwater Marsh	1,200	0
Total				2678	0