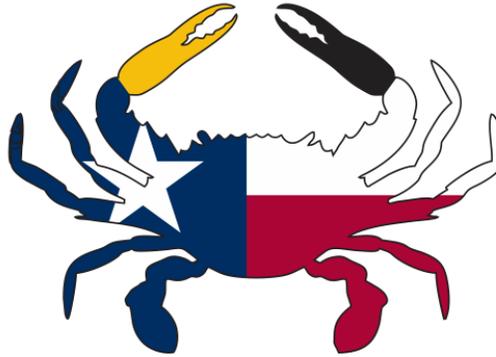


Calhoun County Parks Improvement Plan 2021



January 21, 2021

Purpose of this Document

This document reflects the work and recommendations of the Calhoun County Parks Board in regard to the County Parks and related assets. This document will assist the Parks Board in identifying and recommending potential park improvements that might be considered and aid in public discussions thereof by:

1. Identifying needed improvements for each County Park.
2. Serving as tool for public discussion of parks needs and plans.
3. Providing the starting point for application to relevant grants for funding of specific improvements.
4. Documenting recommendations of the Parks Board to Commissioners Court.

This document should be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect progress made and changing priorities and needs.

For each County Park or Bay access asset, the document provides:

1. an aerial view of the park
2. a list of recommended improvements

If you have comments or questions about the material contained in the document, please email comments please contact the Parks Board members listed or email the Board at CalhounCountyParksBoard@gmail.com.

Calhoun Parks Improvement Plan 2021

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Calhoun Parks Improvement Plan 2021

Purposes of County Parks:

- Provide residents with recreational opportunities and access to the Bays.
- Protect important habitat of the Parks and of the area.
- Promote ecotourism that supports the local economy and increases tax revenues.

The Parks Board desires that our Parks:

- Showcase the County's natural & historic assets.
- Demonstrate the importance of protecting those assets.
- Provide a setting to which we are proud to take our visitors.
- Are safe and family friendly.

Calhoun County Parks Board – December 2020

Allan Berger – Chair

<p>Precinct 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD Oran Moses – Secretary • Steven Dublin 	<p>Precinct 2</p> <p>Linda Bournias</p>
<p>Precinct 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vacant 	<p>Precinct 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dwayne Fishbeck • Charlene Terrell

Contributions also from previous Board Members:

- Tom Andrews, Precinct 1, deceased
- Debby Carter, Precinct 4
- Bill Harvey, Precinct 3

Subcommittee Participation

<p>Precinct 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Andrews – Parks Board • Allan Berger – Parks Board • Mike Biggs • Corey M Buck • Steve Dublin • Teri Elliott • Rosangely Hernandez • Oran Moses – Parks Board • Mike Tolar <p>Advisor – Commissioner David Hall</p>	<p>Precinct 4</p> <p>POC Area Subcommittee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allan Berger -Parks Board • Dwayne Fishbeck – Parks Board • Marie Hawes • Darla Parker • Steve Ferguson <p>Seadrift Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allan Berger – Parks Board • Charlene Terrell – Parks Board <p>Green Lake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenneth Finster • Dianne Nunley • Janie Waghorne • Allan Berger – Parks Board • Bill Harvey – Parks Board <p>Advisor- Commissioner Gary Reese</p>
<p>Precinct 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Bournias – Parks Board • Allan Berger – Parks Board 	<p>Precinct 3</p> <p>Allan Berger – Parks Board</p>

Summary

- County Parks are an asset to the Community
- Several are heavily used and attract visitors to the County
- Improvements are necessary for parks to handle increasing use
- Beach erosion taking a toll
- Review from the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) directly to the County can provide funding for many of the park's needs.
- County's GOMESA fund should be leveraged wherever possible by seeking State and Federal grants and using GOMESA for requisite local match.
- Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust will provide funding for Green Lake developments.
- County should prioritize Park needs and systematically apply for grants to address improvements.

Current Park Improvements in Progress – January 2021

1. Sanders Park / Swan Point refurbishment - complete
2. Chocolate Bayou Boat Ramp – TPWD Grant obtained. Improvements to start 2021.
3. Magnolia Beach Boat Ramp improvements- in progress
4. Six Mile Boat Ramp improvements – in progress
5. Magnolia Beach Erosion Control – Engineering in progress
6. Boggy Bayou Nature Park Erosion Study – in progress
7. Boggy Bayou Nature Park Improvements – CMP Grant Cycle #25 approved
Implementation to start in 2021
8. Little Chocolate Bayou Park Enhancements – engineering in progress
9. King Fisher Beach expansion – CMP application made for Cycle #26 in November 2021
10. Magnolia Beach pavilions -- CMP application made Cycle #26 in November 2021
11. Green Lake –engineering in progress for water control structure
12. Sanders Park – application made to TPWD Non-Urban Parks grant for playground equipment and other improvements
13. Six Mile Boat Ramp improvements -in progress

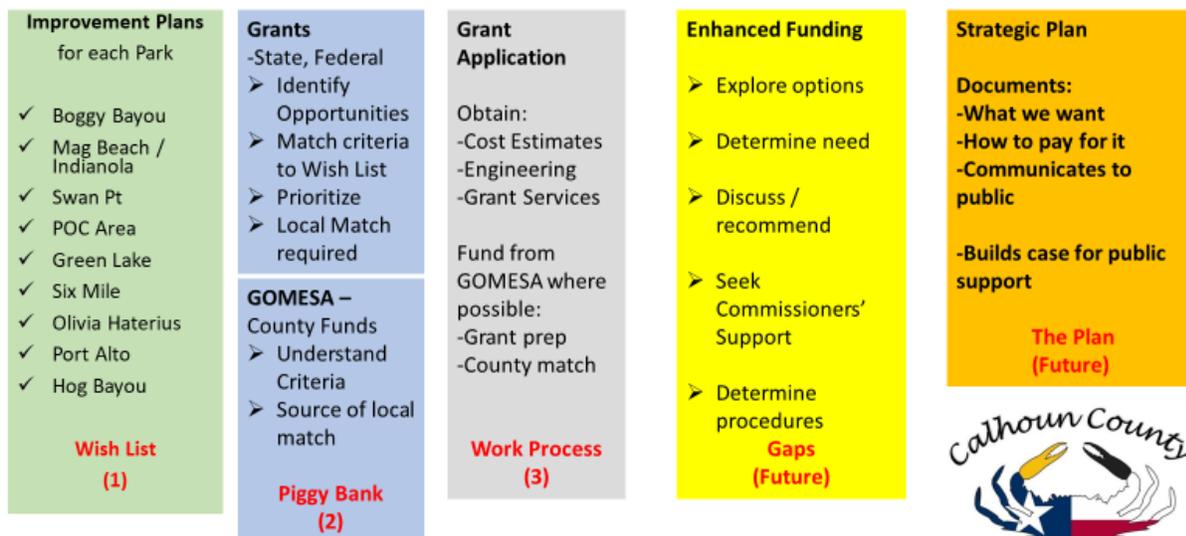
Recommended Next Steps for 2021:

- TPWD Recreational Trails grant to fund walking trail at Boggy Nature Park (Phase 2)
- Advance Green Lake Park development
- Re-apply for Magnolia Beach Pavilions project
- Advance Magnolia Beach RV campground
- Improve understanding of needs in Precincts 2 & 3

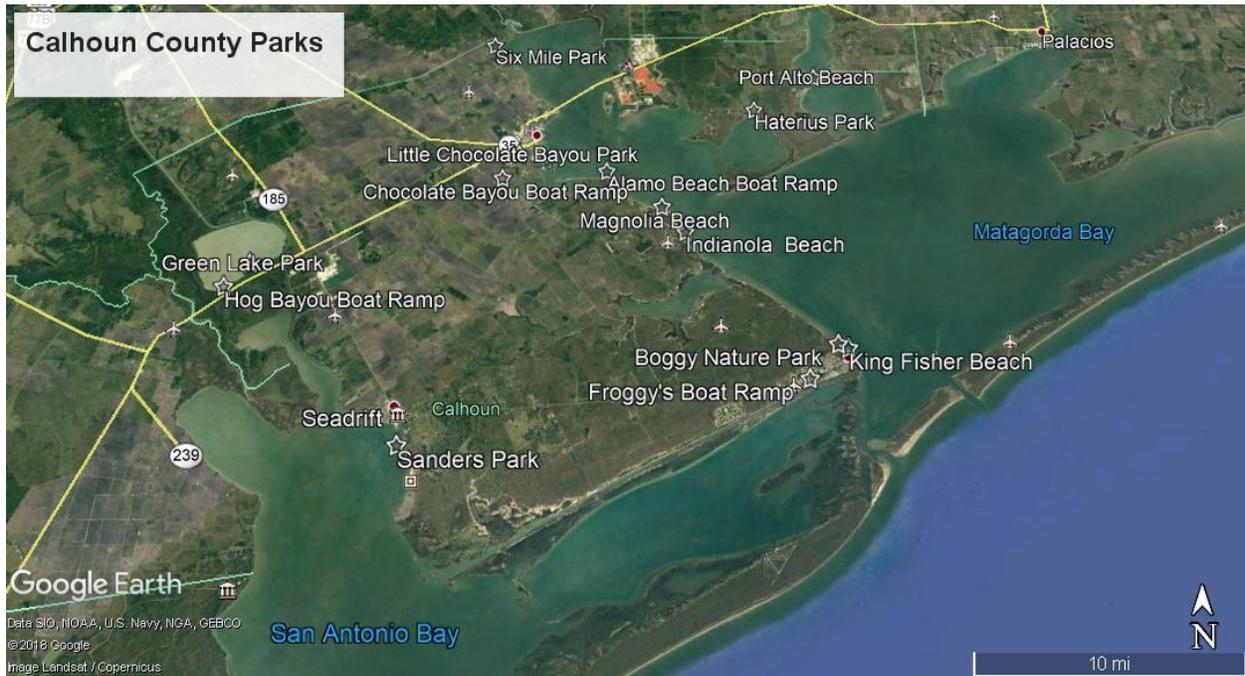
Parks Board Way Forward:

1. Maintain and annually update this document to guide recommendations to Commissioners Court
2. Post Improvement Plan on County Parks Website
3. Solicit coverage in Wave, Advocate, and Dolphin Talk of the improvement plan as way to increase public comment
4. Recommend grant applications to Commissioners Court to advance specific improvements
5. Advance understanding of need for and potential ways to enhance funding for Parks

The Plan for Calhoun County Parks



Calhoun County Parks and other public access assets



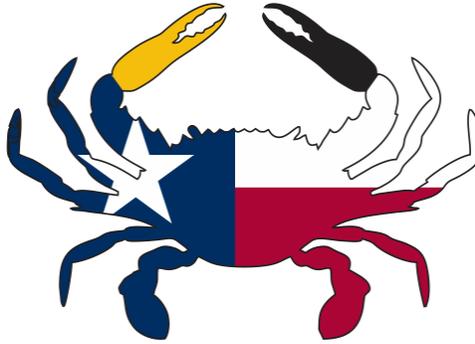
<p>Precinct 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Magnolia Beach and boat ramp / area 2. Alamo Beach Boat Ramp 3. Little Chocolate Bayou Park 4. Chocolate Bayou boat ramp <p>Precinct 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Six Mile Park and boat ramp <p>Precinct 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Olivia Haterius Park and boat ramp 7. Port Alto Beach <p>Precinct 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Green Lake 9. Hog Bayou boat ramp 10. Sander Park / Swan Point boat ramp 11. Froggies boat ramp and parking 12. King Fisher Beach 13. Boggy Bayou Nature Park 	<p>Other Public Access Assets</p> <p>Precinct 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Indianola State Park (LaSalle)- controlled by TxDot <p>Precinct 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Bauer Road access to Lavaca Bay – Chval Park <p>Precinct 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. County Road 317- access to Bay <p>Precinct 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. Road ROW access in POC <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Little Jetties / Kayak launch b. 16th Street at ICW c. Main Street at Matagorda Bay d. Washington Blvd at Matagorda Bay e. Scurlock St. at GIWW
---	--

Park Improvement Summary

	<u>Mag Beach Indianola</u>	<u>Chocolate Bayou</u>	<u>Six Mile</u>	<u>Olivia Area</u>	<u>POC</u>	<u>Seadrift</u>	<u>Green Lake</u>
Infrastructure to improve public access and utility							
Boat Ramps	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Piers / Fishing spots		Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Playground Equipment		Yes	Yes		Yes		
Day Use / Picnic			Yes		Yes		Yes
Pavilions	Yes						Yes
Camping	Yes			Yes			Yes
Fencing	Yes	Yes					
Improve Safety	Yes						
Restrooms				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Exercise/ walking Trail		Yes			Yes		
Paddling Trails	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Birding Trails	Yes			Yes	Yes		Yes
History Trails	Yes						
Erosion Control / Conservation	Yes		Yes		Yes		
Signage for rules / traffic /safety	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education							
History	Yes						
Environmental	Yes				Yes		Yes
Land Acquisition to Expand or Protect Park Utility	Yes				Yes		
Park Rules Changes	Yes						Yes

Calhoun County Parks Board Precinct 1 Sub-Committee

Park Master Plan Report



Version 2.0 – January 15, 2020

Overview of Master Plan for Magnolia Beach / Indianola

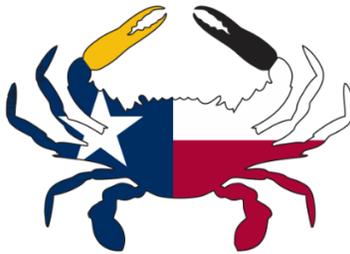
The Precinct 1 Subcommittee recommends:

1. Continuing pursuit of erosion protection of Magnolia Beach Proper
2. Adding Beach Pavilions to enhance group events
3. Developing an RV and tent camping area so that campers can be relocated
4. Increasing the number of cabanas and areas with cabanas to promote enhanced day use
5. Repairing / upgrading the Boat Ramps and parking to handle increased use
6. Enhancing fishing and crabbing infrastructure (bay piers & lights, rock groynes, marsh piers)
7. Enhancing the Paddling Trail with additional access points and repaired markers
8. Developing a Birding Trail with improved infrastructure; partner with Texas Ornithology Society/Magic Ridge Preserve and USFW
9. Developing a History Trail; partner with Calhoun County Historical Society and the County Museum
10. Promoting public pride in the Parks and programs to beautify and enhance responsible use / behaviors through a standing Parks Board subcommittee.

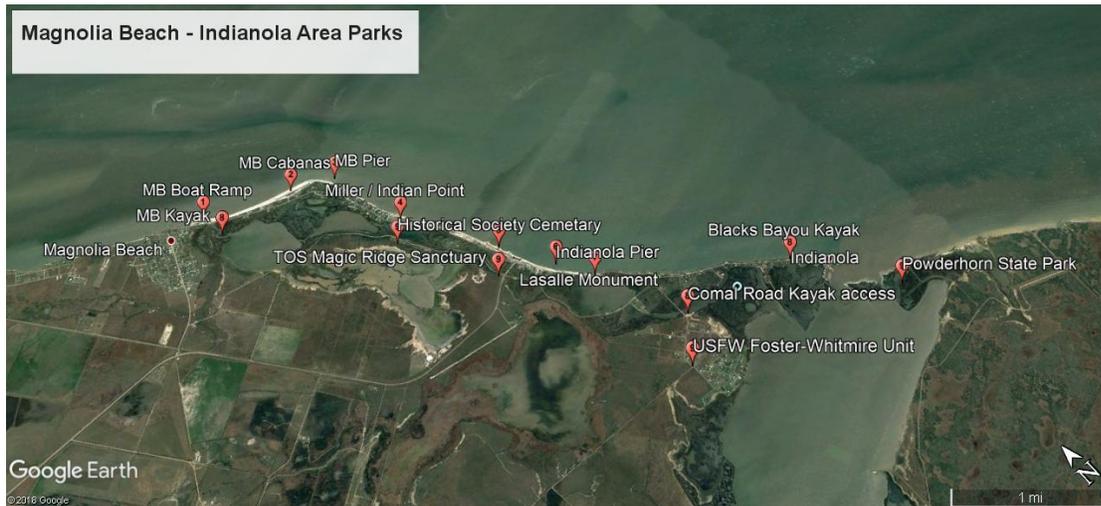
The following pages details specific recommendations for each County asset.

The priority improvements for Precinct 1 are:

1. Continuing to pursue erosion mitigation options for Magnolia Beach proper.
2. Construction of a beach pavilion in the Miller Point area and of an educational pavilion at adjacent bird walk.
3. Improvements at Little Chocolate Bayou Park
4. Development of an RV campsite in the Magnolia Beach burn pile area to provide an alternative to beach camping near the Magnolia Beach Boat Ramp and Crabbing Bridge and ultimately for Magnolia Beach Proper .



Magnolia Beach - Indianola Parks

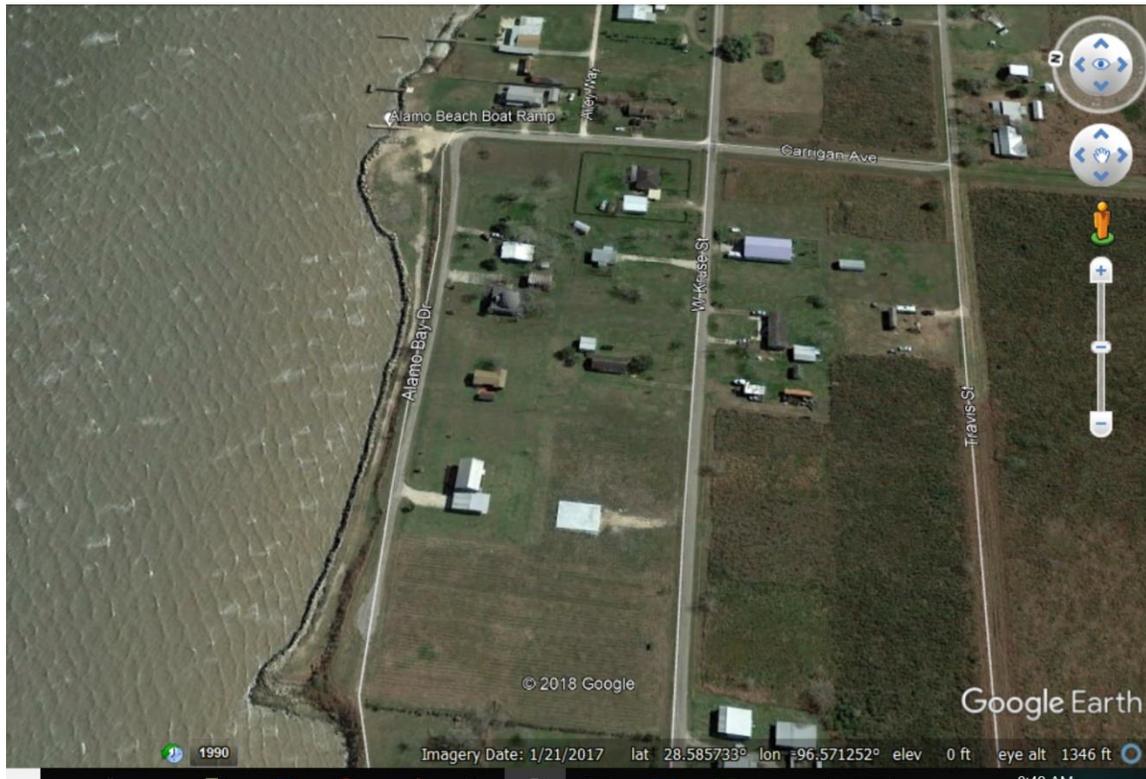


Key - North to South:

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1. Alamo Beach Boat Ramp (not in picture)	12
2. Memorial Benches at Seawall	13
3. Magnolia Beach Boat Ramp	14
4. Magnolia Beach Crabbing Bridge	15
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Alamo Beach Boat Ramp



Preferred Park Use: local fishing and boat launch

Current Amenities:

- small boat ramp
- shore fishing along rocks

Recommended Improvements:

1. restrict vehicle traffic along rocks to reduce illicit activities



Photos:

9/17/19

Magnolia Beach Memorial Benches



Preferred Park Use: Quite Zone – Day Use Only

Current Amenities:

- 5 memorial benches, covered
- palm trees
- adequate parking on street

Recommended Improvements:

1. fold down safety ladder

Photos:



Date: 8/3/19

Magnolia Beach Boat Ramp



Preferred Use: Boat Ramp and Parking; Beach for Day Use Only / No Camping

Current Amenities:

- 2 boat ramps with protective rock groynes
- parking for approximately 20 trailers – adequate for current use
- nice shell beach with vehicle access

Recommended Improvements

1. Repair north boat ramp (permit application in progress)
2. Add navigation lights on rock groynes
3. Prohibit Camping; post as Day Use Only
4. TPWD signage, including boat ramp etiquette

Future Considerations:

5. add boat moorage off north groynes if usage grows
6. mark trailer parking area if usage grows

Photos:



Date:8/14/19

Magnolia Beach Proper (Crabbing Bridge thru Cabanas)



Preferred Use:

- Day use on Beach Proper; vehicle access to beach
- Tent camping at Cabanas
- No RV camping after establishment of alternative site

Current Amenities:

- Vehicle access to nice shell beach
- cabanas for day use and tent camping
- restrooms
- outdoors shower

Recommended Improvements:

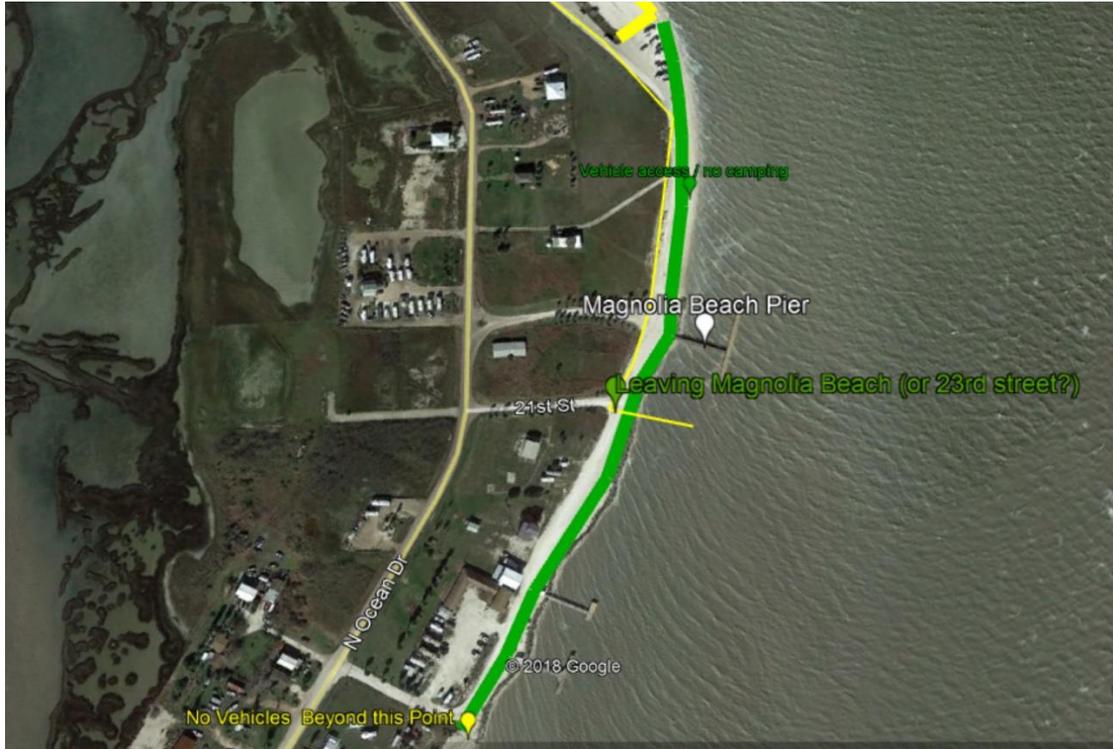
1. Address beach erosion per recommendations of ongoing engineering study
2. Prohibit RV camping on beach with development of alternative site
3. Cover old basketball court that is adjacent to the restroom to create a pavilion for group use

Photos:



8/14/19

Indian Point Pier



Preferred Park Use: Fishing

Current Amenities:

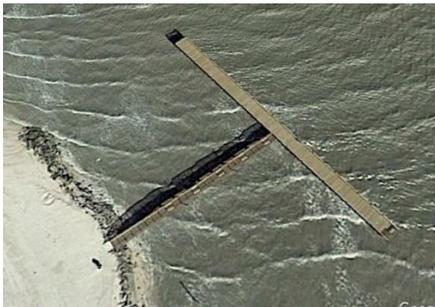
- Pier in excellent condition post Harvey repairs

Recommended Improvements:

1. Electrify, add fishing lights
2. Ban generators to reduce noise
3. Ban grills due to fire hazard
4. Ban RV's from blocking pier access
5. Add signage regarding the above rules and other behavior expectations

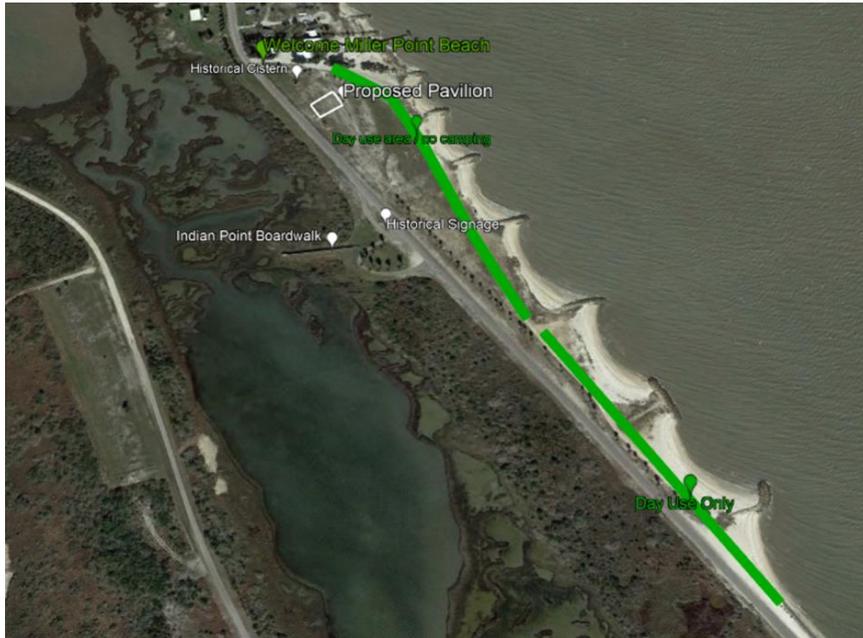
Future Considerations:

Photos



Date:9/18/19

Miller Point Area



Preferred Use:

- Quieter family beach area
- No RV camping after establishment of an alternative site

Current Amenities

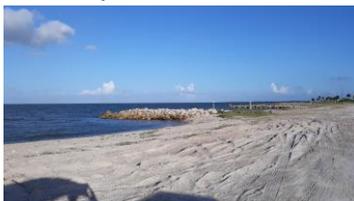
- nice beach
- vehicle access to beach
- palm trees

Recommended Improvements

1. develop a general use pavilion at north end (grant application to CMP Cycle #26 unsuccessful)
2. add signage to historical cistern and protection as appropriate
3. repair bollard fence along road to appropriately direct traffic
4. add safety buoys in water
5. add signage re soft sand / vehicle hazard

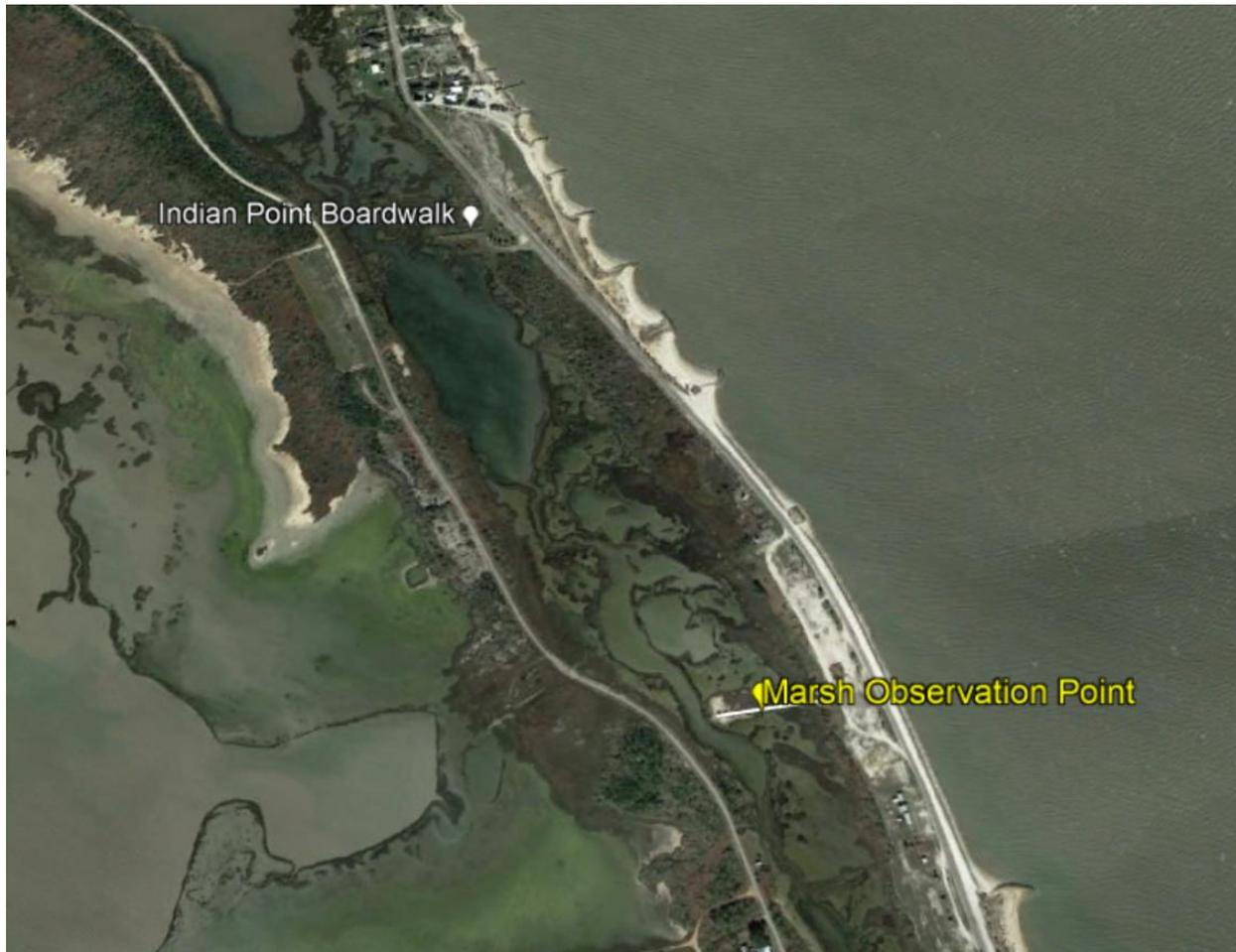
Future Considerations:

6. Monitor erosion; enhance groynes if needed
7. Develop parking and beach access plan for day use area – monitor use; implement if necessary



Photos: 8/14/19

Miller Point Boardwalk to Marsh



Preferred use:

- marsh view / birds
- marsh access / paddling
- historical site

Current Amenities:

- board walk with view of marsh
- historical markers

Improvements:

1. add a small educational education pavilion at board walk circle drive (grant application to CMP Cycle #26 unsuccessful)
2. add marsh ecology and bird educational materials—include in Birding Trail
3. add picnic tables and cabanas
4. add paddling trail access site—include in Paddling Trail

Future consideration

5. add Marsh observation / board walk to the south, determine practicality possible connection to existing board walk as marsh observation trail.

8/14/19

Burn Pile Area – Potential Campground



Preferred Use:

- Rustic RV Campsite
- Develop plan for adding electrical and water hookups in a 2nd phase

Current Amenities:

- proximity to hardened beach and Indianola Beach Park
- generally flat / high ground
- several County owned parcel; several privately owned 'undeveloped or under-developed' parcels

Recommended Improvements:

1. Utilize County parcels as rustic RV campsite - relocate campers from boat ramp, crabbing bridge, and ultimate MB proper to this area
2. Design an expanded Rustic Campsite that can accommodate 50 campers; Develop strategy to acquire additional properties.
 - Layout an upgraded campsite with electrical and water hookups; seek professional assistance to determine issues and costs
3. Maintain beach use as is –with vehicle access

Future Considerations:

4. Consider adding beach amenities: cabanas, picnic tables, fishing pier, boat mooring anchors

8/3/19

Indianola Beach and Cabanas



Preferred Use (same as Magnolia Beach Proper):

- Day use on Beach Proper; but without vehicle access to beach
- Tent camping at Cabanas
- No RV camping after establishment of alternative site

Current Amenities:

- Cabanas for day use and tent camping (9 on beach, 3 west of road); uncovered picnic table to south
- restrooms; no showers

Recommended Improvements:

1. Replace failed sewage system - progress
2. Paint exterior of restroom
3. Pressure wash tables; paint

Future Considerations

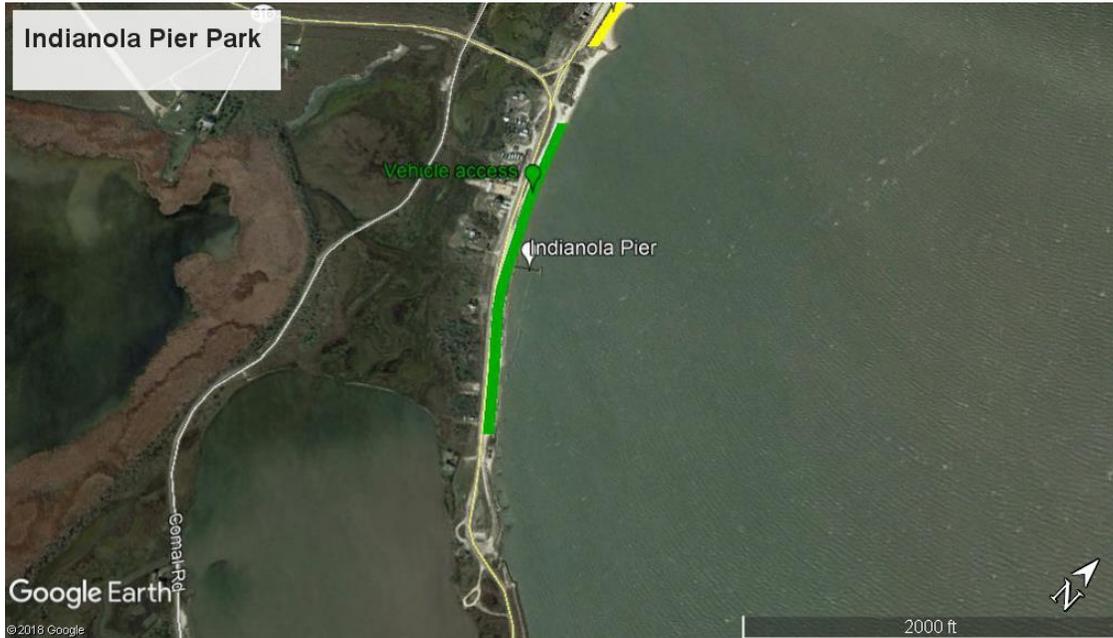
4. Pending resolution of issues with TXDOT over terms to transfer Camel Park to County - build cabanas to cover / replace picnic tables at Camel Park

Photos:



Date: 9/18/19

Indianola Beach Pier



Preferred Park Use: Fishing!

Current Amenities:

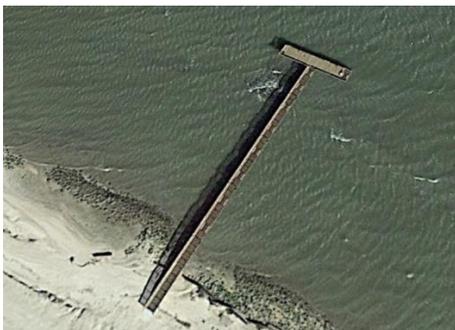
- Pier in excellent condition since post Harvey repairs

Recommended Improvements:

1. Add electricity and fishing lights
2. Add fishing line recycle bin
3. add courtesy lights on pier – solar
4. Add signage for rules as stated for Indian Point pier
5. Address erosion with more rocks / BUDM – TXDOT

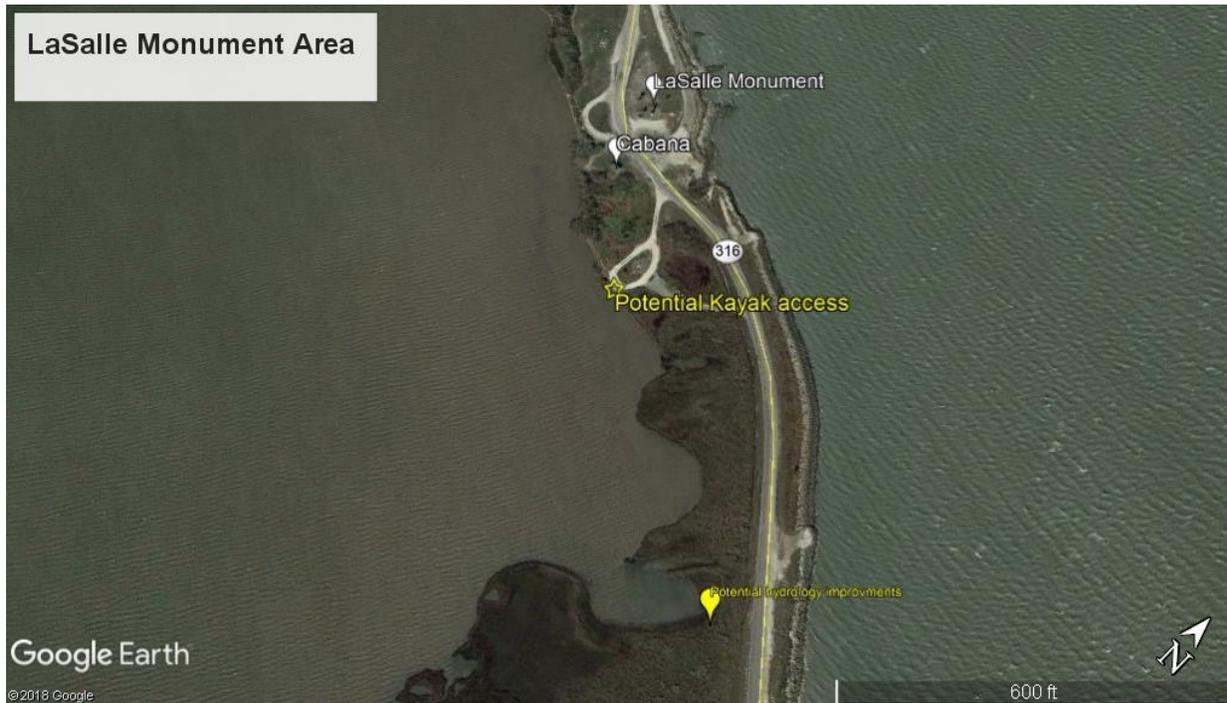
Future Considerations:

Photos



Date: 9/18/19

Lasalle Monument State Park (TXDOT)



Note: area near the is owned by TXDOT. Pending resolution of reasonable terms for transfer to County responsibility, these improvements should be considered. The Pier is County owned.

Preferred Park Use:

- Historical significance
- Picnic

Current Amenities:

- Beach erosion / road erosion critical

Recommended Improvements:

1. Negotiate transfer from TXDOT under acceptable terms
2. Armor beach to protect SH 316 - TXDOT
3. upgrade picnic amenities (tables, cabanas)
4. add historical materials
5. add kayak access Blind Bayou

Future Considerations

6. Consider relocation of monument to safer position (eg, Memorial Bench area).
Note: monument owned by Calhoun County Historical Society(?).



Photos

Date: updated 9/18/19

Brighton / Zimmerman Road Marsh Access

1. Blind Bayou Park



Preferred Park Use: Bank fishing and paddling access.

Current Amenities:

- Bank access off Brighton Road
- No other amenities

Recommended Improvements:

1. Add signage denoting park name and boundaries
2. Add signage re park rules:
 - a. no littering / pack out your trash
 - b. no parking on Road

Future Considerations

3. Monitor health of marsh system from Blind Bayou to Powderhorn Lake and consider improvements to hydrology if it deteriorates.

Photos:



Date: 10/3/19

2. Indianola Island Marsh



Preferred Park Use: Bank fishing, paddling access, birding on Marsh'

Current Amenities:

- Bank access off Comal Road
- No other amenities

Recommended Improvements:

1. Add signage denoting park name and boundaries
2. Add signage re park rules:
 - no littering / pack out your trash
 - Prohibit vehicles except to paddling launch
3. Rebuilt short pier at kayak launch site
4. Improve paddling launch site; consider alternative at NW corner of bridge

Future Considerations

6. Develop birding observation point to Indianola Island as part of birding trail

Photos:



date 10/3/19

3. Brighton N. Bridge Bayou Access



Preferred Park Use: Bank fishing'

Current Amenities:

- Bank access off Brighton Road
- No other amenities

Recommended Improvements:

1. Add signage denoting park name and boundaries
2. Add signage re park rules:
 - no littering / pack out your trash
 - no parking on road

Future Considerations

Develop birding observation point on County tract to Brighton Marsh, east and west

Photos:



4. Tap Road Terminus to Old Towne Lake



Preferred Park Use: Bank fishing and paddling access.

Current Amenities:

- Towne Lake Bank access at terminus of Tap Road
- No other amenities

Recommended Improvements:

1. Construct Living Shoreline from Tap Road to bayou to control erosion, restore accessible land
2. Add signage denoting park name and boundaries
3. Add signage re park rules:
 - a. no littering / pack out your trash
 - b. parking on Road only

Photos

10/3/19

5. Indianola Peninsula



Preferred Park Use: birding on Marsh

Current Amenities:

- No current access point
- No other amenities

Recommended Improvements:

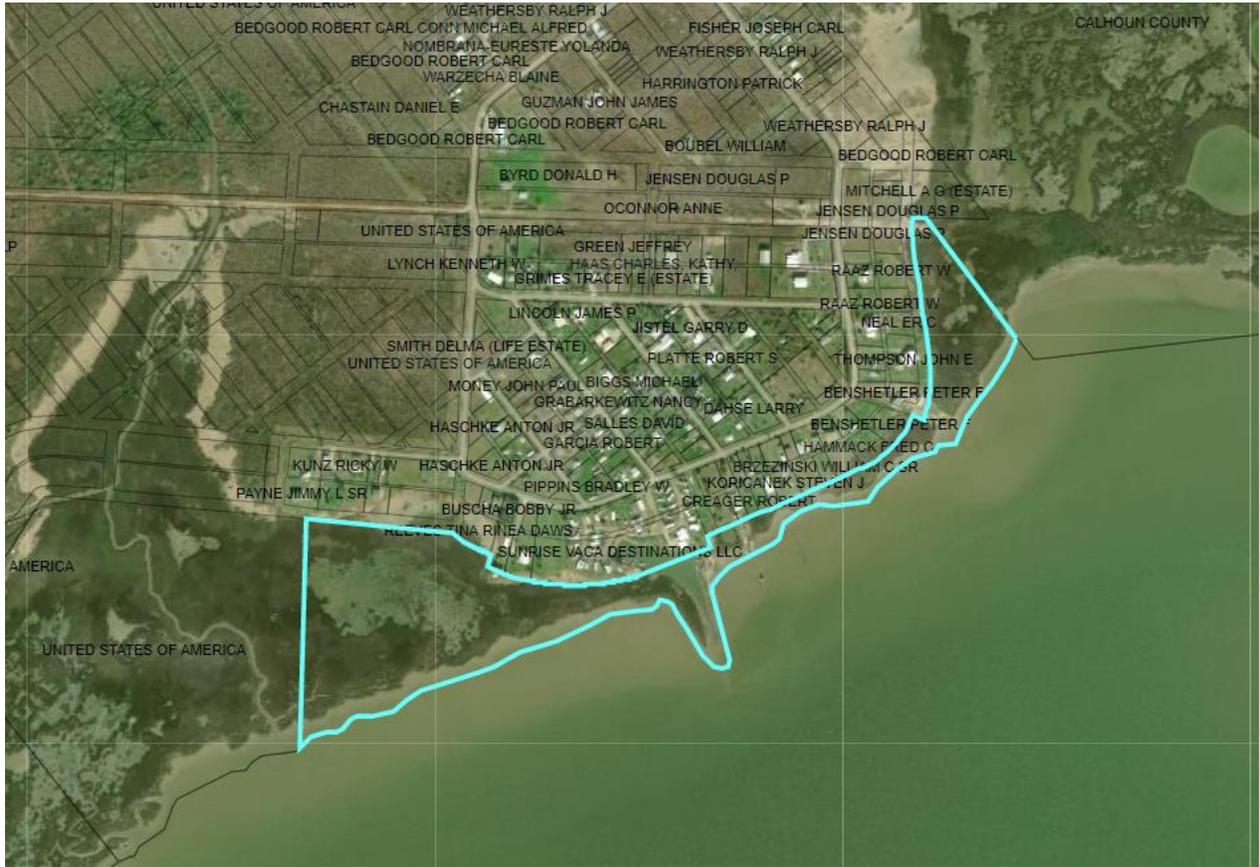
1. Develop plan to control loss of marsh (determine scope and status of erosion control of Powderhorn Lake entrance—this project might / should include this area)

Future Considerations

2. Identify access corridor
3. Develop birding observation point to Indianola Island

10/17/19

6. Powderhorn North Shore Marsh



Preferred Park Use: birding on Marsh

Current Amenities:

- No current access points
- No other amenities

Recommended Improvements:

Future Considerations

1. Identify access corridor
2. Develop birding observation point to Indianola Island

Paddling Trails



Area Paddling Trail Potential			
Trail	Status	Miles	Improvements needed:
Old Towne Lake	Ag Life	2.6	Needs maintenance Access / Kiosk at Boardwalk
LaSalle Loop	Ag Life	3.2	Needs maintenance Access / Kiosk at Monument Improve access at Hospital Bridge
Powderhorn Lake	Ag Life	12.7	Needs maintenance Access / kiosk at FM1289 Access / kiosk future Powderhorn SP
			Add all to TPWD Paddling Trail System
Coloma Creek	Idea	4.7	Extend Powderhorn Trail as part of tpwd app
		23.2	

1. Old Town Lake Trail



Preferred Park Use: Paddling -- approximately 3 miles

Current Amenities:

- Marked Trail and access sites

Recommended Improvements:

1. Re-stake trail (abandon southeastern leg to boardwalk)
2. Improve access point at Crabbing Bridge and clearly mark; purchase property (currently listed for sale?)
3. Add access point off Tap Road
4. Apply for inclusion in TPWD Paddling System along with other area trails

Photos:



10/3/19

2. Lasalle Paddling Trail



Preferred Park Use: Paddling -- approximately 3.8 miles

Current Amenities:

- Marked Trail and access sites

Recommended Improvements:

1. Re-stake trail (abandon southeastern leg to boardwalk)
2. Add access point at LaSalle Monument
3. Add access point off Brighton Road
4. Abandon apparent access point at Black's Bayou
5. Extend trail to Indianola Marina (or intersection of Powderhorn Lake Trail)
6. Apply for inclusion in TPWD Paddling System along with other area trails

10/3/19

3. Powderhorn Lake Paddling Trail



Preferred Park Use: Paddling -- approximately 13.5 + 4.7 miles

Current Amenities:

- Marked Trail and access sites

Recommended Improvements:

1. Re-stake trail
2. Add access point at Indianola Marina
3. Add access point at Powderhorn RV park
4. Add access point off FM 1289
5. Abandon apparent access point at Black's Bayou
6. Future access point at State Park
7. Extend trail up Coloma Creek
8. Connect to proposed Powderhorn Trail from POC Boggy Nature Park
9. Apply for inclusion in TPWD Paddling System along with other area trails

10/3/19

Central Texas Coastal Birding Trail -TPWD

Existing

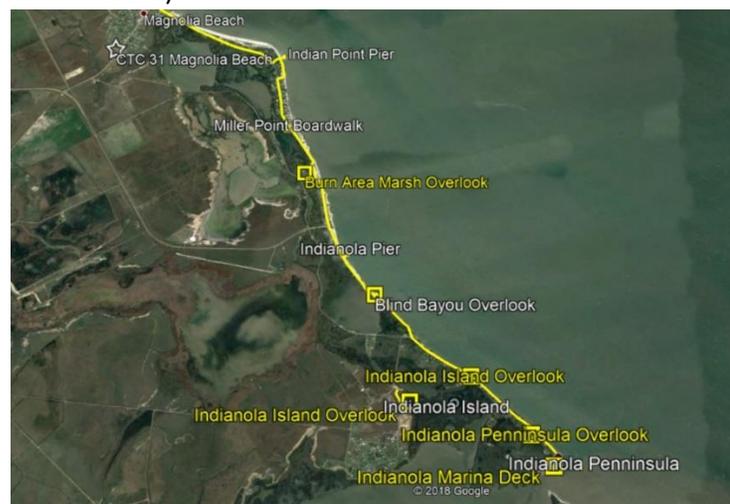


Current Amenities

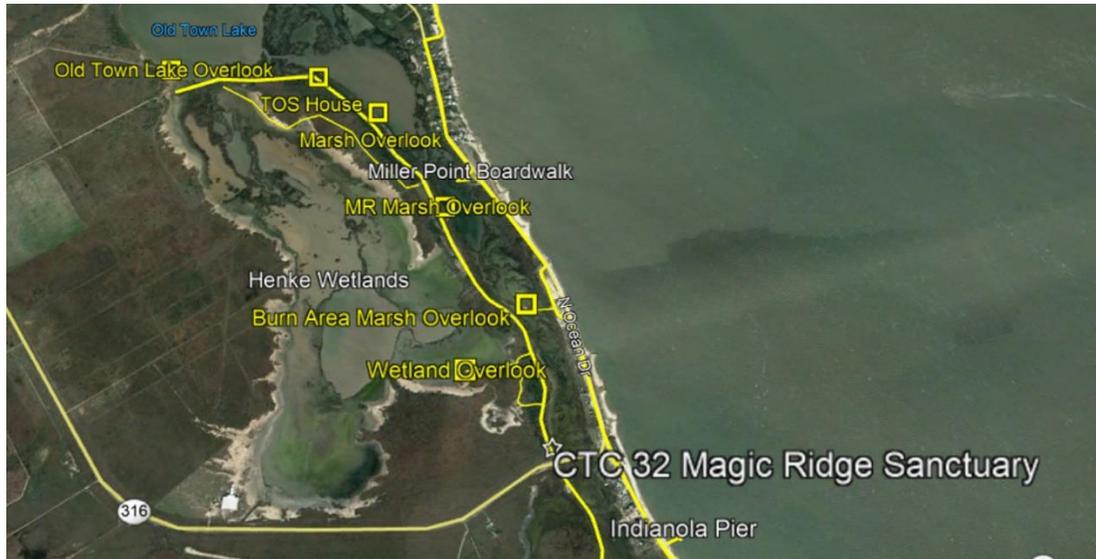
- Brief descriptions of these sites are available on TPWD web site, but lacks specifics.

Recommended Improvements

1. CTC 31 Magnolia Beach- Develop specific driving route down Ocean Drive; add observation points at key locations (Piers, Boardwalk, several new observation platforms, Marina deck)



2. CTC 32 Magic Ridge: Driving & walking tour along Zimmerman Road with several marsh overlook platforms and several walking trails. Purchase land at Tap/ Zimmerman Road- Add observation point here. Construct Living Shoreline here to stop erosion and add land. Add drip station at house. Work with TOS to incorporate County Tracts



3. Develop driving tour along Brighton and Comal Roads to several observation points , ending at Powderhorn Lake overlook.



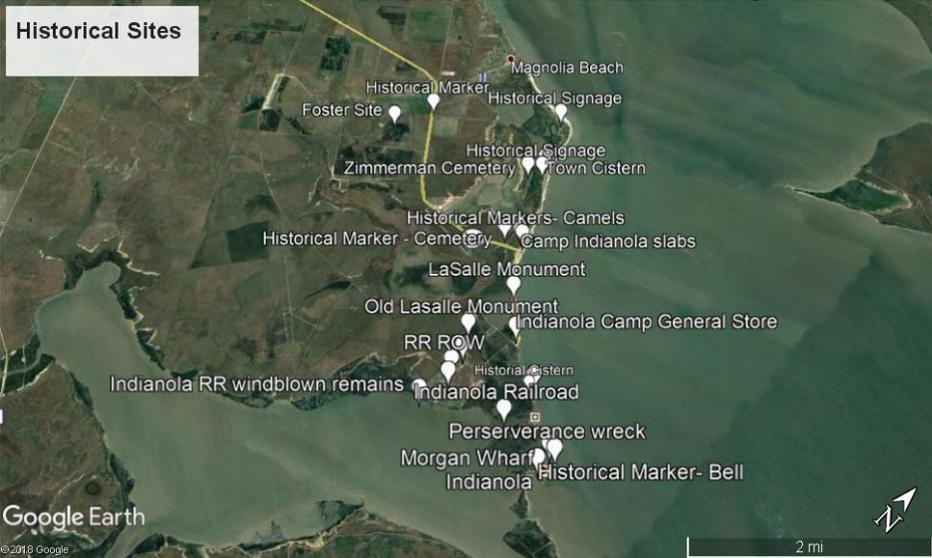
4. Seek expert advice and collaboration from area birder, TOS.
5. Revise Coastal Birding Trail descriptions consistent with the driving tours.

Future Considerations

6. Work with USFW to permit public access to Foster Lake for birding.



Indianola History Trail



Sites of Historical Interest

Port Lavaca - Calhoun County Museum

<p>Hwy 316</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Historical Markers -Chocolate Bayou Boat Ramp _ Battle of Norris Bridge -Fishers Rd & H238 – Little Mary’s grave -H316 & Zimmerman Rd - Cemetery 2. Foster site <p>Ocean Drive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Historical signage - MB 4. Town Cistern 5. Historical signage 6. Camp Indianola slabs 7. Historical Marker – camels 8. LaSalle Monument 9. Camp Indianola General Store site 10. Calhoun County Courthouse site 11. Historical Cistern 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Morgan Wharf 13. Perseverance Wreck 14. Historical Marker – Bell <p>Powderhorn</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Indianola Cemetery 16. Old Lasalle Monument 17. Hospital site 18. Hospital Cistern 19. Railroad ROW 20. Camp Indianola Training bunker 21. Camp Indianola Training bunker <p>Zimmerman Road</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. Zimmerman Cemetery <p>See Indianola Visitors Guide on Calhoun County Museum’s website: calhouncountymuseum.org</p>
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Recommended Improvements:

Develop a History Trail that promotes the Magnolia Beach / Indianola past, starts at County Museum and identifies sites in the area, and tells their stories.

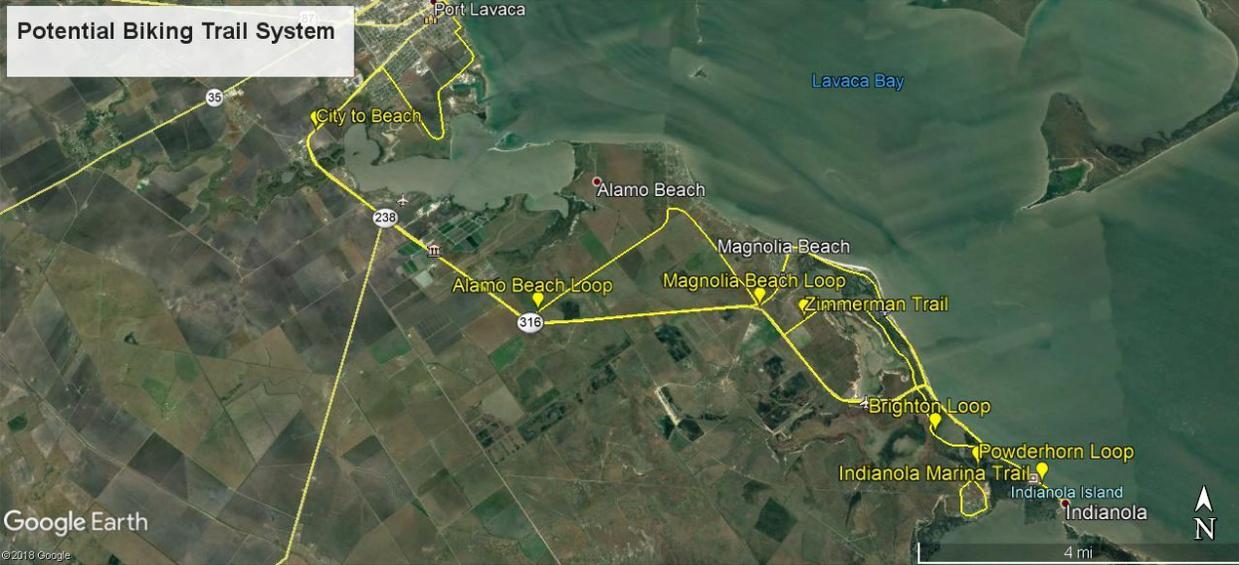
One concept that could be considered is cellular based narratives with chapters:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Karankawa 2. LaSalle 3. Port / Immigration 4. Civil War 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Hurricanes 6. World War II 7. Recent
---	---

Sites above marked on proposed driving route with appropriate text.

Potential Experts to assist: George Anne Cormier, Museum Director; Robert Loflin, Calhoun Historical Society Chair; Jon Kassner, CHC Vice-Chair; Gary Ralston, CHC Treasurer, JC Melchar, Mary Belle Meitzen; Keith Hubbard

Potential Indianola Biking Trail



Potential Biking Trail System -			
	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Points of interest?</u>	
1 Brighton Loop	2.5	LaSalle	
2 Mag Beach Loop	6.5	Beach, Store	
3 Zimmerman Trail	2.5	Bird Sanctuary	
4 Alamo Beach Loop	7.3		
5 Indianola Marina Trail	1.3	Marina	
6 Powderhorn Loop	1.7		
7 City to Beach	10.0	Brew Pub	
	31.8		

Potential Improvement

1. Layout potential routes & points of interests . Identify issues---need area rider familiar with routes

Fostering Magnolia Beach & Indianola Pride

Recommended Improvements

Continue a Magnolia Beach / Indianola Park Improvement Subcommittee as a standing committee of the Parks Board to:

- a. consider and maintain public informational materials and procedures regarding the area (eg, website)
- b. assist in Beach Cleanup efforts by the area's Adopt a Beach program
- c. review and develop content for Kayak Radio station that includes park rules, park amenities, park history, area ecology and ...
- d. Coordinate Volunteer efforts to assist County in park maintenance projects
- e. Distribute information via social media
- f. identify and pursue via appropriate County channels persistent violations of park rules, code and health department standards
- g. Serve as a 'Friends of MB/Indianola Parks'
- h. The two Precinct 1 Park Board members should be ex-officio members.

Chocolate Bayou Boat Ramp



Google Earth

Preferred Park Use: Boat ramp providing access to Bayou and Bay; bank fishing

Current Amenities:

- Boat ramp and parking
- Dock / Bank fishing

Recommended Improvements:

1. Widen boat ramp to 20'
2. Replace bulkhead downstream approx. 100'.
3. Replace bulkhead upstream approx. 50'.
4. Repair security light near parking area (electrical connection must be buried.)
5. Enhance surface behind the bulkhead to bank fishing and attendant vehicles
6. Close area upstream to vehicle traffic with bollard fence
7. Repave access road -1500'
8. Repave parking lot : 100x100';
9. Add signage

(Note- TPWD grant approved to provide funding)

Photos:



Little Chocolate Bayou Park



Preferred Park Use: Multi-purpose

Current Amenities:

- Restrooms
- Picnic facilities with grills, pavilion / group area
- Fishing piers
- Open space heavily used as practice fields
- Outdoor environmental facility
- Community Garden

Recommended Improvements:

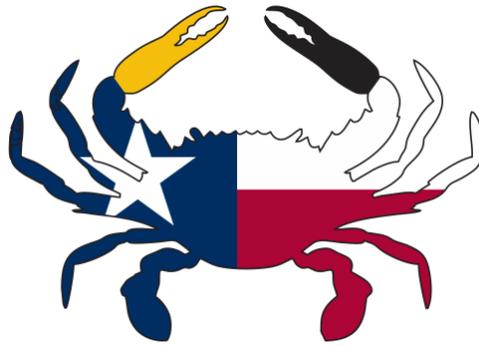
1. improve recreational infrastructure, by making the existing fishing piers and walkways ADA compliant, adding more ADA parking spaces and better lighting
2. add a walking trail
3. adding playground equipment
4. add more covered picnic tables and water stations.
5. Rebuild fishing piers
6. Rebuild road bridge
7. add a dog park

Future Considerations:

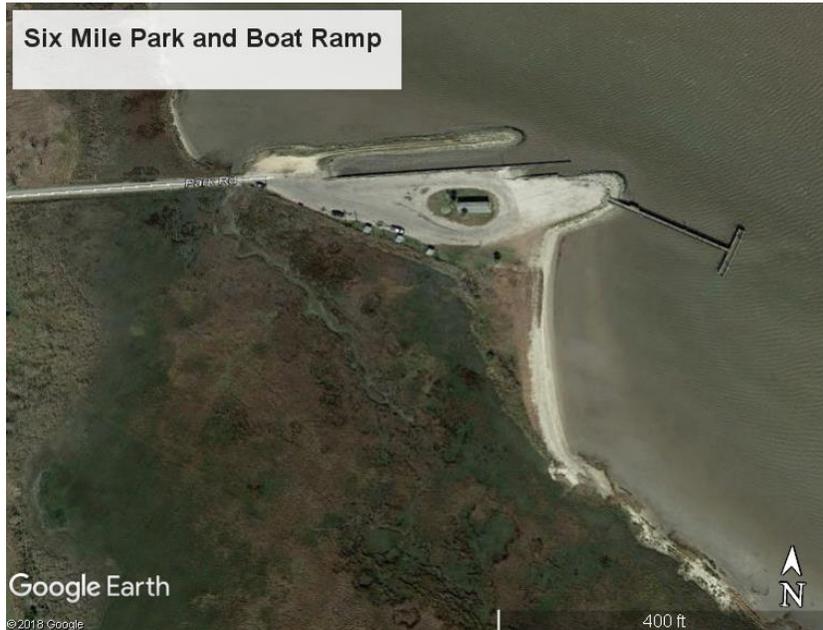
8. add recreational facilities to better use the practice field area
9. add kayaking trail into Chocolate Bay and Bayou
10. extend the outdoor education materials into the paddling trail

Calhoun County Parks Board Precinct 2 Sub-Committee

Park Master Plan Report



Six Mile Park and Boat Ramp (County Road ROW on to GLO land)



Preferred Use: Boat Ramp, Multi use Park, Day Use only

Current Amenities and General Condition

- Light fishing pier – newly repaired
- bank fishing from ramp groyne
- fish cleaning table
- Boat ramp
- covered picnic table (3) – newly refurbished
- group pavilion with grills (60'x25')
- playground equipment – dated
- small, sandy beach
- marsh overlook
- Coastal Birding Trail Marker
- State historical marker – Deleon colony

Improvement Opportunities

1. Upgrade playground equipment
2. additional picnic tables
3. Kayaking Trail from Garcitas and Placedo Creeks

Future considerations

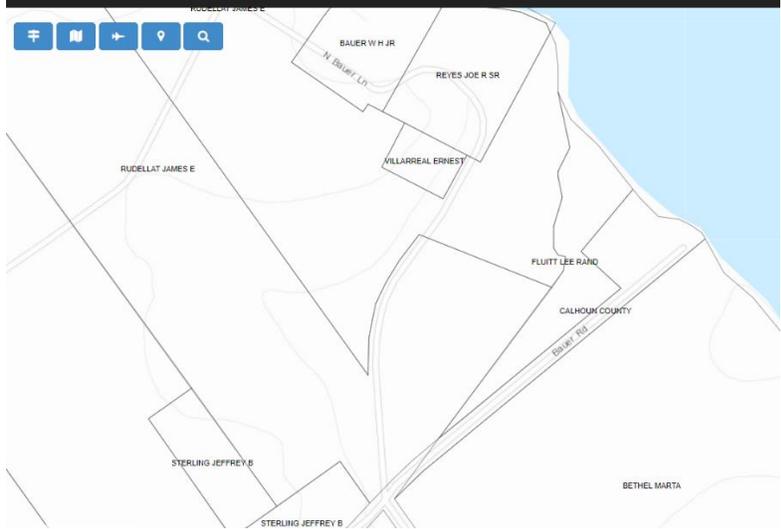
4. Additional parking for trailers. No space is available for additional parking without acquisition of land above the marsh
5. Portable Toilets would improve the utility of the Park; however maintenance and concerns about vandalism limit public support
6. Six Mile Park is small. As the area continues to grow, increasing demand on the Park, the best option to expand would be to duplicate the Park on the 4 acres of County property on Bauer Road.

Feb 13, 2020



Bauer Road - Chval Park

Calhoun CAD Map Search

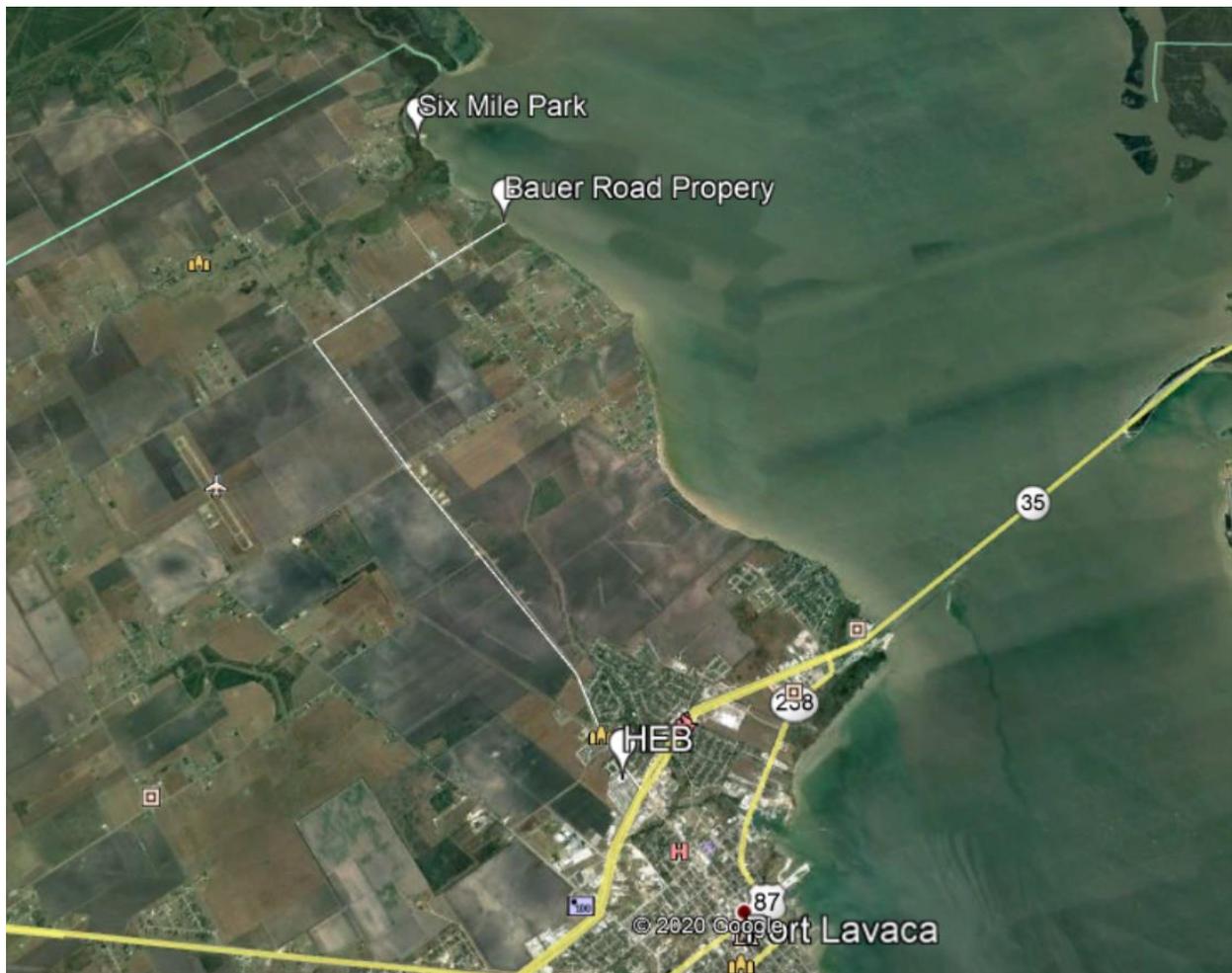


Map showing property boundaries and owner names: BAUER W H JR, REYES JOE R SR, WILLARREAL ERNEST, FLUITT LEE RAND, CALHOUN COUNTY, BETHEL MARTA, RUDELLAT JAMES E, STERLING JEFFREY B.

Property Information (69578)

Owner Name: CALHOUN COUNTY
Doing Business As: Null
Property Identification Number: 69578
Geo Identification Number: A0017-00000-0030-A0
Legal Description: A0017 VALENTIN GARCIA, TRACT PT 12, ACRES 3.93
State Code: X
Address: Null
Taxing Jurisdictions: G05, NV6, S01, FML, CAD, GWD
Appraised Value: \$71,930.00
Neighborhood: REGION 1-RURAL
Abstract Code: A0017

[Property Detail](#) [Zoom In](#)





Background

- Donated to County
- Donor proposes development of dog park? **Contractual obligations?**
- Approximately 4 acres; About 300' of water frontage; about 5.3 miles from H35
- Currently used for materials storage yard
- Parks Board has not developed an improvement plan. Given limited space at Six Mile Park, this site could be developed similarly.
- Donor has suggested that development include a dog park.

Potential Dog Park

Estimated Costs \$30-35k per G&W Engineering



Google Results for dog park grants:

Nutro Room to Run

The Nutro Room to Run program supports public, non-profit dog parks and off-leash areas. Since 2010, the program has helped enhance over 120 dog parks and committed more than 4,000 volunteer hours across North America. Projects included landscaping and adding trees and other [shade structures](#), as well as adding [benches](#), agility equipment, [signage](#) and more for the enjoyment of pets and pet parents. Check their [website](#) for more info.

Doris Day Animal Foundation

The Doris Day Animal Foundation (DDAF) is a national nonprofit founded in 1978 by legendary performer Doris Day. Forty years later, their mission continues: to help animals and the people who love them. As a grant-giving charity, DDAF funds other 501(c)(3) organizations across the US, including community dog parks. They evaluate applications quarterly, with submissions accepted during January, April, July, and October. Click [here](#) for grant guidelines and information.

PetSafe Bark for Your Park

- Through the annual Bark for Your Park competition, PetSafe helps 25 communities across America build and revitalize dog parks. Like applying for grants, there is some information required to enter, so you'll need:

- A letter from a civic leader showing support for your project
- Photos of your future location or current off-leash dog park
- Blueprints of your ideal dog park (be sure to include agility components!)
- A summary of how your community would benefit from the park
- Ways your community has shown support for a dog park. Interested in more info? Click here.

Beneful Dream Dog Park Project

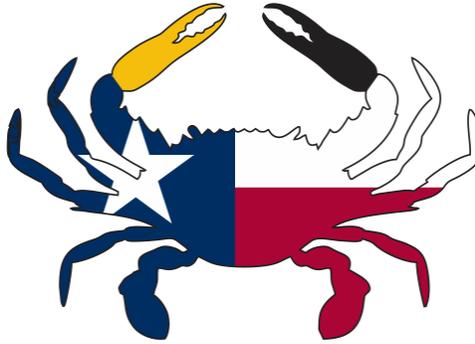
Beneful demonstrates its passion for dog parks by lending a paw to support more than a dozen communities each year. Through its Beneful Dream Dog Park Project, the team provides financial support, hands-on volunteerism and a variety of new resources to share the dog park love. Get the Beneful scoop [here](#). Please keep in mind that eligible parks must be free and open to the public!

The Stanton Foundation

Calling all Massachusetts residents! As part of its mission of encouraging positive dog/human relationships, the Stanton Foundation supports the development of enclosed dog parks in the Commonwealth of MA. This support takes the form of a series of grants to support park design, construction, and capital improvements. Click [here](#) to view contribution and application requirements.

Calhoun County Parks Board Precinct 3 Sub-Committee

Park Master Plan Report



Version 1.0 – Feb 17, 2020



Current Amenities

- Boat Ramp
- Cabanas and picnic
- RV camping
- fishing access off seawall

Improvement Opportunities – see 2012 Shoreline Access Plan

1. Pier
2. Designated RV camping area
3. Restrooms
4. Develop kayak trail system
5. Observation deck overlooking Marsh



Current Amenities

- Access to sandy beach

Improvement Opportunities

1. Restore erosion damage from Harvey (Previous GLO contract 16-384-000-9971)
2. Improve parking
3. Signage
4. Improve walking access to beach
5. Kayaking Trail
6. Fishing from rock groins?
7. Public Boat ramp somewhere in area?

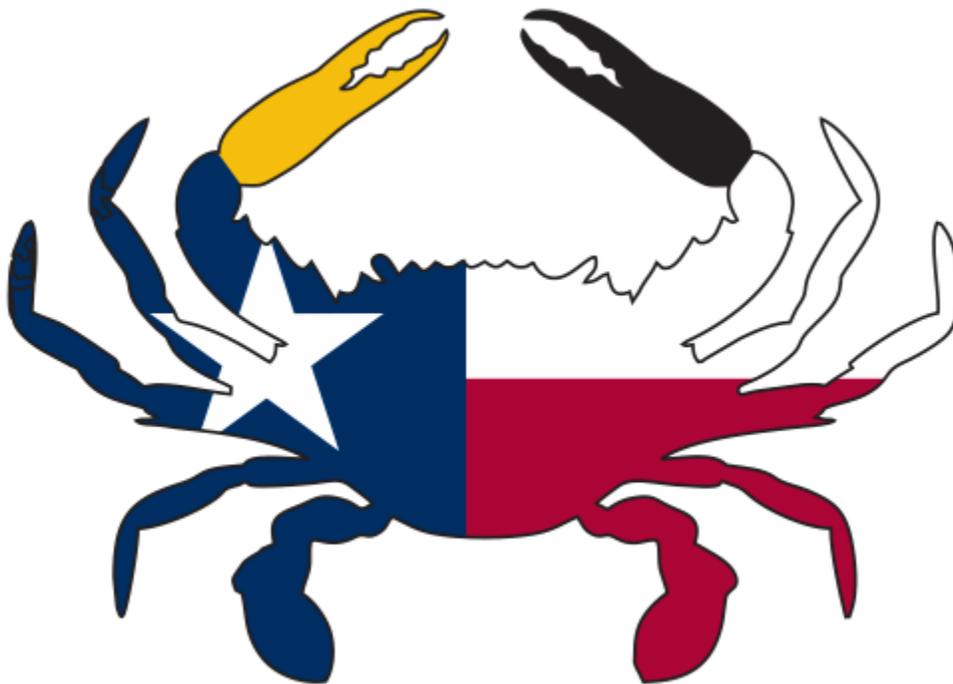
Calhoun County Parks Board

Port O'Connor Area

(Precinct 4 East)

v3 – March 17, 2020

Park Improvement Plan



Boggy Bayou Nature Park Improvement Plan

March 2018



Milestones to date include:

1. March 2018 – citizens committee completes nine-point improvement plan.
2. October 2018 – Calhoun County Parks Board recommends the plan to Commissioners Court.
3. November 2018 – Commissioners Court endorses improvement plan.
4. February 2019 – Commissioners Court funds engineering study to estimate costs of improvement plan and hires a grant writer to seek funding.
5. June 12, 2019 – County submits pre-application to Texas General Land Office(GLO) for a Coastal Management Plan (CMP) grant for about \$140,000 for Phase 1 of the Improvement Plan. (The GLO will advise by Aug 7 and a final application would then be due in October. The grant would include a 40% match from the County.)
6. October 2019 – County advised to submit full application
7. January 2020 County advised of approval of grant application. Timeline for signing contracts is October 2020, with implementation in 2021.
8. June 26, 2019 – Commissioners Court approved application for a CEPRA grant from the GLO for \$49,800 to conduct an engineering study of alternatives to mitigate erosion on the Matagorda Bay shoreline at Boggy. Grant application made before July 1.
9. County advised of acceptance of grant; Matt-McDonald Engineering contracted to conduct study. Study in progress, anticipated results before yearend 2020.

Boggy Nature Park - Nine Point Improvement Plan approved by Commissioner Court 11/18

1. Upgrade roads to Matagorda Bay shoreline and Boggy Bayou shoreline so that it is passable during wet conditions.
 - Crushed concrete or limestone to main access points -shown in white on previous map
 - Allows vehicle access to Matagorda Bay shoreline and to Boggy Bayou shore
2. Convert access to the natural areas to foot traffic only and lay out walking routes and a birding/interpretive trail.
 - Add walking entrance off Taylor Street at 3rd and at 7th Street.
 - Include boardwalk in trail by steps down at end.
 - Educational signage regarding birds and coastal marsh plants should be included.
 - Mark distances for exercise route- up to two miles
 - Natural areas outlined in red on previous map
3. Improve day use / picnic area facilities by installing additional picnic tables and restroom facilities.
 - Add portable toilet at boardwalk / parking area
 - Add additional picnic facilities in several locations.
4. Develop an environmental education area for students that includes salt marsh ecology, native plants, and marsh birds.
 - Covered pavilion at the end of boardwalk to seat 12 students and include a table for educational equipment.
 - Other student workstations for seining, birding, marsh activities.
 - Inaugural field trip on March 19, 2017 for 4-5th graders a great success!
5. Apply to TPWD's Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail. Develop a bird watering / feeding station to enhance the habitat.
6. Apply to TPWD Texas Paddling Trial System as part of a "Powderhorn Ranch Shoreline Trail" from Boggy to FM 1289.
7. Add signage regarding Park rules, safety, restrictions to off road vehicles and illegal dumping.
 - Include students in selection of Park mascot and sign artwork
8. Address Shoreline erosion with groynes and beneficial use of dredge materials.
9. Improve security and surveillance of the Park to curtail inappropriate activities/uses. Discuss with Sheriff; Constable; Community Watch.

Boggy Nature Park Improvement Plan – Phase 1 in June 2019 CMP Grant pre-application

1. Improve access: Grade and level existing sand Roads to improve access to Matagorda Bay shoreline and to Boggy Lake. Install culvert at end of 3rd Street at low spot subject to rainwater and high tides.
2. Protect upper wetlands/sensitive areas from inappropriate vehicle use with bollard fencing. Install a security gate to allow closure of Park when weather conditions require.
3. Add educational venue on existing boardwalk by broadening and covering the end of the walk and adding a down-ramp to a new walking / interpretive trail.
4. Apply for inclusion in TPWD's Coastal Birding Trail.
5. Develop a paddling trail from Boggy Bayou to Indianola and to FM1289 bridge at Coloma Creek; apply for inclusion in TPWD's Paddle Texas system.
6. Add entrance and rules signage to control traffic.

Note: Grant application is for \$143,800, with a 40% County match. The Texas GLO will advise by Aug 7, 2019 if County will be invited to submit full application—due October 2.

Grant application made. Approved in January 2020. Anticipate contracts in October 2020 with implementation in 2021.

Also, a CEPRA grant application for \$49,800 to Texas GLO to study alternatives has been approved by Commissioners Court on June 26, 2019, with submittal before July 1. If the grant is approved by the GLO, there is a 40% County match.

Grant application approved by GLO. Commissioner Reese working to implement study.

3/17/2020

King Fisher Beach



Preferred Park Use: Day use – Family beach access with picnic area, fishing pier

Visitation Level: High

Current Amenities & General Condition:

1. Access to sandy beach that is shallow and family friendly)
2. 11 covered picnic tables
3. large pavilion
4. public restroom
5. beach shower
6. fishing pier

Recommended Improvements:

1. Acquire parcel north of park to protect against development and allow room for other recommended improvements; allows repair of washout of seawall on this section.
2. Improve day use / picnic area by installing additional picnic tables north of Pier & repair existing cabanas
 - a. Service Club of POC has funded replacement of tables and benches—work completed by County.
 - b. Add 4 covered picnic tables to bring total to 15

3. Raise and repair sidewalks to the pavilion to make weather resilient; raise handrail, maintain handicap access
4. Improve handicap access to beach at the sidewalk to the pier
5. Improve handicap access to restroom from the pavilion
6. Improve handicap parking area; re-paint- completed by County
7. Improve young kid's playground equipment
 - a. Chamber of Commerce is pursuing grant for 40'x 50' playground set; beach motif; estimated cost is \$65k.
 - b. Most likely location is north of sidewalk to pier, but need to lay out along with proposed picnic table additions and potential acquisition of northern parcel
8. Install electric outlet to allow use of electric washer with saltwater and for fireworks safety requirements
9. Upgrade flagpole – Service Club donation made; work complete.
10. Add signage regarding park rules, safety, & restrictions to vehicles
11. Continue beneficial use of dredge materials to sustain beach

Future

12. Upgrade restrooms
13. Add groyne on north end of Park to better retain sand
14. If Pavilion to be considered for public rental / reservation, add electric outlets & water connections (locked except for rentals)
15. Acquire submerged lands off Jefferson St. to protect park from development

Photos

Date: 3/17/20

Froggy's Boat Ramp / Port O'Connor



Preferred Park Use: Boat Ramp

Signage

Entry: none; no 'public boat ramp'; Project is a federal Aid in Sports Fish Restoration Act Project sponsored by Calhoun County, TPWD, Department of Interior / USFW

Rules posted:

- Parking areas designated
- No littering

Amenities provided:

- 4 wide concrete boat ramps
- 8 acres parking
- County provides trash service
- restroom in Froggy's bait stand- privately owned
- fish cleaning table in Froggy's

Issues / Abuses:

- major washout issues with ramp
- illegal parking in handicap zones
- fender benders from tight parking

Improvement Opportunities for consideration

1. Address washout issues
2. signage
3. establish and post traffic flows / protocols
4. Add public restroom

3/17/2020

Little Jetties & POC Kayak Launch



County road ROW at intersection of Washington and Commerce St

Current Amenities & Condition? good

1. Access to Little Jetties (USACOE) - popular fishing spot.
2. Location of official start point to POC Paddling Trail. Reasonably clean.
3. Trash can; pickup by County

Recommended Improvements:

1. Improve Access to marsh north of Jetty
2. Install covered picnic tables
3. Install Portable toilet
4. Expand parking
5. Install solar lights at around trail to Jetties
6. Install educational signage re environmental consequences of trash
7. Acquire adjacent vacant lot to expand pocket park
8. Improve walkability of granite jetty

Photos:

Date 3/17/20

16th Street Kayak Launch – S 16th Street at ICW

Amenities provided? Conditions?

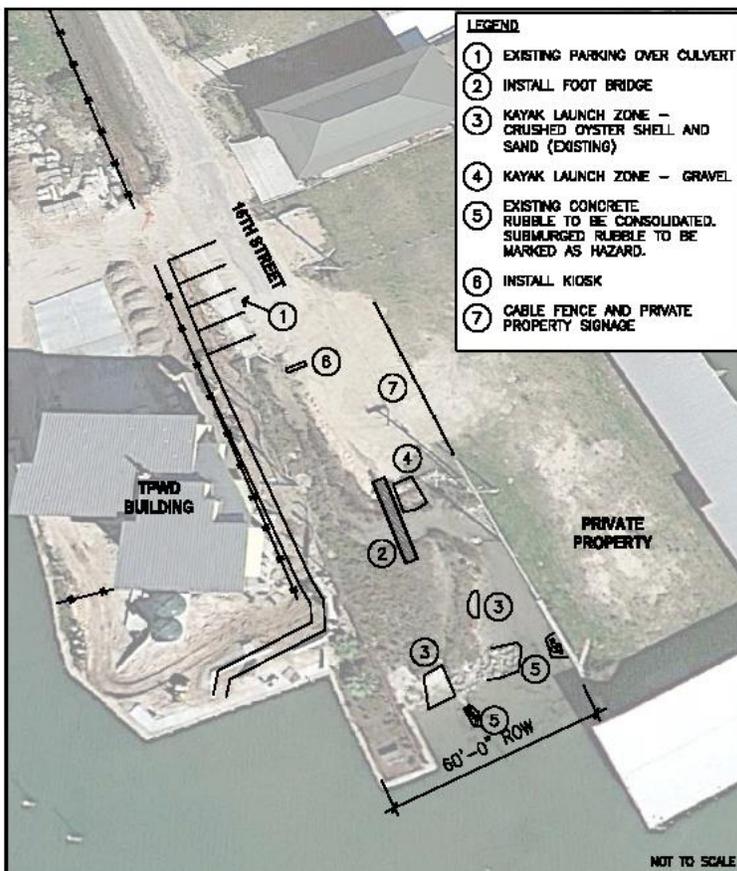
- Free public access to POC Paddling Trail closest to Marker 1
- Parking available at TPWD office on weekends when office closed

Issues / Abuses

- Concrete riprap in water a potential hazard
- Important drainage ditch along 16th Street
- Increasing parking spaces

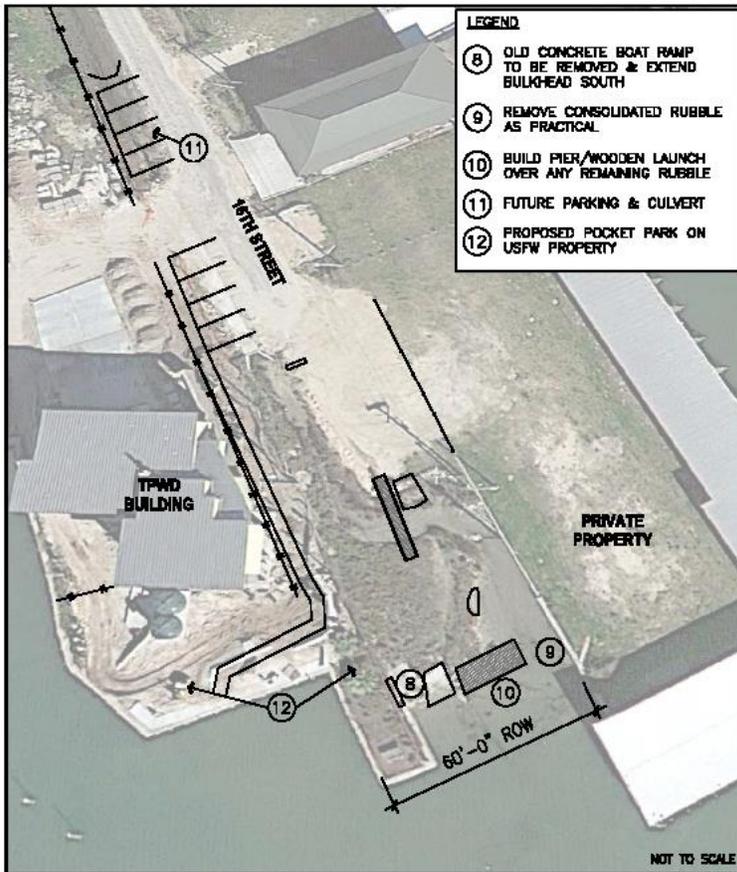
Improvement Opportunities for consideration

1. Develop a kayak launch associated with POC kayak trail
 - minimize interactions with boat launch at Fishing Center
 - provide handicap paddling facility
2. Develop pocket park in partnership with TPWD/USFW bulkhead (fishing)



**PORT O'CONNOR, TX
16TH STREET
KAYAK LAUNCH - PHASE I**





**PORT O'CONNOR, TX
16TH STREET
KAYAK LAUNCH - PHASE 2**



POC Main Street at Matagorda Bay -- Fisherman Access

Main street dead end to Matagorda Bay; County Road ROW



Preferred Use: Fisherman Access to Matagorda Bay Shoreline

Visitation Level: Medium

Current Amenities and General Condition? poor

- Decrepit stairs down bulkhead provide access for wade fisherman to popular fishing spot for those without a boat.
- Sufficient parking on street for several cars; expandable if needed

Recommended Improvements

1. Upgrade stairs, including ability to pull a kayak over the bulkhead for a safer access

Future Considerations:

2. add parking if use grows
3. make a pocket park (picnic tables)

Photos:

date: 3/17/20

POC Washington Street ROW at Matagorda Bay - Fisherman's Access

beach erosion has claimed Washington Blvd



Preferred Use: Fisherman Access to Matagorda Bay Shoreline

Visitation Level: low

Current Amenities and General Condition? poor

Current Amenities & General Condition (Poor)

none

Recommended Improvements

1. Improve access across concrete riprap; consider kayak launch
2. Confirm boundaries of Washington Avenue ROW and county land at dead end

Photos:

Date 3/17/20

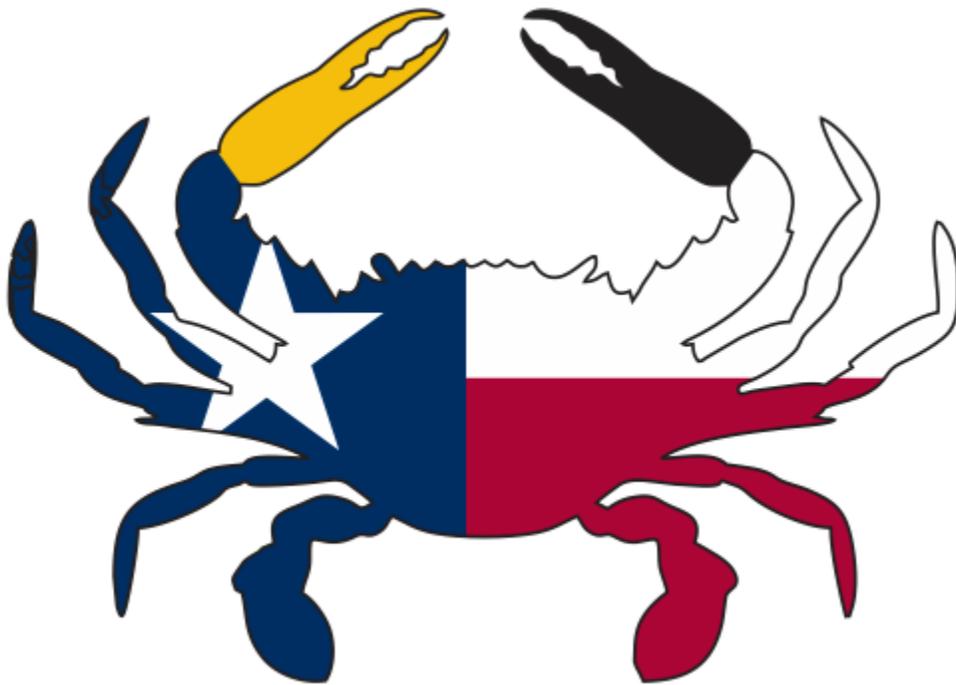
Calhoun County Parks Board

Seadrift Area

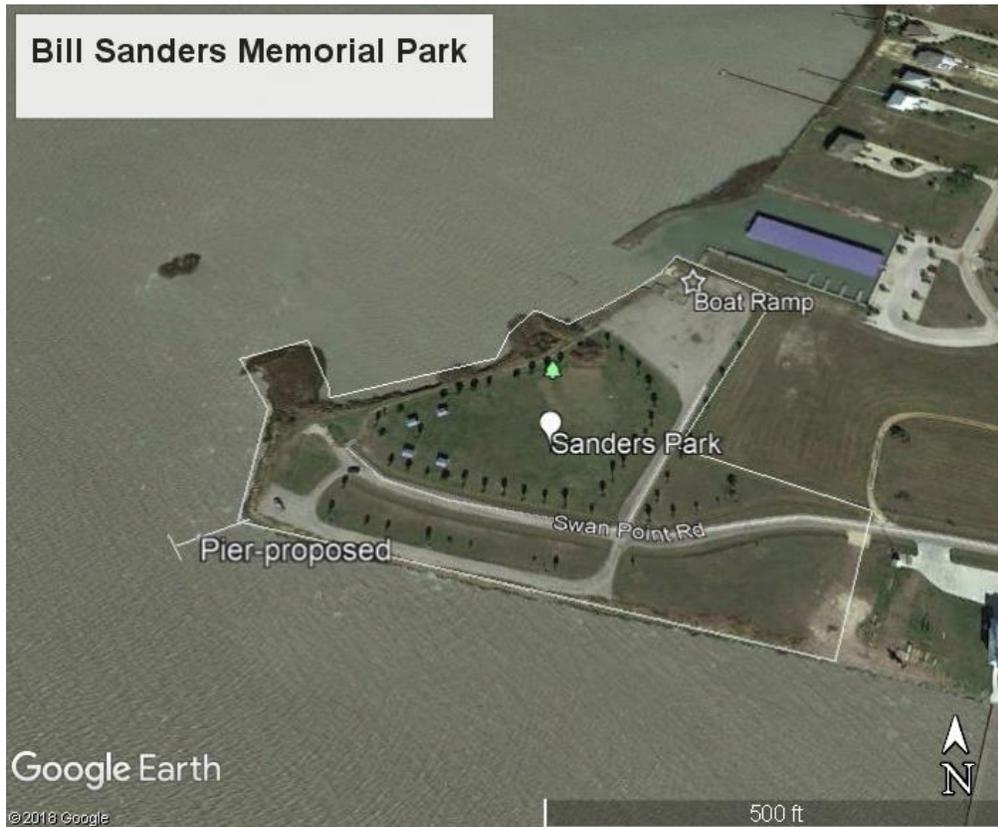
(Precinct 4 West)

v1 – March 31, 2020

Park Improvement Plans



Bill Sanders Memorial Park and Boat Ramp



Current Amenities

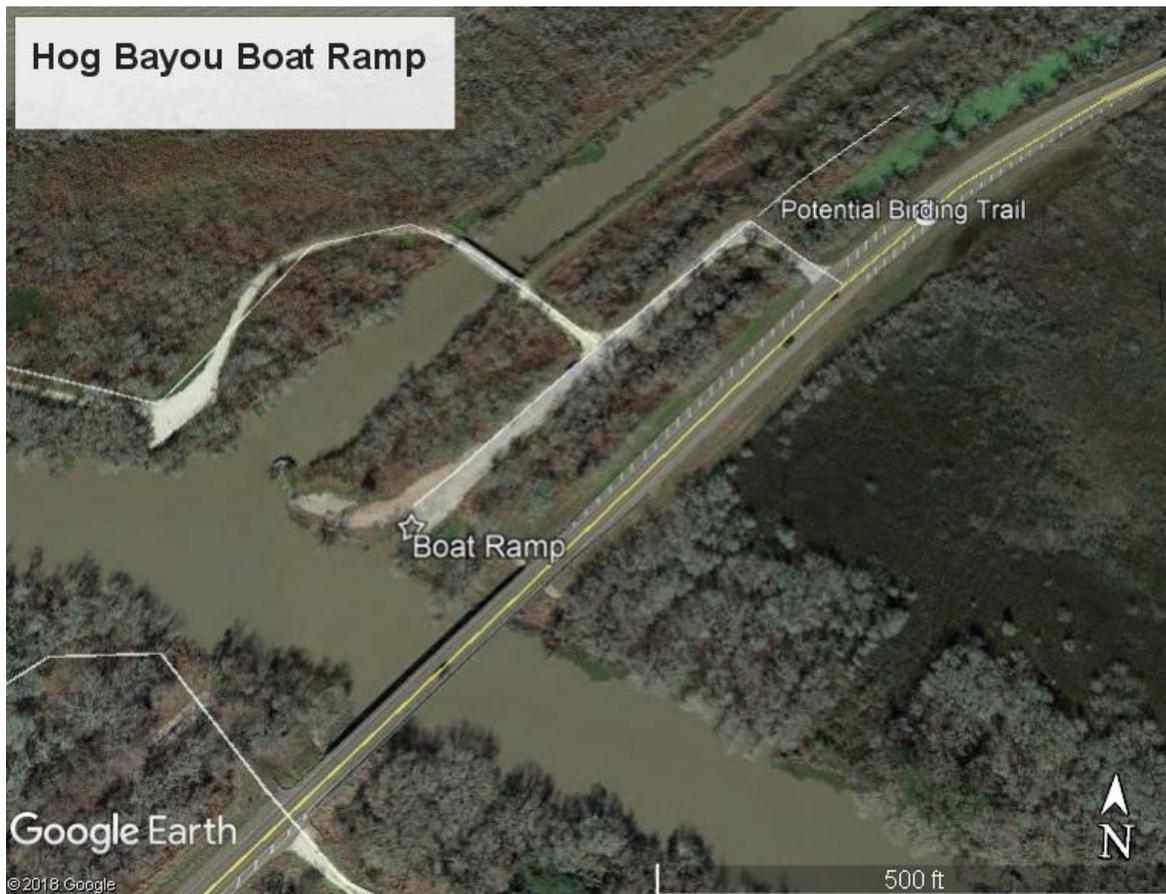
- Boat Ramp and parking lot
- Kayaking trail access point
- Texas Coastal Birding trail
- picnic tables
- fishing off rock-lined bank
- Park re-furbished post Harvey

Improvement Opportunities

1. Install bathroom and hand wash facilities
2. Install fish cleaning table
3. Dredge access channel to boat ramp
4. Pier
5. Playground equipment
6. Walking path
7. Improve lighting

ARB Aug 21, 2020

Hog Bayou Boat Ramp



Amenities provided

- Boat Ramp (needs repair)
- Used for overnight camping
- Unique bayou habitat

Improvement Opportunities for consideration

1. Update agreements with TXDOT
2. Birding trail in riparian H35 ROW
3. Kayak trail
4. Restrict other access points
5. Upgrade ramp and bulkhead
6. Restrooms
7. Picnic tables
8. Regrade parking area
9. Signage and rules
10. Continue efforts to control invasive water hyacinth
11. Educational opportunity: water supply for city of Port Lavaca

Issues / Abuses

- Trashed out by users
- Other unmarked and more remote access used as dump ground
- Invasive hyacinths restrict boat access

Property Ownership

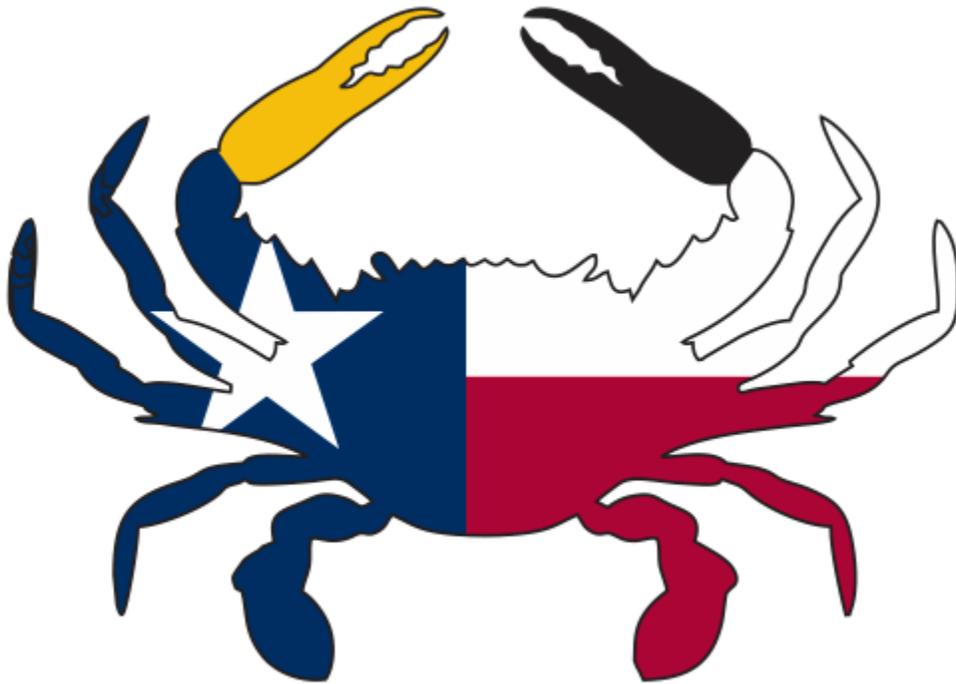


Note that the boat ramp appears to be on private property per County CAD—suspect it is wrong. Likely old hwy 35 txdot row.

Calhoun County Parks Board Green Lake Sub-Committee

December 11, 2019

Green Lake Park Development Plan



Calhoun County's Green Lake Nature Park

Background

- Acquired December 2012 with funds from USFW Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)
 - The Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) provides federal grant funds derived from federal offshore lease revenues to oil producing states for conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas including wetlands
- National Park Service assisted in developing a Master Plan with significant public input that included:
 - Natural resource and wildlife management
 - Visitor facilities, including a RV park with 75-100 spaces
 - Infrastructure
 - Issue: Inclusion of RV park in development plan is inconsistent with CIAP funding
- The Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust will provide \$10M toward the development and Operation of Green Lake over 5 yearss
- Parks Board approach
 - Be positioned to respond when funding clarified and available
 - Review / update development plan for Park for Court's consideration

Green Lake Park- Preliminary Revised Master Plan

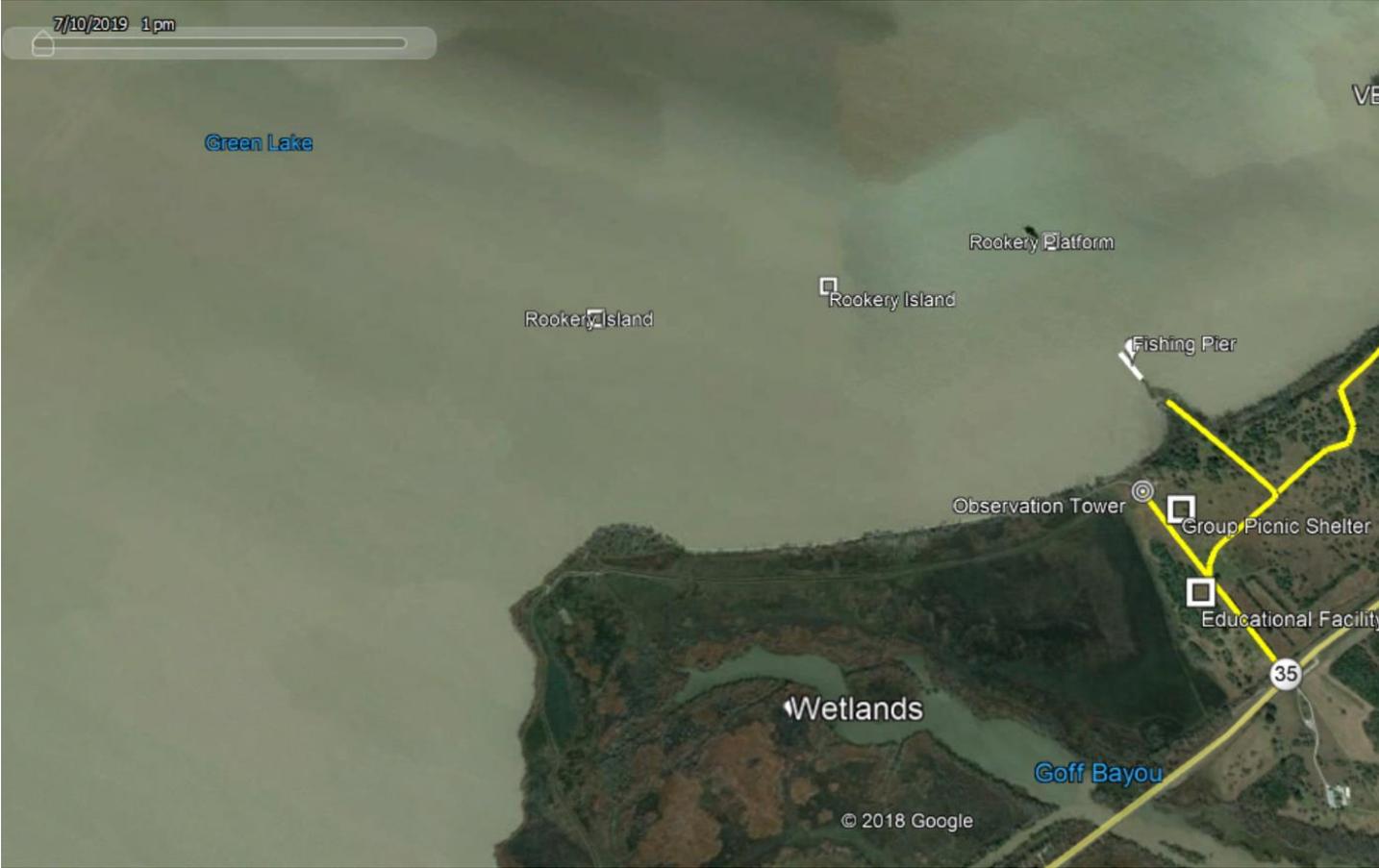
- Maintains the natural resource and wildlife management elements envisioned in NPS Plan with a focus on conservation per CIAP funding.
- Removes RV Campground as inconsistent with CIAP funding.
- Maintains other visitor access and amenities in NPS Plan except:
 - consolidates Visitor Center and Educational Center,
 - paddle craft only on the lake.
- Recognizes necessity of long-term repairs to levee breach and for erosion control of lake shoreline
- Recognizes that Park must be staffed whenever open
 - need to improve understanding of visitor's interest to inform park operations plan (hours, staffing, rules, fees...)
- Anticipates the need to address funding for Park operations as part of a County – wide assessment of enhanced funding for County Parks.
- Anticipates that additional development funding may be available thru grants and that Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust funding can be leveraged.

Park Board's Way Forward

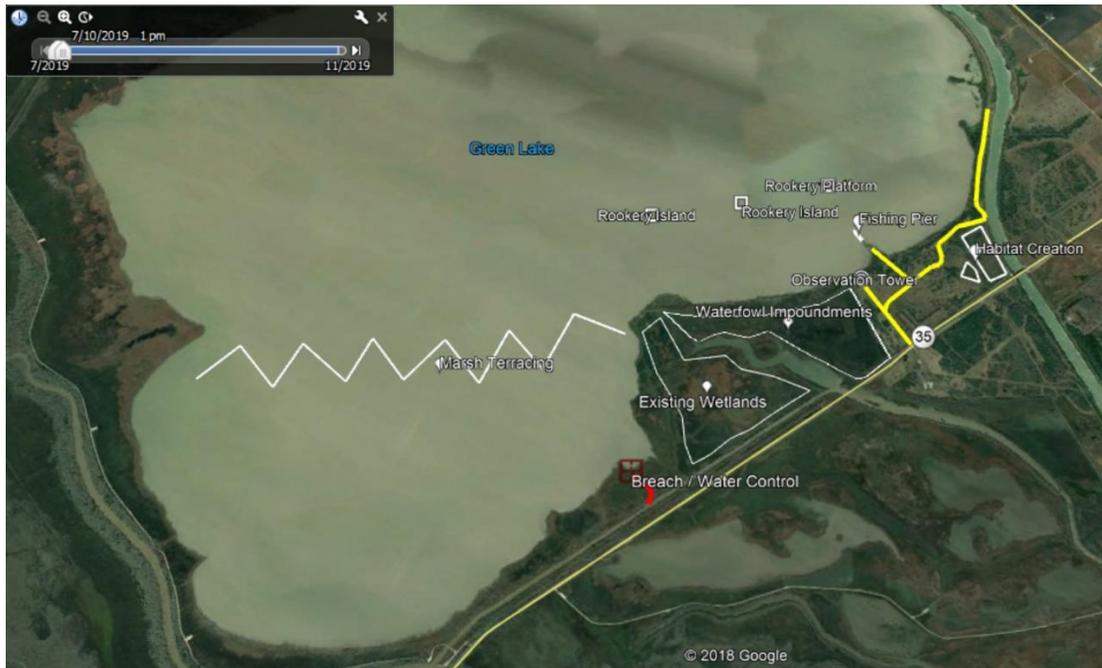
- Reconvene Expert Advisory Group and full Citizens Advisory Committee to discuss Preliminary Revised Master Plan, including Park operations plan (hours, staffing, rules, fees,...) , including open park day for public.
- Revise Plan based on input from experts and citizens.
- Recommend Revised Plan to Commissioners Court .
- Conduct preliminary engineering study to determine feasibility and costs-- as soon as funding is available.
- Recommend changes / deferrals to the Plan to be consistent with available funding.

Green Lake Nature Park Revised Development Concept (Preliminary) – Draft 2

Park Overview

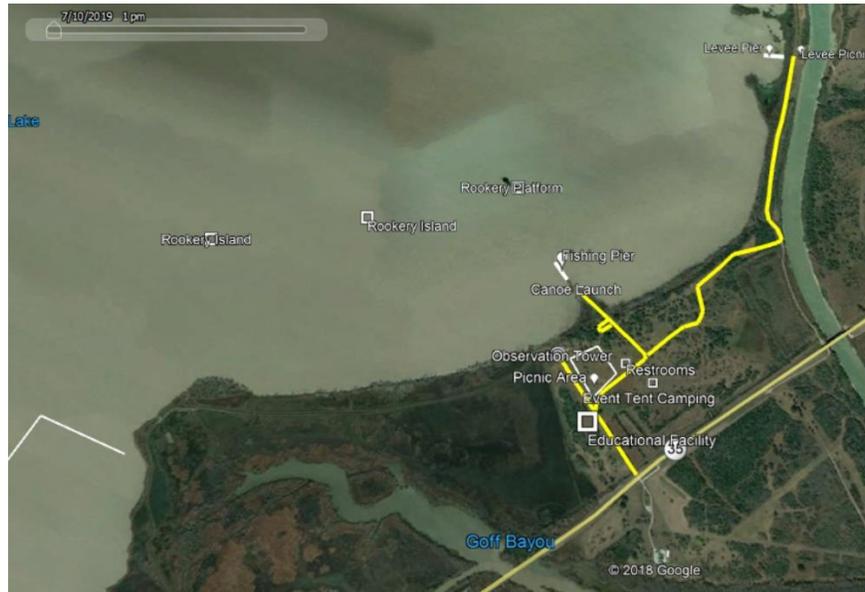


Natural Resources and Wildlife Management



Natural Resources & Wildlife Management	Description	
1 Breach Repair / Water Control Structure	Repair recent breach to GBRA Diversion Channel; Install structure to control lake water level	
2 Water Fowl Impoundments	Create waterfowl impoundments: Levees and water control structures to allow flooding in fall/winter & dewatering in spring/summer. Approx 100 acres.	
3 Artificial Rookeries	Creation of Artificial Rookery Islands:	
a. Islands (2)	Enhance and expand old oil pads	
b. Wooden Platform	Build adjacent to existing 0.4 acre island; 50'x200'	
4 Marsh Terracing of SW Lake	V shaped, 40' at base, 10' at top; 2' above water to reduce wave action, decrease turbidity, and create conditions favorable to the establishment of marsh vegetation and prevent erosion of south shore. Approx 1.75 miles across to western shore.	
5 Habitat Creation -	Provide year round water source; water control structures	
a. Spoil Area - 15 acres	Existing berm; Remove invasives	
b. Artificial marsh - 2.5 acres	Restore old waterfowl area	

Visitor Facilities



Hiking / Birding Trails



Visitors Facilities		Description
6	Fishing Pier & Rookery Observation	300' with 50' T; Remote parking - 10 vehicles- 150x50'
7	Canoe & Kayak Launch	Single lane ramp; Paddle craft and electric trolling motors only, Parking f
8	Observation Tower	Provides outstanding views across lowlands, the southern edge of Green waterfowl impoundments, the existing bird rookery and the lake
9	Picnic Facilities - Main	Signature picnic facility. Screened, include access to water and electricity
	a. Picnic tables - covered	10 covered tables each with grill and trash receptacles
	b. Group site	Signature picnic facility. Screened, include access to water and electricity
	c. Levee Area	5 covered tables each with grill and trash receptacles
10	Restrooms	
	a. Toilets	
	b. showers	for use by Event camping only - 2 stalls
11	Tent Camping Sites- 20	For event camping only, eg Boy Scouts, Permit required
12	Hiking / birding trails	
	a. Existing Waterfowl area	1.6 miles
	b. Board walk	.3 miles
	c. Waterfowl impoundment / levees	1.4 miles
	d. Middle Trail	.5 miles
	e. Barge Canal Levee Area	2.0 miles
13	Birding / Photo Blinds	At existing wetlands, waterfowl impoundments, and Fresh water marsh
14	Small fishing pier & VBC Bank fishing	300'; parking 5 vehicles
15	Educational Facility	This structure should serve dual purposes as educational / classroom sp weekday school field trips and interpretive exhibits re Green Lake's uniq visitors. Restrooms facilities provided facilities also. Appropriately sized area.

Infrastructure



Infrastructure		
16	Park Highway Entance	
17	Entrance Station	
18	Roads	
	a.Limestone Entrance Road	.4 miles
	b.Pier Road	.4 miles
	c. Levee Road	1.1 miles
	d. Maintenace Road	.1 miles
	d water Control Structure	
19	Parking	
	a. Observation Tower	10 vehicles
	b. Main Pier	10 vehicles
	c. Levee	5 vehicles
20	Perimeter Fencing	
21	Water Well	
22	Maintenance	
	a. Facility	
	b. Equipment	
Project Design and Management		
23	Feasibility Study	
24	Professional Services	
25	Administration	

Green Lake Park Revised Development Plan – Discussion Guide

- Green Lake is a conservation jewel and an asset to the County.
- The original NPS-led Master Plan is available at https://issuu.com/npsrctcatexas/docs/final_greenlake
- The proposed revisions to the NPS-led development plan include:
 - Natural area and Wildlife Management plan are unchanged, but accomplished in earlier phase.
 - Public access and enjoyment of the Park is important but will be limited to daylight hours with seasonal variations.
 - A full amenity RV Campground is judged as inconsistent with the foundational grants and deleted from the Plan.
 - A tent rustic camping site is included for events only; permits required. (eg Boy Scouts)
- The conservation enhancements envisioned in the Plan can be accomplished independent of the public access amenities.
 - proposed enhancements are consistent with Federal and State Agency objectives and Conservation NGO's, especially given Green Lake's uniqueness
 - The County will need technical assistance to the scope and design of the conservation enhancement plans
- The Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust will provide \$10 million for Green Lake development and operation over the next 5 years
 - Consideration should be given to leveraging those funds for requisite local match for grants & for creation of an endowment that might provide operating funds
 - Additional funds can be pursued thru County wide Parks fees for all County Parks. The public access amenities have two barriers:
- Park Operational Model
 - Park will be staffed when open
 - Public access is limited and supervised
 - March – Oct : Open to public Fri-Sunday; daylight; Winters: shorter hours
 - Year round: Events, Birding and other groups by appointments only
 - Fees for entry and for groups
- Operational Costs
 - 2 people
 - \$150k x 2 = \$300 k / yr
 - Potential Revenue Sources
 - Entrance Fees : How many visitors? See NPS report for resident feedback on use and fees
 - Part of County-wide park fee structure to be considered by the Park Board
- Issues / Liabilities
 - safety of visitors while at the park
 - potential for vandalism of park infrastructure
- County Parks Organization
 - Public access to Green Lake will trigger need for dedicated Park staff
 - Investigate opportunities to combine with other County Park needs
 - Park Department ranger, county wide, fulltime for enhanced enforcement of County Park Rules?

Grant Opportunities - Overview

Coastal Management Plan (CMP)

Purpose: to improve the management of the state's coastal resources and ensure the long-term ecological and economic productivity of the coast.

- Includes public access enhancements to coastal natural resource areas and planning, community engagement, and restoration to enhance coastal resiliency.
- Funding from NOAA; managed by Texas General Land Office (GLO). Eligible applicants include coastal counties.
- The Land Commissioner may contribute up to **\$100,000** in CMP funding to support §306A (construction) projects, including public access enhancements and education and outreach that involves ground-moving activities.
- For §306A projects that provide habitat protection or increase public access through land acquisition, the Land Commissioner may contribute up to **\$400,000** in CMP funding.
- **40% local match** (can include in-kind services). Application process begins each June; 18-month implementation period after award.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Boating Access

- Provides 75% matching fund grant assistance to construct new, or renovate existing, public boat ramps that provide public access to public waters for recreational boating.
- Local government sponsors must make an application, provide the land, provide access to the proposed boat ramp, supply 25% of the development costs, and accept operation and maintenance responsibilities for a minimum 25-year period.
- Program assistance will be in the form of a one-time grant, and the local sponsor must be willing to assume all maintenance responsibilities, including grass mowing and weed control, litter/refuse pick-up and removal, signage maintenance, security surveillance, plus necessary repairs and renovations, as needed, to insure public use and safety.
- Program receives funding from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act.
 - Funds for the federal program are derived from the federal gasoline tax generated by sales of gasoline for recreational motorboats and a federal excise tax on the sales of fishing tackle and trolling motors.

- Fifteen percent of the state’s annual apportionment from this federal program must be used to provide public recreational boating access.
- The deadline for this program is **October 1st** each year. The maximum amount which may be requested for assistance is **\$500,000** in matching grant funds. Recommendations to fund individual projects typically will be placed on the January and August Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting agenda.

What Boating Access Funds:

- Launching facilities, such as ramps and boat lifts
- Breakwaters
- Loading docks
- Land acquisition
- Fish cleaning stations
- Restrooms, sewage treatment facilities, showers, potable water, security lights
- Parking areas associated with the access facilities
- Camping facilities at areas accessible only by boat (must be accessible to motorboats)
- Access roads, bridges, signals, and other requirements to provide the public access to boating facilities
- Engineering (planning and design), and environmental clearance and permit costs
- Retaining walls to protect integrity of boat ramps and associated parking lots (limited to 200 feet on either side of constructed facilities)
- Dredging, stump removal, and aquatic weed control when activity can be shown to clear lanes to make water body more accessible primarily for recreational motorboats as opposed to general navigation
- Navigational aids in the immediate area of access facilities
- Signage for effective use of access facilities and recognition of the Sport Fish Restoration Program

TPWD: Community Outdoor Outreach Program

About: CO-OP grant provides funding to local governments and non-profit organizations for programming that introduces **under-served populations** to environmental and conservation programs.

Who We Fund: Grants are available to tax-exempt organizations and local governments introducing non-traditional constituents to TPWD related outdoor recreation, conservation and environmental education programs. **Identified targeted audiences; females, physically/mentally challenged, ethnic minorities, low income and youth.**

What We Fund: CO-OP provides grants to tax-exempt organizations ranging from **\$5,000 to \$50,000**. This is a **reimbursement grant program**. Eligible organizations can apply to use these funds for programming expenses such as equipment, leasing transportation, staff, liability insurance, food, program materials, etc.

When We Fund: funded annually following the application deadline of **February 1st** each year.

TPWD Local Parks Grants

- consists of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas.
- **50% matching grants** on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. All grant assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public.
- Eligible applicants include cities, counties, river authorities, municipal utility districts, and other special districts.
- Funded annually following the **October 1st** application deadline each year. Applications will be accepted through [Recreation Grants Online](#).
 - Complete applications are evaluated using the Priority Scoring System.
 - Funding recommendations are presented to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission.
- Funding comes from a portion of the state sales tax on sporting goods through the Recreation and Parks Account and the Large County & Municipality Recreation & Parks Account. Also funds come from off- shore gas royalties through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

TPWD Trails Grants

- TPWD administers the National Recreational Trails Fund in Texas under the approval of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).
- This federally funded program receives its funding from a portion of federal gas taxes paid on fuel used in non-highway recreational vehicles. The reimbursable grants can **be up to 80%** of project cost with a maximum of **\$200,000** for non-motorized trail grants and a maximum award of \$400,000 for motorized (off-highway vehicle) trail grants (call 512-538-4427 for more information regarding potential motorized trail grants).
- Funds can be spent on both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects such as the construction of new recreational trails, to improve existing trails, to develop trailheads or trailside facilities, and to acquire trail corridors.

RESTORE Texas's share of BP Horizon oil spill funds funneled thru TCEQ.

Texas RESTORE: Texas State Expenditure Plan: \$31.3 million from Sept 2018 to August 2022. To target Harvey disaster counties, including Calhoun. Four programs at \$7.8 million each:

1. **Nature based tourism** Working with the Governor-established Commission to Rebuild Texas, the program will identify projects that will provide nature-based tourism and restoration benefits to the local community while providing environmental and ecosystem education and recreation that will encourage action toward a healthier coast.
 - Activities focus on providing nature-based tourism educational exhibits, repairing public facilities and conducting debris clean-up to rebuild nature-based tourism.

- Projects selected may include the restoration of piers, docks, bird viewing towers, eco-tourism, as well as the development of public marinas, boat ramps and park amenities.
 - These projects would benefit both the environment and economy by protecting natural resources in the affected areas, resulting in a positive impact to nature-based tourism.
- 2. Removal of Debris and associated sediment from creeks, bayous, and other waterways:** primary activity supports mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources.
- Projects would focus on flooding, erosion, ecological and economic issues. Possible activities could include removal of debris or associated sediment that have caused distress in the waterflow or flooding in other surrounding areas due to blockage of a waterway.
 - Removal of debris and sediment must be limited to those efforts which would result in improvements to water quality or living coastal and marine resources.
 - Activities will not include removal of debris and associated sediment for navigation or other purposes that do not meet the selected eligible activity of mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife and natural resources.
 - This program links to the Restore Water Quality and Quantity goal included in the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council’s Comprehensive Plan (“Plan”). Removal of debris in waterways will assist in improving the region’s fresh, estuarine and ultimately marine waters and will also help to reduce flooding in surrounding areas.
 - Projects would aid in restoring freshwater flows to the Gulf of Mexico that promote a healthy ecosystem and enhance the economy and provide for sustainable living. Activities could address erosion, flooding, freshwater inflows, debris and/or sediment removal, because of lodged debris and changed waterflow, for projects that would result in improvements to water quality or living coastal and marine resources.
- 3. Water quality and quantity**
- The primary eligible activity that this program supports is restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region.
 - Projects would focus on restoring natural hydrology, freshwater flows, and salinity levels in coastal waterways, thereby directly benefiting ecosystems. Activities may include processes to improve water quality, water quantity, enhance freshwater inflows, restore natural hydrology, and restore salinity levels in coastal waterways and wetlands thereby improving the ecosystem.
 - Links to the Restore Water Quality and Quantity goal included in the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council’s Comprehensive Plan (“Plan”). Restoring and protecting water quality and quantity activities will improve the native coastal prairie, intermediate and brackish wetlands and bottomland hardwoods while allowing the progression of freshwater into the Gulf of Mexico.
 - The Plan’s goal to Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy will also be addressed. Projects would support water quality and quantity initiatives designed to benefit the ecosystem. Activities could assist in revitalizing a Gulf economy that relies on the seafood industry. Projects allowing freshwater inflows through inland areas and/or wildlife management areas that ultimately benefit habitat and water quality to marshes and wetlands may be examples of projects undertaken.

4. Shoreline and beach restoration

- The primary eligible activity that this program supports is restoration and protection of natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast Region. Projects within this program would focus on erosion, habitat restoration and economic vitality.
- This program links to the Restore and Conserve Habitat goal included in the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's Comprehensive Plan ("Plan"). Projects would restore and conserve habitats and support healthy ecosystems through activities such as the restoration of dunes, beaches, marine habitats, living shorelines, shoreline stabilization and the enhancement of wetlands.
- The Plan's goal to Restore and Revitalize the Gulf Economy will also be addressed. Projects would support tourism and economic interests and could include activities such as the restoration and conservation of marine habitats for recreational fishing or seafood industry purposes, restoration and enhancement of beaches and dunes, shoreline stabilization for erosion protection and the protection and enhancement of wetlands to enhance the sustainability and resiliency of the Gulf economy.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)

The mission of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Program is to restore natural resources injured as a result of oil spills or hazardous substance releases into the environment. In partnership with affected state, tribal and federal trustee agencies, the NRDA Restoration Program conducts damage assessments which are the first step toward resource restoration and used to provide the basis for determining restoration needs that address the public's loss and use of natural resources. Once the damages are assessed, the NRDA Restoration Program negotiates legal settlements or takes other legal actions against the responsible parties for the spill or release. Funds from these settlements are then used to restore the injured resources at no expense to the taxpayer. Settlements often include the recovery of the costs incurred in assessing the damages. These funds may also be used to fund damage assessments in future incidents. All actions taken by the NRDA Restoration Program on behalf of citizens of the United States are done with the goal of restoring injured natural resources.

GOMESA:

On December 20, 2006, the President signed into law the [Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 \(Pub. Law 109-432\)](#). The Act significantly enhances OCS oil and gas leasing activities and revenue sharing in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). The Act:

- shares leasing revenues with Gulf producing states and the Land & Water Conservation Fund for coastal restoration projects;
- funds flow directly to counties; environmental restoration and ecotourism

The federal register <https://www.boem.gov/80-FR-81454/> gives all the details, including this on page 6 of the pdf:

Shared GOMESA revenues are reserved for the following purposes:

- (1) Projects and activities for the purpose of coastal protection, including conservation, coastal restoration, hurricane protection, and infrastructure directly affected by coastal wetland losses;
- (2) Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources;
- (3) Implementation of a federally approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan;
- (4) Mitigation of the impact of OCS activities through the funding of onshore infrastructure projects; and
- (5) Planning assistance and administrative costs not-to-exceed 3 percent of the amounts received.