

Proposed Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area



Surprise Yourself!

Discover the Lone Star Coast

Come see a side of Texas you've never seen before. A place with so many colorful songbirds—vireos, orioles, tanagers, buntings – that the migrating flocks show up on radar. A place with hiking and kayak trails threading through watery cypress forests and cordgrass marshes. An angler's saltwater soup of redfish, flounder, and speckled trout. Some of the best winter surfing east of California—especially for shortboarders. And a Victorian town so historical and romantic that Glenn Campbell sang a love song to it.



A Secure Future for Coastal Communities

The Proposed Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area

A mosaic of lands located near Houston, our nation's fourth largest and most ethnically diverse city, is proposed for inclusion within America's National Park System (see map on reverse side). The proposal, developed by a public/private partnership including a steering committee led by Houston businessman John L. Nau, III and Secretary James A. Baker, III, and representatives from landowning local, state and federal governments and non-governmental organizations, must be approved by Texas officials and designated by Congress.

The benefits are broad; the community supporters, diverse. In addition to improved access to outdoor recreation, increased nature and heritage tourism, and conservation of important natural

ecosystems, the partners seek a more resilient economy that can quickly rebound from storms. The proposal is also specifically structured to respect property rights. Participants will help develop the management plan and collaborate on governance of the recreation area. There will be no requirements for landowners who do not choose to participate.

Projected economic benefits of the proposed Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area include 1.5 million annual visitors supporting a four-fold increase in local sales revenues and an 11% increase in tourism-related jobs — all within one decade.

Learn more at lonestarcoastal.org



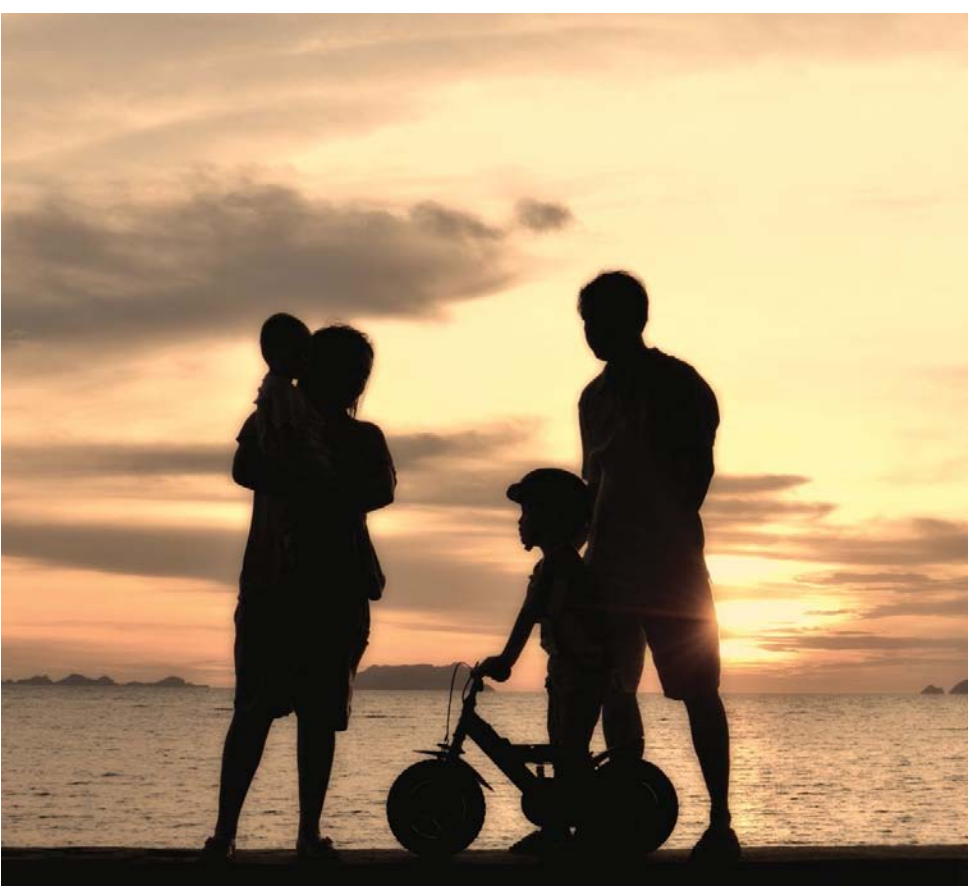
Hurricane Ike's 18 to 20-foot surge struck Texas in 2008, underscoring the need to enhance coastal resilience and mitigate storm damage. Rice University's SPCED Center proposed the Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area, an approach that supports a nature-based economy compatible with periodic flooding of open lands. The SPCED Center is funded by Houston Endowment.



Year-Round Water Sports



World-Class Birding



Discover Our Diverse Nature



Gulf of Mexico



Bays & Bayous



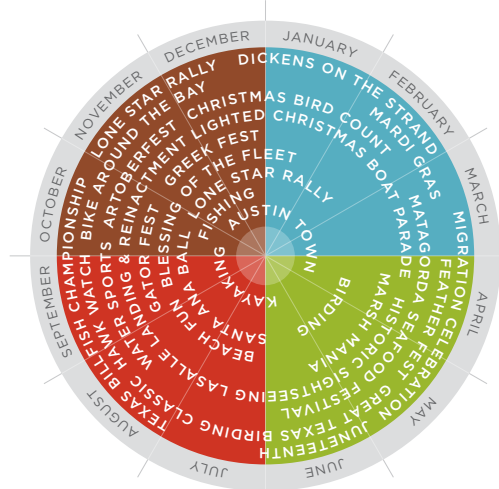
Forest and Prairies

The upper Texas coast sits at nature's crossroads. Four major biomes of spectacularly diverse flora and fauna converge here. In addition to the Gulf of Mexico, there are 150-miles of sparkling bays, barrier islands, and ancient river deltas. Double canopy forests and the nation's westernmost Cypress flourish along five major rivers and countless bayous. Coastal prairies, estuaries and marshes provide wide-open vistas of flocks of waterfowl and shorebirds.

Sneak past drowsing alligators as you float through watery forests draped with Spanish moss. Climb a hawk watchtower at Smith Point and imagine spiraling with raptors as they search for prey on the coastal prairie below. Hunt waterfowl, deer, and wild boar in season, or if you're lucky, watch a bobcat stalk smaller game. If photography is more your style, join in the Christmas Bird Count - this region

regularly boasts three of the top ten tallies in the entire United States. Into scuba? Dive the Flower Gardens National Marine Sanctuary, a coral reef perched on a salt dome just offshore.

FOUR SEASONS OF FUN



Outdoor Learning



Active Lifestyle



Family Fun

Discover Our Legendary Heritage

The diversity of the region's natural bounty is matched by its fascinating cultural history, which tells the story of a land shaped by extraordinary people from all over the world.

The Karankawa people are thought to be among the first inhabitants, possibly arriving here from the Caribbean on a current that flows clockwise around the Gulf of Mexico. Spanish conquistador Cabeza de Vaca encountered them when he shipwrecked on Galveston Island in 1528.

In the late 1600s, the French explorer La Salle established Fort St. Louis near Matagorda Bay, mistaking the area



for the mouth of the Mississippi River. Excavations at the Levi Jordan Plantation have exposed remnants of slave and tenant farmer

cabins and artifacts related to the culture of the Kingdom of Kongo in west central Africa. In 1821, the captain of Stephen F. Austin's ship brought some of the first northeasterly colonists at the invitation of Mexico. These individuals were among those who would eventually help win Texas' independence. The war, fought here from the



beginning, when some of the first shots were fired at Fort Anahuac, until the end when the treaties of Fort

Velasco were signed in 1836, established the Republic of Texas, an independent country until 1845. Across the channel between Galveston Island and the Bolivar Peninsula, Fort Travis sits on a strategic overlook guarding Galveston Bay. Jane Long, the "Mother of Texas," wound up the only adult at the fort in 1821 during one of

the coldest winters on record. Unassisted, she gave birth to a daughter, then resumed gathering food and firewood.

As Texas' agricultural economy developed, a steady procession of ships from all over the world sailed past Fort Travis to reach the port at Galveston. Today, the Bolivar Ferry darts between huge ocean-going vessels

that wait patiently in a line that stretches to the horizon. These ships are destined for Galveston and for the Port of Houston, fully accessible only after 1910 when Houston's mayor was the first to pledge local funding to match federal appropriations for dredging. Galveston, once known as the "Wall Street of the South," thrived until the Great Storm

of 1900. This hurricane is still counted as the most deadly natural disaster in US history. Survivors buried more than 6,000 men, women and children, then literally raised the island's grade level up to seventeen feet and built a seawall extending miles down the coast.

Texas has always been known for their unconquerable spirit.



That same "can-do" attitude has driven six years of recovery from Hurricane Ike and the rebuilding of a more resilient region,

including an economy based on the concept of the proposed Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area.

Proposed Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area

Discover nearly one quarter million acres of public beaches, bays, refuges, parks, and partner-owned nature preserves and historic places – all within the partnership interest area of the proposed Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area.

Site Partners

- 1 Palacios Prairie Wetlands
palaciosprairiewetlands.org
- 2 Matagorda County
co.matagorda.tx.us
- 3 The Nature Conservancy - Texas
nature.org/texas
- 5 Matagorda County Birding Nature Center
mcbnc.org
- 6 Bay City, TX
visitbaycity.org
- 9 Boy Scouts of America, Bay Area Council - Camp Karankawa
bachsa.org/camp-karankawa/48574
- 10 Brazoria County
brazoria-county.com/parks/index.html
- 11 Texas Historical Commission - Varner Hogg Plantation
visitvarnerhogplantation.com
- 12 Texas Historical Commission - Levi Jordan Plantation
visitlevijordanplantation.com
- 14 Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
gcco.org
- 15 Freeport, TX
freeport.tx.us
- 16 Village of Surfside Beach
surfsidextx.org
- 18 Houston Audubon
houstonaudubon.org
- 19 Galveston Bay Foundation
galvbay.org
- 21 Artist Boat - Coastal Heritage Preserve
artistboat.org
- 22 Scenic Galveston
scenicgalveston.org
- 23 Galveston Island Park Board of Trustees
galvestonparkboard.org
- 24 Moody Gardens
moodygardens.com
- 25 Sea Scout Base - Galveston
ssbgalveston.org
- 27 Chambers County
co.chambers.tx.us/default.aspx?name=parks.home
- 32 Galveston Historical Foundation
galvestonhistory.org
- 4 Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept. - Wildlife Management Areas
tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/hunt/wma/
- 7 Matagorda Bay Nature Park
lcr.org/parks/developed-parks/Pages/matagorda-bay-nature-park.aspx
- 8 Big Boggy National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/big_boggy
- 13 San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/san_bernard/
- 17 Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/brazoria/
- 20 Galveston Island State Park
tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/galveston-island
- 26 Fort Travis
galvestoncountytx.gov/PS/Pages/ParkHours.aspx
- 29 Wallisville Lake Project
swg.usace.army.mil/Locations/Wallisville-LakeProjectOffice.aspx
- 31 McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/mcfaddin
- 33 Moody Mansion, 1892
moodymansion.org

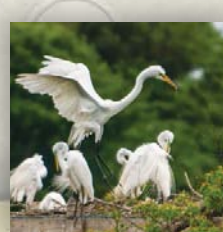
Contributive Sites

- 4 Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept. - Wildlife Management Areas
tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/hunt/wma/
- 7 Matagorda Bay Nature Park
lcr.org/parks/developed-parks/Pages/matagorda-bay-nature-park.aspx
- 8 Big Boggy National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/big_boggy
- 13 San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/san_bernard/
- 17 Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/brazoria/
- 20 Galveston Island State Park
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- 26 Fort Travis
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- 31 McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge
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Other Partners and Supporters

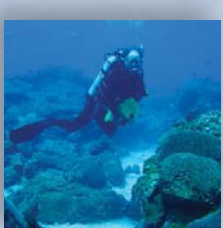
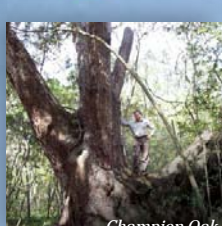
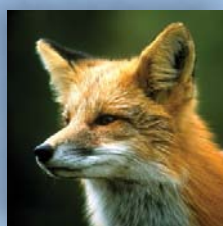
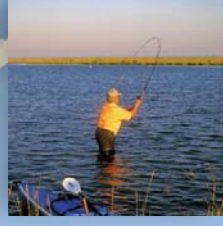
- 34 Old Central Cultural Center
galvestonoldcentral.com
- 35 Avenue L Missionary Baptist Church
avenuelmbc.org
- 36 Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary
flowergarden.noaa.gov/

- Peninsula Development Coalition (PenDeCo)
pendeco.org/
- Texas Historical Commission
thc.state.tx.us
- Sea Turtle Restoration Project
seaturtles.org
- Flower Garden Banks Sanctuary Advisory Council
flowergarden.noaa.gov



- A Ashton Villa
2329 Broadway St
- B Bishop's Palace
1402 Broadway St
- C Garten Verein
2704 Avenue O
- D Menard House, 1838
1604 33rd St
- E Sears Building
2328 Broadway St
- F St. Joseph Church
2202 Avenue K
- G Tall Ship Elissa Texas Seaport Museum
Pier 22 at Harborside
- H US Custom House
502 20th St

- 13 San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/san_bernard/
- 17 Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge
fws.gov/refuge/brazoria/
- 20 Galveston Island State Park
tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/galveston-island
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moodymansion.org



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Contributing Photographic Sources: Boy Scouts of America, Bay Area Council; Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge; Galveston Historical Foundation; Gulf Coast Bird Observatory; National Marine Sanctuary; Emma Hickerson; NOAA Flower Garden Banks, Seaturtle.org; Texas Historical Commission.

- Legend**
- Site Partners
 - Contributive Sites
 - Natural Points of Interest
 - Historical Points of Interest

