

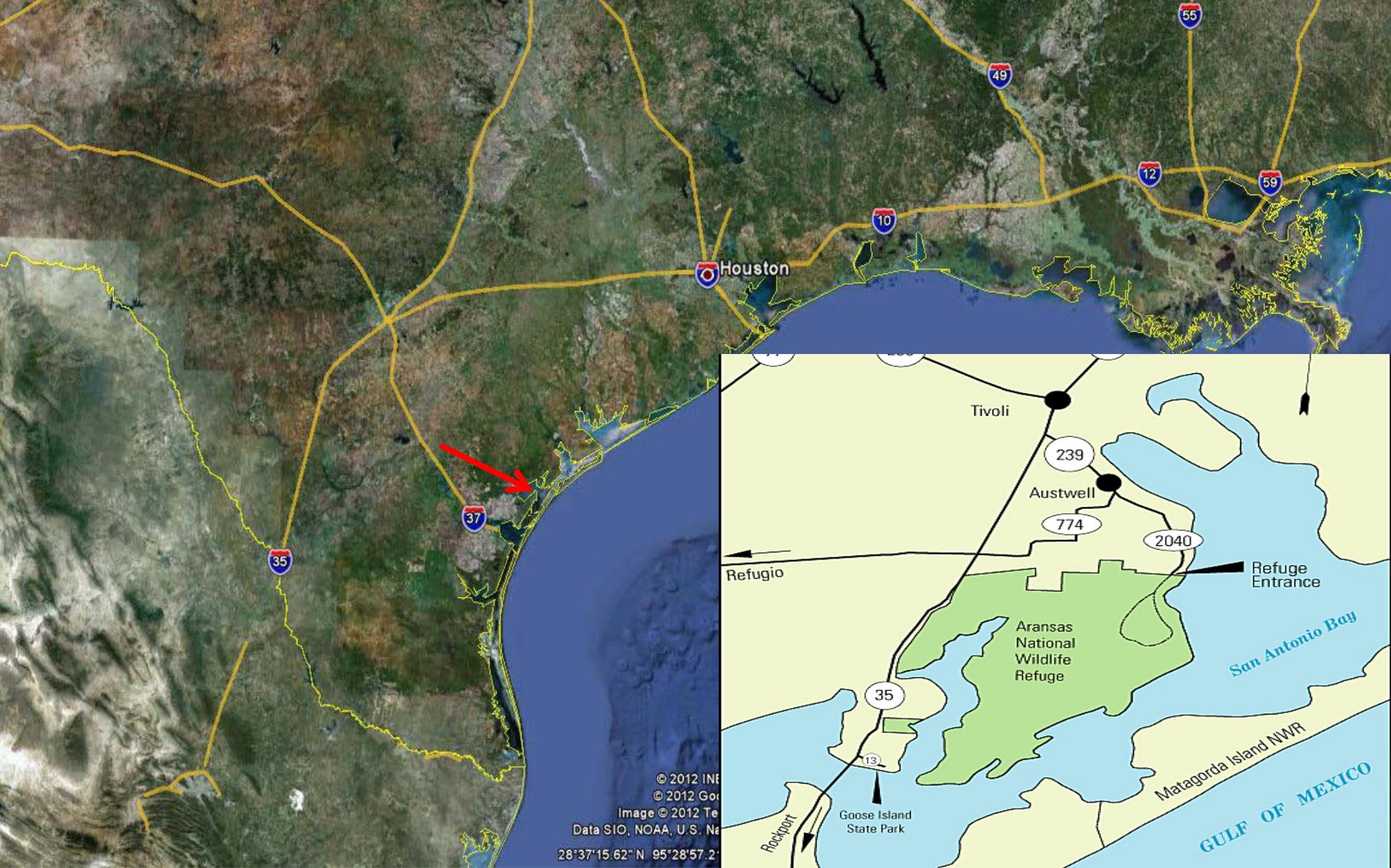
# Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Building Habitat

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US Army Corps of Engineers  
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Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Na  
28°37'15.62" N 95°28'57.2"



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# Whooping Cranes

- Aransas-Wood Buffalo population of Whooping Cranes (*Grus americana*) is the last wild migratory flock of the species
- 1941-15 birds
- 1973- Endangered Species
- Wintering habitat is in or around Aransas, Texas. A 2500 mile journey annually
- Symbolize the struggle to maintain the Earth's endangered species



# Whooping Cranes

- Tallest bird in North America
  - ▶ 5 feet tall with a 7 foot wingspan
  - ▶ Snow white body feathers are accented by jet-black wing tips
- Mate for life but have been known to re-mate following the death of their mate
- Lifespan is up to 25 years in the wild and 35 to 40 years in captivity



# Background

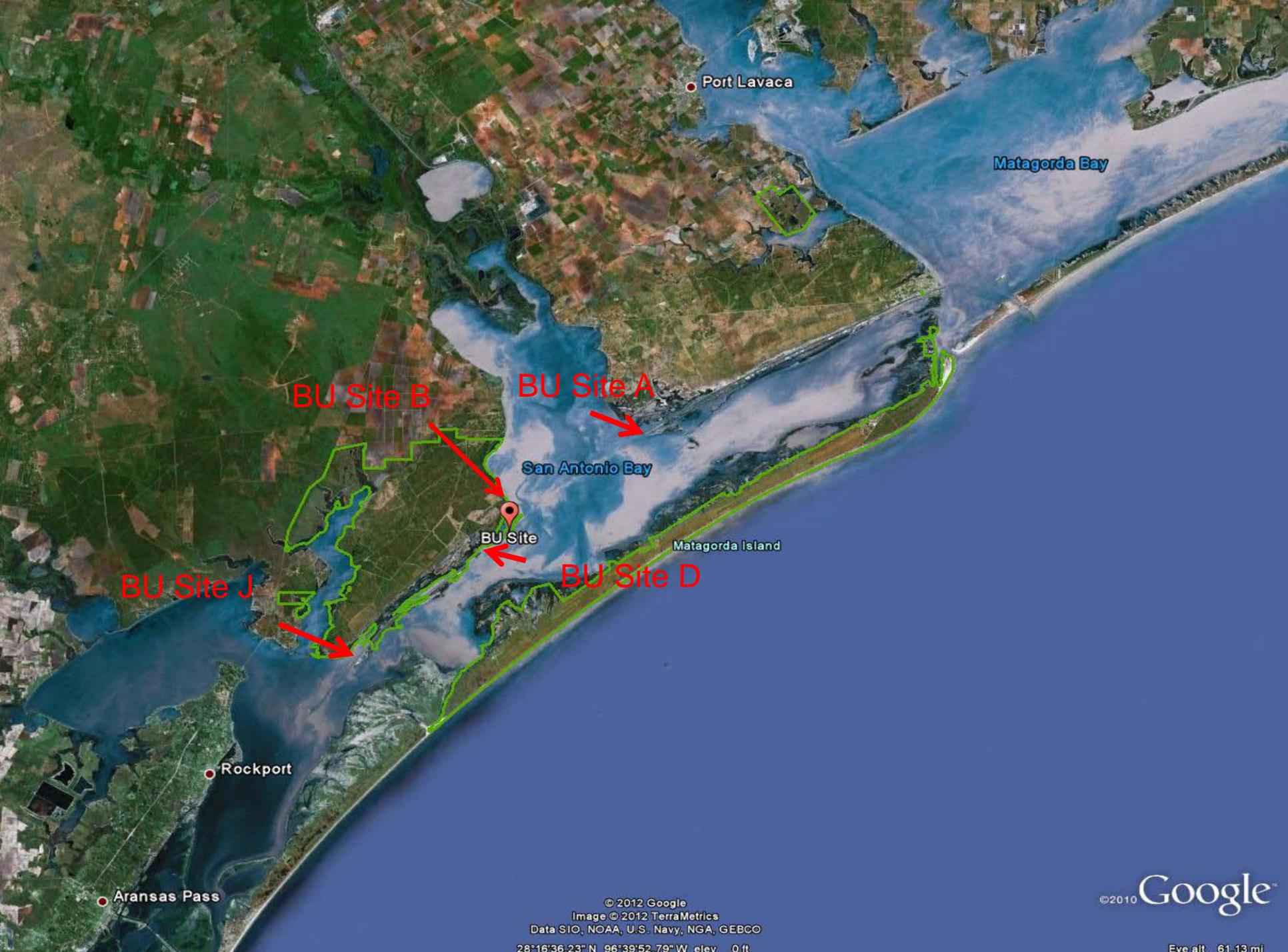
- 216 Study
  - ▶ To identify alternatives that would eliminate or significantly lessen impacts from commercial navigation on the GIWW to the Critical Habitat of the Whooping Crane.
- 50-year DMMP developed
- 11 BU marsh sites will be created:
  - ▶ 10 to 400 acres in size
  - ▶ 1,614 acres marsh to be created



# Current Constructed

- BUS A is 28.3 acres
- D is 32.7 acres
- BUS J is 50 acres
- BUS A cell - 20.4 acres
- BUS D cell 2 - 32.7 acres
- Total constructed is 164.1 acres
- Erosion protection





Port Lavaca

Matagorda Bay

BU Site B

BU Site A

San Antonio Bay

BU Site

Matagorda Island

BU Site J

BU Site D

Rockport

Aransas Pass

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Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

28°16'36.23" N 96°39'52.79" W elev. 0 ft

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Elev. alt. 61.13 mi



**BUS A**

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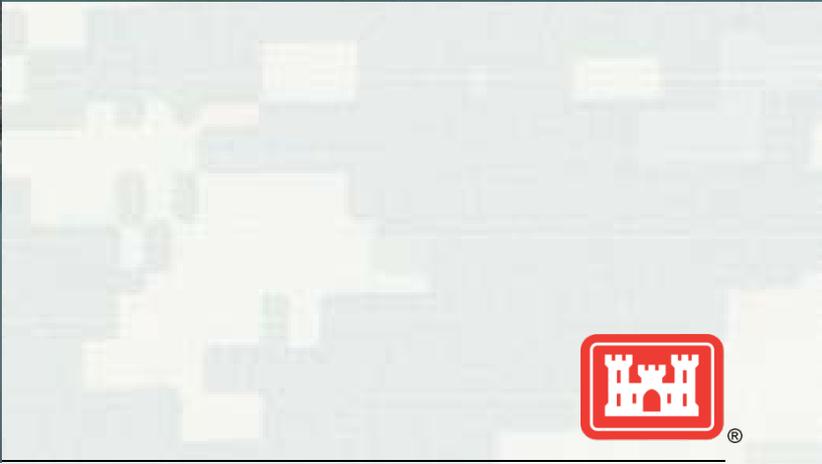
**BUS D**

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**BUS J**

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# Erosion Protection



# Beneficial Use Site B

- PA 127A
- 274 acres
- 10,000 linear feet of breakwater
- Marsh plantings



# BU Site B



Mustang Lak

Redfish Slough

BU Site

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Imagery Date: 3/10/2011

28°14'07.60" N 96°47'23.48" W elev 0 ft

Eye alt 13329 ft

# Current Whooper Population, 2011

Wild Populations	Adult	Young	Total	Adult Pairs
Aransas/Wood Buffalo	242	21	263	78
Rocky Mountains	0	0	0	0
Florida non-migratory	24	1	25	9
Wisconsin/Florida	94	25	119	12
Subtotal in the Wild	360	47	407	99



# Questions?

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/aransas/index.html>



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