

# **Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration for Gulf Intracoastal Waterway**

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**Feasibility Level HTRW Evaluation Appendix B FINAL**

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**Beneficial Use of Dredged Material**

**Section 204**

**Goose Island State Park  
Aransas County, Texas**

**March 2024**



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Galveston District

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# Feasibility Level HTRW Evaluation – GIWW Beneficial Use of Dredged Material, Continuing Authorities Program (CAP), Rockport, Aransas County, Texas

## 1.0 Introduction

In order to complete a feasibility level Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) evaluation for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) Beneficial Use of Dredged Material project, a report was completed by US Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Planning and Environmental Center (USACE RPEC) in September 2022 following the rules and guidance of ER 1165-2-132: *HTRW Guidance for Civil Works Projects*.<sup>1</sup> There are three main components to the feasibility level HTRW evaluation (excluding the report itself): the records review, site reconnaissance, and interviews.

The tentatively selected plan calls for the beneficial use of dredged material to create marsh/wetlands at the Goose Island State Park. This HTRW evaluation is focused on the tentatively selected site, the project footprint that is a portion of the island shown in Figure 1 on the southern boundary of Goose Island State Park. Adjacent areas were considered for any recognized environmental conditions (RECs) within specific distances from the site that range from adjacent out to one mile from the project footprint. RECs are known conditions that may have impacted the environmental quality project site and raise concern that warrant further investigation. Examples of RECs include prior use of petroleum storage tanks, historical use as a landfill, reported spills of hazardous material, etc.

## 2.0 Records Review

In this evaluation, records, maps and other documents that provide environmental information about the project area are obtained and reviewed. A desktop records review was conducted using various sources to determine the presence of HTRW sites on or near the subject property. Table 1 lists the search parameters and database used. This search was focused on active cleanup sites and sites with a reasonable risk of HTRW release using several databases and searching within specific distances as noted below for each search. These databases included various Superfund Enterprise Management System (SEMS) and Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) databases, databases for federal National Priorities List (NPL) and their state/tribal equivalents, and various Tribal and State databases such as the web map of underground storage tanks (USTs) and landfill/solid waste disposal sites, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Central Registry, and the Texas Railroad Commission's (RRC) oil and gas well public geographic information system (GIS) Viewer. The information collected from this desktop records review was analyzed for RECs that would affect the proposed project or need further investigation, given the proposed project measures. The following resources were searched in September 2022 and results are summarized below.

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<sup>1</sup> US Army Corps of Engineers (1992) "Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Guidance for Civil Works Projects", ER 1165-2-132.

Federal NPL and Delisted NPL – The records search did not reveal any NPL nor delisted NPL sites in the project footprint or adjacent areas. This is based on a search of the EPA Superfund NPL list within a 1-mile radius of the site.

Federal SEMS – formerly called the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS), the SEMS database tracks hazardous waste sites where remedial action has occurred under the EPA’s Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). This list also includes sites that are in the screening and assessment phase for possible inclusion on the NPL. The records search of EPA’s listed SEMS sites did not reveal any sites in the project footprints or adjacent areas within a 0.5-mile radius of the site.

Federal SEMS archive – The SEMS archive, formerly known as the No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) List, tracks sites where no further remedial action is planned, based on available assessments and information. The list also represents sites that were not chosen for the NPL. Further EPA assessment could possibly be ongoing, and hazardous environmental conditions may still exist; however, in the absence of remedial action and assessment data, no determination about environmental hazards can be made. The records search did not reveal any NFRAP sites within the project footprint or adjacent areas. This is based on a search of the EPA SEMS archive within a 0.5-mile radius of the site.

Federal RCRA Corrective Action facilities list – The records search of EPA’s Cleanups in My Community did not reveal any sites within one mile of the project search area. This is based on a search of the EPA Cleanups in My Community website within a 1-mile radius of the site.

Federal RCRA TSD facilities list – The records search of EPA’s RCRA Info website did not reveal any sites within 0.5 mile of the project search area.

Federal RCRA generators list – The records search of EPA’s RCRA Info website did not reveal any sites at the project site nor at the properties adjacent to the project site.

Federal institutional control/engineering control registries – The records search of EPA’s Cleanups in My Community did not reveal any sites within one mile of the project search area. This is based on a search of the EPA Cleanups in My Community website within a 1-mile radius of the site.

State Superfund Sites (equivalent CERCLA and NPL) – This search is to check for any state CERCLA sites in the project vicinity. The records search of state CERCLA cleanup sites did not show any sites of concern in the project or adjacent areas. This search is based on a search of the TCEQ Superfund Sites database within a 0.5-mile radius.

State and Tribal Solid Waste Facilities/Landfill Sites – This search is designed to check any state or tribal databases for solid waste handling facilities or landfills in the project vicinity. The

records search did not find any solid waste facilities or landfill sites in the area of this project or adjacent areas. This is based on a search of the TCEQ Municipal Solid Waste Viewer. No sites were found within 0.5-mile of the subject property area.

State and Tribal UST and Leaking UST – This list is a combination of the State of Texas registered UST database and the US EPA UST database, representing sites with storage tanks registered with the State of Texas. No registered storage tanks are registered for the subject property nor the immediately adjoining properties. No USTs were identified within 0.5-mile of the TCEQ Petroleum Storage Tank Viewer.

State and Tribal Voluntary Cleanup Sites – The TCEQ Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) database identifies sites where the responsible party chooses to clean up the site themselves with TCEQ oversight. No sites were identified within 0.5 mile of the project based on a search of the TCEQ Voluntary Cleanup Program using the Central Registry (CR) Query within 0.5-mile of the subject property area.

State and Tribal Brownfields List – A brownfield is a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. There are no brownfield sites within 0.5 mile of the project site. These results are based on a search for Brownfields sites within 0.5-mile of the subject property area using the EPA Cleanups in My Community search engine.

Texas RRC GIS Viewer for Oil and Gas Wells – A search of the oil and gas wells in the area using the RRC website identified multiple sites including oil wells, plugged oil wells, and injection/disposal sites within the surrounding area. Although not classified as HTRW under USACE regulations, pipelines and oil wells play an important role in the HTRW existing conditions near the potential project area. This is because the well and/or pipeline contents could potentially leak or spill into the surrounding environment or affect the proposed project features. The RRC website was used to map these findings. Two dry holes were drilled within the site footprint and one plugged gas well was found northwest of the site footprint, as well as natural gas and crude oil pipelines in the area shown in Figure 2. The location of pipeline infrastructure to the north of the site, in particular those labeled as natural gas and horizontal lines, should be coordinated with the selected alternative as the project moves to a design phase.

### **3.0 Site Visit**

The site visit in environmental investigations is designed to identify environmental conditions that would otherwise not be identified in the records search. The site visit also is used to look at indoor areas and area usages on the subject property. Due to the size of the project area and the in-water nature of the proposed project, a site visit will not be conducted for this phase of the investigation.

### **4.0 Interviews**

The objective of the interviews is to discover environmental conditions that could not be obtained in the records search, as well as to determine past uses of the subject property. A telephone interview was conducted on September 26, 2022 with Ms. Kendal Keyes of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) who has worked at the Regional office for over 12 years.

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No RECs were identified on the basis of her responses to the limited set of questions asked.

**Question:** When was the park created? **Response:** 1935 (circa.)

**Q:** What was the prior use? **R:** Ranching

**Q:** Are any storage tanks located near the project site? **R:** Not aware of any – there used to be two on private land about 0.5 mile (due north) on the mainland but have recently been removed.

**Q:** Is there any history of oil spills or leaks? **R:** Not aware of any.

**Q:** Was a generator ever located on-site? **R:** Not aware of any.

## 5.0 Conclusion

In order to complete a feasibility level HTRW evaluation for the GIWW CAP Project, this report was completed following the rules and guidance of ER 1165-2-132: *HTRW Guidance for Civil Works Projects*. No sites were identified within one mile of the project area or adjacent areas that could be reasonably expected to affect the BUDM project, or vice versa. Although not classified as HTRW under USACE regulations, multiple pipelines, plugged oil wells, and dry well sites were identified within the surrounding area. As a result of these findings, project construction should consider their proximity to the footprint to avoid them, and a thorough pipeline/well search should be initiated during design to ensure no interaction with the existing oil and gas infrastructure occurs.

Despite there being no sites found that could be reasonably expected to affect the beneficial use project, there is always a possibility that previously unidentified HTRW could be uncovered, even when a proposed project is entirely within a preexisting project footprint. Care should be taken as the project progresses to identify and address HTRW concerns that arise in a timely manner so as not to affect the proposed project.

## **List of Figures**

Figure 1. The project footprint

Figure 2. The location of oil and gas wells and pipeline infrastructure to the north of the site

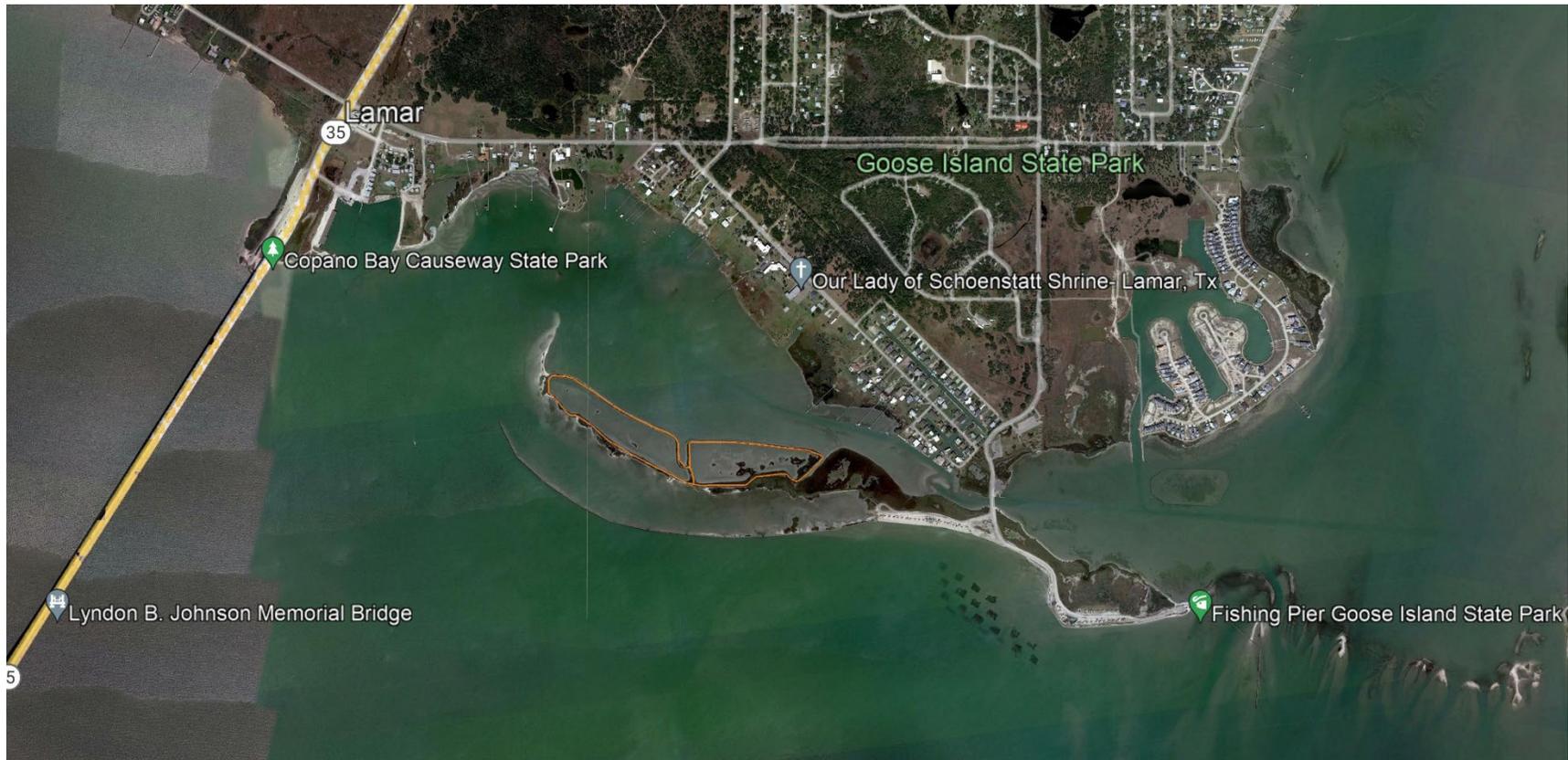
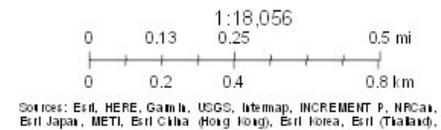


Figure 3. The project footprint is a portion of the island on the southern boundary of Goose Island State Park shown outlined in the image.



September 27, 2022



**Figure 4.** The location of oil and gas wells and pipeline infrastructure to the north of the site, in particular lines labeled as natural gas and horizontal/directional lines, should be coordinated with the selected alternative as the project moves to a design phase. Records also show two dry holes were drilled within the site footprint. The legend is presented below.

## Public GIS Viewer Legend

### Well Number

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### Well Locations

- Permitted Location
- Dry Hole
- Oil
- Gas
- Oil / Gas
- Plugged Oil
- Plugged Gas
- Canceled / Abandoned Location
- Plugged Oil / Gas
- Injection / Disposal
- Core Test
- Sulfur Test
- Storage from Oil
- Storage from Gas
- Shut-In Oil
- Shut-In Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Oil
- Injection / Disposal from Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Oil / Gas
- Geothermal
- Brine Mining
- Water Supply
- Water Supply from Oil
- Water Supply from Gas

- Water Supply from Oil / Gas
- Observation
- Observation from Oil
- Observation from Gas
- Observation from Oil / Gas
- Storage
- Service
- Service from Oil
- Service from Gas
- Service from Oil / Gas
- Storage from Oil / Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Storage
- Injection / Disposal from Storage / Oil
- Injection / Disposal from Storage / Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Storage / Oil / Gas
- Observation from Storage
- Observation from Storage / Oil
- Observation from Storage / Gas
- Observation from Storage / Oil / Gas
- Service from Storage
- Service from Storage / Oil
- Service from Storage / Gas
- Service from Storage / Oil / Gas
- Plugged Storage
- Plugged Storage / Oil

- Plugged Storage / Gas
- Plugged Storage Oil / Gas
- Brine Mining
- Brine Mining / Oil
- Brine Mining / Gas
- Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Brine Mining
- Injection / Disposal from Brine Mining / Oil
- Injection / Disposal from Brine Mining / Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Observation from Brine Mining
- Observation from Brine Mining / Oil
- Observation from Brine Mining / Gas
- Observation from Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Service from Brine Mining
- Service from Brine Mining / Oil
- Service from Brine Mining / Gas
- Service from Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Plugged Brine Mining
- Plugged Brine Mining / Oil
- Plugged Brine Mining / Gas
- Plugged Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Storage / Brine Mining

- Storage / Brine Mining / Oil
- Storage / Brine Mining / Gas
- Storage / Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Storage / Brine Mining
- Injection / Disposal from Storage / Brine Mining / Oil
- Injection / Disposal from Storage / Brine Mining / Gas
- Injection / Disposal from Storage / Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Observation from Storage / Brine Mining
- Observation from Storage / Brine Mining / Oil
- Observation from Storage / Brine Mining / Gas
- Observation from Storage / Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Plugged Storage / Brine Mining
- Plugged Storage / Brine Mining / Oil
- Plugged Storage / Brine Mining / Gas
- Plugged Storage / Brine Mining / Oil / Gas
- Orphan Wells**
- Commercial Disposal
- Injection/Disposal
- HCTS Deeper than 15,000 ft.
- HCTS Deeper than 15,000 ft.

### High Cost Tight Sands

- EOR H13 Oil Wells
- Well Logs

### Horiz/Dir Surface Locations

- Horizontal Well
- Directional Well

### Horizontal/Directional Lines

- LPGAS Sites
- QPipelines
- Pipelines

### Bay Tracts

- Offshore Areas
- Offshore Tracts

### Water Lines

- Subdivisions
- Railroads
- Surveys
- Quads

### Alert Areas

### Water

### City Limits

### Counties

### Operator Cleanup Program Sites

- Active
- Closed

### Voluntary Cleanup Program Sites

- VCP, Accepted
- VCP, Closed

### Brownfield Response Program Sites

- Brownfield, Accepted
- Brownfield, Closed

### Commercial Waste Disposal Sites & Discharge Permits

- Commercial Waste Disposal
- Discharge Permits

### Oil and Gas Districts

### AED Districts

### Pipeline Safety Regions

## List of Tables

**Table 1:** Search parameters and databases used

<b>Standard Record(s) Source</b>	<b>Search Distance (miles)</b>	<b>Sites Searched</b>
Federal National Priorities List (NPL)	1	<a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=33cebcdfdd1b4c3a8b51d416956c41f1">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=33cebcdfdd1b4c3a8b51d416956c41f1</a>
Federal Delisted NPL	0.5	<a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=33cebcdfdd1b4c3a8b51d416956c41f1">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=33cebcdfdd1b4c3a8b51d416956c41f1</a>
Federal SEMS (CERCLIS) list	0.5	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/enviro/sems-search">https://www.epa.gov/enviro/sems-search</a>
Federal SEMS (CERCLIS) archive list	0.5	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/enviro/sems-search">https://www.epa.gov/enviro/sems-search</a>
Federal RCRA Corrective Action facilities list	1	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community">https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community</a>
Federal RCRA TSD facilities list	0.5	<a href="https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/rcrainfo/search.html">https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/rcrainfo/search.html</a>
Federal RCRA generators list	Property and adjoining properties	<a href="https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/rcrainfo/search.html">https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/rcrainfo/search.html</a>
Federal institutional control/engineering control registries	Property only	<a href="https://rcrapublic.epa.gov/rcrainfoweb/action/modules/cor/caindex">https://rcrapublic.epa.gov/rcrainfoweb/action/modules/cor/caindex</a>
State & Tribal equivalent NPL	1	<a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/superfund/sites/county">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/superfund/sites/county</a>
State & Tribal equivalent CERCLIS	0.5	<a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/superfund/sites/county">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/superfund/sites/county</a>
State & Tribal landfill and/or solid waste disposal sites	0.5	<a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/msw-viewer">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/msw-viewer</a>
State & Tribal Leaking Storage Tank list	0.5	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/ust/ust-finder">https://www.epa.gov/ust/ust-finder</a>

**Table 1:** Search parameters and databases used

Standard Record(s) Source	Search Distance (miles)	Sites Searched
State & Tribal registered UST list	Property and adjoining properties	<a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/petroleum-storage-tanks-pst-viewer">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/petroleum-storage-tanks-pst-viewer</a>
State & Tribal institutional control/engineering control registries	0.5	<a href="https://www15.tceq.texas.gov/crpub/index.cfm">https://www15.tceq.texas.gov/crpub/index.cfm</a>
State & Tribal Voluntary Cleanup sites	0.5	<a href="https://www15.tceq.texas.gov/crpub/index.cfm">https://www15.tceq.texas.gov/crpub/index.cfm</a>
State & Tribal Brownfield sites	0.5	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community">https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community</a>
Texas Railroad Commission GIS website	Property and adjoining properties	<a href="https://www.rrc.state.tx.us/resource-center/research/gis-viewer/">https://www.rrc.state.tx.us/resource-center/research/gis-viewer/</a>

## **List of Acronyms**

BUDM - Beneficial Use of Dredged Material

CAP - Continuing Authorities Program

CERCLA - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

CERCLIS - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency (US)

GIS - geographic information system

GIWW -Gulf Intracoastal Waterway

HTRW -Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste

NFRAP - No Further Remedial Action Planned

NPL - National Priorities List

RCRA - Resources Conservation and Recovery Act

REC - recognized environmental conditions

RRC - Railroad Commission (Texas)

SEMS - Superfund Enterprise Management System

TCEQ - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

TSD - transportation storage and disposal facility

US Army Corps of Engineers - USACE

UST – underground storage tank

VCP - Voluntary Cleanup Program