

## **Draft Funded Priorities List 3b**

### **Proposal Abstract**

**Sponsor:** Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

**Proposal:** Chenier Plain Ecosystem Restoration Program

Texas, through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, is requesting \$39.6M in Council-Selected Restoration Component funding for the proposed Chenier Plain Ecosystem Restoration Program. This would include \$3,366,000 in planning and project management funds as FPL Category 1, as well as a separate \$36,234,000 implementation component as an FPL Category 2 priority for potential funding. The program will support the primary RESTORE Comprehensive Plan goal to restore and conserve habitat through activities to restore and conserve high-quality coastal habitats within the Chenier Plain complex of Texas through a variety of methods including beneficial use of dredge material, construction of breakwaters to protect shoreline, and restoration of hydrology and wetlands. Targeted habitats will include freshwater to estuarine marsh, coastal prairie grasslands, tidal flats, creeks and basins, all of which creates a productive complex for diverse fish and wildlife resources and protects inland areas from storm surge. Potential partners for the program may include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Ducks Unlimited, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and local and regional governments. The program will utilize specified criteria for selecting projects that were identified earlier through public meetings and as part of a stakeholder process.

Implementation of the program has the potential to restore degraded wetlands, reduce erosion, improve water quality, create habitat, provide land reclamation, and increase coastal resiliency in an effective and efficient manner. Program duration is 4 years.