COASTAL TEXAS STUDY

STUDY UPDATE

US Army Corps of Engineers®
Galveston District

Representatives attend a Community Work Group Meeting in May 2019.

WE HEARD YOU!

The Coastal Texas Study has already begun considering the feedback received during the comment period for the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS). Based upon your input, the study team is:

- Establishing Texas General Land Office (GLO)-led Community Working Groups
- Dropping the barrier levee along Galveston Island and Bolivar Peninsula from the study completely, and investigating a dune-and-beach system along Bolivar Peninsula beach
- Re-aligning the Galveston Ring Barrier
- Evaluating non-structural measures on the west side of upper Galveston Bay
- Exploring the use of storm surge gates at Clear Creek and Dickinson Bayou

Additionally, the study team will:

- Continue collaboration with Rice University's Severe Storm Prediction, Education, & Evacuation from Disasters (SSPEED) Center and Texas A&M University at Galveston
- Further storm modeling to refine alternatives
- Coordinate and hold a second public review and comment period during the summer of 2020 (including large-scale public meetings)
- Evaluate feedback received during an International Storm Surge Gate Design Workshop

More information is available online at:
coastalstudy.texas.gov

ABOUT THE STUDY

Serving as an important economic and industrial hub for the United States, the Texas Gulf Coast is home to a coastal ecosystem vital to the national economy that provides valuable natural resources, abundant seafood, recreational fishing and tourism, and a rich cultural heritage. Growth of a healthy economy and preservation of natural resources along the Texas coastline has made it imperative to provide improved coastal protection measures to ensure the stability of the state of Texas and nation for years to come. Historical and current weather events continue to challenge the vulnerabilities of the Texas coast emphasizing the need for enhanced resiliency of the coast to prevent future damage and loss.

With this in mind, the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study, also known as the Coastal Texas Study, has been developed to identify coastal storm risk management and ecosystem restoration measures. These key measures would protect the health and safety of Texas coastal communities, reduce the risk of storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the national and local economy, and address important coastal ecosystems needing restoration.

COASTAL TEXAS STUDY TEAM CONTACTS:

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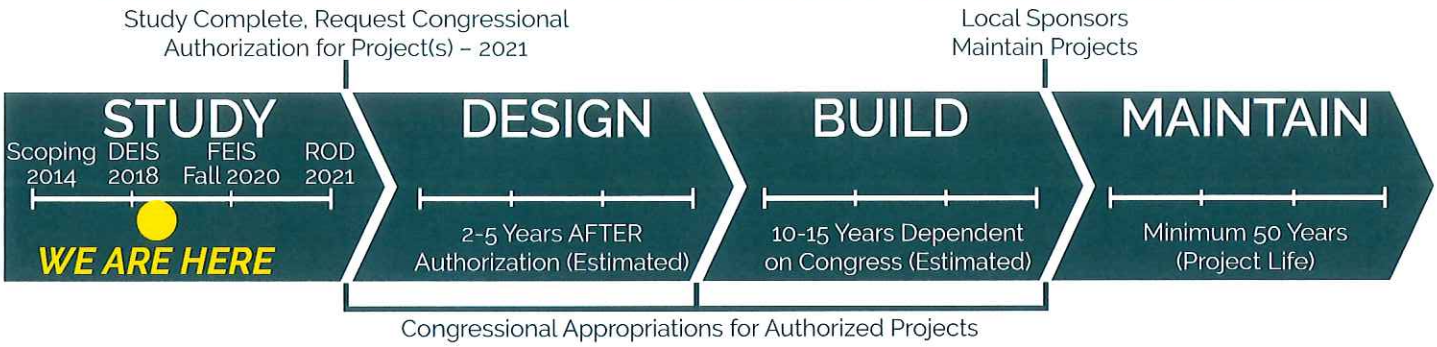
ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE



DEIS: Draft Environmental Impact Statement FEIS: Final Environmental Impact Statement ROD: Record of Decision

STUDY APPROACH

A "multiple lines of defense" strategy is utilized in the formulation of the measures and alternatives in the Coastal Texas Study. Employing three primary goals – avoid, minimize and preserve – coastal communities could consider a system of comprehensive, resilient and sustainable coastal storm risk management and ecosystem restoration solutions. The system could include a combination of measures (structural, natural and nature-based features, and nonstructural) to form resilient, redundant, robust and adaptable strategies that promote life and safety based on local site conditions and societal values. To achieve a multiple lines of defense strategy, the Coastal Texas Study evaluates the following coastal problems:

- Economic damage from coastal storm surge
- Bay shoreline erosion
- Gulf shoreline erosion
- Loss of threatened and endangered critical habitats
- Disrupted hydrology

The Coastal Texas Study identifies nationally important environmental restoration strategies along the entire Texas coast. These restoration measures are evaluated based on long-term benefits, costs, feasibility and resiliency.