

Friends of the River San Bernard
Natural Area Acquisition and Conservation Program
SEP No. 2010-001

Project Description:

This is a land and water preservation project aimed at preserving approximately 645 acres of a contiguous wetland corridor along the San Bernard River in lower Fort Bend County. Ducks Unlimited has protected an adjacent 114 acre tract with two conservation easements, but the contiguity of this wetland corridor greatly depends on the acquisition and preservation of the remaining acreage. This SEP will focus on three tracts of land comprising approximately 645 acres in the wetland corridor on the north side of the San Bernard River and west of Armstrong Road. Friends of the River San Bernard (“FORSB”) shall use SEP Funds to acquire conservation easements on these tracts to provide permanent protection and stewardship of these lands and waters. All tracts acquired in whole or in part with SEP Funds shall be preserved in perpetuity through conservation easements that comply with Subchapter A, Chapter 183, Texas Natural Resources Code. The holder of the San Bernard Conservation Easements shall be WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST, INC., which is affiliated with Ducks Unlimited.

Environmental Benefits:

Permanently protecting this land through the use of conservation easements will prevent pollution, enhance the quality of the environment, and reduce the amount of pollutants reaching the environment. The land is located within the Central Flyway on the Upper Texas Coast; where approximately 10 million ducks and geese winter each year. Conservation of habitat for migratory birds and other wetland dependent wildlife is critical for maintaining the rich diversity of bird life in this area. Wetlands also benefit people by recharging groundwater supplies, reducing coastal storm surges, retaining flood waters during storm events and improving water quality. By protecting this land and preventing development, water quality, air quality and wildlife habitat will be protected.

County:

This project may receive contributions from the following:

Austin, Brazoria, Colorado, Fort Bend, Matagorda, and Wharton Counties

River Basin:

Brazos-Colorado Coastal River Basin

Aquifer:

Gulf Coast Aquifer

Total Project Budget:

\$1,278,750