General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Alabama Units: 1, 2 and 3
Mississippi (Maps were digitized using 1992 and 1997 DOQQs)

Unit MS–1: Lakeshore through Bay St. Louis. 41 ha (101 ac) in Hancock County

This unit extends from the north side of Bryan Bayou outlet and includes the shore of the Mississippi Sound following the shoreline northeast approximately 15.0 km (9.3 mi) and ending at the southeast side of the Bay Waveland Yacht Club. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Gulf side of South and North Beach Boulevard and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–2: Henderson Point. 34 ha (84 ac) in Harrison County

This unit extends from 0.2 km (0.12 mi) west of the intersection of 3rd Avenue and Front Street and includes the shore of the Mississippi Sound following the shoreline northeast approximately 4.4 km (2.7 mi) to the west side of Pass Christian Harbor. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Gulf side of U.S. Highway 90 and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–3: Pass Christian. 77 ha (190 ac) in Harrison County

This unit extends from the east side of Pass Christian Harbor and includes the shore of the Mississippi Sound following the shoreline northeast approximately 10.5 km (6.5 mi) to the west side of Biloxi Pier and Harbor. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Gulf side of U.S. Highway 90 and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–4: Long Beach. 38 ha (94 ac) in Harrison County

This unit extends from the east side of Long Beach Pier and Harbor and includes the shore of the Mississippi Sound following the shoreline northeast approximately 4.4 km (2.7 mi) to the west side of Gulfport Harbor. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Gulf side of U.S. Highway 90 and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–5: Gulfport. 39 ha (96 ac) in Harrison County

This unit extends from the east side of Gulfport Harbor and includes the shore of the Mississippi Sound following the shoreline northeast approximately 4.8 km (3.0 mi) to the west side of the groin at the southern terminus of Courthouse Road, Mississippi City, MS. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Gulf side of U.S. Highway 90 and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–6: Mississippi City. 62 ha (153 ac) in Harrison County

This unit extends from the east side of the groin at the southern terminus of Courthouse Road, Mississippi City, MS, and includes the shore of the Mississippi Sound following the shoreline northeast approximately 7.9 km (4.9 mi) to the west side of President Casino. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Gulf side of U.S. Highway 90 and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–7: Ocean Springs West. 11 ha (27 ac) in Jackson County

This unit extends from U.S. 90 and includes the shore of Biloxi Bay following the shoreline southeast approximately 1.9 km (1.2 mi) to the Ocean Springs Harbor inlet. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Bay side of Front Beach Drive and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–8: Ocean Springs West. 7 ha (17 ac) in Jackson County

This unit extends from the east side of Weeks Bayou and includes the shore of Biloxi Bay following the shoreline southeast approximately 1.8 km (1.1 mi) to Halstead Bayou. The landward boundary of this unit follows the Bay side of East Beach Drive and the seaward boundary is MLLW. The shoreline of this unit is privately owned.

Unit MS–9: Deer Island. 194 ha (479 ac) in Harrison County

This unit includes all of Deer Island, where primary constituent elements occur to the MLWW. Deer Island is privately owned.

Unit MS–10: Round Island. 27 ha (67 ac) in Jackson County

This unit includes all of Round Island to the MLWW and is privately owned.

Unit MS–11: Mississippi Barrier Islands. 3,168 ha (7,828 ac) in Harrison and Jackson Counties.

This unit includes all of Cat, East and West Ship, Horn, Spoil, and Petit Bois Islands where primary constituent elements occur to MLLW. Cat Island is privately owned, and the remaining islands are part of the Gulf Islands National Seashore.

Unit MS–12: North and South Rigolets. 159 ha (393 ac) in Jackson County, MS, and 12 ha (30 ac) in Mobile County, AL

This unit extends from the southwestern tip of South Rigolets Island and includes the shore of Point Aux Chenes Bay, the Mississippi Sound, and Grand Bay following the shoreline east around the western tip, then north to the south side of South Rigolets Bayou; then from the north side of South Rigolets Bayou (the southeastern corner of North Rigolets Island) north to the northeastern most point of North Rigolets Island. This shoreline is bounded on the seaward side by MLLW and on the landward side to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur. Approximately 4.4 km (2.7 mi) are in Mississippi and 2.9 km (1.8 mi) are in Alabama. Almost half the Mississippi shoreline length is in the Grand Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

For complete display of MS-14, see MS-14 Map

General Area

Distance: Miles

Legend

○ City / Town
▲ Major Road / Highway

Land
Critical Habitat

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Mississippi Units: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

NOTE: MS-6, MS-12 and MS-13
Also shown on other maps

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Mississippi Units: 10 and 11
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Mississippi Units: 12, 13, 14 and 15
Louisiana (Maps were digitized using \cite{1998DOQQs})

Unit LA–1: Texas/Louisiana border to Cheniere au Tigre. 2,650 ha (6,548 ac) in Cameron and Vermilion Parishes

This unit extends from the east side of Sabine Pass (Texas/Louisiana border) and includes the shore of the Gulf of Mexico from the MLLW following the shoreline east 25.7 km (16.0 mi) to the west end of Constance Beach [approximately 2 km (1.2 mi) east of the intersection of Parish Road 528 and the beach]; it extends from the east end of the town of Holly Beach [0.25 km (0.16 mi) east of the intersection of Barataria Boulevard and the beach] following the shoreline approximately 97 km (60.3 mi) east to the eastern boundary line of Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge [3.4 km (2.1 mi) east of Rollover Bayou]; and it extends from the east side of Freshwater Bayou Canal following the shoreline east for approximately 15 km (9.3 mi) to 1.3 km (0.81 mi) east of where the boundary of Paul J. Rainey Wildlife Sanctuary (National Audubon Society) meets the shoreline. All three sections of this unit include the land from the seaward boundary of MLLW to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur. The shoreline in this unit is both state and privately owned.

Unit LA–2: Atchafalaya River Delta. 921 ha (2,276 ac) in St. Mary Parish, LA

This unit is located in the eastern portion of the State-owned Atchafalaya Delta Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and includes all exposed land and islands where primary constituent elements occur east and southeast of the main navigation channel of the Atchafalaya River to the MLLW. The islands located south and southeast of the deltaic splay, Donna, T–Pat, and Skimmer Islands and the un-named bird island, are also included in this unit. This unit includes the entire islands where primary constituent elements occur to the MLLW.

Unit LA–3: Point Au Fer Island. 195 ha (482 ac) in Terrebonne Parish

This unit includes the entire small island at the northwest tip of Point Au Fer Island to MLLW, then extends from the northwest tip of Point Au Fer Island following the shoreline southeast approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) to the point where the un-named oil and gas canal extending southeast from Locust Bayou meets the shoreline [0.8 km (0.5 mi) southeast from Locust Bayou]. This shoreline is bounded on the seaward side by MLLW and on the landward side to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur. This entire unit is privately owned.

Unit LA–4: Isles Dernieres. 795 ha (1,964 ac) in Terrebonne Parish

This unit includes the State-owned Isles Dernieres chain, including Raccoon, Whiskey, Trinity and East Islands. This unit includes the entire islands where primary constituent elements occur to the MLLW.

Unit LA–5: Timbalier Island to East Grand Terre Island. 2,321 ha (5,735 ac) in Terrebonne, Lafourche, Jefferson, and Plaquemines Parishes

This unit includes: all of Timbalier Island where primary constituent elements occur to the MLLW, all of Belle Pass West [the “peninsula” extending north/northwest approximately 4.8 km (3.0 mi) from the west side of Belle Pass] where primary constituent elements occur to MLLW; the Gulf shoreline extending approximately 11 km (6.8 mi) east from the east side of Belle Pass bounded on the seaward side by MLLW and on the landward side to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur; all of Elmers Island peninsula where primary constituent elements occur to MLLW and the Gulf shoreline from Elmers Island to approximately 0.9 km (0.56 mi) west of Bayou Thunder Von Tranc bounded on the seaward side by MLLW and on the landward side to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur; the Gulf shoreline of Grand Isle from the Gulf side of the hurricane protection levee to MLLW; and all of East Grand Terre Island where primary constituent elements occur to the MLLW.

Unit LA–6: Mississippi River Delta. 105 ha (259 ac) in Plaquemines Parish, LA

This unit is part of the State-owned Pass a Loutre Wildlife Management Area and includes un-named sand (spoil) islands off South Pass of the Mississippi River near Port Eads. The entire islands to MLLW are included in this unit.

Unit LA–7: Breton Islands and Chandeleur Island Chain. 3.116 ha (7,700 ac) in Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes, LA

This unit includes Breton, Grand Gosier, and Curlew Islands and the Chandeleur Island chain. Those islands are part of the Breton National Wildlife Refuge or are state owned. The entire islands where primary constituent elements occur to MLLW are included in this unit.

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Louisiana Unit: 1
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

Legend:
- City / Town
- Major Road / Highway
- Land
- Critical Habitat

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Louisiana Units: 2, 3, and 4
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

For complete display of Unit LA-7, see map 'Louisiana Unit: 7'

Legend

○ City / Town

▲ Major Road / Highway

Land

Critical Habitat

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Louisiana Units: 5 and 6
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

Portions of Unit LA-7 also shown on map 'Louisiana Units: 5 and 6'

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Louisiana Unit: 7
Texas (Maps were digitized using 1995 and 1996 DOQQs and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Medium Resolution Digital Vector Shoreline)

Unit TX–1: South Bay and Boca Chica. 2,920 ha (7,217 ac) in Cameron County

The boundaries of the unit are: starting at the Loma Ochoa, following the Brownsville Ship Channel to the northeast out into the Gulf of Mexico to MLLW, then south along a line describing MLLW to the mouth of the Rio Grande, proceeding up the Rio Grande to Loma de Las Vacas, then from that point along a straight line north to Loma Ochoa. The unit does not include densely vegetated habitat within those boundaries. It includes wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds, and includes the tidal flats area known as South Bay. Beaches within the unit reach from the mouth of the Rio Grande northward to Brazos Santiago Pass, south of South Padre Island. The southern and western boundaries follow the change in habitat from wind tidal flat, preferred by the piping plover, to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur and include areas used for roosting by the piping plover. Portions of this unit are owned and managed by the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, the South Bay Coastal Preserve, Boca Chica State Park, and private citizens.

Unit TX–2: Queen Isabella Causeway. 2 ha (6 ac) in Cameron County

The area extends along the Laguna Madre west of the city of South Padre Island. The southern boundary is the Queen Isabella State Fishing Pier, and the northern boundary is at the shoreline due west of the end of Sunny Isles Street. The Queen Isabella causeway bisects this shore but is not included within critical habitat. The eastern boundary is where developed areas and/or dense vegetation begins, and the western boundary is MLLW. This unit contains lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–3: Padre Island. 10,924 ha (26,983 ac) in Cameron, Willacy, Kenedy, and Kleberg Counties

This unit consists of four subunits:

1. The southern boundary of this subunit is at Andy Bowie County Park in South Padre Island, and the northern boundary is the southern boundary of PAIS. The eastern boundary is MLLW in the Gulf of Mexico, and the western boundary is MLLW in the Laguna Madre. Areas of dense vegetation are not included in critical habitat. This subunit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

2. The boundaries of this subunit extend from Rincon de la Soledad to the southeast point of Mesquite Rincon, continue from that point west to the Laguna Madre shoreline at its intersection with the King Ranch boundary, and from that point to Rincon de la Soledad. This subunit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

3. This subunit is within the Laguna Madre and extends from the western boundary of PAIS to the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway. Its northern boundary is a line extending westward from the northern boundary of PAIS, and its southern boundary is a line extending westward from the southern boundary of PAIS. This subunit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

4. This subunit extends along the gulf shore of Padre Island from the northern boundary of PAIS at the shore, north to the Nueces-Kleberg county line. The inland boundary is where dense vegetation begins, and the seaward boundary is MLLW. This subunit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Portions of this unit are owned and managed by the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, the South Bay Coastal Preserve, Boca Chica State Park, and private citizens with a significant portion being owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy on South Padre Island.

Unit TX–4: Lower Laguna Madre Mainland. 4,980 ha (12,307 ac) in Cameron and Willacy Counties

The southern boundary is an east-west line at the northern tip of Barclay Island, and the southern boundary is an east-west line 0.9 km (0.5 mi) south of the boundary of the City of Port Mansfield; the western boundary is the line where dense vegetation begins, and the eastern boundary is the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway. The unit includes bayside flats that are exposed during low tide regimes and wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds. Portions of this unit are within the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, are TGLO-owned, or are privately owned. Beaches and interior wetlands may or may not be used each year because of varying water levels, storm events, or changes in beach characteristics and tidal regime. Water stages vary in this area with meteorological conditions. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins, and where the constituent elements no longer occur and include upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover.

Unit TX–5: Upper Laguna Madre. 436 ha (1,076 ac) in Kleberg County

The southern boundary is the northern boundary of PAIS, and the northern boundary is the Kleberg/Nueces County line. The eastern boundary is the line where dense vegetation begins, and the western boundary is MLLW. This unit includes a series of small flats along the bayside of Padre Island in the Upper Laguna Madre. It includes wind tidal flats and sparsely-vegetated upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. These boundaries receive heavy use by large numbers of shorebirds, including piping plovers. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur, and include upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover.

Unit TX–6: Mollie Beattie Coastal Habitat. 241 ha (596 ac) in Nueces County

This unit will be described as two subunits:

1. Subunit is bounded on the north by Beach Access Road 3, on the east by the inland boundary of critical habitat Unit TX–7, on the south by Zahn Road, and on the west by Zahn Road.

2. The subunit is bounded on the north by Corpus Christi Pass, on the east by US 361, on the south by the north side of Packery Channel, and on the west by the Gulf Intercoastal Watersay. Some of the uplands are privately owned and the remaining are owned and managed by the TGLO. This unit includes two hurricane washover passes known as Newport and Corpus Christi Passes, and wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur and include upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover.

Unit TX–7: Newport Pass/Corpus Christi Pass Beach. 42 ha (104 ac) in Nueces County

This unit is along a stretch of Gulf beach 8.5 km (5.3 mi) long. It is
bounded on the north by Fish Pass, on the east by MLLW, on the south by St. Bartholomew Avenue, and on the west by a line marking the beginning of dense vegetation. Portions of the unit are managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as part of Mustang Island State Park. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–8: Mustang Island Beach. 97 ha (239 ac) in Nueces County

This is a stretch of Gulf beach extending from Fish Pass to the Horace Caldwell Pier on Holiday Beach within the City of Port Aransas, TX. The landward boundary is beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulf-ward boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–9: Fish Pass Lagoons. 130 ha (323 ac) in Nueces County

This unit encompasses flats facing Corpus Christi Bay that extend 1.0 km (0.6 mi) on either side of Fish Pass. The inland boundary is the line indicating beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. It includes interior lagoons and wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds. This unit includes upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover.

Unit TX–10: Shamrock Island and Adjacent Mustang Island Flats. 87 ha (216 ac) in Nueces County

This unit encompasses Shamrock Island, an unnamed small sand flat to the north of Wilson’s Cut, and a lagoon complex that extends 3.5 km (2.2 mi) to the southwest of Wilson’s Cut. Critical habitat includes land to the line marking the beginning of dense vegetation down to MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–11: Blind Oso. 2 ha (5 ac) in Nueces County

This unit is the flats of the Blind Oso, part of Oso Bay, from Hans and Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge (owned and managed by the City of Corpus Christi) northeast to Corpus Christi Bay and then southeast along the edge of Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi. The landward boundaries extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins, and extends out from the landward boundaries to MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–12: Adjacent to Naval Air Station-Corpus Christi. 2 ha (6 ac) in Nueces County

This unit is along the shore of Oso Bay on flats bordered by Naval Air Station-Corpus Christi and Texas Spur 3 to a point 2.5 km (1.5 mi) south of the bridge between Ward Island and the Naval Air Station. The landward boundary is the line where dense vegetation begins, and the boundary in the Bay is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–13: Sunset Lake. 176 ha (435 ac) in San Patricio County

This unit is triangle shaped, with State Highway 181 as the northwest boundary, and the limits of the City of Portland as the northeast boundary. The shore on Corpus Christi Bay is the third side of the triangle, with the actual boundary being MLLW off this shore. This unit is a large basin with a series of tidal ponds, sand spits and wind tidal flats. This unit is owned and managed by the City of Portland within a system of city parks. Some of the described area falls within the jurisdiction of the TGOLO. It includes two city park units referred to as Indian Point and Sunset Lake. Much of the unit is a recent acquisition by the city, and management considerations for the park include the area’s importance as a site for wintering and resident shorebirds. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–14: East Flats. 194 ha (481 ac) in Nueces County

This unit is bordered on the north by dredge placement areas bordering the Corpus Christi Ship Channel, on the west by MLLW in Corpus Christi Bay, on the east by the limits of the City of Port Aransas, and on the south by an east-west line at the southern-most point of Pelone Island. It is also bisected by a navigation channel, which is not included in the critical habitat. A portion of this unit at the west end falls within State-owned (TGOLO) intertidal lands. The remainder of the unit is privately owned. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins, and where the constituent elements no longer occur, including upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–15: North Pass. 447 ha (1,106 ac) in Aransas County

The unit is bounded on north by North Pass, on the northwest by the line indicating MLLW, on the southwest by the northeast side of Lydia Ann Island, on the south by a line running due east from the northeast side of Lydia Ann Island, and on the southeast by the landward boundary of Unit. This unit is a remnant of a hurricane washerover on the privately owned San Jose Island. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur, including upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–16: San Jose Beach. 187 ha (463 ac) in Aransas County

This unit occupies a 33 km (20 mi) stretch of beach from the North Jetty of Aransas Pass at the south, to the confluence of Vinson Slough and Cedar Bayou at the north end of San Jose Island. The inland boundary is the line indicating the beginning of densely vegetated habitat, and the gulf-ward boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–17: Allyn’s Bight. 5 ha (14 ac) in Aransas County

This unit includes shoreline of San Jose Island on Aransas Bay from Allyn’s Bight to Blind Pass, the channel between San Jose Island and Mud Island. The inland boundary is where the line of dense vegetation begins, and the bay-ward boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–18: Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough. 3,051 ha (7,539 ac) in Aransas County

Beginning at the confluence of Vinson Slough and Cedar Bayou, this unit’s boundary follows the shore of Spalding Cove to Long Reef, then continues along a line extending (2.5 mi) southwest of Long Reef to the shore of San Jose Island, then along the shore of the island to the landward boundary of Unit TX–16. The unit boundaries extend landward to the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation. This unit is a remnant of a hurricane washerover area, and includes the highly dynamic area of Cedar Bayou that separates San Jose Island and Matagorda Island. This area includes a small...
section of Matagorda Island National Wildlife Refuge with much of the remaining areas occurring on the privately owned island of San Jose. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur and include upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–19: Matagorda Island Beach. 395 ha (976 ac) in Calhoun County

This stretch of beach along the Gulf of Mexico on Matagorda Island extends a distance of 60 km (36 mi) from Cedar Bayou on the southwestern (where it abuts TX–18), to Pass Cavallo on the northeastern. The inland boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulfward boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds. The unit falls entirely within the boundary of the Matagorda Island National Wildlife Refuge.

Unit TX–20: Ayers Point. 397 ha (982 ac) in Calhoun County

This unit is an unnamed lake on Matagorda Island between Shell Reef Bayou and Big Brundrett Lake, with San Antonio Bay to the north. The unit boundary extends landward from the lake to the line where dense vegetation begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur and includes upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes marsh and flats at Ayers Point on Matagorda Island National Wildlife Refuge. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–21: Panther Point to Pringle Lake. 863 ha (2,133 ac) in Calhoun County

This unit represents a narrow band of bayside habitats on Matagorda Island from Panther Point to the northeast end of Pringle Lake. The landward boundary is the line indicating where dense vegetation begins, and the bayward boundary is MLLW. The unit is entirely within Matagorda Island National Wildlife Refuge. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–22: Decros Point. 450 ha (1,114 ac) at the Matagorda/Calhoun County Line

This unit includes about 7.0 km (4.3 mi) of beach habitat around the island and includes the tidally emergent portion of Dog Island Reef. The southeastern tidally emergent portion of Dog Island Reef is included within the unit. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. The upland areas include upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–23: West Matagorda Peninsula Beach. 311 ha (769 ac) of Shoreline in Matagorda County

This unit extends along the bayside of Matagorda Peninsula from 7.5 km southwest of Greens Bayou to 2.5 km north (1.6 mi) to the northeast of Greens Bayou. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–24: West Matagorda Bay/Western Peninsula Flats. 756 ha (1,868 ac) in Matagorda County

This unit extends along the bayside of Matagorda Peninsula from 7.5 km southwest of Greens Bayou to 2.5 km north (1.6 mi) to the northeast of Greens Bayou. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–25: West Matagorda Bay/Eastern Peninsula Flats. 232 ha (575 ac) in Matagorda County

This unit follows the bayside of Matagorda Peninsula from Maverick Slough southwest for 5 km (3 mi). The unit begins at Maverick Slough to the northeast and extends 5 km (3 mi) to the southwestern, enclosing a series of flats along Matagorda Bay. The upland areas extend to where densely vegetated habitat, not used by the piping plover, begins and where the constituent elements no longer occur and include upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–26: Colorado River Diversion Delta. 5 ha (13 ac) in Matagorda County

This unit follows the shore of the extreme eastern northeast corner of West Matagorda Bay from Culver Cut to Dog Island Reef. The southeastern tidally emergent portion of Dog Island Reef is included within the unit. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. The upland areas includes upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–27: East Matagorda Bay/Matagorda Peninsula Beach West. 295 (728 ac) of shoreline in Matagorda County

This unit extends along Gulf beach on the Matagorda Peninsula from the mouth of the Colorado River northeast along the peninsula 23 km (14 mi) to a point on the beach opposite Eidelbach Flats. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulfside boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–28: East Matagorda Bay/Matagorda Peninsula Beach East. 129 ha (321 ac) in Matagorda County

This unit extends along the Gulf beach on the northeastern end of Matagorda Peninsula from a point 0.8 km (0.5 mi) southwest of FM 457 southwest 10 km (6 mi.) to the southwest side of Brown Cedar Cut. This unit abuts with Unit TX–29 to the north. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–29: Brown Cedar Cut. 119 ha (294 ac) in Matagorda County

This unit extends 2 km (1.2 mi.) both southwest and northeast of the main channel of Brown Cedar Cut along the bayside of Matagorda Peninsula in East Matagorda Bay, and abuts unit TX–28 to the southeast. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. The eastern boundary of TX–29 follows the change in habitat from mud flats preferred by the piping plover, to slightly vegetated dune system adjacent to TX–28. This unit includes upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.
Unit TX–30: Northeast Corner East Matagorda Bay. 120 ha (297 ac) in Matagorda County

This unit is bounded on the north by the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway, on the east by the northeast limit of Matagorda bay up the line where dense vegetation begins, on the south by the boundary of Unit TX–28, and on the west by MLLW. It is a system of flats associated with tidal channels. This unit includes upland areas used for roosting by the piping plover and lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–31: San Bernard NWR Beach. 166 ha (410 ac) in Matagorda and Brazoria Counties

This is a unit composed of Gulf beach, 8.0 km (5.0 mi), and extends from the mouth of the San Bernard River to a point along the beach 14.0 km (8.7 mi) to the southwest. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulfside boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–32: Gulf Beach Between Brazos and San Bernard Rivers. 108 ha (269 ac) of shoreline in Brazoria County

This unit is a segment of Gulf beach between the Brazos River and the San Bernard River. This unit borders an area known as Wolf Island. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulfside boundary is MLLW. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–33: Bryan Beach and Adjacent Beach. 157 ha (388 ac) in Brazoria County

The boundaries enclose a length of Gulf beach between the mouth of the Brazos River and FM 1495. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulfside boundary is MLLW. A portion of this area is owned and managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–34: San Luis Pass. 110 ha (272 ac) near the Brazoria/Galveston County line

This unit extends along the Gulf side of Galveston Island from San Luis Pass to the site of the former town of Red Fish Cove (USGS 1:24,000 map, San Luis Pass, Texas; 1963, photorevision 1974). The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulfside boundary is MLLW. Approximately 57 percent of the unit includes flats in the floodtide delta that are State-owned and managed by the TGLO. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–35: Big Reef. 47 ha (117 ac) in Galveston County

This unit consists of beach and sand flats on the north, west, and east shore of Big Reef, down to MLLW. South Jetty is not included. The area is currently managed by the City of Galveston. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–36: Bolivar Flats. 160 ha (395 ac) in Galveston County

This unit extends from the jetties on the southwest end of the Bolivar Peninsula to a point on the Gulf beach 1 km (0.6 mi) north of Beacon Bayou. It includes 5.0 km (3 mi) of Gulf shoreline. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the gulfside boundary is MLLW. The area is leased from TGLO by Houston Audubon Society and managed for its important avian resources. The upland areas are used for roosting by the piping plover. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.

Unit TX–37: Rollover Pass. 6 ha (16 ac) in Galveston County

This unit consists of Rollover Bay on the bayside of Bolivar Peninsula. The landward boundary is the line indicating the beginning of dense vegetation, and the bayside boundary is MLLW. It includes flats on State-owned land managed by the TGLO. This unit captures the intertidal complex of the bay, and is bounded by the towns of Gilchrist to the east and the Gulf beach of the Bolivar Peninsula to the south. This unit includes lands known as wind tidal flats that are infrequently inundated by seasonal winds.
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

For complete display of TX-3, see this map and 'Texas Units: 5 and northern 3'.

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Texas Units: 1, 2, 4 and southern 3
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

For complete display of TX-3, see this map and 'Texas Units: 1, 2, 4 and southern 3'

For complete display of TX-4, see 'Texas Units: 1, 2, 4 and southern 3'

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Texas Units: 5 and northern 3
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

For complete display of TX-15 and TX-16 see map 'Texas Units: 15 to 21'

For complete display of TX-3 and TX-5 see map 'Texas Units: 5 and northern 3'

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Texas Units: 6 to 14
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Texas Units: 15 to 21
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

TX-26, also shown on map
'Texas Units: 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30'

TX-23
For complete display of
'Texas Units: 27, 28, 29 and 30'

TX-22
For complete display of
'Texas Units: 15 to 21'

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Texas Units: 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

For complete display of TX-23, see map
'Texas Units: 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26'

TX-26, also shown on map
'Texas Units: 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26'

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Texas Units: 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30
General locations of the designated critical habitat for the Wintering Piping Plover.

General Area

Distance: Miles

Legend

City / Town
Major Road / Highway
Land
Critical Habitat

Use Constraints: This map is intended to be used as a guide to identify the general areas where Wintering Piping Plover critical habitat has been designated. Included within the designation of critical habitat are all land areas to the mean lower low water. Refer to the narrative unit descriptions as the precise legal definition of critical habitat.

Texas Units: 31, 32, 33 and 34

Joseph E. Doddridge,
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