
Technical Memorandum Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration Project Aransas County, Texas

Progress Update #4: 5/26 through 6/1

General

As of 6/1/2014, RLB's production has been increasing in both Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough with more efficient pumping and haul cycles. The tern chicks and mother have left the area of Vinson Slough where they were originally discovered and work has resumed in that area.

Cedar Bayou

Dredging has continued in Cedar Bayou with approximately 1,800 feet of total advance since the start of the project. The contractor continues to maintain the silt curtains around the active dredging area to protect nearby aquatic resources as the dredge advances. Figure 1 shows the hydraulic dredge swinging across the specified dredge template.



Figure 1. The hydraulic dredge in Cedar Bayou.

Vinson Slough

RLB continued excavation in Vinson Slough near the intersection with Cedar Bayou making a total advance of 600 feet along the design template. On 5/26, it was discovered that the tern nest and mother that had made a nest within the Vinson Slough template were no longer in the area.

and no signs in the original sighting location were observed. Progress in Vinson Slough is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Excavation of Vinson Slough looking east from Cedar Bayou.

Beach Placement Areas

All material excavated from Vinson Slough is transported by off-road trucks along the haul route and dumped into Placement Area 1. Material dredged from Cedar Bayou is transported via pipeline to Placement Area 1. Figure 3 shows sand being pumped through the 13,000 feet of pipe to Placement Area 1. A diffuser is used on the end of the pipe to prevent scour of the beach as required by the project permit. All material transported to Placement Area 1 has been waterward of the MHHW line.



Figure 3. Sand being pumped from Cedar Bayou into Placement Area 1.

Environmental Monitoring

RLB's bird and turtle monitor patrolled the active work areas and work limits for any signs of turtle activity prior to the start of work every day. No sightings of turtle nesting or piping plovers were recorded during this week.

Overall Progress

Progress during the week of 5/26 to 6/1, as well as overall project progress to date, is shown in Figure 4.

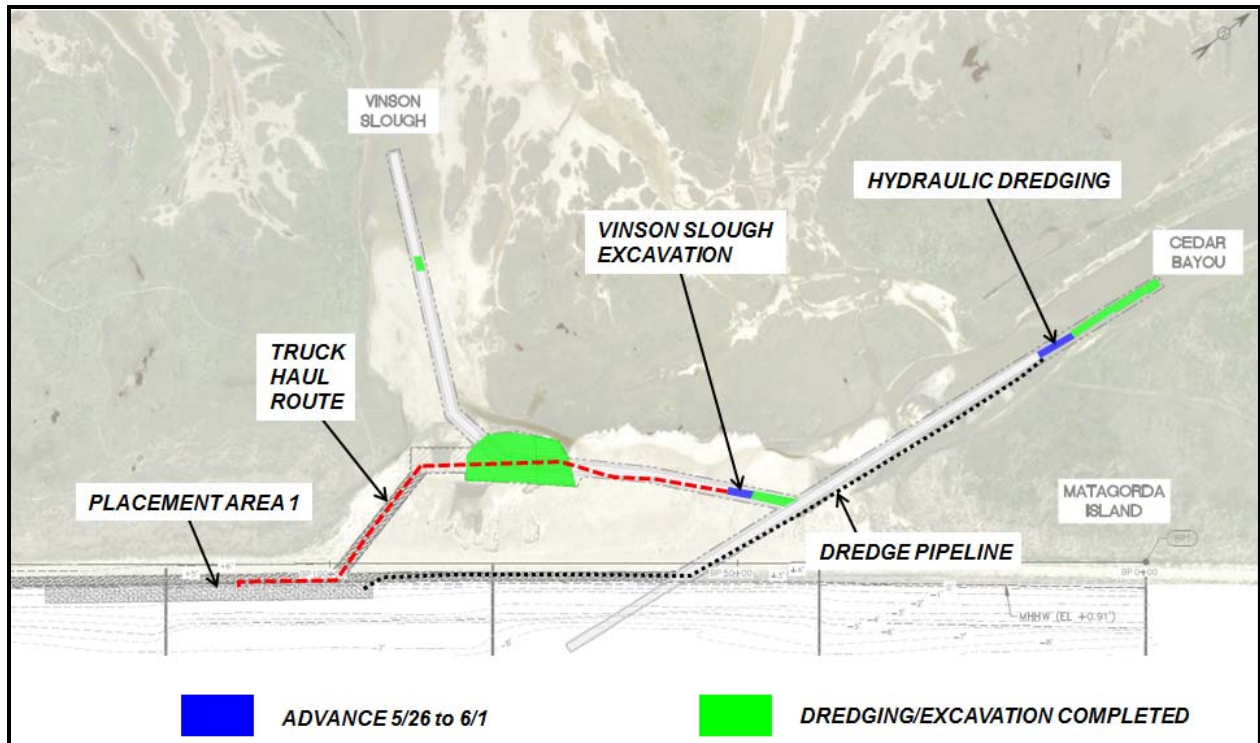


Figure 4. Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration Project Progress.