



**GALVESTON BAY
FOUNDATION**
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The Galveston Bay Foundation has been investigating potential sites throughout the Galveston Bay Estuary System for restoring wetlands with the help of volunteers, and we think that Paul Hopkins Park would be great site for both a volunteer wetland planting and trash cleanup as part of our Marsh Mania 2026 event on September 19, 2026. We are interested in transplanting smooth cordgrass as well as other native freshwater vegetation to improve the quality of wetland habitat within the park, protect the banks of the park from further erosion, help improve the water quality of Dickinson Bayou, and support biodiversity (i.e. waterfowl, fisheries species, and pollinators). Transplanting wetland vegetation to the banks of the park will increase the recreation value of the park, increasing the fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities.

Provided are aerial images to give some perspective on how the area that the park now occupies has changed over time. A significant difference between the images from 1969 to 2023 is the decreased density of trees and marsh vegetation and the increase of erosion (especially near the 517 bridge) of the banks of the Magnolia Geisler Bayou tributary that flows into the confluence of Dickinson Bayou. Also attached is a rough planting map of where we could restore wetland habitat along the banks of the park, but this map may change after formally visiting the site to get a better understanding of the depth of the water. I have also included a .kmz of the planting map for reference.

There have been other instances of wetland restoration along Dickinson Bayou that have increased the quality and area of wetland habitat. Here is the final project report from the Dickinson Bayou Wetland Restoration Project: <https://www.glo.texas.gov/sites/default/files/2025-10/dickinson-bayou-wetland-final-report.pdf>. This project involved the construction of a breakwater, then the area between the banks and the breakwater was planted with smooth cordgrass with the help of volunteers. Our intention for our planting activities at Paul Hopkins Park would involve only the transplanting of marsh vegetation and cleaning up trash within the tributary and the marsh of the park and would not involve the creation or alteration of any structures. I wanted to include the above-mentioned project as a reference for the need and success of marsh restoration along Dickinson Bayou.

All the best,

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