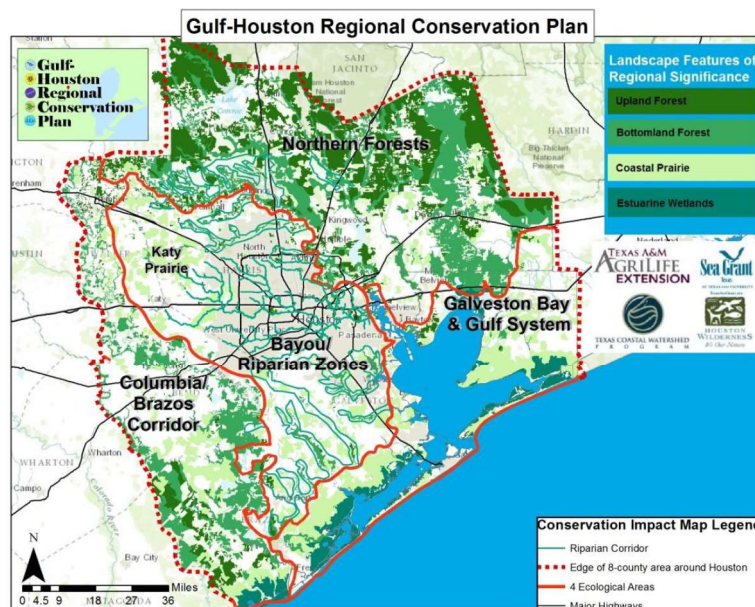




Executive Summary

The Gulf-Houston Regional Conservation Plan (*Gulf-Houston RCP*) is a long-term collaborative of environmental, business and governmental entities working together to create a first-ever ecosystem continuity and connectivity plan for the Gulf-Houston Region.¹ This 8-county RCP is comprised of every known environmental/conservation project in the region and collectively identifies our region’s most pressing environmental needs – organized into 4 key initiatives. Projects and initiatives in Phase One include land acquisition, land easements and restoration, and development of nature-based **trails**. Phase Two includes projects that concentrate on restoration, public access, maintenance and education.²

- *Riparian Corridor Protection Initiative* – protect acreage along riparian corridors (forests and prairies), in a holistic approach, for each of four Galveston Bay sub watersheds (Lake Creek, Cypress Creek, Spring Creek, Buffalo Bayou, Clear Creek and the two major rivers – San Jacinto and Trinity) and develop plans to improve habitat for birds migrating between the coast and inland areas.
 - *Bayou Greenways Initiative*
 - *Headwater to Baywater Initiative*
 - *Lower Trinity River Project*
 - *Columbia Brazos Corridor Project*
- *Prairie Conservation Initiative* – restoration and preservation of tens of thousands of acres of upland prairie land throughout the eight counties in the RCP.
- *Galveston Bay Habitat Acquisition & Easements Initiative* - restoring habitat (coastal wetlands, bottomlands and estuaries) from multiple counties leading into the Bay & Gulf Coast.
- *Galveston Bay Oyster Reefs & Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative* - restoration, creation and preservation of Galveston Bay oyster reefs, inland rookery islands and other bird habitat within the lower Galveston Bay watershed.



¹ The Gulf-Houston Regional Conservation Plan includes 8 counties: Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Fort Bend, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller County

² For more information, see www.gulfhoustonrcp.org or email info@houstonwilderness.org.