

## Coastal Prairie Conservation Initiative

Coastal prairie is a valuable resource to many private landowners. Aside from its aesthetic value, coastal prairie is well suited to livestock production and provides habitat to many valuable game species. An effort is underway to provide technical, financial, and regulatory assistance to private landowners interested in conserving, enhancing, or restoring coastal prairie through the Coastal Prairie Conservation Initiative.

This initiative is a cooperative effort undertaken by several agencies, organizations, and private landowners to conserve, restore, and enhance prairie in 19 counties along the Texas coast.

Organizations participating in the initiative include the Sam Houston Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. (RC&D), the Natural Resources Conservation Service, local soil and water conservation districts, the Nature Conservancy of Texas, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Over 60,000 acres of privately owned land are currently enrolled in the program.



**Counties:**

**Aransas**    **Austin**  
**Brazoria**   **Calhoun**  
**Chambers**   **Colorado**  
**Fort Bend**   **Galveston**  
**Goliad**      **Harris**  
**Jackson**    **Jefferson**  
**Liberty**     **Matagorda**  
**Orange**     **Refugio**  
**Waller**      **Wharton**



Landowners needing assistance with brush control, grazing management, prescribed burning, or native grass establishment may receive assistance through the initiative. Landowners with endangered species concerns may seek regulatory assistance through the initiative by being included in a Safe Harbor agreement. The purpose of the Safe Harbor agreement is to protect landowners who restore or improve coastal prairie from any new restrictions on the use of their land that might result from an endangered Attwater's prairie chicken taking up residence.



Texas landowners interested in the type of assistance offered through the

Coastal Prairie Conservation Initiative should contact Tim Anderson at 979/234 3021, ext. 31 or Clifford Carter at 361/578 9296.

Louisiana landowners and organizations interested in Cajun prairie preservation or restoration should contact



Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge at 337/774 5923, e-mail: fw4 rw lacassine@fws.gov or Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society at web site <http://www.cajunprairie.org>

