



# 2001 Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

## Program Focus —

A primary focus is to leverage dollars through partnerships with other federal, state and private agencies such as; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited and Resource Conservation and Development Areas to benefit targeted threatened and endangered species and critical habitats in Texas.

Partnerships like Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Landowner Incentive Program and the Native Gulf Coast Prairie Restoration Project encourage habitat restoration and relieve landowners from any additional liability under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act by using "Safe Harbor" Agreements.



## Texas Summary

### Overview

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program that helps landowners develop and improve wildlife habitat on private lands. Interested landowners seek natural resource planning assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and other federal, state, and private organizations to develop conservation plans that improve wildlife habitat. WHIP funds help implement the actions identified in the plan by providing financial assistance up to 75 percent of the cost for their projects. The State objective is to restore degraded native wildlife habitats with emphasis on (1) upland prairies and savannahs, (2) riparian zones (3) woody corridors and (4) wetlands.

### Accomplishments

Texas received 101 applications with an estimated value of \$1,316,262 in FY2001. With limited funding only 15 contracts for \$280,184 were approved. Since WHIP began the program has benefited 32,801 acres of upland habitat; 600 acres of riparian areas; 1000 acres of threatened and endangered species habitat and 7 acres of wetlands.

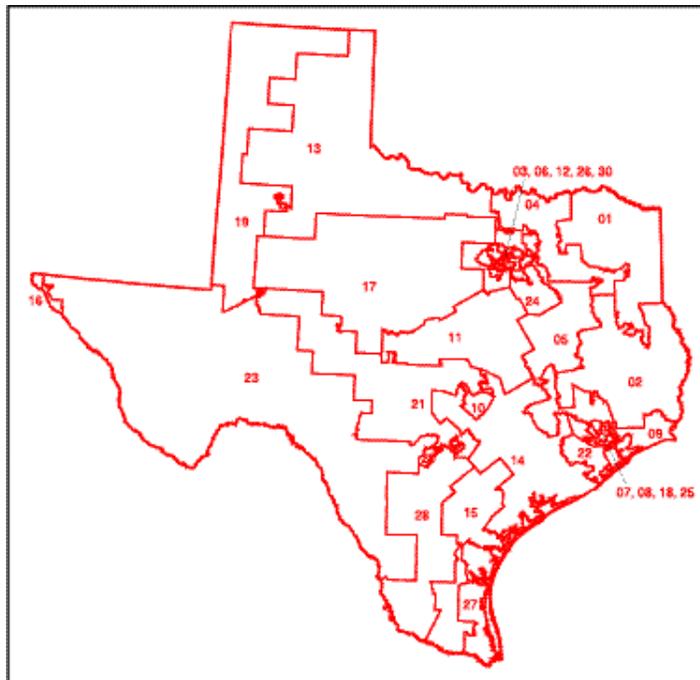
### Program Benefits

WHIP has been used in Texas, not only to improve habitat for upland game and non-game species, but also to provide corridors for Ocelots, to restore native prairie for the benefit of the Attwater's Greater Prairie Chicken and to provide critical freshwater sources for migratory birds along the Texas coast. These projects have directly benefited local economies that are dependent on hunting, nature tourism and shrinking wildlife water supplies, as well as, enhancing habitat critical to threatened and endangered species.

### State contact

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## Texas Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District



### Texas Dollars and Contracts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (95-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1			9224	5
District 2			9994	1
District 4	23987	2	37310	5
District 5	20091	1	52873	11
District 8			23881	1
District 9			2440	1
District 11			60482	19
District 13	27333	2	106922	25
District 14	7102	1	39241	1
District 15			32041	7
District 17	24634	1	162879	25
District 19			12505	4
District 21	49711	2	124583	12
District 23	96576	4	189811	14
District 24			12526	2
District 27			28440	5
District 28	30750	2	130843	13
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$280,184</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>\$1,035,968</b>	<b>156</b>

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