



# NEWS Release

Aransas County Courthouse • 2840 Hwy. 35 N. • Rockport, TX 78372

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## Activities in the Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough areas are now Restricted

Boat or foot access is now prohibited. Remaining in or on the waters of Cedar Bayou and the lands nearby, including Vinson Slough, while dredging activities are underway is also prohibited. Aransas County Commissioners Court approved Order #0-07-2021 which prohibits access in the designated area. A failure to comply will be a Class C Texas Parks and Wildlife misdemeanor and, or a misdemeanor subject to punishment under Section 30.05 of the Texas Penal Code. Signs are posted at the entrances to the restricted areas. These restrictions will remain in effect until around November 1, 2021, when work should be completed. Please note the designated areas on the map that is included.

Cedar Bayou restoration is extremely important for a fish rich ecosystem, which drives the economy of Aransas County and beyond. In the past, Judge C.H. "Burt" Mills championed the project to open the pass in 2014 and then Hurricane Harvey closed it once again. Judge C.H. "Burt Mills said, "it was necessary to seek the assistance of FEMA and other sources in order to make this project a reality and help restore the economy and ecosystem of the area." FEMA approved the request and agreed to fund the re-opening of Cedar Bayou. With federal assistance the inlet will now be dredged and reopened once again. Additional assistance was received from FEMA and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Fisheries Enhancement Program. The Restoration Project is projected to cost approximately \$8.9M.

Thank you for your support while dredging activities are underway!

