

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Landowner Incentive Program

LIP



Tim Siegmund in lieu of Arlene Kalmbach, TPWD

What is LIP?

A competitive, incentive based cost share program for private landowners wishing to enhance their property, to establish or restore habitat for state and federal trust fish, wildlife and plant species and promote healthy terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.











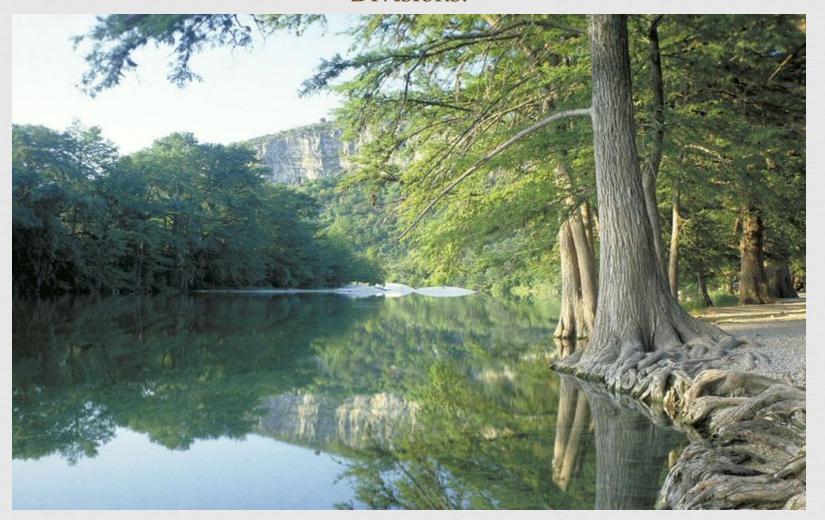








LIP is a collaborative effort between TPWD Wildlife and Inland Fisheries Divisions.



Funding comes from partnerships with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Conservation License Plate funds and other partners.

Developed in 1997 to provide technical and financial assistance to landowners interested in improving habitats for rare and declining species



Important in Texas, where over 95% of the land is managed by private landowners

Since 2005

- •Provided over \$5 million in state and federal cost-share assistance
- •Approximately \$6.0 million in match
- •Partnered with over 180 individual landowners and landowner cooperatives
- •Achieved nearly 250,000 acres of habitat enhancement



Some commonly Funded LIP Practices include:



- Brush management
 - Wetland enhancement
- Invasive species management

- Erosion control
- Riparian protection
- Native vegetation planting

2022

Pre-proposal submission deadline:

February 1st 2023

1. **Highest** priority:

 Projects within identified priority areas that are expected to directly benefit listed or candidate species and their habitats OR species identified as "high priority" in the Texas Conservation Action Plan.



- High priority: projects that are expected to directly benefit listed or candidate species and their habitats OR species identified as "high priority" in the Texas Conservation Action Plan, but not located in a priority area.
- 4. Other priority: projects that are expected to benefit other state or federal trust species and their habitats.



Special emphasis placed on projects that

- Offer long-term protection,
- Offer long-term monitoring,
- Projects willing to provide location-specific data to inform future conservation efforts for such species.
- show benefit to freshwater mussel species of conservation concern (ESA Candidates or petitioned)
- Pollinator species
- cost-effective projects
- Projects that demonstrate efficiency and sustainability
- Projects that create corridors or are within close proximity to FWS, TPWD, or other privately protected areas,
- Demonstrate relevance to emerging conservation issues.
- And Offer Long term protection

Awards do not generally exceed more than \$25,000 in LIP reimbursement.

ALL good projects should submit a pre-proposals regardless of location & regardless of the target species prioritization ...we very often fund good habitat projects not within designated focus areas.

\$180k available in FY 2023



A LIP PROJECT - START TO FINISH

IDEA - 1 month

- Submit pre-proposal
- Receive a request for full proposal

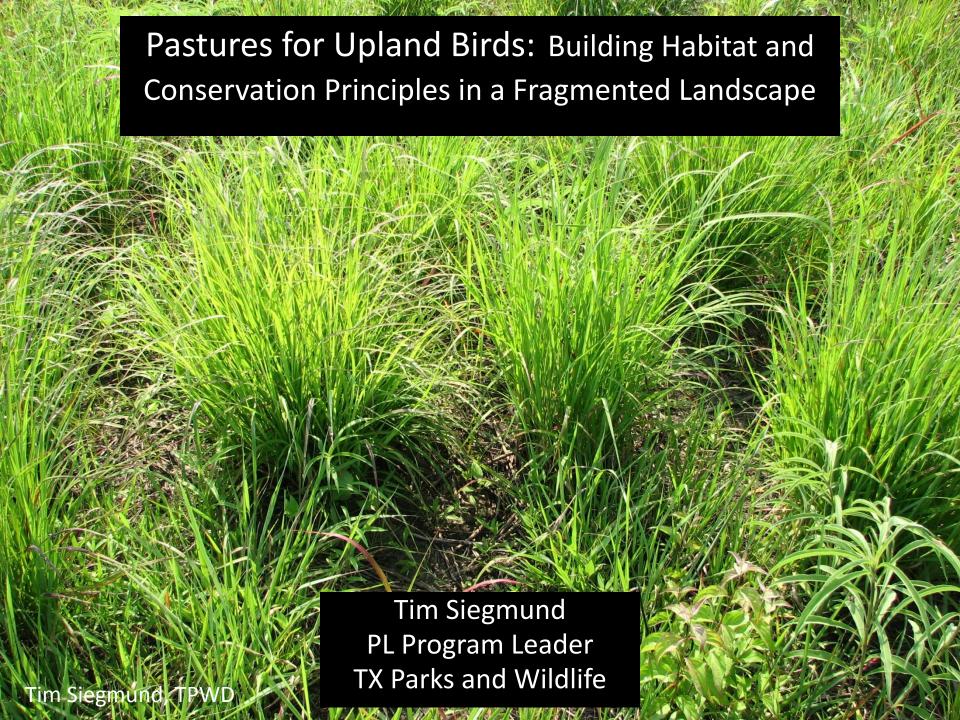
AWARD
~ 2 months

- Submit full proposal
- Receive award notice after review period
- Contracting (clearances, payee form, signatures, etc.)

EXECUTION 1-3 Years Complete work (typically a year – mother nature, private landowners personal agendas, etc.)

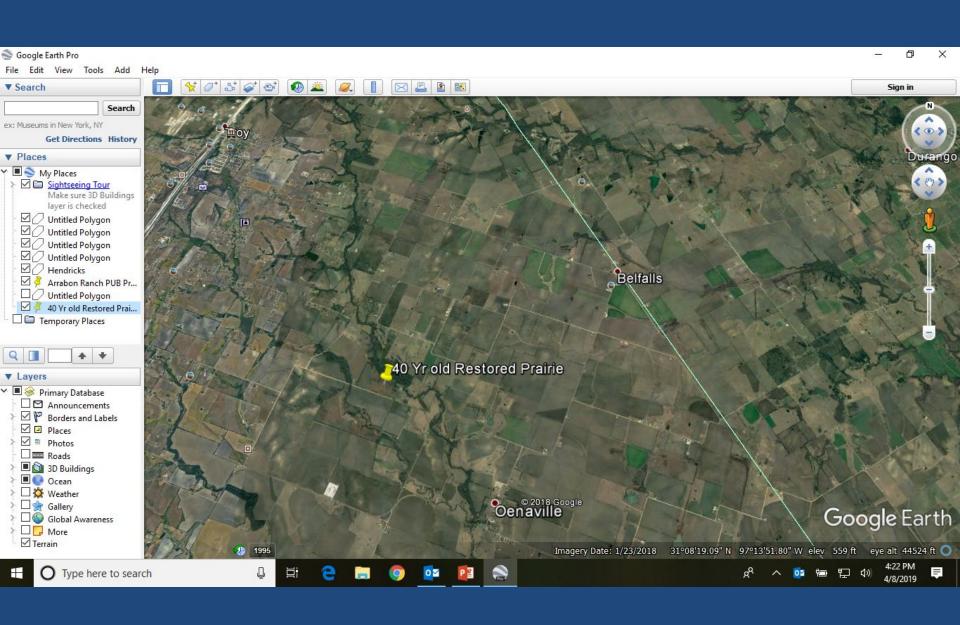
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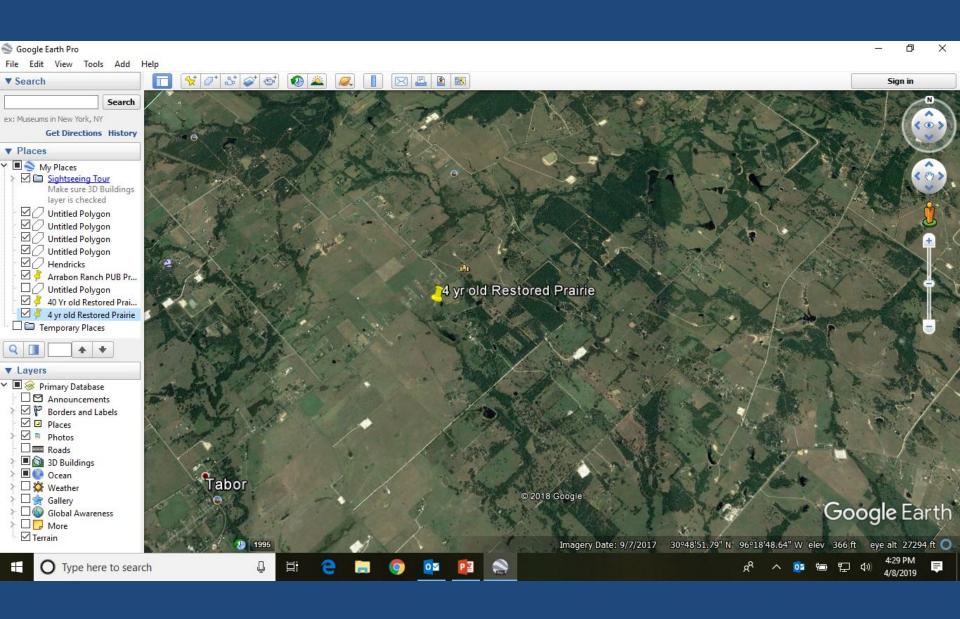
- Site visit with LIP & FWS staff to verify work*
- 2 page Invoice to TPWD submitted (no supporting documentation required)
- Check cut from Comptroller's Office



What Does It Mean?







Size Matters

- -Meadowlarks and Dickcissels may use patches less than 20 acres
 - -Most species need 50 acres or more
 - -Don't expect Prairie Chickens and Bison on 100 acre prairie

Small Isolated Grasslands: Problems

- -Greater likelihood of local extinction
- -Support less diverse plant community
- -More likely to be isolated from other grasslands
- -Management options may be limited
- -proximity to homes, roads, etc. preclude use of fire, herbicides, or grazing
- -Difficult to break into multiple management units
- -Economics of management decisions become higher per unit area







Building Professional Expertise

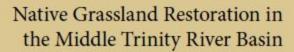


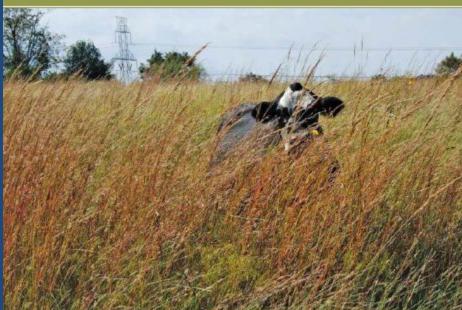












Native Grassland Monitoring and Management



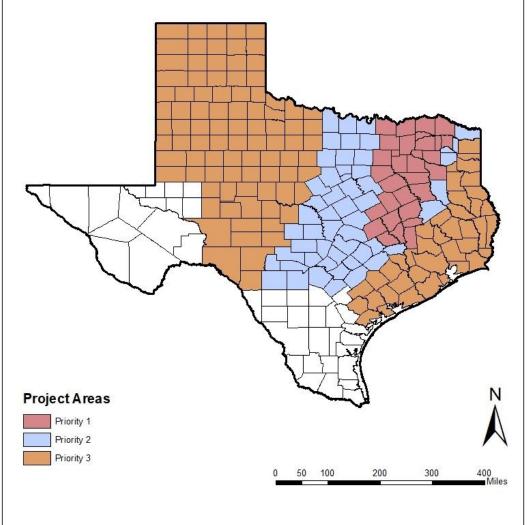








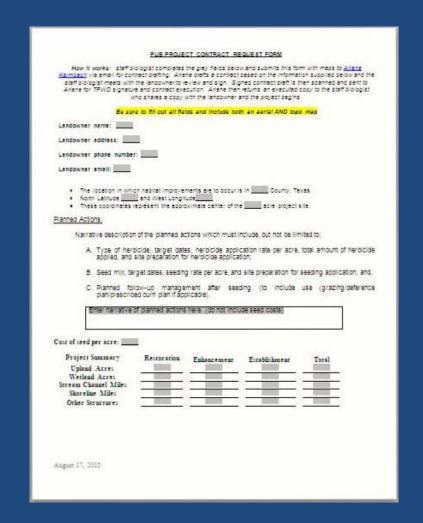




Produced by: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Arlington, Texas ES Map Date: 01 June 2020

Paperwork for Staff

- It's 1 Page!
- 1 Map
 - Aerial
- No Reimbursement
- No Invoicing



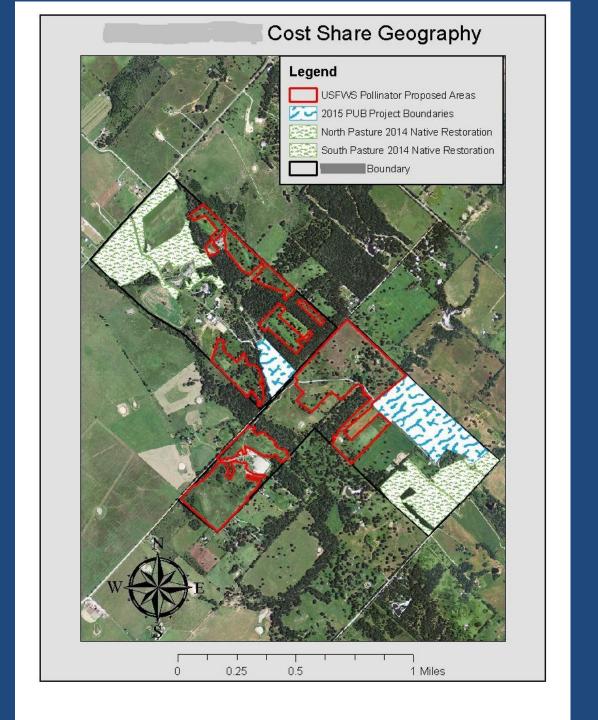
Moving Parts

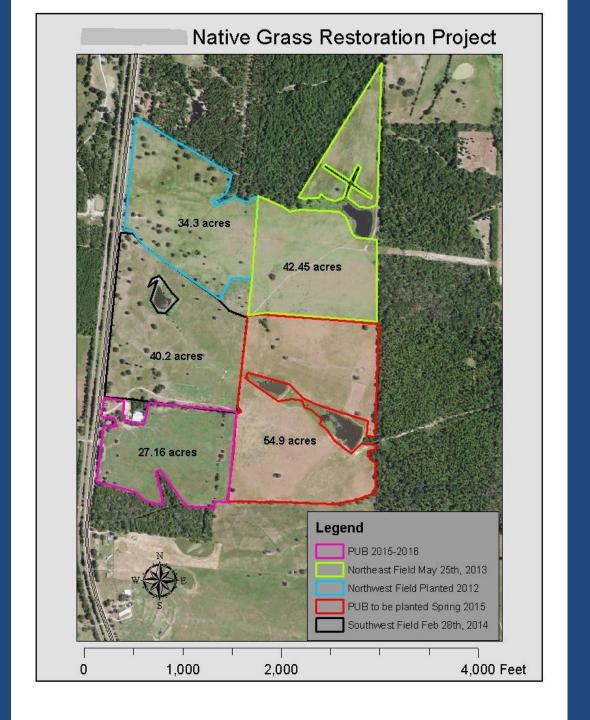
- TPWD
 - Herbicide
 - TG
 - Order Seed
 - Use of Seed Drill?
- USFWS
 - Money for Seed Mix
- Landowner
 - Labor to Spray and Plant
 - 10 Yr contract



Experience + Exposure

- Word of Mouth Projects
- Multi-year Projects
- Leveraging of Funds
- Familiarity with Methodology and Equipment
- Sparking Interest with Money
 - Project may or may not require funding







Getting the Conversation Started

- PUB has proven itself!
- Demonstration Sites
- Experience Builder
- Providing Habitat
- Mental Image



Fills a Niche between traditional Ag Producer and Recreational Property Owner with a direct wildlife/ecosystem benefit.

















Questions?

