The Proposed Closure of Rollover Pass

Texas General Land Office
Jerry Patterson, Land Commissioner
Rollover Pass, Galveston County

Image courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey
Rollover Pass, Galveston County
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History:

- Property owned by Gulf Coast Rod, Reel, and Gun Club.
- Pass constructed in 1954 by TPWD as a fish pass.
- Quickly started eroding unimproved banks.
- Increased shoreline erosion of adjacent beaches.
- Increased shoaling of GIWW.
Recent Actions:

- Hwy 87 bridge nearly destroyed by Hurricane Ike.
- 81st Legislature, SB 2043 gave Land Comm. authority to close man-made passes causing erosion.
- $5.85 Million appropriated for Rollover closure.
- Must consider impacts to recreational activities.
- Alternate project funding sought through FEMA Hurricane Ike claims for damaged fishing piers.
GLO Actions:

- Applied for $4.4 Million Hazard Mitigation Grant.
- Initiated an environmental assessment of potential Pass closure with Taylor Engineering.
- Met with USACE and State and Federal resource agencies.
- Coordinated with TxDOT, Galveston County, GCRR&GC, and Gilchrist Community Assoc.
- Proposed various recreational fishing alternatives.
- Submitted USACE permit application on January 14.
Future Steps:

- Conduct public outreach for fishing mitigation ideas.
- Final Determination for Pass closure.
- Finalize design for Pass closure.
- Finalize design for fishing mitigation amenities.
- Solicit proposals from construction contractors.
- Obtain USACE Permits.
- Conduct Pass closure and construct fishing amenities.
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