Hurricane Harvey & Living Shorelines Resilience
Kristin Hames, Natural Resource Specialist GLO
Harvey

The park had lost a significant portion of its shoreline due to erosion. This land loss was endangering the park, public fishing pier, road, and nearby houses. The Copano Bay Soil and Water Conservation District (CCBSWCD) worked with Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) to create a hybrid living shoreline project comprised of:

- Gently grade the eroding bluff
- Install articulated mat ~500 ft
- Build a sheet pile breakwater ~ 500 ft
- Plant *Spartina alterniflora*
- Project size ~25,500 square feet (0.59 acres)
This project was constructed to protect existing bulkheads and upland residential lots from erosion caused by high wave energy and to provide marsh habitat. Breakwaters were installed to protect the existing and newly planted marsh vegetation. Over time, oysters have colonized the breakwaters, contributing to the ecosystem’s habitat and the structure’s overall effectiveness.

- Existing bulkhead
- Rock rubble breakwater: 1,570 linear feet
- *Spartina alternifora* planted: 13,068 square feet (0.3 acres)
- Project size ~108,340 square feet (2.49 acres)
NOAA overflight aerial of storm damage 08.27.2017

2 days after landfall
Present day – projects show expanding or stable *Spartina alterniflora* growth, all project components remain intact and functional.