The Eagle Ford Shale: Mitigating Oil and Gas Impacts in the Last Great Habitat

Chase Currie: San Pedro Ranch

"The Last Great Habitat": South Texas

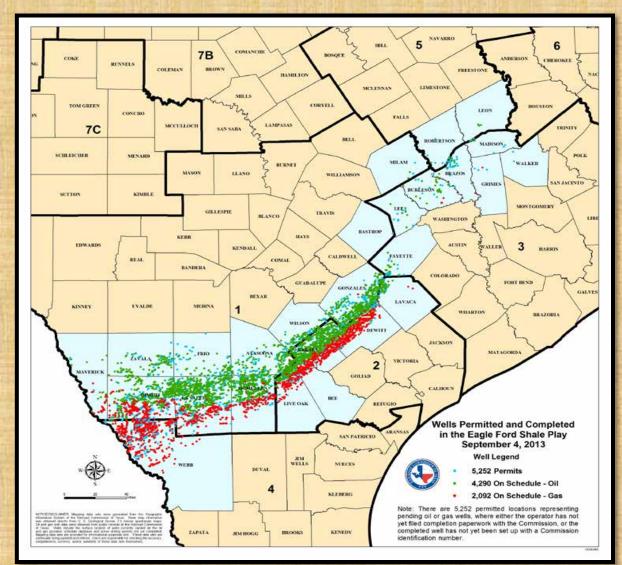
- Lies south of a line from Del Rio to San Antonio and southeast to Victoria and Port O'Connor
- Privately owned
- Hyperdiverse ecological community





The Eagle Ford Shale

- Oil and gas play
- 11,624 permitted wells: 9/4/2013
- Impacts
 - Direct: loss of habitat and increased fragmentation
 - Indirect: soil erosion, spread of exotic plant species, increased rainfall run-off



Mitigation and Reclamation: Your Situation

- Each situation is unique
 - Property size
 - Available resources
 - Mineral rights
- ALWAYS....
 - A good surface use agreement
 - Seek legal advice



Surface Locations

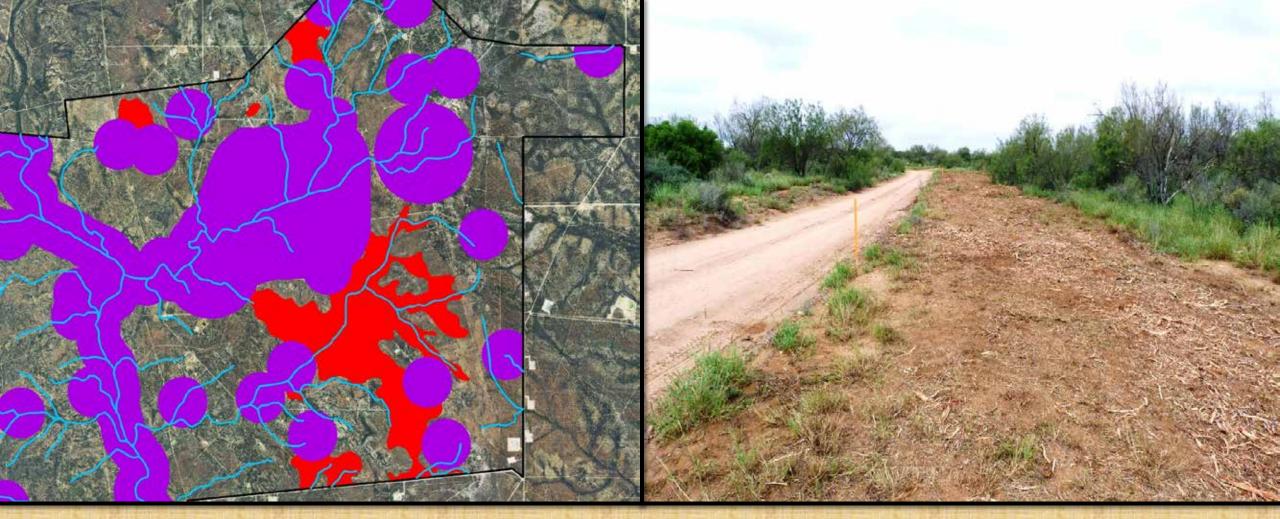
Pipelines

Mitigation Process (Pre-Construction)

Develop a baseline for surface locations and pipelines

- Identify sensitive areas (map)
- Topography
- Access: Road?
- Oil Field Corridor





Identify sensitive areas with mapping

Pipelines: position along existing roads

Mitigation Process (Construction)

- Environmental friendly drilling matts
- Stockpiling topsoil
- Clean equipment
- Bore sensitive areas
 - Riparian areas



Bore sensitive areas

Reclamation Process (Post Construction)

- Re-distribute topsoil back over the site
- Seed bed
- Plant natives
- Erosion blankets
- Screening techniques



Planting Native Seeds

- Plant a diverse mix
- Use the correct ecotype
- Timing?
 - August 15-October 15 (South Texas Natives)
- Use correct equipment



Use erosion blankets



Screening Techniques

Monitoring



Conclusions

- Plan, Plan, Plan!!!
- Be steadfast in your monitoring
- Use oilfield related disturbance to your advantage
- Be creative and flexible



Acknowledgements

- Joseph Fitzsimons
- Pamela Howard
- Daniel and Crissy Boone
- Mike McMurry and Alvin Nixon





