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SPI receives Gulf of Mexico Alliance Coastal Resilience Award

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance (Alliance) is pleased to announce that the City of South Padre Island has received the Coastal Resilience Award. The grant, totaling \$135,000, is supported by funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for Coastal Management.

The City of South Padre Island's vulnerability assessment process identified a need to increase public access to new ecotourism sites, expand public education programming, and find solutions to low-lying vulnerable lands. The City will use grant funds from the Alliance to develop a Master Plan that identifies and preserves key aquatic habitats (such as wetlands and mangroves) that provide protection from sea level rise and storm surge.

The three year award will support ten communities across the Gulf region. All of the selected communities will become part of a Resilience Community of Practice. Here, they will share their experiences with their peers and establish best practices from which others may learn.

The Alliance's mission is to enhance the ecological and economic health of the Gulf region by encouraging collaboration among government agencies, businesses, education providers and non-governmental organizations.

To learn more about the Gulf of Mexico Alliance, visit www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org.

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