

Ducks Unlimited

Apex Clean Energy awarded a \$150,000 grant on behalf of El Sauz Wind and Young Wind to Ducks Unlimited for its Texas Playa Conservation Initiative (TPCI). The TPCI is an ongoing project in collaboration with Playa Lakes Joint Venture, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and other partners to restore, manage, and enhance bat and other wildlife habitat.

About the Texas Playa Conservation Initiative

Playas are the most important ecological structure in the Southern Great Plains, providing the bulk of the wetland-dependent migratory species habitat in the Texas Panhandle. Ninety percent of playas have been degraded in some way—many by pitting—to increase farmable acreage or water livestock.

The TPCI provides landowners with a 10-year management plan to restore and preserve their playa land to its natural function. To date, the TPCI has restored approximately 1,100 playa acres—and its efforts are critical due to drought, climate change, and increased demand, which severely impacted water resources in the region. In addition to restoring 200 to 400 acres of habitat annually, Apex’s grant will enable the following benefits:

- vital foraging and water resource opportunities for bats
- recharging of the Ogallala Aquifer, a vital water source that will supply cleaner water to future generations
- soil-based carbon sequestration
- stopover points for Central Flyway waterfowl and shorebirds
- support for 185 bird, 450 plant, 13 amphibian, and 37 mammal species

Apex’s donation was matched 1:26 by Ducks Unlimited.

About the Apex Conservation Grant Program

As a company with a core value of sustainability, Apex Clean Energy endeavors to not only minimize our projects’ impacts, but also promote an ecological balance. Through the Apex Conservation Grant Program, each renewable energy project commercialized by Apex will contribute a sum of money, proportional to the size of the project, to support local or regional wildlife conservation, reforestation and flora restoration, protection of sensitive habitats such as grassland or wetlands, and other environmental conservation initiatives in or near project communities.

