

**2013 Esri International User Conference**

July 8–12, 2013 | San Diego, California

# **Lease Management on State of Texas Lands**

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# Who is The Texas General Land Office

- The GLO is an agency of the State of Texas and is the oldest state agency created in 1837 to be the repository of all land records. Very humble beginnings! But life at the GLO has gotten complicated over time
- John P. Borden was the 1<sup>st</sup> Land Commissioner. Currently, Jerry Patterson is serving in that position.

# What does the GLO Manage?

- The GLO manages state lands and mineral rights totaling 13 million acres.
- This includes vast properties in West Texas, bays and all “submerged” lands 10.35 miles out into the Gulf of Mexico, as well as a variety of state agency acreage and timberlands in East Texas.

# Challenges

- The lands are geographically located throughout the state of Texas.
- The ownership rules are different due to how the lands came under the state's oversight. The distribution of these lands to settle Texas was ever changing.
- How to identify, track, organize, inventory, lease and maintain a good accounting of all this activity. We had books, ledgers, plat books, etc.

# GIS Technology Offers Solutions

- Today we manage: 37,000 land parcels
- Around 15,000 lease agreements and pooled units
- 15,700 producing oil and gas wells on State of Texas managed lands
- \$272,331,385.94 – Collected in Fiscal Year 2012 and deposited in the PSF

# GIS Web Legend

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### *PSF Land Types and Definitions*

The following is an abridged version of Original Texas Land Survey (OTLS) land type definitions from a Texas General Land Office database manual titled, "Using GLOBase". The associated colors correspond to the land types in the GIS Web Mapping Viewer.

**Note:** Even though water is treated as a mineral, water rights are conveyed along with the sale or purchase of a land's surface.

**01, 02, 03, & 05** – Rivers, Creeks Bayous; Bays Inlet Covers; Gulf of Mexico, Lakes  
Submerged areas in freshwater and saltwater bodies; all surface and mineral leasing rights are owned by the State of Texas.

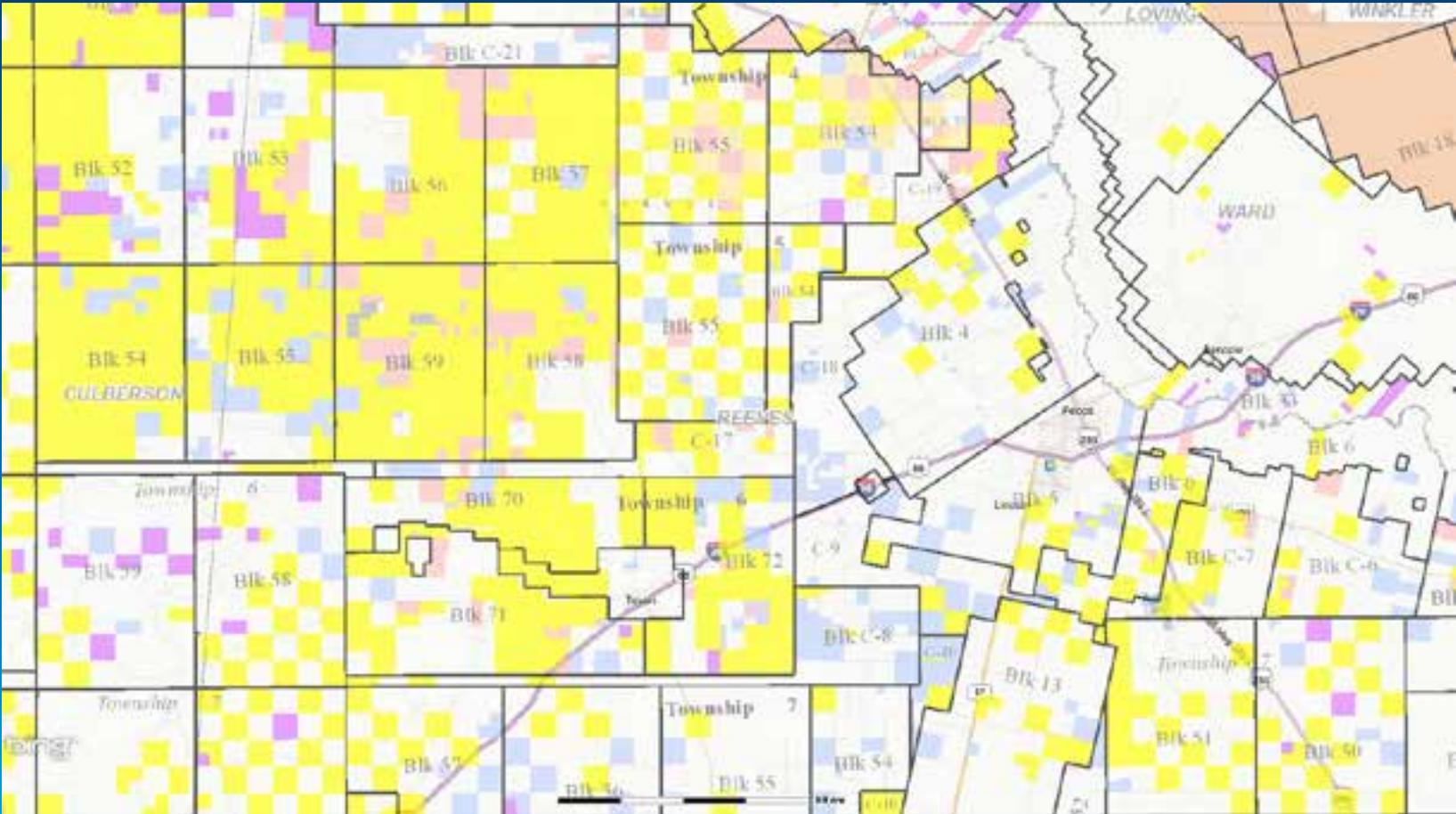
-  **04** – School Land Fee: Upland tracts remaining in original ownership of the Permanent Public Free School Fund; all mineral and leasing rights are owned by the State of Texas.
-  **07** – Relinquishment Act Land: Upland tracts sold between September 1, 1885 and May 27, 1937; all surface rights conveyed.
-  **08** – Free Royalty Land: Upland tracts sold after May 27, 1931; all surface rights conveyed.
-  **12** – Escheat Lands: Upland tracts reverted to the Permanent School Fund by escheat; all surface and mineral leasing rights are owned by the State of Texas.
-  **13** – Judgments: Upland tracts reverted to the Public Free School Fund by judgment; all surface and mineral rights are owned by the State of Texas unless otherwise noted.
-  **14** – Gifts: Upland tracts reverted to the Public Free School Fund by donation; all surface and mineral rights are owned by the State of Texas unless otherwise noted.
-  **15** – Surface Sold / All Minerals Reserved: Upland tracts sold after June 15, 1973; all surface rights have been conveyed.
-  **16** – Surface Sold / Partial Minerals Reserved: Upland tracts sold after June 15, 1973; all surface rights have been conveyed.
-  **17** – Surface Only Acquired: Upland tracts acquired after June 15, 1973; all surface and leasing rights are owned by the State of Texas; no mineral and leasing rights are owned by the State.
-  **18** – Surface and Part Minerals Acquired: Upland tracts acquired after June 15, 1973; all surface and part of the mineral and leasing rights are owned by the State of Texas; see the individual record for the exact mineral interest owned.
-  **19** – Surface and All Minerals Acquired: Upland tracts acquired after June 15, 1973; all surface and mineral leasing rights are owned by the State of Texas.
-  **20** – Undivided Interest Acquired: Upland tracts acquired; undivided interest in surface rights acquired, varying or no mineral rights acquired.

# Picture of old Midland Map

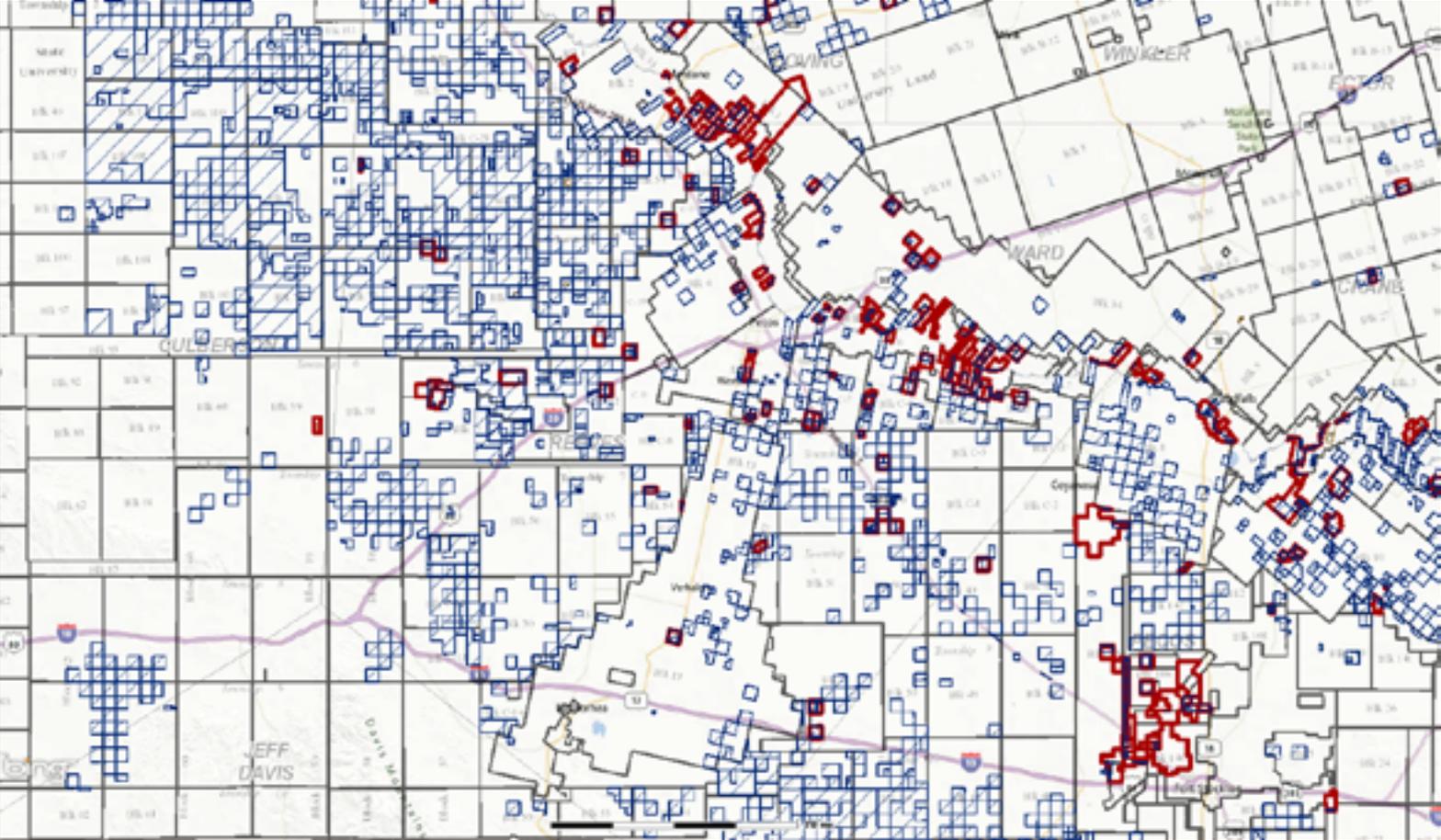




# State Land Distribution in Reeves County

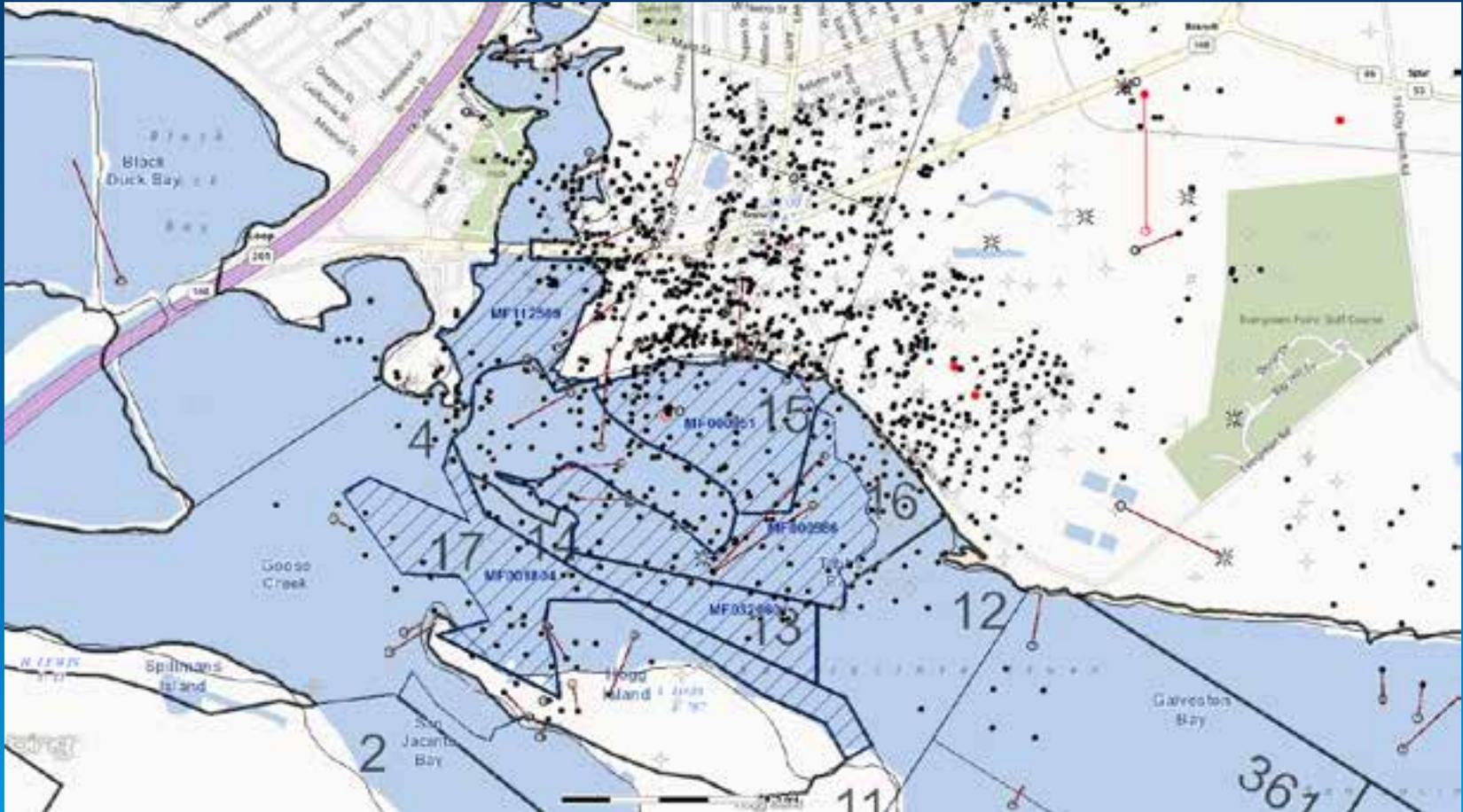


# Lease Distribution in Reeves County





# M-000951: Oldest State Lease in Texas (1914) Goose Creek Field (SE of Houston)



# Live Demo of GIS Viewer

- <http://www.glo.texas.gov/GLO/agency-administration/gis/index.html>

# Did You Know?

- In 1879, the General Land Office appropriated 3 million acres of public land in the Panhandle to finance the current Capitol building. The land was sold to investors and would later become the famed XIT Ranch, valued at 50 cents per acre by Land Commissioner William C. Walsh.

# Questions?

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