

RESPONSIBLY MANAGING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

BIODIVERSITY

Our operations are located on the U.S. Gulf Coast, an area of rich biodiversity and environmental importance. We recognize that protecting biodiversity is an important responsibility we have to the communities that depend on these vital ecosystems. While our impacts on biodiversity are generally limited, what impacts do occur primarily take place during the construction of our LNG terminals and natural gas pipelines. We apply intensive assessment, avoidance and mitigation efforts to reduce negative impacts on local ecosystems and continue to support voluntary biodiversity protection projects near our areas of operation. We also partner with the local communities near our Sabine Pass and Corpus Christi liquefaction facilities to help target company social investment towards environmental projects for coastal restoration and marine habitats.

Key issues and initiatives

Where possible, we seek to avoid, rather than mitigate, impacts on biodiversity. Key elements of our approach include:

Pre-project assessments: As part of our permitting process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), our projects undergo biodiversity-related assessments through which we identify and seek to avoid high-priority, critical habitats, while also identifying potential impacts on sensitive species and ecosystems. We perform cumulative risk assessments to understand potential risks to biodiversity that could occur near to, but outside of, our own operations and incorporate these potential risks into our impact avoidance and mitigation plans.

Impact avoidance: We prioritize the avoidance of impacts, minimization of impacts to the maximum extent practicable, restoration to pre-construction conditions where possible and, finally, the mitigation of unavoidable impacts. Our LNG facilities and pipelines were sited in order to avoid protected conservation and/or critical habitat areas, and our currently planned LNG expansions are not expected to cause additional disturbance to areas outside of our fence line.

Protecting biodiversity and restoring ecosystems: We seek opportunities to restore and rebuild ecosystem in our areas of operation both as beneficial outcomes of our construction projects and through voluntary investments unrelated to our facility construction. These efforts primarily focus on restoring wetlands and other Gulf Coast ecosystems, which provide critical ecosystems services as well as important habitat for local and migratory species.

Terrestrial acreage disturbed and restored: We do not disturb existing land uses as part of our ongoing operations, but can impact intact ecosystems when constructing new facilities. Since 2016, we have restored 88.4% of acreage disturbed, which resulted from the construction of our two liquefaction terminals and the Midship Pipeline (see [page 51](#)).

READ MORE

Read more in our ESG Metrics and Disclosures Appendix:

[Biodiversity impact assessment process](#)

[Voluntary projects to enhance biodiversity](#)

CASE STUDY

Read more online about:

[Protecting biodiversity and reducing impacts during construction](#)

EFFLUENTS AND WASTE

Effluents from our operations primarily relate to our sanitary water treatment systems, stormwater runoff and the use of a reverse-osmosis process to treat water provided to us by local utilities. These pose only limited risk to the environment, due to the nature of the potential contaminants in the effluents. Similarly, compared to most companies in our industry, our operations pose only limited risks of hydrocarbon spills, because our primary product is natural gas, not oil. While our operations do produce wastewater with small amounts of potentially hazardous pollutants, these are carefully managed.

Key issues and initiatives

Responsible waste management: We follow waste-minimization plans across all of our facilities and carefully label, manage and dispose of hazardous and non-hazardous waste at permitted treatment, storage and disposal facilities. We contract qualified and licensed third parties to transport and dispose of hazardous wastes and follow strict regulatory tracking and reporting requirements. We have also implemented a range of recycling and waste diversion programs, through which we recycled more than 357,000 gallons of used waste oil and oily water from our LNG facilities and about 25,000 gallons of pipeline liquids, and diverted over 15 tons of office waste.

Spill prevention and response: Our business model is unique as a pure-play LNG company. Our spill risks are limited, based on the products and materials we handle and primarily stem from liquid fuels used to run equipment and lubrication oils used in our liquefaction facilities. Through our subsidiaries, affiliates and investments, we operate just over 300 miles of pipelines, which transport natural gas, reducing our risks related to hydrocarbon spills.³⁵ Still, we maintain site-specific spill prevention, control and countermeasure plans. Our primary product, LNG, dissipates if released and does not pose a significant risk of environmental contamination. In 2020, we experienced one reportable hydrocarbon spill.³⁵ This involved less than one gallon of hydrocarbons (see [page 51](#)).

READ MORE

Read more in our ESG Metrics and Disclosures Appendix:

[Effluents management](#)

[Waste recycling and diversion](#)

³⁵ We define reportable spills as a spill of liquid materials containing hydrocarbons to the ground or water, such as liquid fuels, lubrication oils and hydraulic fluids, that exceeds a regulatory-based reportable quantity and requires an immediate (<24 hours) notification to a regulatory agency. Our business focuses solely on natural gas. Reportable spills from our operations refer to spills from service equipment, process equipment or similar sources.