The New Point Comfort Lighthouse was constructed on an island of more than 230 acres in 1804 and went into operation January 17, 1805. The United States government purchased two acres for the lighthouse site. Since then, time and tide have worn away the sandy coast surrounding the lighthouse. Erosion was first noted following the War of 1812, and over time, many efforts have been made to control the process. The last major effort was made in 1981 when rocks were placed around the perimeter of the lighthouse. Constant wave action by hurricanes and northeasters continue to batter the structure.

Today the lighthouse is in a state of disrepair. In order to provide long-term shore protection, a rock revetment is proposed. This revetment will mimic the lighthouse in planview and provide a working area around the island for lighthouse restoration and a scenic footpath.