



Mr. Pat Henry, P.E.
Project Manager
Texas Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1386
Houston, TX 77251-1386

Re: SH 36: Jones Creek to 0.2 mile north of the Brazos River Diversion
Channel

Net Benefit Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation
CSJ: 0188-06-046

Dear Mr. Henry:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) proposes to upgrade SH 36 and Spur 10 (Hartledge/Gerken Road) from US 59 in Fort Bend County to FM 1495 in Brazoria County. The proposed improvements are intended to increase safety, access, and mobility for the transportation of people and commercial goods in coastal areas during emergency situations.

Although the proposed highway improvements would not encroach onto the Peach Point Wildlife Management Area (WMA) property, TxDOT proposes to construct a floodplain detention pond within a construction easement located adjacent to Jones Creek on Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) property at the WMA. TxDOT has worked with TPWD to develop a design for the detention pond that would improve wildlife opportunities while also meeting the floodplain mitigation needs. The detention pond would be operated by TPWD and would serve to enhance the waterfowl roosting areas in the WMA as well as providing flood storage capacity.

In coordination with the environmental assessment process, TPWD agrees with the floodplain mitigation basin design concept presented in TxDOT's Draft Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation. Further, TPWD concurs that the proposed basin would result in a net benefit to the Peach Point WMA. We appreciate the opportunity to work with TxDOT on this highway improvement project.

Sincerely,


Todd Merendino, Ph.D.
Project Leader, Central Coast Wetlands Ecosystem Project

Cc: Karen Coopersmith, HNTB Corporation
Lance Olenius, TxDOT

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