

July 12, 2018

Trey Cooksey
Recreational Trail Program Manager
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744-4800
Change in Scope Request

Bobcat Woods Trail Extension
TPWD Contract Number: 488977
Service Award Number: RT015011
CFDA: 20.219

The Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges (FOBWR), in cooperation with the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge, are progressing on our project to repair and extend the Bobcat Woods Trail on this refuge. We have completed the demolition of ~0.2 miles of deteriorated wood boardwalk and replaced this section with a boardwalk surfaced with plastic composite having spurs to a parking lot, a butterfly garden and to the adjoining east side Cacklebur Slough. We will shortly commence the construction a ~530-foot section of boardwalk over this slough at the north end of the trail.

Our intent as expressed in our grant application was to form a loop trail by constructing an approximately 1,000 foot section of concrete sidewalk along the west side of Cacklebur Slough, and an approximately 300-foot concrete section to connect the loop with the boardwalk on the south side. At the southwest corner of this loop trail, a thicker 30-foot section of concrete trail would extend over a gravel road to connect with another short boardwalk leading to an existing observation platform. Based on experience, we had estimated a cost of \$17.11 per linear foot for these six-foot wide trail sections.

We have received bids for between \$52.63 and \$82.50 per linear foot for this work, which would substantially exceed our funding capacity for this project. This inflated cost mostly results from high demand for concrete work because of the booming economy in our area as well as private, public, and industrial repair demands from the effects of hurricane Harvey.

We thus propose to eliminate the concrete trail section on the west side of the slough as an aspect of this project, substituting for now a mowed path along the existing levy. This would leave about 660 linear feet of six-foot wide concrete trail that we would expect to cost less than \$53,000. Remaining funds in the grant, augmented by funding from the FOBWR dedicated to this project, would be sufficient to complete the project as modified. These details are shown on the figure below.

Paving the path to complete the ADA-complying loop would occur, outside of this project, with the securing of other funding sources, and commence when the financing is secured.

Please let us know if this proposed change in scope meets with your approval, or if you require additional information.

Best regards,

Marty Cornell,
Grant Administrator,
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