

Attachment A
Copy of IRS Letter of 501(c)(3)
Certification

Note – The President of the Friends group was out of town and we were not able to secure a more presentable copy of the IRS letter before the deadline

Internal Revenue Service

Date: June 10, 2005

FRIENDS OF BRAZORIA WILDLIE REFUGES
PO BOX 505
LAKE JACKSON TX 77566-0505

Department of the Treasury
P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact:
Yvette Davis 31-07751
Customer Service Representative
Toll Free Telephone Number:
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET
877-829-5500
Fax Number:
513-263-3756
Federal Identification Number:
76-0440298

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of June 10, 2005, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

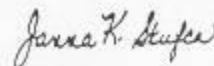
In May 1995 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



Janna K. Skufca, Director, TE/GE
Customer Account Services

Attachment B
San Bernard Wolfweed Shelter Location/Design

San Bernard Wolfweed Shelter Location/Design



Proposed location of San Bernard Wolfweed DEEP Shelter



View of shallow wildlife management reservoirs approximately 100 feet from the proposed San Bernard Wolfweed DEEP Shelter

San Bernard Wolfweed Shelter Location/Design



12'x12' (144 ft.² of floor space) Discovery Center DEEP Shelter at Brazoria National Wildlife constructed in 2007 with Dow Community Grant. The design of the San Bernard Wolfweed DEEP Shelter (20' x 25' – 500 ft.² of floor space) will be similar to this shelter except much larger and with the addition of 250' of handicap accessible sidewalk.

Attachment C
Estimated Cost of San Bernard Wolfweed
Environmental Education Shelter

**Estimated Cost of San Bernard Wolfweed
Environmental Education Shelter**

Material and Labor List for 20' X 25' DEEP Shelter/Equipment

Quantity	Size	Description	Price \$
10	6' x 6' x 12'	Treated Lumber	450
16	2' x 10' x 12'	Treated Lumber	200
42	2' x 6' x 12'	Treated Lumber	300
25	½ x 4' x 8'	Treated plywood	875
28	2' x 14'	Galvanized roof	1,000
24	½ x 10"	Galvanized bolts	54
16	½ x 9"	Galvanized bolts	35
420 Lineal Feet		Corral Board	210
4	2' x 10' x 20'	Treated Lumber	84
4	2' x 10' x 26'	Treated Lumber	104
30	2' x 4' x 12'	Treated Lumber	113
	1' x 2' x 140 Lineal feet12'		120
14		Bags of Sack-crete to set posts	48
		Nails for nail gun	100
12		Tubes of exterior liquid nail adhesive	40
10 lbs.		1.5" galvanized self-tapping screws with washers	100
		10% Contingency	383
Total Shelter Material Cost			4216
Labor for Shelter Construction			5,300
1,500 sq. ft. concrete for 20' x 25' slab and 250' of 4' wide handicap accessible sidewalk/ Material and Labor Costs			9,500
8		Recyclable Plastic Picnic Tables (\$900 each)	7,200
Total Estimated Project Cost			26,216

Detail on Project Cost Share

Dow Heritage Grant Request Amount	13,000
Friends and/or USFWS Matching Cost-Share Grant Contribution	13,216
Estimated Total Project Cost	\$26,216

Attachment D
Existing Discovery Environmental Education Program
At Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge

Discovery Environmental Education Program (DEEP)

Since 1994, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has hosted field trips throughout the school year for students at local elementary and intermediate schools. Formally known as Discovery Environmental Education Program (DEEP), the program presently serves:

- Approximately 2600 fourth- and seventh-grade students from the [Brazosport Independent School District](#) (BISD). BISD operates K-12 schools for the cities of Clute, Freeport, Jones Creek, Lake Jackson, Oyster Creek, Quintana, Richwood, and Surfside Beach, Texas.
- Approximately 150 fourth-grade students from the [Angleton Independent School District](#) (AISD). AISD operates K-12 schools in the city of Angleton, Texas.

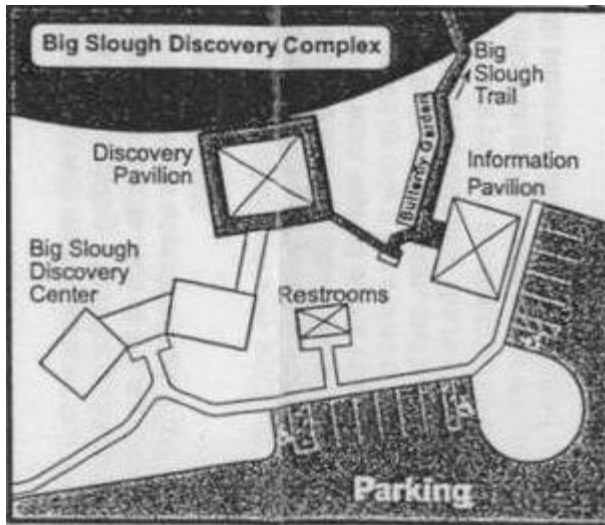
By providing students with hands-on experience at the refuge, these field trips augment the schools' science curriculum in the area of natural ecological systems. Most DEEP field trips are scheduled at the Brazoria NWR, although some are scheduled at San Bernard NWR or at Hudson Woods. These investigations are led by volunteers; the entire project is administered by Bryan Adams, the Environmental Education Ranger at BNWR.



Bryan Adams

During the 2004-05 school year, 26 day-long field trips were conducted.

The DEEP program is based at the Big Slough Discovery Complex, located at Brazoria NWR. This complex includes the [Big Slough Discovery Center](#), an Information Pavilion, and the Discovery Pavilion. The Pavilion, located on the banks of Big Slough, offers an excellent view of local wildlife.



The Discovery Center contains a classroom, offices, and an exhibit area.





Friends volunteer Ed Barrios prepares the "Microworld" teaching station.

A TYPICAL DAY

A typical DEEP day (usually a Tuesday) begins with the arrival of two busloads of students from one school, accompanied by their science teachers and a few parents.



The students are divided into eight groups, each accompanied by at least one teacher. During the day, each of the eight groups visits one of eight teaching stations. A volunteer at each teaching station focuses on one particular topic. Typical topics include:

- **Reptiles**
- **Water Cycle and Water Quality**
- **Estuaries**
- **A bus tour to observe wildlife**
- **Coastal Prairie and Wetlands**
- **Birds: How they Fly**
- **Freshwater Pond Life**
- **Microworld: Life under a microscope**

The Microworld teaching station is located in the Discovery Center; other stations are located at various venues around the refuge.

Attachment E
Statement of Sustainability

Statement of Sustainability

How will the project be sustained in the future?

The physical assets (i.e., the shelter and sidewalk) will be maintained by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff and volunteers from the Friends of the Brazoria Wildlife Refuges, Master Naturalists and the RV (winter Texans) camp at the refuge.

The ability of the Friends group to sustain DEEP and the volunteer effort is best demonstrated by some of our past accomplishments. As indicated previously, the Friends group was formed in 1994 and has supported the refuges and the community by:

- Securing grants to fund improvements and programs;
- Supporting the environmental education program;
- Conducting Migration Celebration; and
- Promoting the Brazosport area, the refuges and Migration Celebration.

Recent grants/donations secured and administered by the Friends group include:

- Halls Bayou Prairie Restoration
 - Pierce Ranch 812 pounds native grass seed donation \$33,300 value
 - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation \$22,000 grant
 - Houston Audubon Society \$3,750 donation
 - Texas R.I.C.E. 75 hours labor donation \$3,000 value
 - Friends of Brazoria Refuges \$2,000 donation
 - Hannah's Native Grasses \$420 donation
 - Total \$64,470
- Texas General Land Office Grant \$46,720
 - Purchase supplies for the Discovery Center
 - Exhibits for the Discovery Center
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Grant \$27,000
 - Improvements at Hudson Woods
- Houston Endowment Foundation Grant \$20,000
 - Help cash flow reimbursement
- Union Pacific Foundation Grant \$10,000
 - Discovery Center Exhibits
- Dow Community Grants
 - San Bernard Observation Platform \$5,000
 - San Bernard Oak Boardwalk \$5,000
 - Brazoria NWR DEEP Shelters (2) \$5,000
- National Fish and Wildlife Fund Grant \$3,800
 - Nature of Learning grant for A.I.S.D. at Hudson Woods

The environmental education program is also described in other parts of the application. Again, this program has been in existence since 1994 and continues to expand. The USFWS is currently constructing a screened pavilion, the Discovery Pavilion, on the banks of Big Slough adjacent to the Discovery Center. This large, screened pavilion will serve as additional classroom space and an observation area.

The 14th Annual Migration Celebration was held April 11 -13, 2008, at RiverPlace in Freeport and the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge. Over 1000 people participated in these three days. The Friends group, in conjunction with the USFWS, has conducted Migration Celebration all 14 years. Thought the donations of generous corporate sponsors all the events were available to the public at no charge. The sponsors include:

- ConocoPhillips
- The Dow Chemical Company – Texas Operations
- BASF Freeport Works
- Freeport LNG Development, L.P.
- The Brazoria Lions Club
- Enterprise Rent-a-Car
- Gulf Coast Auto park
- Gulf Coast Kayak Adventures
- Muchowich Offshore Oil Services Incorporated
- Shintech
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Wal-Mart

In addition, over 8,375 students, teachers and administrators attend the Birds of Prey show by Earth Quest at area schools in the weeks prior to 2008 Migration Celebration. This is an educational event to promote Migration Celebration and the refuges. The Birds of Prey shows are paid for by many local sponsors and the Friends group.

The promotional efforts of the Friends group also help ensure the sustainability of the organization. The Friends are a member of the Brazosport Chamber of Commerce and work close with the Brazosport Visitors and Convention Council to promote the refuges, Migration Celebration and area resources.

Participating in many different events is one way of promoting the Friends interests and educating the public about area resources. Promotional events include:

- Nature Day at Sea Center Texas;
- Bake Sales at area Wal-Marts;
- Promotions at Brazos Mall;
- Matagorda County Birding Nature Center Earth Week Fair;
- Envirofest in Lake Jackson; and
- Xtreme Humingbird Xtravaganza at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory.

Additional information about the Friends of the Brazoria Refuges is available on our website at www.refugefriends.org.

Information on the Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuges is available at <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/texasmidcoast/index.htm>.