

Grant Application**Application Number: 2018-197-0069****General Information**

Grant Title: Due Diligence of Potential Land Acquisition for the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge

Status: Submitted For Review

Focus Area: Stronger Region

Date Started: 7/16/2018

Investment Type: Project Support

Date Submitted: 7/29/2018

Geographic Area(s): Brazoria County

Requested Amount: \$300,000

Approved Amount: NA

Term: 2 years

Audit InformationCreated By: marty-carole@comcast.net on 7/16/2018
10:53:32 AMEdited By: marty-carole@comcast.net on 7/29/2018
12:10:51 PM**Organizational Information****Organization**Legal Name: FRIENDS OF BRAZORIA WILDLIE
REFUGESCurrent Name: Friends of Brazoria Wildlife
RefugesPrevious Name(s): Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges has not operated under any name other than that
identified in the attached IRS determination letter and does not do so now.

Tax Identification: 760440298

Website: <http://refugefriends.org/>

Type: Non-Profit Public Charity

Primary Phone: 979-297-2235

Fax Phone: --

Executive Director/ CEO**Physical Address****Mailing Address**

Name: Mr. Ed Barrios

Post Office Box 505

Post Office Box 505

Title: Chairman

Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0505

Lake Jackson, TX 77566-0505

Phone: 979-415-4998

Email: barrios@refugefriends.org

Grant Application**Board Of Directors****Board Information****Board Governance****How many times a year does your board meet?**

6

During the past year, what was the average member attendance at board meetings?

90%

Does your organization limit the number of terms a board member may serve?

No

If yes, what is the maximum number of years a member may serve consecutively?

N/A

Does your organization have a board-approved Conflict of Interest policy?

Yes

Are any members of your board related to your organization's CEO/Executive Director?

No

Board Member Contribution

Total Amount Given: \$5,005

Percentage Who Gave: 100%

Board Committees**Core Committees** Executive Committee: Audit Committee: Fund Development Committee: Governance Committee:**Additional Committees**

Committee 1: Migration Celebration Planning Committee

Committee 2: A Taste for Nature Planning Committee

Committee 3:

Audit InformationCreated chapmansuzette@hotmail.com on
By: 5/22/2011 11:08:48 AMEdited By: marty-carole@comcast.net on
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Grant Application

Board Members		
Name	Affiliation	Member Type
Ed Barrios	Retired - Dow Chemical Company, Chemical Engineer	Chair
Oron Atkins	Retired, Dow Chemical Co., Production Maintenance	Member
Martin Cornell	Retired, Senior Scientist, Dow Chemical Co.	Member
Dr. Mickey Dufilho	Professor of Biology, Brazosport College	Member
Phil Huxford	Landscape contractor; former Chair Migrat'n Celebr	Member
Lisa Myers	Retired, Fulton County (GA) Board of Education, Ed	Member
David Plunkett	Retired Dow Environ Div; Chair Migrat'n Celebrat'n	Member
Kim Richardson	Retired, Attorney	Member
Richard Schauffhausen	Retired - Financial Advisor	Member
Torrey Tvedt	Retired Dow Engineer. Engineering consultant	Member

Financial Details

Requested Amount & Project Budget

	YR 1	YR 2
Requested Amount:	\$150,000	\$150,000
Project Budget:	\$150,000	\$150,000

Organization Budget

	YR 1
Revenue:	\$459,950
Expense:	\$383,721
Net Income:	\$76,229

Previous/Anticipated Significant Changes to the Organization Budget:

Cash flow of the Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges (FOBWR) varies considerably from year-to-year. Revenue is dependent on grants awarded, income from fundraising, and major donations. For example, our A Taste for Nature Fundraiser is held every other year and yields around \$60,000 in profit, and \$300,000 grants from Houston Endowment have been awarded approximately every two years. Expenditures vary considerably depending activity on grants and projects.

Grant Application

Funding

Organization Contributions

Committed

A Taste for Nature Fundraiser	\$60,017
Birds of Prey Contributions	\$19,025
Bryan Adams memorial contributions	\$16,709
Migration Celebration Fundraising	\$15,960
Miscellaneous Contributions (twenty)	\$3,191

Committed Total \$114,902

Contributions Total \$114,902

Organization Earned Income

Committed

Interest	\$437
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Committed Total \$437

Earned Income Total \$437

Organization Public Support

Committed

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	\$118,276
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Committed Total \$118,276

Public Support Total \$118,276

Application Questions

Organization Info

1. State your organization's mission and vision in two or three sentences.

The mission of the Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges is to support the Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex in their charge to manage the conservation and restoration of wildlife and plant resources and their habitats within the Brazoria, San Bernard, and Big Boggy National Wildlife Refuges and to support and advocate for their public use mandate for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, interpretation and environmental education.

2. Summarize your organization and its work in two or three sentences.

A major focus of the FOBWR is raising funds to facilitate land acquisition, develop and restore habitat, and construct public-use facilities on the Brazoria and San Bernard National Wildlife Refuges. The Friends also support environmental education programs on these refuges and actively promote nature preservation and public visitation through outreach programs in Houston and throughout Brazoria County and surrounding counties. The Friends financially back efforts to scientifically study and protect flora and fauna on our refuges. We also actively lobby government entities to support the refuges of the Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

3. How is the work of your organization relevant to the community today? Please limit your response to three to five sentences.

Grant Application

Our efforts have enhanced the awareness, enjoyment, and support of our refuges and wildlife by communities that adjoin them. Some of these outcomes are quantified in the following question. One result is that our communities have a higher sense of ownership of their refuges, which serves as an important constraint to any reduction of support by the Federal Government.

4. Provide a brief overview of your core programming. As you describe each program, focus on how it produces and maximizes benefits for the people of greater Houston. Please limit your response to three or four sentences per program.

The Friends Capital Projects Program has funded the construction of 35 projects to build trails, boardwalks, shelters, and observation platforms on Complex refuges by raising over \$874,000 from grants and fundraising events since our founding in 1994. Most of these structures were built with volunteer labor organized and managed by the Friends. These facilities enhance visitor experience for nature observation and photography, environmental education, hunting, and fishing.

For over thirteen years, the Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges have sponsored the Birds-of-Prey program that brings a demonstration of raptors in-flight to area schools and public events. Students receive an indelible impression of these magnificent birds and the importance of preserving a healthy habitat to ensure their survival. This program has grown from 11 programs reaching 5,211 people in 2005, to 63 programs attended by 21,412 people in 2018. A total of over 168,000 people have attended over this time. The current \$500 cost per program is obtained from a dedicated fundraising effort, including an annual grant of \$10,000 from Phillips 66.

The Friends have financed several projects to protect wildlife and restore habitat. Examples include purchasing Utility Terrain Vehicles and other equipment to support sea turtle patrols to recover eggs of the endangered Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, the acquisition and installation of an array of antennas that monitor the routes of migrating birds, and the restoration of rice fields that feed and shelter over-wintering waterfowl.

Discovery Environmental Education Program (DEEP): The Friends members serve as docents for this refuge program, now in its 24th year. Throughout the school year, the program offers field trips for elementary and intermediate school students. This year, ~2,000 students representing four school districts and several private schools in Brazoria County, several Houston area schools, and Rice University are participating in the program. Activities at the Refuge provide students with hands-on experience, augmenting the schools' science curriculum in the area of natural ecological systems. Our volunteers, many of whom are members of the the Friends Board and also the Cradle of Texas Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists, lead and coordinate the investigations. The Friends finance the purchase of materials and supplies to support DEEP, including binoculars, microscopes, and video equipment.

The annual Migration Celebration, underwritten and managed by Friends, is a two-day event held every year at the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge. It attracts ~1,700 visitors, including about 20% from Houston and surrounding communities. These visitors are attended by between 130 and 170 volunteers recruited by the Friends. Activities include van and marsh buggy tours of lakes inhabited by waterfowl and alligators, kayaking, docent-led walks in wooded areas, fishing, archery, air rifle target shooting, and close-up encounters with butterflies, raptors, pond life, reptiles, and sea creatures. This event has become especially popular with families with young children, where it serves as a hands-on introductory experience to nature and enhances awareness of our wildlife refuges. All events are free to the public, with ~\$25,000 of financing coming a Friends fundraising campaign.

Off-refuge outreach programs are designed to educate the public on our local ecosystems and the attributes of our wildlife refuges. Major annual outreach events include KBR Kids Day on Buffalo Bayou, Brazoria Heritage Day, the Lake Jackson Festival of Lights, Nature Day at Sea Center Texas, and several appearances at the Brazos Mall.

Grant Application**Engagement**

5. What is the service area or geographic focus of your organization (i.e. neighborhood, city, county, region, etc.)? If you serve more than one area, please respond for your primary program(s).

Our Charter charges us with supporting the Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex, an area that encompasses parts of Brazoria, Fort Bend, Matagorda, and Wharton counties. We support and work on Refuge land in all of those counties. However, we conduct the majority of our activities in Brazoria County, because it contains 90% of the Refuge's acreage.

6. Who are the primary beneficiaries of your core programming? Please limit your response to three to four sentences.

The direct beneficiaries are the Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Complex and members of our communities who take advantage of the facility enhancements and environmental education programs financed and/or managed by the Friends. This group includes our area school districts who leverage our environmental education programs to augment their curriculum. Volunteers also benefit from the personal gratification that comes from the results of their efforts. Local businesses and industry benefit from public acknowledgement of their support, and from the value to employee recruitment by having local natural resources for employee recreation. In a broad sense, the nation benefits from our programs that facilitate habitat protection and restoration of ecosystems that are vital to wildlife preservation.

7. Are the primary beneficiaries described above the same as the people you seek to engage through that programming? (For example, land conservation efforts may benefit the general public while programming engages landowners or policymakers; a school-based clinic may benefit student health while programming engages parents, school leaders and partnering medical schools; a mentoring program may benefit youth while programming engages youth, adult volunteers to mentor them and school leaders to host the program). If not, please describe any other constituents you seek to engage. Please limit your response to two or three sentences per constituent.

Yes.

8. Using relevant and descriptive data, provide a summary of the constituents you have engaged in each of the past three years. Include what has been both successful and challenging in your engagement efforts and what strategies you are now employing as a result.

Grant Application

Friends has engaged a diverse group of constituents who represent business and industry, educational institutions, community organizations, and private foundations. When the point of engagement is not programming, it is to request volunteers or financial support.

Over the last three years, outreach efforts succeeded in large part because we linked each organization to an activity that matches its mission or utilizes its expertise. This strategy has allowed us to secure volunteers and donations from likely and unlikely sources. We engaged obvious groups such as the Texas Master Naturalists Cradle of Texas Chapter and Gulf Coast Bird Observatory; these organizations help us organize programs, provide volunteers, or host and facilitate educational programs. Engagement efforts not only built successful community partnerships but also fostered funding. The Friends tapped into our area's abundance of chemical companies, almost all of which have budgets for grants or donations. We developed the A Taste for Nature fundraiser to tap into leaders of our business community, most whom have had little engagement with our wildlife refuges.

Challenges relate to volunteers. All of our programs rely on a steady stream of reliable volunteers. Once we find them, we must coordinate, schedule, and communicate with them, throughout the year, to implement programs. Primarily, we must arrange opportunities where they feel valuable and comfortable. We meet the challenge through recruiting year-round outreach and recruitment.

Engagement has taught us the value of making new contacts and cultivating existing supporters to secure funding and volunteers. We recognize the opportunities that arise from partnerships with corporations. We will continue to seek out those whose corporate goals include donating money as well as sharing employees' time and expertise.

Grant Application**Capability**

9. Describe your organization's greatest abilities. What does your organization know how to do especially well in its primary program(s)? Please limit your response to six to eight sentences.

Relative to most all-volunteer organizations of our size, Friends has been especially adept at raising and managing funds for our programs, including the mobilization of many volunteers to participate at fundraisers. We have also developed an efficient system to recruit volunteers for Migration Celebration, our major outreach event, and for building trails and other capital facilities.

10. Describe your organization's most significant achievements over the last three years. When appropriate, include dates (mm/yy) for specific accomplishments. Please limit your response to eight to ten sentences.

In 2016, FOBWR was named the top Friends group in Region 2 of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which encompasses Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, and New Mexico. This accolade recognized our impact on the broad range of refuge activities encompassing public use; land acquisition, restoration and preservation; and environmental science.

Over the last three years, the support of Houston Endowment for our financing of pre-acquisition discovery has facilitated the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service purchase of nine tracts of land totaling 2,175 acres.

During the last three years, the attendance at our Birds-of-Prey programs exceeded 61,000, and about 5,000 people enjoyed the hands-on experience of Migration Celebration.

During this period we have enhanced the stature of our A Taste for Nature biennial fundraiser, developing the brand to signify an experience of upscale wines served with flavor-matched foods. This concept has allowed us to tap into the resources of an expanded demographic, most of whom do not otherwise engage in nature preservation activities. The \$116,000 net generated from the last two ATFN events has enabled us to reconstruct deteriorated boardwalks in high-traffic public use areas. The proceeds of the 2015 ATFN served as our required match to secure a \$160,000 grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to build a 0.7 mile loop trail.

11. Describe the financial and operational plans that ensure your organization's sustainability over the next three to five years. Please limit your response to six to eight sentences.

The FOBWR is an all-volunteer organization with a board of directors, with one exception, made up of retirees from local industrial, business, and educational organizations. Succession planning is thus a recognized imperative to replace members that leave the board with new members that bring skills and experience needed to assure vigorous pursuit of our goals. Our Recruitment Committee is thus charged to identify potential candidates for board positions. Typically, about a third of our board members have less than three years of service.

We have formed a Membership and Donor Committee to develop a database of those who contribute their time and financial support to our projects. These data will enable tailored communication with our volunteer and donor community.

We are purposefully promoting the brand of our major fundraiser, the biennial A Taste for Nature. This event connects with the expanded business community in our area, tapping into a newer source of funds and enhancing awareness of our organization and partner national wildlife refuges. We will continue with our other two fundraisers that support Migration Celebration and our Birds-of-Prey outreach programs, and we will seek grants for larger projects desired by Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

Grant Application**Results**

12. What opportunity or problem does the project address?

Less than 100 years ago, the Columbia Bottomlands Ecosystem spanned 700,000 acres and over 1,000 square miles of bottom-land hardwood forest adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico. Though vastly reduced in size, this unique floodplain Ecosystem still contains an array of nationally- and internationally-significant wetland habitats: rivers, bayous, sloughs, marshes, ponds, lakes, and native prairie. By virtue of its location near the Gulf, the habitat is a literal haven for Nearctic-Neotropical migratory birds. Millions of these migrants make landfall in the Bottomlands during spring and fall migration, and they rely on the remaining forest to rest and feed before and after crossing the Gulf. Resident birds, migrant species, and waterfowl use the Bottomlands for breeding, feeding, nesting, resting, or wintering. The Columbia Bottomlands Task Force found that 237 species of birds, totaling at least 29 million individuals, migrate through the Bottomlands every year. The American Birding Association reported that over 300 of the 998 species known to inhabit the contiguous United States travel through the Columbia Bottomlands. Now reduced to 150,000 acres, the original habitat has been decimated by logging, grazing, agriculture, commercial and residential development, and drainage. Every year, thousands of acres are lost. Houston's expansion southward compounds the local economic stresses on the Ecosystem. Once destroyed, old growth forest will take generations to replace. The current quantity of land in conservation is not adequate to protect either the Ecosystem or its dependent wildlife.

Grant expenditures facilitate the timely purchase of land for the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge under the Austin Woods Conservation Plan of 1997, as amended on June 23, 2013. This plan authorizes the purchase of up to 70,000 acres of forests and adjoining prairies within the Columbia Bottomlands. To date, 36,350 acres valued at \$51,966,955 have been added to the refuge under this program. Land purchases follow pre-purchase discovery activities that, since 2011, have been enabled by three previous Houston Endowment grants to the Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges. FOBWR uses these funds to help cover the pre-acquisition land costs; i.e., the market value appraisal reports, title insurance policies, closing costs, and land surveys. A forth \$300,000 Houston Endowment grant for these pre-acquisition costs will continue to facilitate the conservation of the remaining 33,650 acres of prime habitat authorized by the Austin Woods Conservation Plan.

13. What are the results—the outcomes for those you serve—that your organization is committed to achieving with this project?

Outcomes focus on numerical increases that assess the project's ultimate impact on the environment and the public:

- Approximately 7,000 more acres of prime wildlife habitat conserved and added to the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge
- Increase in number of all birds present
- Increase in bird populations on adjacent tracts
- Increase in migrant Nearctic-Neotropical birds
- Increase in breeding pairs
- Increase in quality of health in migrating populations
- Preservation of native plant species including the restoration of native plants on acquired lands
- Increase in forest growth and re-establishment of under-story plants that support bird populations
- Improved water quality
- Increase in protected coastal land that serves as a buffer to damage from hurricanes
- Decrease in excess run-off to San Bernard and Brazos rivers
- Reduction in erosion of sediment on San Bernard and Brazos rivers
- Increased public access to forest, birding sites, San Bernard and Brazos river ecosystems

Project

14. Briefly describe your project.

Grant Application

There are currently 15 tracts totaling 12,089 acres that are being investigated for possible addition to the Columbia Bottomlands. 6,358 acres of this total are within counties supported by Houston Endowment, and 539 of the acreage are on Follett's Island and would be purchased by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Opportunity to purchase additional parcels of land within the bottomland will be identified in the next two-year life of this grant. This grant would support pre-acquisition discovery activities and facilitate land purchases.

15. Other than securing funding, what steps or activities are critical to the overall success of the project?

Pre-acquisition activities include:

- Contract appraisals
- Biological ascertainment inspections
- Obtaining title reports
- Appraisals and value approvals following standards
- Site inspections
- Environmental site assessments
- Obtaining updated land surveys
- Ordering title policies
- Completing any necessary title curatives
- Preparing Just Compensation statements
- Submitting written offers to landowner (with purchase agreement)
- Establishing escrow closings

16. What evidence of success has led you to use this approach?

Because of funding from the first three grants from Houston Endowment, the work has facilitated the purchase of properties, adding ~18,650 acres to the San Bernard NWR and to Follett's Island, with another ~1,928 acres under negotiations or contract to purchase. Facilitated discovery is often critical in this process as willing sellers often have time constraints or competitive offers where a delay in this pre-purchase activity would jeopardize acquisition. Timely discovery has mitigated lost purchase opportunity.

17. Who will lead the project? Why was he or she selected?

Grant Application

Jennifer Sanchez, Project Leader, Texas Mid-coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), will oversee the project with the expert assistance of Michael Lange, private consultant, and Thomas E. Smith, land consultant for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). These individuals were selected because of their experience with habitat conservation through land acquisition.

Ms. Sanchez oversees all land acquisitions for the Texas Mid-coast NWR.

Mr. Lange, in his former capacity as an employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, created the Columbia Bottomlands habitat acquisition and preservation program in 1993 and managed the effort until 2015, when he assumed a similar role with the Trust for Public Land until his separation from this organization in July, 2018. Mr. Lange holds a BS in Biology from Arizona State University. He worked for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS) for over 36 years as a Refuge Manager, Wildlife Biologist, and Coordinator for the Columbia Bottomlands project. Mr. Lange helped develop the framework for the Columbia Bottomlands conservation effort under the initial Austin Wood's Conservation Plan. He has forged partnerships and, to date, obtained over \$67 million dollars to acquire, preserve, and protect 36,000 acres on 65 tracts in this unique ecosystem. Mr. Lange coordinates negotiations with willing sellers and realty services to meet federal requirements for title insurance, federal appraisal standards, environmental assessments, and land surveys.

Mr. Smith has not only started refuges across the United States but also is the acknowledged expert on the acquisition and negotiation process. Thomas E. Smith develops partnerships with landowners and provides market value appraisal reports, land surveys, and extensive land consulting advice. In 2012, he moved from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Lake Jackson, Texas. The move allowed him to focus exclusively on land acquisition in the Columbia Bottomlands; his relocating also eliminates inter-state travel costs. Mr. Smith has personally directed and successfully completed the purchase of over one million acres of land in the western states that are now managed as 40 units of the refuge system, waterfowl production areas, fish hatcheries, and research stations. He holds a BS in Forestry and a graduate degree in Business Administration from Michigan Tech University. He completed courses at George Washington University Graduate School in Economics of Natural Resources, U.S. Department of Agriculture School in Administrative Law, and the Department of Justice as approved Land Title Examiner for property to be acquired by the U.S. federal agencies. For 36 years, Mr. Smith worked for USF&WS in four regions and Washington D.C. as a Forester, Real Estate Appraiser, Land Title Examiner, Regional Realty Management Chief, Regional Realty Supervisor and Acting Chief, and Assistant Regional Director for Wildlife Refuges and Realty. Since retiring from USF&WS in 1994, Mr. Smith has worked for NFWF as a Land Preservation Consultant. In that role, he has completed more than 18 land preservation projects in the western states, preserving, to date, over 100,000 acres of habitat now managed by the USF&WS, state and local public agencies, and non-profit conservation organizations. The recipient of numerous awards for his unmatched performance and achievements in conservation, Mr. Smith provides consulting services to the Texas Mid-coast NWR Complex and conservation partners to preserve the Bottomlands.

18. Are any partners or intermediaries critical to your organization's success with this project? If so, who are they and what are their roles?

The pre-acquisition project's success depends on its partners, the most critical of which is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 2 Realty Division. Michael Lange will not only coordinate the process but also will be the primary point of contact for landowners. In addition, Mr. Lange's role will include site inspections, environmental assessments, and biological ascertainments. Supporting Mr. Lange is Thomas E. Smith of NFWF who now has an office at the Mid-coast NWR Complex. In his role as land consultant, Mr. Smith will conduct negotiations with landowners and secure titles, surveys, appraisals, and similar documents required prior to closing. Julia Ela, NFWF Account Manager, will support Mr. Smith from NFWF's Washington, D.C. office. Securing and strengthening partnerships for land acquisition is an ongoing process. Other partners who facilitate acquisitions through funding support or outright land donations include the Trust for Public Land, the Conservation Fund, the Community Foundation of Brazoria County, Chevron Phillips, the Nature Conservancy, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Galveston Bay Foundation, John P. McGovern Foundation, Texas Department of Environmental Quality, and Joe Hudson (private landowner and donor of the Hudson Woods tract).

Grant Application**Participants**

19. Describe the characteristics of the people you seek to engage through this project or program. This description should include the specific traits you will target and/or track (i.e., age, education level, ethnicity, gender, income level, neighborhood location, occupation and/or specific needs).

The proposed project focuses on the acquisition of land from private landowners in Brazoria and Fort Bend counties within the Columbia Bottomlands Ecosystem. Demographics are not a factor in the engagement process. Rather, adding acreage to the Refuge entails engaging property owners who want to sell their land. At minimum, the landowners must meet three criteria: they must own tracts with high habitat value, they must hold clear title to their property, and they must be willing sellers. Typically, the landowners are individuals who had used their land to generate income and no longer want to do so. Often, the landowner's family has inherited the property and has no desire to run an operation or maintain the land. Frequently, the landowners have tested the real estate market but either could not locate a buyer with sufficient means or they had no acceptable offers. The majority have learned from other landowners that USF&WS and the Texas parks and Wildlife Department buy large tracts and will pay appraised value. An occasional few have environmental interests at heart. These particular sellers engage with USF&WS, the TPWD, and intermediaries like the Trust for Public Land because they want their land preserved as habitat.

20. Approximately how many people within reasonable reach of your organization fit this description? How did you calculate this number?

Mr. Lange and Mr. Smith have to date identified 15 landowners for the proposed project, all of whom meet the primary criteria: their land contains valuable habitat, they hold clear title, and they want to sell. We cannot calculate the number of landowners who fit the description without contacting every landowner in the Refuge area, unsolicited, to interview them about their land. However, our knowledge of areas with desirable habitat and the number of inquiries from interested landowners suggest that hundreds of landowners could fit the description.

21. What is the actual number of people you expect to engage over the coming year? How do you ensure that the people you actually engage have the same characteristics as those you seek to engage?

Over the coming year, Mr. Lange and Mr. Smith will continue to engage the 15 landowners they have targeted for the proposed project. In addition, Mr. Lange and Mr. Smith have identified other landowners who own bottomland and coastal habitat within in the project area. Through site visits, Mr. Lange and Mr. Smith have assessed the habitat value of the tracts. They will confirm that the owners hold clear title by conducting title searches.

Documents

File Name	Type	Size
2016 End of Year Financial Statement.xlsx	Financial Statement	16.7 KB
2017 End of Year Financial Statement.xlsx	Financial Statement	17.05 KB
2017 form 990.pdf	IRS 990 Tax Return Form (or Statement of Exemption)	1147.35 KB
Board Contributions 2017.docx	Other	12.06 KB
Budget for 2018.xlsx	Operating Budget	10.65 KB
Budget for HE4 Grant.xlsx	Program Budget	10.51 KB
KM&L Protocol statement.pdf	Financial Statement	68.69 KB

Confirmation Statements

The organization, programmatic and financial information being submitted in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Grant Application

Yes

I am authorized to submit this request on behalf of this organization.

Yes

In order to protect the integrity of the grantmaking process, **Houston Endowment respectfully requests that applicants and their representatives refrain from contacting Board members regarding pending grant requests.** It is Houston Endowment's policy that Board members refrain from participating in site visits or otherwise engaging with applicants or their representatives regarding pending requests. As always, potential or current applicants with questions are encouraged to contact the Houston Endowment staff for referral to the appropriate program officer.

Yes

Started By

Submitted By

Name: Mr. Marty Cornell

Name: Mr. Marty Cornell

Title: Member At Large

Title: Member At Large

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