



2725 Swantner Drive • Corpus Christi, Texas 78404
Phone: (361) 854-3101 TBPE Firm No. 145

August 30, 2024

ADDENDUM NO. 1

TO: **All Prospective Bidders**
PROJECT: **COPA Restore Grant Projects**
OWNER: **City of Port Aransas**
BID DATE: **Thursday, September 5, @ 4:00 pm**

Prospective bidders are hereby notified of the following modifications to the contract documents. These modifications shall become a part of the contract documents. All provisions of the contract documents not specifically affected by the addenda shall remain unchanged.

A. SPECIFICATIONS:

1) 1A3 PROPOSAL TO BID

No changes to bid items, change is to Section "E" Nature Trail

DELETE: ... Section E. Nature Trail (**Restore Grant Funded**)

ADD: ... Section E. Nature Trail (**City of Port Aransas Funded**) - Attachment No. 1

2) INDEX

ADD: Index page (3): **APPENDIX** – Attachment No. 2

3) APPENDIX

ADD: **USDI INFORMAL CONSULTATION (FWS)** – Attachment No. 3

B. QUESTIONS:

1) Where is the equipment access route for the Nature Trail on sheet 6.0?

ANSWER: The city will allow access to the site through the adjacent Citizens Trash Collection Center which is located 100ft Northeast of the trail, but the contractor must maintain the locked gate and prevent public access through the gate. The contractor must coordinate access with

the city to ensure construction does not impede operations at the Citizens Trash Collection Center.

2. Can Sakrete be used for the bollards that require concrete?

ANSWER: Sakrete will be acceptable if it meets the minimum 3000psi strength requirement.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: It is the Bidder's responsibility to acknowledge receipt of this Addendum No. 1 at the appropriate location in Section 1A3 - Proposal for Unit Price Bid.

END OF ADDENDUM NO. 1

ATTACHMENT No. 1 – Bid Proposal

ATTACHMENT No. 2 – Index

ATTACHMENT No. 3 – USDI (FWS) Informal Consultation

URBAN ENGINEERING, LLC

Anthoney Allen
Project Manager
aallen@dccm.com

DIVISION 1 - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**SECTION 1A - BID DOCUMENTS****1A3^[2] PROPOSAL FOR UNIT PRICE BID**

TO: City of Port Aransas
710 West Avenue - A
Port Aransas, Texas 78383

Date: _____

**PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
CITY OF PORT ARANSAS RESTORE GRANT PROJECTS
PORT ARANSAS, TEXAS**

We, the undersigned, having familiarized itself with local conditions affecting the cost of the work with all requirements of Contract Documents as prepared by the Engineers, and all Addenda to said Documents, hereby proposes to furnish all things as required by said Documents and addenda thereto for the construction of said improvements for the unit prices for work in place for the items as set out hereinafter.

1A3.1 BASE BID FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ENTIRE PROJECT:

Dollars and _____ cents (\$_____).

1A3.2 BID SCHEDULE:

The bid for 1A3.1 is further itemized as follows:

NO.	ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
CLAYHILL TRAIL (Restore Grant Funded)					
1.	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$_____	\$_____
2.	Fill	204	CY	\$_____	\$_____
3.	4" Concrete Sidewalk	6,523	SF	\$_____	\$_____
4.	Concrete Staircase	432	SF	\$_____	\$_____
5.	Observation Area with 4" Concrete Pad	2	EA	\$_____	\$_____
6.	ADA Curb Ramp	1	EA	\$_____	\$_____
7.	Crosswalk Striping	1	LS	\$_____	\$_____
8.	Accessible Path Signs	3	EA	\$_____	\$_____
9.	Bollard and Cable Adjustment	1	LS	\$_____	\$_____
10.	Existing Stair Demolition and Reseeding	1	LS	\$_____	\$_____
Subtotal CLAYHILL TRAIL				\$_____	

NO.	ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
B. BOLLARD AND CABLE EXTENSION (RESTORE GRANT FUNDED)					
1.	6" Bollard with S.S. Cable	6,319	LF	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Subtotal BOLLARD AND CABLE EXTENSION			\$ _____	
C. LEONABELLE PARKING LOT (RESTORE GRANT FUNDED)					
1.	Demolition of Existing 1-1/2" HMAC Pavement	637	SY	\$ _____	\$ _____
2.	Demolition of Existing Base And HMAC	57	SY	\$ _____	\$ _____
3.	Demolition of Existing Concrete Sidewalk	665	SF	\$ _____	\$ _____
4.	Full Depth Asphalt Base Repair	150	SY	\$ _____	\$ _____
5.	8" Cement Stabilized Base	145	SY	\$ _____	\$ _____
6.	1-1/2" TYPE "D" HMAC Pavement including Prime Coat	676	SY	\$ _____	\$ _____
7.	Wheel Stops	14	EA	\$ _____	\$ _____
8.	Accessible Parking Spots with Striping and Signage	3	EA	\$ _____	\$ _____
9.	Parking Lot Striping Pavement Marking Type I (W) (4") (SLD)	1	LS	\$ _____	\$ _____
10.	ADA Curb Ramp	1	EA	\$ _____	\$ _____
11.	4" Concrete Sidewalk Tied to HMAC	807	SF	\$ _____	\$ _____
12.	4" Concrete Sidewalk	182	SF	\$ _____	\$ _____
13.	2" Waterline and 2 Spigots	160	LF	\$ _____	\$ _____
14.	SWPPP	1	LS	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Subtotal LEONNABELLE PARKING LOT			\$ _____	
D. LEONNABELLE PARKING LOT (City of Port Aransas Funded)					
1.	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$ _____	\$ _____
2.	Fill	420	CY	\$ _____	\$ _____

NO.	ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
D. LEONNABELLE PARKING LOT (City of Port Aransas Funded) Continue					
3.	Tree Relocation	1	EA	\$_____	\$_____
4.	1-1/2" Type "D" HMAC Pavement Including Prime Coat	1268	SY	\$_____	\$_____
5.	8" Cement Stabilized Base	1268	SY	\$_____	\$_____
6.	Curb and Gutter	525	LF	\$_____	\$_____
7.	4" Sidewalk Tired to HMAC	330	SF	\$_____	\$_____
8.	Parking Lot Striping Pavement Marking Type I (W) (4") (SLD)	1	LS	\$_____	\$_____
9.	Wheel Stops	18	EA	\$_____	\$_____
10.	5'x5' Crushed River Rock Bed	1	EA	\$_____	\$_____
Subtotal LEONNABELLE PARKING LOT City of Port Aransas Funded				\$_____	
E. NATURE TRAIL (Restore Grant Funded) City of Port Aransas Funded					
1.	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$_____	\$_____
2.	Fill	28	CY	\$_____	\$_____
3.	4" Concrete Sidewalk	4290	SF	\$_____	\$_____
Subtotal NATURE TRAIL City of Port Aransas Funded				\$_____	
TOTAL BASE BID				\$_____	

NOTE: The unit prices stated herein before must include all labor, materials, bailing, removal, overhead, profit, insurance, etc., to cover the finished work of the several kinds called for and the Owner reserves the right to delete all or a portion of any Bid Item. The above quantities are approximate and may vary from the final quantities. Do not order material based on these approximate quantities.

1A3.3 REJECTIONS OF BIDS

We, the undersigned, understands that the Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any informalities in the bidding.

1A3.4 SITE INVESTIGATIONS

We, the undersigned, have investigated the site conditions, fully satisfied ourselves of both the surface and subsurface conditions there, and based our bid accordingly.

1A3.5 TIME OF COMPLETION

We, the undersigned, will commence work within 10 Calendar Days after the date of the written notice to proceed with construction and to substantially complete the entire project within **210 Calendar Days**. Should we fail to comply with this requirement, we agree to pay liquidated damages in the amount of **\$ 500 per Calendar Day** until the work is completed.

1A3.6 BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree that if requested we will furnish written evidence to demonstrate our qualifications to perform the work.

1A3.7 WAGES AND SALARIES

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to fully comply with the prevailing wage rates for Nueces County (These rates are set out in Subsection 1E10 of the Special Conditions), and that We and our Subcontractors will pay not less than those for each craft or type of "Laborer", "Workman" or "Mechanic" employed on this project.

ATTEST:

Contractor

By: _____
(Seal if Corporation)

Address

Telephone

1A3.7 ADDENDUM RECEIPT

Receipt of the following addenda to the Contract Documents is acknowledged:

ADDENDA NO.	DATE RECEIVED	SIGNED	ADDENDA NO.	DATE RECEIVED	SIGNED
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

1A3.8 BID ACCEPTANCE

If written notice of the acceptance of this Bid is mailed, Faxed, or delivered to the Bidder within thirty (30) days after the date for opening of Bids or anytime thereafter before this Bid is withdrawn, the Bidder will, within ten (10) days after the date of such mailing, Faxing, or delivery of such notice, execute and deliver to the Owner, an Agreement in the form included in the Contract Documents and surety bonds in accordance with Section 1A2 of the Instructions to Bidders. The Bidder hereby designates as his office to which such notice of acceptance may be mailed, Faxed, or delivered:

NOTE: Owner reserves the right to delete all or a portion of any bid Item. Bidder understands that the Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any informalities in the bidding.

1A3.9 INFORMATION CONCERNING BIDDER

Name of Bidder: _____

Bidder Is: Individual () Partnership () Corporation ()

Residence of Bidder (if individual): _____

Date of Bid: _____

If Bidder is a partnership, fill in the following blanks:

Name of Partners: _____

If Bidder is a corporation, fill in the following blanks

Organized under the laws of the State of _____

Name and Home address of the President _____

Name and Address of the Treasurer _____

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2H14[4] – Concrete Header Curb
2H16[1] – Concrete Sidewalk and Concrete Driveway
2H17[6] – Removing and Replacing Pavements, Curb and Gutter,
Driveways and Sidewalk
2H22[3] – Pavement Marking (Water Based Paint)

SECTION 2J – LAWNS AND PLANTINGS

2J2[1] – Landscaping
2J3[1] – Seeding

DIVISION 3 – CONCRETE

SECTION 3A – CONCRETE FORM WORK

3A1[1] – Concrete Form Work

SECTION 3B – CONCRETE REINFORCEMENT

3B1[1] – Concrete Reinforcement

SECTION 3C – CAST-IN-PLACE CONCRETE

3C1[1] – Normal Weight Aggregate Concrete

DIVISION 6 – CARPENTRY

SECTION 6A – ROUGH CARPENTRY

6A3[1] – Wood Docks and Piers

APPENDIX –

USFWS Informal Consultation

USFWS Informal Consultation – Amendment 1



APPENDIX



USDI INFORMAL CONSULTATION

FWS/R2/GRP/02 ETCP00-2024-00616067 (3/11/2024)

FWS/R2/GRP/02 ETCP00-2024-00616067 (8/23/2024)



**United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

Gulf Restoration Program Office
4444 Corona Dr #215
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411
361-994-9005



In Reply Refer

To:

FWS/R2/GRP/02

ETCP00- 2024-

0061067

3/11/2024

Rae Mooney
Nature Preserve Manager
City of Port Aransas

Subject: Informal Consultation Port Aransas Nature Preserve Public Access, Restoration and Enhancement.

This letter is in response to the City of Port Aransas's request for initiation of informal Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for implementation of activities that will improve the Port Aransas Nature Preserve's (Nature Preserve) public access as well as minimize impacts to sensitive habitats. This project was funded through the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act). The Nature Preserve encompasses four natural sites within the City of Port Aransas, located in Nueces County, Texas. The entire Nature Preserve encompasses 1,280 acres and represents one of the few contiguous tracts of undeveloped land that has been preserved for environmental, ecological, and historical purposes. Located within the city limits, the Nature Preserve is a haven for wildlife that has succumbed to the pressures of habitat destruction and development. This project will increase access while implementing strategies to protect critical habitat for wildlife, including several listed species. This will be accomplished by 1) enhancing existing trails for improved access to visitors that will also serve to minimize trampling of habitat, 2) resurfacing of a previously established parking lot and, 3) Installing anti-vehicular fencing (bollard and cable system) to prevent vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists from entering the preserve from unauthorized entrance points that are considered sensitive habitats. At issue are the proposed projects' effects on the west Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*), northern aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and their critical habitat, red knot (*Calidris canutus*), whooping crane (*Grus americana*), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Kemp's Ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), slender rush-pea (*Hoffmannseggia tenella*), south Texas ambrosia (*Ambrosia cheiranthifolia*) and the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). This response is provided under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act),

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and in accordance with the implementing regulations pertaining to interagency cooperation (50 CFR 402) and in fulfillment of RESTORE funding environmental compliance responsibilities.

In considering your request, we based our evaluation on the following: 1) the February 13, 2024, email requesting initiation of informal consultation with an accompanying discussion on effects to listed species; 2) the February 29, 2024, email with a map delineating the project with kmz; and 3) the March 4, 2024, phone call conversation to clarify bollard locations and 4) other information available to the Service.

The proposed project will include rebuilding and enhancing an existing trail system, installing bollards and cables as an anti-vehicular fencing around the Nature Preserve boundary to connect to an existing one, and resurfacing and enhancing the existing parking area. All work will be conducted in a manner that would strive to avoid interactions with listed or proposed species and minimize disturbance to the maximum extent practicable. The February 13, 2024 biological assessment has a list of species specific conservation measures proposed to avoid and minimize effects to listed species. In addition to implementing species specific conservation measures, to achieve these goals the City of Port Aransas and their contractors will undertake the following actions: 1) a pre-construction meeting will be held to review all environmental guidelines, 2) contractors will be educated on the listed species that may be found within the Port Aransas Nature Preserve, 3) to avoid damages to surrounding habitats, construction plans will include strict construction zones and contractors will be given specific staging areas in uplands for equipment and materials, 4) any equipment maintenance and fueling will be restricted to marked staging areas in upland habitat. 5) if matting is used to install bollard and cable, any ruts will be smoothed, and 6) work will be done only in the daylight hours.

Pursuant to 50 CFR 402.12(j), the City of Port Aransas submitted a biological assessment on February 13, 2024 and has determined that activities for this project may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect the following federally listed species: eastern black rail, whooping crane, piping plover, and aplomado falcon. Furthermore, the project would not jeopardize the monarch butterfly population. In addition, the City of Port Aransas has determined that the proposed project would have no effect on the following listed or proposed species because they do not occur in the project area; west Indian manatee, tricolored bat, red knot, green sea turtle, hawksbill sea turtle, Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, leatherback sea turtle, loggerhead sea, slender rush-pea, and south Texas ambrosia. In addition, no work will be implemented in piping plover critical habitat and therefore will have no effect.

Whooping Crane (Endangered)

The Aransas Whooping Crane Wood Buffalo population spends winters on the Texas coast from November 1 to April 1. Whooping cranes have been recorded using the nature preserve as a feeding ground by the International Crane Foundation and banding indicates that it is the same pair returning each year. However, the proposed project will be implemented outside of the wintering season and therefore will have no effect on the species. If work will be implemented during whooping crane season, please contact the Service to reinitiate

consultation. Although the Endangered Species Act does not require Federal agencies to consult with the Service if the action agency determines their action will have “no effect” on threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, we appreciate your consideration of the project’s potential for effects to these species and notification of your “no effect” determinations.

Piping Plover and Red Knot (Threatened)

Piping Plover – The piping plover is a small migratory shorebird that nests and feeds along coastal Texas during migration and in the non-breeding (winter) season approximately July 15 through May 15. Wintering piping plovers use a variety of habitats and move among these patches in response to local weather and tidal conditions. Coastal habitats include barrier island beaches, sand pits, small islands, tidal flats, shoals, and sandbars within inlets. Primary foraging habitats include sandy mud flats, ephemeral pools, and seasonally emergent seagrass beds. They do not nest along the Gulf Coast, but rather use the area as an important wintering and stopover habitat. Piping plovers are not expected to occur within the areas where resurfacing of the hiking trail and parking lot work will take place. However, there is a possibility that they may use intertidal mudflats associated with the nature preserve near the area where the cable and bollards will be installed and if present birds may be disturbed by work activities and may move to adjacent undisturbed areas causing temporary displacement of individuals as a result of project activities. The potential for displacement due to project activities is low, but if it were to occur, it would be temporary, and because of the large amount of habitat available, would not adversely affect foraging or other activities. In addition, implementing the conservation measures recommended below will further reduce any potential effect. The Service concurs with the City of Port Aransas’s determination that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the piping plover and red knot.

Eastern Black Rail (Threatened)

Eastern black rails are cryptic species that occur in fresh, brackish, and saltwater marshes with clumping grass, rushes, or sedges. Eastern black rails require dense vegetative cover that allows movement underneath the canopy, and, because birds are found in a variety of salt, brackish, and freshwater marsh habitats that can be tidally or non-tidally influenced, plant structure is considered more important than plant species composition in predicting habitat suitability. Most of the activities for this project will occur outside of areas considered suitable habitat used by the eastern black rail. The component of this project that could potentially effect eastern black rail suitable habitat is the cable and bollards. In order to install the bollards, a team will need to walk through the wetlands to establish a route, lay mats down and drive equipment through the area. The Port Aransas Nature Preserve experiences high visitation by bird watchers, many of which are considered experts and there has not been any reports or records of eastern black rail in the eBird database. However, if eastern black rails were to be present, temporary disturbance would occur during the installation of the bollards and the effects would be localized and temporary and because of the amount of habitat available, would not adversely affect foraging or other activities. In

addition, implementing conservation measures mentioned in the biological assessment such as 1) contractors will be made aware that the eastern black rail will run to escape upcoming disturbance and are highly unlikely to fly during daylight hours, 2) operators will maintain a sufficiently slow pace of equipment moving through potential habitat to allow for the escape of potential birds into surrounding habitat, as well as the conservation measures recommended below will further reduce potential effects. The Service concurs with the City of Port Aransas' determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Eastern black rail.

Northern Aplomado Falcon (Endangered)

Northern aplomado falcon habitat consists of open terrain with relatively low ground cover with scattered above ground nesting substrate such as yucca and mesquite. Aplomado falcon habitat is present in the northern edge of the Nature Preserve. In particular, the trail that will be resurfaced is within this habitat type and if present, birds may be disturbed. However, birds may move to adjacent undisturbed areas causing temporary displacement of individuals and would not significantly affect the northern aplomado falcon. In addition, implementing conservation measures mentioned in the biological assessment such as contractors will stay 300-600 feet away from aplomado falcons using the area. The Service concurs with the City of Port Aransas' determination that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the northern aplomado falcon.

Conservation Measures

Piping Plover

- All individuals working on the project will be provided with information on how to identify the species and means to minimize disturbance to the species and their habitat.
- Prior to implementing the project, qualified monitor(s) or other qualified personnel will survey the work area to ensure no birds are present.
- Use care to avoid birds when operating machinery or vehicles near birds. If a bird approaches the construction area within 75 feet, work will stop until the bird(s) leave(s) the construction site. USFWS should be contacted for additional guidance.

Eastern Black Rail

The species may be present year-round in all Texas coastal counties. It is most vulnerable during spring breeding, chick rearing, and the fall flightless molt period. When possible, avoid disturbance activities in suitable BLRA habitat (dense herbaceous groundcover with at least intermittently moist soils near shallow water up to 6.0 cm. (Final Rule: pgs. 63767, 63798, and 63800). Habitat determination assistance is available. If habitat will be permanently removed,

please seek a more formal consultation. If habitat will be temporarily disturbed or modified, we recommend including the following measures:

- Survey pre-project to assess BLRA presence or project proponents may assume presence of BLRA within suitable habitat.
- Limit project activity to daylight hours to the extent possible. If nighttime work is required, aim lighting at work zone and turn off when not needed, as possible. All permanent lighting should be pointed away from potential BLRA habitat, down shielded, and follow the International Dark-Sky Association (<https://www.darksky.org/>) or Bird City Texas (<https://tpwd.texas.gov/wildlife/birding/bird-city-texas>) guidelines.
- A biological monitor should ensure a sufficiently slow pace of all equipment moving through potential habitat to allow birds to escape ahead of equipment. This secretive species will run to escape oncoming disturbance and are highly unlikely to fly.
- Do not remove all suitable BLRA habitat in a day. Leave pockets of suitable BLRA habitat (refugia) and/or have a biological monitor ensure dense herbaceous covered pathways are maintained into unaffected areas. The refugia remaining within the project area may be cleared after two days, as needed. Acceptable refugia size is approximately 10 feet by 20 feet.
- The biological monitor will have authority to stop work immediately upon discovery of any BLRA (alive, injured, or dead). The Texas Coastal Ecological Service's Office should be contacted immediately at (281)286-8282.
- Projects involving revegetation of disturbed areas should use native herbaceous plants mimicking the local site composition. Propagation of woody species should be avoided in BLRA habitat restoration areas.

Based on the conservation measures to be implemented as described in the biological assessment submitted on February 13, 2024, in addition to the ones recommended above and the temporary nature of the proposed work activities, the Service concurs with the City of Port Aransas' may affect, but not likely to adversely affect determination for listed species. Should the City of Port Aransas have any questions regarding this consultation, please feel free to contact Fish & Wildlife Biologist, Adriana Leiva at (281) 898-5686.

Sincerely,

Beau Hardegree
Field Supervisor
Gulf Restoration Program Office

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United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Gulf Restoration Program Office
4444 Corona Dr #215
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411
361-994-9005



In Reply Refer
To:
FWS/R2/GRP/02
ETCP00- 2024-
0061067

8/23/2024

Rae Mooney
Nature Preserve Manager
City of Port Aransas

Subject: Informal Consultation Port Aransas Nature Preserve Public Access, Restoration and Enhancement.

This letter constitutes an amendment to the March 11, 2024, intra-service section 7 biological evaluation for the informal consultation for the Port Aransas Nature Preserve Public Access, Restoration and Enhancement reference number 02ETCP00- 2024-0061067. The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed your request to evaluate potential impacts to whooping cranes because the proposed project timeline was delayed and therefore, will now overlap with the whooping crane wintering timeframe. The original consultation includes all other listed species within the action area.

The proposed project site is located within the Port Aransas Nature Preserve within the City of Port Aransas, located in Nueces County, Texas. This project will increase access while implementing strategies to protect habitat for wildlife, including several listed species. The proposed project has three different components: 1) enhancing an existing trail for improved access to visitors that will also serve to minimize trampling of upland prairie habitat, 2) resurfacing of a previously established parking lot and, 3) installing anti-vehicular fencing (bollard and cable system) to prevent vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists from entering the preserve from unauthorized entrance points that are considered sensitive habitats.

Potential whooping crane suitable habitat can be found within Port Aransas Nature Preserve. Whooping cranes have used areas of the preserve in the winter since 2018. Two of the three components of the project are not located within this habitat. The enhancement of the existing trail and the resurfacing of a previously established parking lot are not located within whooping crane habitat and are far enough from areas of known whooping crane use that the construction activities will likely not disturb whooping cranes. However, the antivehicular fencing component is located within the areas used by whooping cranes and therefore, the Service recommends implementing the installation of the antivehicular fencing after the whooping cranes

have left their wintering grounds in Texas. Typical whooping crane wintering season in Texas is between November 1 and April 30.

The Service has determined that the trail enhancement and the resurfacing of the previously establish parking lot are not likely to adversely affect the whooping crane; however, because whooping cranes are known to use areas of the nature preserve implementing the following conservation measures will further reduce any potential effects to the species to insignificant and discountable:

- All individuals working on the project will be provided with information on how to identify the species and means to minimize disturbance to the species and their habitat.
- If a whooping crane is identified within 1,000 feet of an active management area, all work should immediately stop. When the crane has left the 1,000-foot area on its own accord, work may continue.
- All construction equipment reaching heights of 15' or greater will be lowered as much as possible during nighttime hours and periods of low visibility to reduce collision risk.

If you have any questions, please contact the Section 7 biologist Adriana Leiva Adriana_leiva@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Beau Hardegree
Field Supervisor
Gulf Restoration Program Office