



## **Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Inc.**

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Date: July 21, 2009

To: CBBEP Board of Directors

From: Jake Herring, Project Manager

RE: Nueces Delta Preserve Updates

The Nueces Delta Preserve has been active from a wildlife, use, and management standpoint.

**Wildlife-** During the months of June and July the NDP was home at least for one day to the rare Jabiru Stork. The Jabiru was spotted during an annual Summer Bird Survey conducted at the NDP by Gene Blacklock and Jake Herring. This year we were accompanied by a volunteer June Leibfarth. The stork was spotted at the NDP's Big Lake and was accompanied by a wood stork. Mr. Charlie Spiekerman was nearby shooting for the Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest and was able to come over to Big Lake and get several pictures of the Jabiru. The last time a Jabiru was spotted in the area was in the 1980's off of Pat & Hans Suter Park in the Oso Bay. It is believed that the sighting at the NDP is a county record for San Patricio County and also one of the northern most sightings.

**Use-**The CBBEP has recently finished a conceptual master plan for the 1400 acre tract previously known as the McGregor Ranch. This plan lays out in a conceptual format what future plans are for the property. The plan is modeled to help gain awareness to what the CBBEP is accomplishing in the Nueces River Delta and also as a fundraiser for future improvements for the Preserve. The plan is easily adaptable allowing one document to fit the need for a variety of funding partners. The plan is available in electronic and hard copy from the CBBEP. Please notify Jake Herring, [jherring@cbbep.org](mailto:jherring@cbbep.org), if you would like a copy. A hard copy will be presented at the next scheduled BOD meeting.

**Management-** CBBEP is currently developing plans for water features throughout the NDP. Several designs have been looked at and we are currently determining the plans that will best suit the needs of the Preserve. It is likely that two three different water features will be constructed in the near future. These features will offer water for the animals and also an opportunity for observation by visitors to the NDP.

CBBEP has been treating regrowth huisache in areas that were subject to prescribed burn and also mechanical removal. Due to the lack of rain it has been easy to spot treat the brush regrowth.

Jabiru Stork at NDP Big Lake  
Photo taken By Charlie Spiekerman  
June 10 2009 7:30 AM

