



Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Inc.

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TO: CBBEP Board of Directors

FROM: Jake Herring, Project Manager

DATE: August 24, 2010

RE: CBBEP Property Management Update

NUECES DELTA PRESERVE

Habitat- The CBBEP constructed wetland remains full. While observing the wetland, groups of recently fledged black bellied and mottled ducks were noticed. The nesting season is coming to an end and the summer rains have really paid off as far as the amount of young birds observed around the NDP. Does with twins have also been observed so this also bodes well for our white tail deer population. The areas that were burned in February of 2009 look great and have fully vegetated. Small Huisache trees from 1-2 feet have started to grow from the seed source and also from some of the trees that were in the burned areas. CBBEP will continue to monitor this and will look into follow up treatment options.

Management- CBBEP has received private land partnership dollars from USFWS. CBBEP is beginning to plan for the implementation of mechanical removal of invasive brush to grassland areas. An additional component of the private land partnership dollars includes the re-vegetation of a riparian zone along the Nueces River. The CBBEP has reserved native plants from HEEP's Nursery in Harlingen and will accept delivery of those plants in late October. CBBEP continues to work with USFWS to finalize a contract to create an additional 30 acre wetland on the Nueces Delta Preserve.

Infrastructure- Since the last report CBBEP has developed, with the help of a local landscape architect, a plan to bring additional improvements to the CBBEP Education Center. The CBBEP has received several bids on the project and is currently reviewing the bids. A contract will be awarded and construction is scheduled to begin immediately. Construction should be finished by the end of October. CBBEP continues to plan for the construction of an equipment barn at the NDP to house various pieces of equipment used for management on CBBEP owned properties.

Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest- CBBEP has teamed up with our NDP Nature Photographer Mr. Charlie Spiekerman. The contest gets kicked off in October and will end on July 31, 2011. The format is a little different this year with the photographer being limited to 150 days of shooting in the 295 day contest. The new Wildlife in Focus book will be available this fall and the CBBEP will be fortunate enough to have a couple of photos from the contest featured in the book.