

Via Electronic Filing

Sabine River Authority

of Texas

August 28, 2015 FERC Project No. 2305

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE Washington, DC 20426

RE: Toledo Bend Project, FERC Project No. 2305;

Revised Recreation Management Plan - Article 410

Dear Secretary Bose:

On August 29, 2014, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) issued a new license to the Sabine River Authority of Texas (SRA-TX) and the Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana (SRA-LA) (collectively, the "licensees") for the continued operation of the Toledo Bend Project, FERC Project No. 2305 (Project).<sup>1</sup> Article 410 of the License Order directs the Authorities to within one year of license issuance, file, for Commission approval, a revision to the proposed Recreation Management Plan (RMP) filed with the Commission on March 6, 2012.

To meet this requirement, the Authorities hereby submit the enclosed revised *Recreation Management Plan*.

As required by License Article 410, this plan was prepared in consultation with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, American Whitewater, and the Sabine Whitewater Club. Attachment 3 of the revised RMP includes documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it was prepared and provided to the consultation list, and a specific description of how comments are accommodated by the plan.

<sup>1</sup> Sabine River Auth. of Texas and Sabine River Auth., State of Louisiana, 148 FERC ¶ 62,171, Order Issuing New License (2014).



If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (409) 746-2192 or <a href="mailto:jbrown@sratx.org">jbrown@sratx.org</a>.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Brown, TBPJO Compliance Officer

Enclosure

# SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY, STATE OF LOUISIANA

# TOLEDO BEND PROJECT (FERC No. 2305) RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

**AUGUST 2015** 

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INT	RODUC	CTION	1
	1.1	Backg	round	1
	1.2	Purpos	se of the Recreation Management Plan	3
	1.3		and Objectives of the Recreation Management Plan	
	1.4		nts of the Recreation Management Plan	
2.0	TOL	EDO B	END RECREATION FACILITIES AND USE	5
	2.1		Bend Recreation Facilities Use Levels	
	2.2		ng Recreation Facilities at the Project	
		2.2.1	Swede Johnson Recreation AREA (SRA-TX)	
		2.2.2	Oak Ridge Park (SRA-LA)	
		2.2.3	Bubba Cowser Recreation Area (SRA-TX)	
		2.2.4	Converse Bay Recreation Area (SRA-LA)	
		2.2.5	Hot Wells Recreation Area (SRA-LA)	
		2.2.6	Blue Lake Landing Recreation Area (SRA-LA)	
		2.2.7	Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area (SRA-LA)	11
		2.2.8	San Miguel Park (SRA-LA)	
		2.2.9	Pendleton Park (SRA-LA)	13
		2.2.10	Cypress Bend Park (SRA-LA)	13
		2.2.11	Pleasure Point Park (SRA-LA)	14
		2.2.12	Toledo Bend Observation Towers (SRA-TX and SRA-LA)	15
			Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area (SRA-TX)	
			Shoreline Areas to the High Water mark and Associated Areas of	
			Cow Bayou Wilderness Area (SRA-LA)	
		2.2.15	Tailrace Channel Area (SRA-TX and SRA-La)	17
			Spillway Channel Area (SRA-TX and SRA-LA)	
	2.3		tion Facility Boat Launch Accessibility	
	2.4	Recrea	tion Facility Parking Capacity	20
	2.5	Addition	onal Recreation Areas	21
		2.5.1	Haley's Ferry (USFS)	21
		2.5.2	Ragtown Recreation Area (USFS)	21
		2.5.3	East Hamilton (USFS)	21
		2.5.4	Indian Mounds Recreation Area (USFS)	21
		2.5.5	Lakeview Recreation Area (USFS)	21
		2.5.6	Willow Oak (USFS)	22
		2.5.7	North Toledo Bend State Park (State of Louisiana)	22
		2.5.8	South Toledo Bend State Park (State of Louisiana)	22
		2.5.9	Joaquin Public Ramp (SRA-TX)	
		2.5.10	Yellow Dog Park (SRA-TX)	
			Garrett Park (DeSoto Parish, LA, Police Jury)	
			Frontier Park (SRA-TX)	

3.0		INTENANCE, REHABILITATION, AND CAPITAL	22			
		ROVEMENT MEASURES				
	3.1	Recreation Facility Operational Maintenance				
		3.1.1 Access Roads and Pavement				
		3.1.2 Boat Ramps and Docks				
		3.1.3 Picnic and Camp Sites				
		3.1.4 Restrooms				
		3.1.5 Signs, Information Kiosks, Bulletin Boards, and Fee Stations				
		3.1.6 Litter and Trash Collection				
		3.1.7 Utilities				
		3.1.8 Buildings and Other Structures				
	2.2	3.1.9 Public Notification				
	3.2	Recreation Facility Rehabilitation				
		3.2.1 Roads, Parking Areas and Campground Vehicle Spurs				
		3.2.2 Boat Launches: Floating Boat Docks and Concrete Boat Launches				
		3.2.3 Fire Rings, Grills, and Picnic Tables				
		3.2.4 Restrooms and Utility Systems				
		3.2.5 Signs				
		3.2.6 Accessible Camp Sites, Picnic Sites, and Restroom Facilities				
		3.2.7 Site-Specific Rehabilitation				
		3.2.7.1 Swede Johnson Recreation Area (SRA-TX)				
		3.2.7.2 Tailrace Channel Area (SRA-TX)				
		3.2.7.3 Spillway Channel Area (SRA-LA)				
	3.3	Scheduling Major Recreation Facility Rehabilitation	27			
		3.3.1 Annual Facility Inspection & Prioritized List of Items to Rehabilitate	27			
	3.4	Capital Improvements				
	5.1		20			
4.0	REC	CREATION MONITORING PROGRAM	28			
	4.1	Annual Use Estimates and Form 80 Reporting				
	4.2	Twelve-Year Monitoring				
	1,2	Two to Tom Montoring	2)			
5.0	CON	NSULTATION, REPORTING, AND PLAN REVIEW	29			
<b>5.0</b>	5.1	Recreation Use and Condition Survey Report	29 29			
	3.1	5.1.1 Schedule for Recreation Use and Condition Survey Reports				
	5.2	Visitor Survey Report				
	3.2	5.2.1 Schedule for Visitor Survey Reports				
	5.3	Revisions to the Plan				
	5.5	5.3.1 Schedule for Revisions to Plan				
		5.5.1 Schedule for Revisions to 1 fair	31			
6.0	SPII	LLWAY CHANNEL RECREATION ACCESS PLAN	31			
	6.1	Baseline Conditions	31			
		6.1.1 Continuous Flow Releases				
		6.1.2 Recreational Opportunities				
	6.2	Safety Criteria				

	6.3	Warning Protocol	32
7.0	TAILI	RACE CHANNEL RECREATION ACCESS PLAN	33
		Baseline Conditions	
		7.1.1 Flow	33
		7.1.2 Recreational Opportunities	
		Safety Criteria	
	7.3	Warning Protocol	33
		LIST OF ATTACHMENTS	
ATTA	CHMEN	TOLEDO BEND RECREATION FACILITIES MAP	
ATTA	CHMEN	VT 2 TOLEDO BEND RECREATION FACILITIES SITE PLANS	
ATTA	CHMEN	NT 3 CONSULTATION RECORD	
		LIST OF FIGURES	
		ID PROJECT LOCATION	
TOLE	DO BEN	ND PROJECT LOCATION	2
		LIST OF TABLES	
TABL	E 2.0-1 .		5
TOLE	DO BEN	ID PROJECT RECREATION FACILITIES	5
TABL	E 2.1-1.		6
2010 I	DAY-US	E RECREATION ESTIMATES FOR THE TOLEDO BEND PROJECT	
	R	ECREATION FACILITIES IN RECREATION DAYS	6
TABL	E 2.2.1-	I SWEDE JOHNSON RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY	7
TABL	E 2.2.2-	I OAK RIDGE PARK FACILITY INVENTORY	8
TABL	E 2.2.3-	I BUBBA COWSER RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY	9
TABL	E 2.2.4-	I CONVERSE BAY RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY	10
TABL	E 2.2.5-	I HOT WELLS RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY	10
TABL	E 2.2.6-	BLUE LAKE LANDING RECREATION AREA FACILITY	
	IN	IVENTORY	11
TABL	E 2.2.7-	CLYDE'S CROSSING RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY	11
		I SAN MIGUEL PARK FACILITY INVENTORY	
		I PENDLETON PARK FACILITY INVENTORY	
TABL	E 2.2.10	-1 CYPRESS BEND PARK FACILITY INVENTORY	14

TABLE 2.2.11-1 PLEASURE POINT PARK FACILITY INVENTORY	15
TABLE 2.2.12-1 TOLEDO BEND OBSERVATION TOWERS FACILITY INVENTOR	RY 16
TABLE 2.2.13-1 SAM FORSE COLLINS RECREATION AREA FACILITY	
INVENTORY	16
TABLE 2.2.14-1 SHORELINE AREAS TO THE HIGH WATER MARK AND	
ASSOCIATED AREAS OF COW BAYOU WILDERNESS AREA	
FACILITY INVENTORY	17
TABLE 2.215 TAILRACE CHANNEL AREA FACILITY INVENTORY	17
TABLE 2.2.16-1 SPILLWAY CHANNEL AREA FACILITY INVENTYORY	18
TABLE 2.3-1	19
TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION FACILITIES BOAT LAUNCH	
ACCESSIBILITY	19
TABLE 2.4-1	20
TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION FACILITIES PARKING CAPACITY	20
TABLE 6.1.1-1 FLOW RELEASES	31

### **DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS**

For the purpose of this Recreation Management Plan, the following definitions and acronyms apply:

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

Authorities The Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana, and the

Sabine River Authority of Texas

Capital improvement The construction, installation, or assembly of a new fixed

asset; or the significant alteration, expansion, or extension of

an existing fixed asset.

Existing site plan A conceptual schematic that illustrates the layout, location,

size, shape, and relationship between existing recreation facilities and features. An existing site plan does not include detailed design elements, such as construction documents,

specifications, etc.

FERC Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

LA Louisiana

Major rehabilitation Reconditioning or replacing an existing fixed asset or any of

its components to restore the functionality or life of the asset. Replacement is the substitution or exchange of an existing fixed asset or component with one having essentially the same capacity and purpose. The decision to replace or rehabilitate a fixed asset or component is usually reached when replacement is more cost effective or more environmentally sound. Replacement of an asset or component usually occurs when it nears or has exceeded its

useful life.

Operational maintenance Keeping fixed assets in acceptable condition, including repairs, painting, replacement of minor parts and minor

structural components. Operational maintenance neither materially adds to the value of the property nor appreciably prolongs its life. Operational maintenance excludes activities aimed at expanding the capacity of an asset or otherwise upgrading it to serve needs different from, or significantly greater than those originally intended. The work serves only to keep the facility in an ordinary, efficient operation condition. Examples include: interior painting, repair of broken windows, light bulb replacement, cleaning, convicing machanical and electrical equipment and

servicing mechanical and electrical equipment, and inspecting. Maintenance activities may include: work

needed to meet laws, regulations, codes, and other legal

direction (such as compliance with ADA) as long as the

original intent or purpose of the fixed asset is not changed.

Project Toledo Bend Project (FERC No. 2305)

RD Recreation Days

Reservoir Toledo Bend Reservoir

RM river mile

RMP Toledo Bend Project Recreation Management Plan, this

document

RV Recreational Vehicle

SRA-LA Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana

SRA-TX Sabine River Authority of Texas
TBRFs Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities

Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities Those recreation facilities at the Toledo Bend Project owned

and operated by SRA-LA and/or SRA-TX on lands owned in fee title by one of the Authorities, and which the Authorities propose to operate and maintain under the new

FERC license (listed in Table 2.0-1).

TX Texas

USFS U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service

#### 1.0 Introduction

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND

The Toledo Bend Project (FERC No. 2305) (or "Project") is an existing, federally licensed hydroelectric project jointly owned and operated by the Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana, and the Sabine River Authority of Texas (together, "the Authorities"; individually "SRA-LA" and "SRA-TX").

The Toledo Bend Project is located on the Sabine River where it forms the boundary between the states of Louisiana and Texas in Panola, Shelby, Sabine, and Newton counties in Texas, and DeSoto, Sabine, and Vernon parishes in Louisiana (Figure 1.1-1). The existing facilities at the Project include a dam and powerhouse, three dikes, gated spillway and excavated channel, tailrace and excavated channel, switchyard, turbines, penstocks, and transmission line. The Toledo Bend Reservoir (or "Reservoir") extends approximately 132 river miles up the Sabine River to just north of Logansport, Louisiana, from river mile (RM) 147 to RM 279, a distance of approximately 70 navigation miles. The Project boundary encompasses approximately 201,600 acres. The Toledo Bend Reservoir has a surface area of approximately 185,000 acres (at water level elevation 172 feet). The Reservoir has approximately 1,130 miles of shoreline and numerous opportunities for recreation. From the Toledo Bend Dam, the Sabine River flows in a southerly direction for approximately 146 miles, where it empties into Sabine Lake, which flows into the Gulf of Mexico. Figure 1.1-1 shows the location of the Project.

The Project, which was originally licensed in 1963 by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) predecessor agency, the Federal Power Commission, was conceived, licensed, and developed for water supply, and secondary purposes include hydroelectric power generation and recreation.

Toledo Bend Project land and water resources provide a multitude of opportunities to support activities such as fishing, camping, swimming, picnicking, hunting, boating, and sightseeing. The majority of boating use is by anglers. Sail boating, water skiing, and scuba diving are less popular, but also occur.

As co-licensees of the Toledo Bend Project, the Authorities are required to allow the public access, to a reasonable extent, to Project waters and adjacent Project lands owned by the Authorities for the purpose of full public utilization of such lands and waters for navigation and for outdoor recreational purposes. Since the construction of the Toledo Bend Project in the 1960s, the Authorities have been excellent stewards of public access, developing numerous boat launches, parks, and campgrounds to facilitate access to Toledo Bend Reservoir. The Authorities' commitment to recreation and Toledo Bend Reservoir access also includes a strong policy of supporting economic growth through private enterprise that has resulted in the development of numerous recreation facilities, access sites, and use areas along both shores of the Toledo Bend Reservoir. These areas are owned and maintained by a variety of entities including the Authorities, State of Louisiana, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and private entrepreneurs and provide a comprehensive range of access and use opportunities for the public.

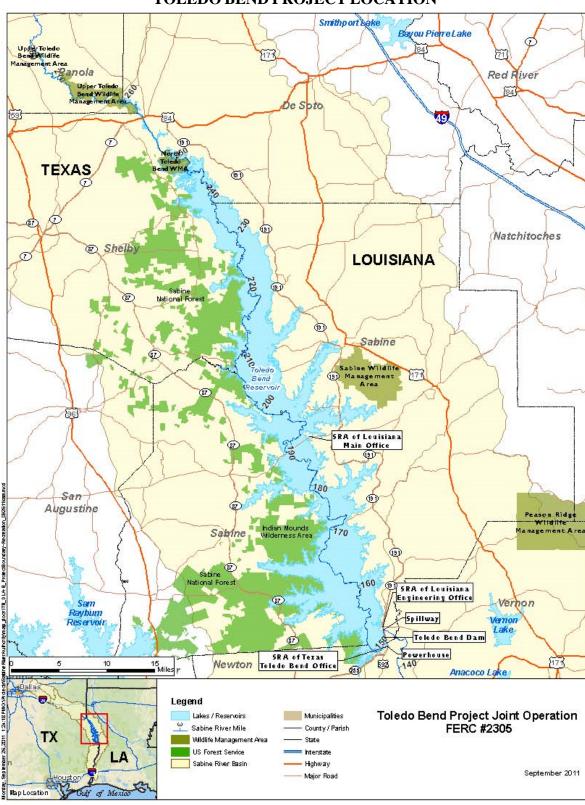


FIGURE 1.1-1 TOLEDO BEND PROJECT LOCATION

In addition to major public recreation facilities, there are numerous privately owned marinas and other reservoir access locations available to the public, including approximately 28 facilities on the Louisiana shore and approximately 30 on the Texas shore of the reservoir. Typically, these reservoir access facilities are associated with hotels, restaurants, campgrounds, or other recreation/tourism amenities located adjacent to the Project. Fees are charged at most, but not all, of these private-owned facilities.

As discussed in more detail in Section 1.2, this Recreation Management Plan (RMP) identifies the Authorities' commitments to public access and use within the context of this setting. Other non-Project recreation facilities are not governed by this RMP. The Authorities recognize that the location of facilities and recreation opportunities provided by others may change over time, possibly resulting in a change in the need for public access and use facilities at the Project. The Authorities will review, update, and revise the RMP as described in Section 5.3 to address changes in supply and demand that may occur over the term of the new license.

#### 1.2 PURPOSE OF THE RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

FERC regulations provide for a license application to include a description of existing recreational opportunities within the Project boundary. As part of its application for a new license, the Authorities proposed to maintain and operate recreation facilities at the Project as described in this RMP over the term of the new license. The recreation facilities to be managed under this RMP are all those facilities listed in Table 2.0-1. These facilities are termed and referred to as the Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities (TBRFs) in this RMP.

The Authorities completed a recreation use and needs assessment in 2010 and submitted the report to FERC in the relicensing process. Based upon historic and continuing operation of recreation facilities at the Project and on the information gathered in the recreation use and needs assessment, the Authorities have developed this RMP to maintain and operate the TBRFs. As the needs assessment indicated, the Project offers a range of parks and other access sites that are serving current demand and needs of many types of users. Likewise, the existing facilities are sufficient to meet future demand without the need for expansion or land acquisition over the term of the new license. Through this RMP, however, the Authorities will place an increased emphasis on the maintenance of facilities, especially restrooms, and modifications to facilities to better accommodate visitors with disabilities.

The RMP will guide management and maintenance of the TBRFs by the Authorities over the term of the new license. The Authorities will operate and maintain the TBRFs and periodically evaluate the need for improvements to these facilities. The RMP is focused on the need to manage Project lands and waters for multiple Project purposes. To that end, this RMP has been developed to be consistent with the Toledo Bend Project Shoreline Management Plan and Toledo Bend Project Historic Properties Management Plan, which are also required for implementation under the new license be issued by FERC August 29, 2014 (effective date August 1, 2014).<sup>1</sup>

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  Sabine River Auth. Of Texas and Sabine River Auth., State of Louisiana, 148 FERC ¶ 62,171 (2014).

The Authorities propose to continue to provide water access as the major focus of public use and to maintain and rehabilitate existing facilities as discussed in Sections 3.2 and 3.3. The RMP will implement measures which seek to provide public access while also protecting the natural resources. This may be accomplished by consolidating developed facilities and concentrating heavy use to specific locations.

#### 1.3 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The primary goal of the RMP is to manage and maintain the TBRFs over the term of the new license, while minimizing recreation use impacts to natural resources and historic properties within the Project boundary. The RMP includes the following objectives to help achieve this goal:

- 1. Provide a description and plan for the TBRFs that meet the needs of Project recreation users and are designed to meet federal, state, and local requirements for their proposed locations, as applicable;
- 2. Describe the Authorities' responsibilities regarding Project recreation facilities under the new license; and
- 3. Describe the monitoring plan to be implemented over the term of the license to help ensure quality recreation experiences and limit recreation use impacts.

#### 1.4 CONTENTS OF THE RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

In addition to this introductory material in Section 1, this RMP includes the following:

- <u>Section 2</u>. Describes all the TBRFs, including condition, land ownership, and 2010 use levels.
- <u>Section 3</u>. Describes the TBRFs maintenance measures that will be implemented by the Authorities during the new license term. This section also includes a description of the capital improvement program that will be implemented by the Authorities during the new license term.
- <u>Section 4</u>. Describes the recreation monitoring program, including the program components, monitoring schedule, and relationship of the monitoring program to the periodic updates of the RMP and the FERC reporting requirements for recreation (i.e., Form 80).
- <u>Section 5</u>. Describes consultation, reporting, and RMP review to be implemented over the term of the new license.
- Section 6. Spillway Recreation Access Plan
- Section 7. Tailrace Recreation Access Plan
- <u>Attachment 1</u>. Presents a map showing the TBRFs.
- <u>Attachment 2</u>. Presents the existing site plans for each of the existing Project recreation facilities that illustrate the layout, location, size, shape, and relationship between existing recreation facilities.

 Attachment 3. Presents a copy of the letter distributing a preliminary draft of the revised Recreation Management Plan (dated June 30, 2015) for 30-day agency and stakeholder review, all comments received, and the Authorities' responses to the comments.

#### 2.0 TOLEDO BEND RECREATION FACILITIES AND USE

The exclusive focus of this RMP is the TBRFs owned and managed by SRA-TX or SRA-LA within the FERC Project boundary on lands owned in fee title by the Authorities, which the Authorities propose to operate and maintain under the new FERC license. Table 2.0-1 identifies and describes the TBRFs. As explained in Section 1.1, there are additional parks, boat launches, and other recreation facilities and access sites that are not managed under this FERC-approved RMP.

TABLE 2.0-1
TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION FACILITIES

Recreation Facility	Fee	Owner/Manager	Featured Amenities
Swede Johnson Recreation Area	No	SRA-TX	picnic sites, boat launch, restroom
Oak Ridge Park	Yes	SRA-LA	picnic sites, camp sites, boat launch, fish cleaning station, swimming area, playground, event pavilion, restrooms
Bubba Cowser Recreation Area	No	SRA-TX	picnic sites, boat launch
Converse Bay Recreation Area	No	SRA-LA	picnic sites, boat launch, event pavilion
Hot Wells Recreation Area	No	SRA-LA	picnic sites, fishing pier
Blue Lake Landing Recreation Area	No	SRA-LA	boat launch
Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area	No	SRA-LA	picnic sites, fishing pier
San Miguel Park	Yes	SRA-LA	picnic sites, camp sites, cabins, boat launch, boat stalls, swimming area, fish cleaning station, playground, event pavilion, restrooms
Pendleton Park	No	SRA-LA	informational sign, picnic sites, swimming area, fishing pier
Cypress Bend Park	Yes	SRA-LA	picnic sites, camp sites, cabins, boat launch, event pavilions, swimming area, boat docks, fishing pier, viewing platforms, fish cleaning station, playground, restrooms
Pleasure Point Park	Yes	SRA-LA	picnic sites, camp sites, camp shelter, boat launch, swimming area, fishing pier, fish cleaning station, playground, restrooms
Toledo Bend Observation Towers	No	SRA-LA and SRA-TX	scenic viewpoints, restrooms
Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area	No	SRA-TX	picnic sites, boat launch, playground, restrooms with showers, fishing pier
Shoreline areas to the high water mark and associated areas of the Cow Bayou Wilderness Area	No	SRA-LA	parking area, recreational signs (notice board and liability warning), packed dirt roads/trails
Tailrace channel area	No	SRA-LA and SRA-TX	primitive small boat launch, trashcans, parking

Recreation Facility	Fee	Owner/Manager	Featured Amenities
Spillway channel area	No	SRA-LA and SRA-TX	primitive small boat launch, trashcans, parking

#### 2.1 TOLEDO BEND RECREATION FACILITIES USE LEVELS

The TBRFs include overnight camping, picnicking, and a variety of other recreation opportunities. Recreation activities in the Project Area (or area within the FERC Project Boundary) are numerous and varied and include, but are not limited to camping, fishing, boating, swimming, hiking, picnicking, and sightseeing.

There is a spectrum of recreation opportunities provided along the shoreline of Toledo Bend Reservoir. For example, a visitor may select an overnight experience that ranges from primitive camping in undeveloped sites; camping in a recreational vehicle (RV) with full electrical, water and sewer services; or renting a cabin with equipped kitchen and hotel-level services, such as satellite television.

Based on information collected in 2010, Table 2.1-1 summarizes the breakdown of annual recreation use at the Project recreation facilities.

TABLE 2.1-1
2010 DAY-USE RECREATION ESTIMATES FOR THE TOLEDO BEND PROJECT
RECREATION FACILITIES IN RECREATION DAYS<sup>2</sup>

Recreation Site <sup>2</sup>	Weekends and Holidays	Weekdays	Total RD
Swede Johnson Recreation Area	5,746	7,173	12,919
Oak Ridge Park	4,082	7,173	11,255
Bubba Cowser Recreation Area	1,310	5,617	6,927
Converse Bay Recreation Area	1,966	8,777	10,743
Hot Wells Recreation Area	655	702	1,357
Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area	1,893	3,160	5,053
San Miguel Park	4,460	8,880	13,340
Pendleton Park	728	2,984	3,712
Cypress Bend Park	14,213	21,347	35,560
Pleasure Point Park	13,532	15,711	29,243
TB Observation Towers	1,512	2,391	3,903
Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area	4,536	9,905	14,441

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Recreation days (RD) were calculated by determining average number of people per car (calculated by dividing average number of people per group (5.3) by average number of vehicles per group (2.1) as obtained from the visitor survey) and multiplied by average number of vehicles per site then multiplied by turnover (calculated by dividing average length of stay (4.4 hours) as obtained from the visitor survey divided by 12 hours (visitor counts were conducted from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM) and finally multiplied by number of days. Source: Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. 2011. Toledo Bend Relicensing FERC No. 2305 Recreation Use

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> An RD is defined as each visit by a person to a development for recreation purposes during any portion of a 24-hour period (as defined in the Glossary of FERC Form 80 Terms, 2009).

and Needs Assessment Report. Prepared for Sabine River Authority of Texas and Sabine River Authority. State of Louisiana. Austin, Texas.

#### 2.2 EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES AT THE PROJECT

During the effort to relicense the Project, the Authorities contracted with the consulting group Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. to complete an assessment of recreation use and needs of the Project. One task of the research team was to inventory the TBRFs to identify both the condition of the facilities and the level of accessibility of each of the recreation sites. For most sites the condition of five variables (facility types) was scored. Each of these variables: roads and parking lots, recreation amenities, recreation buildings, signs, and level of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance were scored on a three (3) point scale where 0 = poor, 1 = fair and 2 = good. For these sites, summing points scored for each variable created an overall condition score from 0 to 10. Most sites received a score based on a ten-point scale, however, sites that did not have one of the evaluation categories (i.e., recreation buildings) were scored on an eight-point or six-point scale. The ADA standards category assessed the accessibility of the facilities, and the level of accessibility was categorized as "universal," "partial," or "not designed to accessible guidelines." The details of both the conditions and accessibility assessment are outlined below for each of the inventoried recreation sites and access points.

Another task of the research team was to measure the level of use at select public recreation sites and access points and compare current use levels to site capacity. This information was used to assess the demand for currently available recreation facilities and the potential need for expanded or additional facilities.

The information collected was used to guide the development of this RMP, which focuses on the TBRFs as described below. Please note that the information in each area facility inventory is subject to change.

#### 2.2.1 SWEDE JOHNSON RECREATION AREA (SRA-TX)

Swede Johnson Recreation Area is owned and maintained by SRA-TX. The recreation area is located on the western shore of the reservoir at the end of FM 2572, southeast of Joaquin, Texas. The facilities include picnic sites and one boat launch. The bathrooms are unisex portable toilets, and there is also a children's playground. On a ten-point scale the conditions of the recreation area were rated a "7" overall. The roads and parking, site amenities, and signs were in "good" condition. The portable toilets were in "fair" condition.

TABLE 2.2.1-1 SWEDE JOHNSON RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch site; 1 ramp	asphalt & concrete	No boarding pier adjacent
			to launch ramp
Picnic Sites	13	Wood and metal tables	No ADA accessible tables
		with cover structure	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Blue Lake Landing Recreation Area, Shoreline areas to the high water mark and associated areas of the Cow Bayou Wilderness Area, the Tailrace channel area, and the Spillway channel area were not included in the Malcolm Pirnie study.

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Restrooms	2	Single unisex portable	Not ADA accessible
		toilets	
Campsites	Some users camped in	NA	No sites are ADA
	picnic sites		accessible
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	1	Entrance sign, nothing to	NA
		designate camping or	
		other rules	
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other:	1	Swings, slide, climbing	No provision for children
Playground		structure	with disabilities

#### 2.2.2 OAK RIDGE PARK (SRA-LA)

Oak Ridge Park is owned and maintained by SRA-LA and is located on the northeastern shore of the reservoir. The Park can be reached via Circle Drive, approximately 10 miles south of the junction of US Highway 84 and Louisiana Highway 191. The park has facilities to accommodate both day and overnight use. These include: a boat launch with 2 lanes, picnic sites, one accessible restroom, a fish cleaning station, RV sites, tent camping areas, a swim beach, ADA event pavilion with restrooms, and playground. On a ten-point scale facilities were rated a "7" overall. The roads, parking, and site buildings (restrooms) were considered to be in "good" condition. The site amenities (picnic tables) and signs were in "fair" condition. The facilities were considered to be "partially" accessible. The restroom and restroom parking both meet accessibility guidelines.

TABLE 2.2.2-1 OAK RIDGE PARK FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch site; 2 ramps	asphalt & concrete	No boarding pier adjacent
			to launch ramp
Picnic Sites	3	Steel frame wood top and	No ADA accessible tables
		seats	
Restrooms	1	Separate male and	ADA accessible interior
		female, cinder block	but some repairs needed
		construction	
Campsites	27 RV sites	Hook-ups for RV use	No sites meet ADA
	3 tent sites		standards
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	1	Debris along shore	No ADA level of access
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	2	Entrance sign	NA
		deteriorating, sign board	
		near launch ramp fair	
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Other:	1	Swings, slides, climbing	No provision for children
Playground		structures, residential	with disabilities
		quality play equipment	
		deteriorating, sand box	

#### 2.2.3 Bubba Cowser Recreation Area (SRA-TX)

Bubba Cowser Recreation Area is owned and maintained by SRA-TX. The recreation area is located on the northwestern shoreline of the reservoir, off of FM 139, approximately 11 miles south of Joaquin, Texas. The facilities include picnic sites and a single lane boat ramp. The parking area is made of packed dirt. On an eight-point scale (there are no site buildings at location) the condition evaluation was a "5" overall. The roads, parking, and site amenities were considered in "good" condition and the signage is in "fair" condition.

TABLE 2.2.3-1 BUBBA COWSER RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch site; 1 ramp	soil & concrete	No boarding pier adjacent
			to launch ramp
Picnic Sites	2	Steel frame wood top and	No ADA accessible tables
		seats on concrete slab	
Restrooms	None	NA	NA
Campsites	None (some camping	NA	NA
	occurring)		
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	2	Information board faded	NA
		and deteriorating; cluster	
		of warning signs at launch	
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other:			
User defined camp site	1	NA	NA

#### 2.2.4 CONVERSE BAY RECREATION AREA (SRA-LA)

Converse Bay Recreation Area is owned and maintained by SRA-LA, located on Recreation Site Road 4 near the small residential community of Converse. Recreation facilities include a two-lane boat launch, picnic sites, and event pavilion. On a ten-point scale the condition of the facilities were rated a "6." The roads and parking, and site buildings were considered to be in "good" condition; and the site amenities and signs were considered to be in "fair" condition.

TABLE 2.2.4-1 CONVERSE BAY RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch site; 2 ramps	asphalt & concrete	No boarding pier adjacent
			to launch ramp
Picnic Sites	10 tables; 1 pavilion no	Tables have steel frame	No ADA accessible tables
	tables	with wooden tops and	
		seats	
Restrooms	None	NA	NA
Campsites	None	NA	NA
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	1	Information board near	NA
		boat launch	
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other:	1	Swing set frame, climbing	No provision for children
Playground		structure	with disabilities

#### 2.2.5 HOT WELLS RECREATION AREA (SRA-LA)

Hot Wells Recreation Area is owned and maintained by SRA-LA, located immediately adjacent to (west side of) Louisiana Highway 191. Recreation facilities include an ADA fishing pier, picnic sites, and parking area. On a six-point scale the condition of the facilities were rated a "5." The roads and parking, and site amenities were considered to be in good condition.

TABLE 2.2.5-1 HOT WELLS RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	None	NAs	NA
Picnic Sites	2 sites; 4 tables (2 tables	Thermoplastic coated	None designed and
	each) and 2 benches	steel	designated as accessible
Restrooms	None	NA	NA
Campsites	None	NA	NA
Fishing Piers	1	Wooden pier	Meets minimum ADA
			standards for width and
			slope; turning radius and
			railings do not meet
			standards
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	None	NA	NA
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other: Bike rack	1	Galvanized steel	NA

#### 2.2.6 Blue Lake Landing Recreation Area (SRA-LA)

Blue Lake Landing Recreation Area is owned and maintained by SRA-LA, located at the end of Highway 3229, on the eastern shore of the reservoir. Recreation facilities include a one-lane boat launch with parking. This site was not included in the Malcolm Pirnie study.

TABLE 2.2.6-1 BLUE LAKE LANDING RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch site; 1 ramp	Concrete ramp	No boarding pier adjacent
			to launch ramp
Picnic Sites	NA	NA	NA
Restrooms	NA	NA	NA
Campsites	NA	NA	NA
Fishing Piers	NA	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	NA	NA	NA
Docks	NA	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	NA	NA	NA
Viewing Platforms	NA	NA	NA
Other	NA	NA	NA

#### 2.2.7 CLYDE'S CROSSING RECREATION AREA (SRA-LA)

Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area is owned and maintained by SRA-LA, located immediately adjacent to (east side of) Louisiana Highway 191/482. Recreation facilities include picnic sites, an ADA fishing pier and lighting. On an eight-point scale, the facilities were rated a "3." The roads and parking were considered to be in "good" condition, and the site amenities were considered to be in "fair" condition, and the signs were in "poor" condition. Toledo Bend Lake Association and Rivers Builders Supply have been partners in improvements at Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area.

TABLE 2.2.7-1 CLYDE'S CROSSING RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	<b>Accessibility Assessment</b>
Boat Launches	None	NAs	NA
Picnic Sites	1 table, 2 benches, 2 grills	Wooden table,	None designed and
		Thermoplastic coated	designated as accessible
		steel benches, steel grills	
Restrooms	None	NA	NA
Campsites	None	NA	NA

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	<b>Accessibility Assessment</b>
Fishing Piers	1	Wooden pier	Meets minimum ADA
			standards for surface,
			width and slope, but
			railings do not meet
			standards
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	1	History of Clyde's Crossing	NA
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other: Swing set	1	Wood/steel frame	Not accessible

#### 2.2.8 SAN MIGUEL PARK (SRA-LA)

San Miguel Park is owned and maintained by SRA-LA, located 3 miles west of Louisiana Highway 191 on San Miguel road on the eastern shore of the reservoir. Recreation facilities include a two lane concrete boat launch, picnic sites, 2 group picnic sites and 2 event pavilions, restrooms, tent camp sites, RV sites, cabins, a swim beach, boat dock with covered stalls, fish cleaning station, and playground. On a ten-point scale the condition of the facilities were rated a "6." The roads and parking were considered to be in "good" condition, and the site amenities, site buildings, and signs were considered to be in "fair" condition.

TABLE 2.2.8-1 SAN MIGUEL PARK FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	<b>Accessibility Assessment</b>
Boat Launches	1 launch; 2 ramps	Asphalt parking and	Boarding pier adjacent to
		concrete ramps	launch ramp is not
			designed to meet ADA
Picnic Sites	1 group pavilion; 21 tables	Pavilion on concrete slab	Pavilion is accessible with
	12 individual sites	with steel construction,	4 wheelchair accessible
		Thermoplastic coated	tables, play area adjacent
		steel tables	not accessible
Restrooms	3	Separate male and	One set (adjacent to the
		female, adjacent to picnic	group area) was designed
		area, camping area, group	to meet ADA standards
		picnic area	
Campsites	20 tent sites	Variable with steel/wood	None are designed to
	40 RV sites	tables and steel	meet ADA standards
	19 cabins	grates/grills for ground	
		fires; cabins are mix of	
		older "A frame" and	
		newer style	
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	1	Some shoreline erosion	No provisions to make
		occurring	water accessible
Docks	1 with 12 slips	Covered steel and wood	Width, Surface and slope
		construction	complies but lacks edge
			protection

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Recreational Signs	4 information signs and multiple site designation signs	Information board	NA
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other:			
Fish cleaning station	1	Concrete slab and steel	Not meeting standards
Group building	1	Wood w/tar shingle roof	Not meeting standards
Playground	1	Steel swings, climber	Not meeting standards

#### 2.2.9 PENDLETON PARK (SRA-LA)

Pendleton Park is owned and maintained by SRA-LA, located at about the mid-point of Toledo Bend on the eastern (Louisiana) shoreline where Highway 21/6 crosses the reservoir. Recreation facilities include informational sign, covered picnic sites, swimming area and a fishing pier. On a ten-point scale the condition of the facilities were rated an "8." The roads and parking, and site amenities were considered to be in "good" condition.

TABLE 2.2.9-1 PENDLETON PARK FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	None	NAs	NA
Picnic Sites	9 total; 8 covered, 1	Some Wooden tables,	None designed and
	uncovered	Some thermoplastic	designated as accessible
		coated steel tables;	
		shelters wood frame, steel	
		roof	
Restrooms	1 set at adjacent	Male and female	These are accessible
	information center		
Campsites	None	NA	NA
Fishing Piers	1	In disrepair	Does not comply
Swimming Beaches	1	Defined by concrete apron	Not designed for access
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	1	Informational map mural	NA
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other: Play equipment	2 pieces	steel frame swings,	Not accessible
		climber	
Bike rack	1 large rack for 48 bikes	steel	NA

#### 2.2.10 CYPRESS BEND PARK (SRA-LA)

The Cypress Bend Park owned and maintained by the SRA-LA is located along Cypress Bend Road, 3 miles west of Louisiana Highway 191. The park offers recreation opportunities for both overnight and day visitors. Facilities to accommodate overnight users include RV camp sites, tent sites, and cabins. Other recreational facilities include an ADA concrete boat launch with 6 lanes, picnic sites, two group picnic sites two covered event pavilions, and restrooms. In addition, there is a swim beach, two floating boat docks, viewing platforms, a fish cleaning station, and an accessible playground, and covered fishing pier. On a ten-point scale the facility conditions were rated a "9." The roads, parking, site amenities, site buildings, and signs were all rated "good."

TABLE 2.2.10-1 CYPRESS BEND PARK FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch site; 6 ramps	Asphalt parking, concrete	Boarding pier adjacent to
		apron, concrete ramps	launch ramp generally
			complies with ADA.
Picnic Sites	1 group pavilion with 36	Pavilion with tables on	Pavilion is accessible to
	tables;	concrete slab, pavilion is	wheelchairs with 5 tables
	3 individual sites with	brick and metal (roof),	designed for wheelchair
	tables	Thermoplastic coated	use.
		steel tables	
Restrooms	4 sets	Separate male and	1 set at lower launch site
		female, 2 adjacent to	was designed to meet
		launch and 2 in RV	ADA standards, other 3
		camping area.	sets did not comply.
Campsites	78 RV type campsites with	Campsites include table,	No campsites were
	full hookups, 8 tent sites	water and electrical hook-	designed to meet ADA
	without hook-ups, 8	ups;	criteria. 1 cabin is
	cabins	Cabins are wood exterior.	accessible.
Fishing Piers	1	Pier and beam with metal	The pier is fully accessible
		roof	for viewing and fishing.
Swimming Beaches	1	Concrete apron/bulkhead	Not accessible in a
		with stairs and steel guard	wheelchair
		railing at entry	
Docks	1 Dock/pier that services	Wood and steel railing	Meets ADA access criteria
	the boat launch		
Recreational Signs	Multiple wayfinding signs,	Materials differed among	Signs present to indicate
	location signs and a few	steel, wood, plastic	ADA parking, restrooms
	regulatory signs		and other facilities
Viewing Platforms	2	Near playground	Not accessible
Other:			
Fish cleaning station	1	Wood frame screen porch	Not accessible
Playground	1	Plastic and steel	Accessible

#### 2.2.11 PLEASURE POINT PARK (SRA-LA)

Pleasure Point Park is owned and operated by SRA-LA. The park is located along Pleasure Point Road 1.2 miles west of Louisiana Highway 191 between Mile Markers 5 and 6. Facilities at this site include an ADA concrete boat launch with 2 lanes, covered picnic sites, and restrooms. Overnight facilities include RV camp sites and a camping shelter. Additional recreational facilities include a fishing pier, swim beach, playground, and a fish cleaning station. On a ten-point scale the condition at this facility were rated an "8." The parking and roads, site amenities, site buildings, and signs were all considered to be in "good" condition.

TABLE 2.2.11-1 PLEASURE POINT PARK FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch site; 2 ramps	Asphalt drive and parking	Adjacent boarding pier
		with concrete ramps	was not ADA accessible;
			Boarding ramp adjacent to
			parking lot could help
			access but in poor
			condition, signage poor
Picnic Sites	6 (3 sheltered)	Wood and steel tables,	None designed to be
		half on soil half on	accessible
		concrete pads and covered, grill	
Restrooms	3 sets (2 in campground)	Male and female with	None were accessible
		water and sewer	
Campsites	124 (88 offered as	Monthly sites had tables	None designed to meet
	monthly rentals for more permanent residents)	but did not offer fire rings.	ADA standards
	18 camping shelters	Camp shelters closed	
Fishing Piers	1	Wooden construction	Wheelchair could access
			but not designed to fully
			meet ADA standards
Swimming Beaches	1	NA	No designed or designated
			access
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	Many throughout	Entrance, Information	NA
		boards, regulatory	
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other:			
Playground	Swings and climbing unit,	2 steel, 1 wooden piece,	Does not meet ADA
	Basketball goal	Goal in disrepair	standards
Fish cleaning station	1, near campsite 53	Closed for repair	Not accessible

#### 2.2.12 TOLEDO BEND OBSERVATION TOWERS (SRA-TX AND SRA-LA)

The Toledo Bend Observation Towers are operated jointly by the Authorities. The Toledo Bend Observation towers are located on the north and south end of the Dam. The tower on the Texas side can be reached via FM 692 on Spur 135, adjacent to the SRA-TX Toledo Bend Division office. The observation tower on the Louisiana side is off of Highway 191 at the intersection of LA 392, adjacent to the SRA-LA Engineering office.

The Towers provide excellent locations to view the Dam facilities as well as wildlife. Public facilities here include restrooms and viewing platforms. On an eight-point scale, the conditions of the facilities were considered a "4." The parking and roads were in "good" condition, while the site buildings (restrooms) were in "fair" condition. The signs at this location were in "poor" condition. Maintenance performed at this site since the inventory was conducted has improved conditions.

TABLE 2.2.12-1 TOLEDO BEND OBSERVATION TOWERS FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	None	NA	NA
Picnic Sites	None	NA	NA
Restrooms	1 set at each site	Separate female and male	Neither was accessible
Campsites	None	NA	NA
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	1	Locations	NA
Viewing Platforms	1 at each site		First level of TX site accessible, no accessibility at LA site
Other: Playground	None	NA	NA

#### 2.2.13 SAM FORSE COLLINS RECREATION AREA (SRA-TX)

Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area is owned and operated by SRA-TX, and is located at the southern end of the reservoir off of RR 255 near Burkeville, Texas. The facilities include a concrete boat launch with accessible boarding platform, picnic sites, covered group picnic sites, an accessible fishing pier, accessible restroom and shower facility, a swim beach, and playground. On a ten-point scale the condition of the facilities were rated a "9." The roads and parking, site amenities, site buildings, and signs were all in "good" condition.

TABLE 2.2.13-1 SAM FORSE COLLINS RECREATION AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 launch, single ramp	This facility is not adjacent	No boarding pier
		to the main park	
Picnic Sites	8 individual	3 individual sites covered	Lack tables designed for
	2 group	Group sites covered	wheelchair use
Restrooms	1	Separate female and male	Accessible including
			showers
Campsites	None	NA	NA
Fishing Piers	1	Wood and steel with	Accessible
		picnic tables	
Swimming Beaches	1	Shoreline near picnic NA	Not accessible
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	3	Entrance, interpretive	NA
		/history, location	
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other: Playground	1	Swings and climbing	Not accessible

## 2.2.14 Shoreline Areas to the High Water mark and Associated Areas of Cow Bayou Wilderness Area (SRA-LA)

The Cow Bayou Wilderness Area is owned and operated by SRA-LA. It is located on the northwestern shoreline of Toledo Bend Reservoir on the Jolly Rogers Road off of LA Hwy 191 at

the Sabine and DeSoto parish line. The Cow Bayou area is an undeveloped system of dirt roads and trails primarily for the use of off road vehicles situated on 228 acres of mixed pine and hardwood timbers. The only facilities present on the site are parking and signs related to liability and a request for courteous use of the resource. No inventory was conducted at this site.

TABLE 2.2.14-1 SHORELINE AREAS TO THE HIGH WATER MARK AND ASSOCIATED AREAS OF COW BAYOU WILDERNESS AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	None	NA	NA
Picnic Sites	None	NA	NA
Restrooms	None	NA	NA
Campsites	None	NA	NA
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	2	One sign made of wood the other of steel	NA
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other:	None	NA	No provision for ADA parking

#### 2.2.15 TAILRACE CHANNEL AREA (SRA-TX AND SRA-LA)

The trailrace channel is within the FERC Project Boundary immediately downstream of the Toledo Bend Dam and Powerhouse on the Texas-side of the reservoir. The only amenities offered at the Tailrace site are trashcans. It is a day use and overnight location for use by self-contained visitors. Primitive camping, fishing, and a primitive boat ramp are available in the tailrace channel area. No inventory was conducted at this site.

TABLE 2.2.-15 TAILRACE CHANNEL AREA FACILITY INVENTORY

Facility	Number Present	Condition Description	<b>Accessibility Assessment</b>
Boat Launches	1 - primitive	Cut into riverbank	No ADA accessibility
Picnic Sites	None	NA	NA
Restrooms	None	NA	NA
Campsites	None (some camping	User defined not	No accessibility
	occurs)	developed	
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	8	Mostly warning signs,	NA
		wood and metal materials	
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other: Playground	None	NA	NA

#### 2.2.16 SPILLWAY CHANNEL AREA (SRA-TX AND SRA-LA)

The spillway channel area is within the FERC Project boundary immediately downstream of the Toledo Bend Dam spillway on the Louisiana-side of the reservoir. The spillway reach area is generally accessible to the public but subject to closure during spillway release events. It is a day use and overnight location for use by self-contained visitors. Primitive camping, fishing, and a primitive boat ramp are available in the tailrace channel area. No inventory was conducted at this site. See also Section 6.0 Spillway Channel Recreation Access Plan.

TADI E 2 2 16 1	1 CDII I WAY CHANNEI	AREA FACILITY INVENTYORY
I ADLL 2.2.10-1	I SEILLWAI CHANNEL	ANDA FACILII I INVENTIVAL

Facility	Number Present	<b>Condition Description</b>	Accessibility Assessment
Boat Launches	1 - primitive	Dirt ramp suitable for smaller boats	No ADA accessibility
Picnic Sites	None	NA	NA
Restrooms	None	NA	NA
Campsites	None (some camping occurs)	User defined not developed	No accessibility
Fishing Piers	None	NA	NA
Swimming Beaches	None	NA	NA
Docks	None	NA	NA
Recreational Signs	None	NA	NA
Viewing Platforms	None	NA	NA
Other: Playground	None	NA	NA

#### 2.3 RECREATION FACILITY BOAT LAUNCH ACCESSIBILITY

Table 2.3-1, below, shows TBRF boat launch accessibility between the normal hydropower operating range of 168 to 172 ft-msl and down to 162.2 ft-msl as stipulated by License Article 406. *Reservoir Levels*. Of the nine TBRFs with boat launches, all boat launches are accessible between 168 and 172 ft-msl, and two-thirds are accessible down to 162.2 ft-msl.

License article 416 requires the Authorities to file a *Drought Contingency Plan* (DMP) with FERC within 18 months of its April 15, 2015 Order on Rehearing and Clarification (by October 16, 2016).<sup>3</sup> The DMP must identify the water conservation and reservoir public access measures that the licensees will implement during drought conditions, as defined in the plan. The reservoir public access measures identified in the DMP will include maintaining boat launch access where practical for the TBRFs within the RMP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Sabine River Auth. of Texas and Sabine River Auth., State of Louisiana, 151 ¶ 61,037 (2015).

TABLE 2.3-1
TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION FACILITIES BOAT LAUNCH
ACCESSIBILITY

Recreation Facility	Owner/Manager	Accessible 172 to 168 ft-msl	Accessible to 162.2 ft-msl	Accessible to ft- msl
Swede Johnson Recreation Area	SRA-TX	Yes	Yes	157.0
Oak Ridge Park	SRA-LA	Yes	Yes	159.0
Bubba Cowser Recreation Area <sup>4</sup>	SRA-TX	Yes	No	165.2
Converse Bay Recreation Area	SRA-LA	Yes	No	164.0
Hot Wells Recreation Area	SRA-LA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Blue Lake Landing Recreation Area	SRA-LA	Yes	No	165.5
Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area	SRA-LA	N/A	N/A	N/A
San Miguel Park	SRA-LA	Yes	Yes	160.0
Pendleton Park	SRA-LA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cypress Bend Park	SRA-LA	Yes	Yes	158.0
Pleasure Point Park	SRA-LA	Yes	Yes	161.5
Toledo Bend Observation Towers	SRA-LA and SRA- TX	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area	SRA-TX	Yes	Yes	158.0
Shoreline areas to the high water mark and associated areas of the Cow Bayou Wilderness Area	SRA-LA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tailrace channel area	SRA-LA and SRA- TX	Primitive boat launch not on the reservoir		
Spillway channel area	SRA-LA and SRA- TX	Primitive boat launch not on the reservoir		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Bubba Cowser Recreation Area boat launch is situated on the banks of Tenaha Creek, a shallow cove; access limitations are not related to the boat launch, but rather to the depth of the creek it is situated in.

### 2.4 RECREATION FACILITY PARKING CAPACITY

TABLE 2.4-1
TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION FACILITIES PARKING CAPACITY

Recreation Facility	Owner/Manager	Parking Capacity	Evaluation of Adequacy of Current Parking Capacity
Swede Johnson Recreation Area	SRA-TX	25	Adequate
Oak Ridge Park <sup>5</sup>	SRA-LA	50	Adequate
Bubba Cowser Recreation Area	SRA-TX	8	Adequate
Converse Bay Recreation Area	SRA-LA	40	Adequate
Hot Wells Recreation Area	SRA-LA	35	Adequate
Blue Lake Landing Recreation Area	SRA-LA	50	Adequate
Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area	SRA-LA	15	Adequate
San Miguel Park	SRA-LA	75	Adequate
Pendleton Park	SRA-LA	30	Adequate
Cypress Bend Park	SRA-LA	110	Adequate
Pleasure Point Park	SRA-LA	40	Adequate
Toledo Bend Observation Towers	SRA-LA and SRA- TX	30 (Louisiana); 14 (Texas)	Adequate
Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area <sup>6</sup>	SRA-TX	34	Adequate
Shoreline areas to the high water mark and associated areas of the Cow Bayou Wilderness Area	SRA-LA	Primitive Parking	Adequate
Tailrace channel area	SRA-LA and SRA- TX	Primitive Parking	Adequate
Spillway channel area	SRA-LA and SRA- TX	Primitive Parking	Adequate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Louisiana parks that hold special events that require increased parking have designated overflow areas that are opened at the time of the event.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area has a large overflow of parking available in a grassy area that can accommodate approximately 45 more vehicles.

#### 2.5 ADDITIONAL RECREATION AREAS

Following are brief descriptions and location information for 12 additional recreation areas that are managed by other federal, state, and local agencies. All six USFS recreation areas are owned by the USFS but maintained and operated by SRA-TX.

#### 2.5.1 HALEY'S FERRY (USFS)

Limited facilities include a one-lane boat ramp. No camping is allowed in the parking area around the boat ramp, but there are numerous dispersed campsites in the area. Haley's Ferry boat ramp is located on the northern end of Toledo Bend Reservoir. From Center follow Highway 87 for 4 miles to Shelbyville; left (east) on FM 2694 for 15 miles; right (south) onto FM 3172 for 1 mile; left (east) onto FS100A for 2 miles to ramp entrance sign on the right.

#### 2.5.2 RAGTOWN RECREATION AREA (USFS)

Facilities include a one-mile long Mother Nature Trail, picnic tables, flush toilets, showers, drinking water, a boat ramp, and overnight camping. It is located near Shelbyville, TX (follow Highway 87 east from Center for 11 miles; turn left (east) on FM 139 for 6 miles; bear right onto FM 3184 and follow 4 miles to entrance).

#### 2.5.3 EAST HAMILTON (USFS)

Facilities include a two lane boat ramp, picnic tables, vault toilets, and parking. It is located near Center, TX (from Center go south 20 miles on SH 87 to FM 2261 in Patroon, then go east 9 miles on FM 2261).

#### 2.5.4 Indian Mounds Recreation Area (USFS)

This developed USFS site on Toledo Bend Reservoir offers access to the nearby Indian Mounds Wilderness Area and an alternative to wilderness camping. Facilities include 37 travel trailer (no electric or water hookups) or tent sites, a three-lane boat ramp about 1 mile north of the camping area, a one-lane boat ramp in the camping area, drinking water, picnic tables, grills and portable toilet facilities. It is located near Hemphill, TX (follow Highway 83 east from Hemphill for 8 miles; turn right (south) on FM 3382 for 3.5 miles; turn left onto Forest Service Road 130 to entrance).

#### 2.5.5 LAKEVIEW RECREATION AREA (USFS)

Facilities include 10 camping sites with a table, grill, tent pad and garbage can at each site, and it is the Trailhead for Trail Between the Lakes. Water is available from two centrally located

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Trail Between the Lakes is a 28 mile point-to-point trail that offers the chance to see wildlife and is rated as moderate. The trail is primarily used for birding, camping, hiking & nature trips and is accessible year-round. <a href="http://alltrails.com/trail/us/texas/trail-between-the-lakes">http://alltrails.com/trail/us/texas/trail-between-the-lakes</a>, referenced 12/17/2014.

hydrants. The area has portable toilet facilities. It is located near Hemphill, TX (from Pineland follow FM 2426 east for 10 miles; turn right (south) on Highway 87 for 3 miles; turn left (east) on FM 2928 for 3.5 miles to end of paved road; follow signs to Lakeview (approximately 4 miles)).

#### 2.5.6 WILLOW OAK (USFS)

Facilities include a two lane boat ramp, tent camping (allowed on tent pads near the boat ramp area), picnic tables, portable toilets, and drinking water. It is located near Hemphill, TX (from Hemphill follow Highway 87 south for 11 miles to entrance).

#### 2.5.7 NORTH TOLEDO BEND STATE PARK (STATE OF LOUISIANA)

This state park is owned by the State of Louisiana and operated by the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism.<sup>8</sup> Facilities and activities include rental cabins, camping, boat launch, dump station, group pavilion, laundry, meeting room, picnic area, fishing pier, playground, swimming, and trails. It is located near Zwolle, LA (from Zwolle take LA 475 then right onto LA 191/LA 482. Approximately two miles later, turn left onto LA 3229 then left onto North Toledo Park Road).

#### 2.5.8 SOUTH TOLEDO BEND STATE PARK (STATE OF LOUISIANA)

This state park is owned by the State of Louisiana and operated by the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism.<sup>9</sup> Facilities and activities include rental cabins, camping, boat launch, dump station, group pavilion, laundry, meeting room, picnic area, fishing pier, playground, swimming, and trails. It is located near Anacoco, LA (from Anacoco, turn west onto LA 111/392, then north onto LA 191. Turn west onto Bass Haven Road; the park entrance is approximately one-half mile on the left).

#### 2.5.9 JOAQUIN PUBLIC RAMP (SRA-TX)

This two-lane public boat ramp has no fee requirement and is open all year. It is located on the Sabine River at the northern end of Toledo Bend Reservoir off of US 84 east of Joaquin, Texas, on the Texas side at 31°58′20.33″N, 94° 0′30.47″W.

#### 2.5.10 YELLOW DOG PARK (SRA-TX)

This primitive campground and boat ramp has no fee requirement and is leased by SRA-TX to Panola County. It is located on the Sabine River just above Toledo Bend Reservoir at the end of Panola County Road 455, off Texas 31 south of Deadwood, Texas, at 32° 0'14.99"N, 94° 5'29.74"W.

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> <a href="http://www.crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-parks/parks/north-toledo-bend-state-park/">http://www.crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-parks/parks/north-toledo-bend-state-park/</a>, referenced 12/17/2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> <a href="http://www.crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-parks/parks/south-toledo-bend-state-park/">http://www.crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-parks/parks/south-toledo-bend-state-park/</a>, referenced 12/17/2014.

#### 2.5.11 GARRETT PARK (DESOTO PARISH, LA, POLICE JURY)

Garrett Park provides a double-wide paved boat launch, 75 vehicle paved parking, and covered picnic shelters with no fee on the Sabine River at the northern end of Toledo Bend Reservoir. From Logansport, Louisiana, on US 84 [Main St.] 4 blocks east of the river bridge turn north on La. 764 ["Marshall St."], go .75 mile to "Garrett Park Rd.", turn left go .75 mile to launch at 31°58.82N, 094°00.82 W.

#### 2.4.12 Frontier Park (SRA-TX)

Frontier Park is owned by SRA-TX and maintained by a franchised operator. Recreational opportunities include RV sites, cabins, and a public boat ramp. It is located on Toledo Bend Reservoir in Sabine County near Pendleton Bridge via Hwy. 21.

# 3.0 MAINTENANCE, REHABILITATION, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT MEASURES

This section describes the recreation facility measures that will be implemented by the Authorities for the Project during the new license term. This section is divided into four sub-sections: Section 3.1 Recreation Facility Operational Maintenance, Section 3.2 Recreation Facility Rehabilitation, 3.3 Scheduling Major Recreation Facility Rehabilitation, and 3.4 Capital Improvements.

As a benchmark for rehabilitation and capital improvements over the term of the new license, site plans for each of the TBRFs are presented in Attachment 2. The existing site plan can be used as an over-all master plan for maintenance, modification, and adaptation to the changing needs of the recreating public and the physical environment.

#### 3.1 RECREATION FACILITY OPERATIONAL MAINTENANCE

Each Authority is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the TBRFs under its jurisdiction. With the exception of the Toledo Bend Observation Towers, SRA-LA operates and maintains all TBRFs within Louisiana, and SRA-TX operates and maintains all TBRFs within Texas. The Authorities jointly operate and maintain the Toledo Bend Observation Towers, Tailrace Channel Area, and Spillway Channel Area. The appropriate Authority may contract with concessionaires for the administration, operation, and maintenance of the TBRFs under its jurisdiction.

Operational maintenance activities keep permanent assets in an acceptable condition and include repairs, painting, replacement of minor parts and minor structural components. Operational maintenance excludes activities aimed at expanding the capacity of an asset or otherwise upgrading it to serve needs different from, or significantly greater than those originally intended. The work serves to keep the facility in an ordinary, efficient operating condition. Operational maintenance does not require prior FERC approval or agency consultation.

Examples of regular or routine operational maintenance activities include, but are not limited to interior painting, repair of broken windows, light bulb replacement, cleaning, unplugging drains,

greasing, servicing, inspecting, oiling, adjusting, tightening, aligning, and sweeping. Maintenance activities may include work needed to meet applicable laws, regulations, and codes (such as compliance with the ADA) as long as the original intent or purpose of the fixed asset is not changed.

The operational maintenance activities to be carried out at the TBRFs include the activities listed below. The Authorities may perform these activities themselves or contract for the necessary personnel, equipment, and/or materials.

#### 3.1.1 ACCESS ROADS AND PAVEMENT

Roads and pavement will be maintained in good, passable condition. If a road is deemed unsafe for public passage, the road will be closed until the repair is completed. Road conditions will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.1.2 BOAT RAMPS AND DOCKS

The developed boat ramp surfaces will be kept in good, functional condition, and reasonably free of debris. Boat dock surfaces, hardware and other components (bumper strips, cleats, railings, etc.) will be maintained to provide safe and effective use. Boat ramps will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.1.3 PICNIC AND CAMP SITES

Picnic and camp sites will be maintained in a clean state, free of damage and vandalism. Tables will be sturdy and functional. Grills and fire rings will be in good, functional condition. Fire rings will be routinely cleared of litter, ashes, and unburned material. Picnic and camp sites will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning. ADA improvements will be made when major campsite replacements are warranted.

#### 3.1.4 RESTROOMS

Structures will be sanitary and maintained in good repair. If a structure is deemed in need of repair, it may be closed until repairs are completed. Walkways and access routes to structures will be kept reasonably free of obstructions or excess vegetation. Vault restrooms and portable toilets will be pumped as necessary to maintain sanitary conditions. Restrooms will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.1.5 SIGNS, INFORMATION KIOSKS, BULLETIN BOARDS, AND FEE STATIONS

Information kiosks and boards will look professional, uncluttered, and contain appropriate current/seasonal information. Signage will be inspected on a weekly basis and implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.1.6 LITTER AND TRASH COLLECTION

Trash containers will be kept clean and emptied routinely so that garbage does not exceed the capacity of the containers. TBRFs will be maintained free of litter.

#### 3.1.7 UTILITIES

All utilities (e.g., water, wastewater, electrical) will be maintained in good working condition, and replaced as needed.

#### 3.1.8 Buildings and Other Structures

Structures will be kept clean and maintained in good repair. If a structure is deemed in need of repair, it may be closed until repairs are completed. Walkways and access routes to structures will be kept free of obstructions or excess vegetation.

#### 3.1.9 Public Notification

The Authorities will inform the public of the recreation opportunities available at the TBRFs through the publication and distribution of brochures, the maintenance of information on an internet website, or other appropriate means. Communication media may evolve overtime, and the Authorities may revise the manner in which information about the TBRFs is made available to the public.

#### 3.2 RECREATION FACILITY REHABILITATION

This section identifies how the Authorities will rehabilitate and replace existing Project recreation facilities.

Each Authority will be responsible for necessary and appropriate major rehabilitation (or replacement) at the TBRFs within its jurisdiction. The rehabilitation will be completed in accordance with the state's applicable accessibility requirements when undertaking rehabilitation and replacement of TBRFs. Except as may be provided in the Authorities' FERC-approved Historic Properties Management Plan, major rehabilitation does not require prior FERC approval or agency consultation.

#### 3.2.1 ROADS, PARKING AREAS AND CAMPGROUND VEHICLE SPURS

As needed, the appropriate Authority will rehabilitate existing roads and parking areas within the facility, in addition to campground vehicle spurs at each facility, as determined by a paving condition inspection. Specifically, inspections may identify the need for the following actions:

- Resurface and re-stripe parking areas where existing parking areas are present, including other maintenance in the parking area.
- Resurface all campground circulation roads.
- At unpaved, gravel parking areas, re-grade and clear the parking area and re-install vehicle barriers, as needed.
- Resurface or overlay (asphalt) all camp sites spurs that are currently paved.

Rehabilitation of roads, parking areas and vehicle spurs will occur on a site-by-site basis at the TBRFs. Roads, parking areas and vehicle spurs will be scheduled for rehabilitation near the end of their useful life. If problems are noted during inspections, plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.2.2 BOAT LAUNCHES: FLOATING BOAT DOCKS AND CONCRETE BOAT LAUNCHES

At each boat launch facility, the Authorities will replace existing floating boat docks and piers and concrete launch ramp with similar structures as needed. If problems are noted during inspections, plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.2.3 FIRE RINGS, GRILLS, AND PICNIC TABLES

When replacing fire rings, grills and picnic tables, they will be replaced with an appropriate number of universally accessible units in accordance with the state's applicable accessibility requirements. Replacement of the fire rings, grills, and picnic tables will occur on a site-by-site basis, and will be scheduled for replacement near the end of their useful life. If problems are noted during inspections, plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning. ADA improvements will be made when major campsite replacements are warranted.

#### 3.2.4 RESTROOMS AND UTILITY SYSTEMS

Restrooms, water, wastewater, electrical, and other utility systems will be maintained as necessary to provide functioning, compliant systems. Maintenance may include but not be limited to replacement of existing buildings, wells, distribution piping, system connections, underground electrical, and water hydrants. If problems are noted during inspections, plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.2.5 SIGNS

All existing entrance signs, directional signs, information/bulletin signs, and trailhead signs, will be replaced as needed. Signs will be scheduled for replacement near the end of their useful life. If problems are noted during inspections, plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.2.6 ACCESSIBLE CAMP SITES, PICNIC SITES, AND RESTROOM FACILITIES

When rehabilitating a restroom, campground, picnic area, or other facility at a TBRF, the rehabilitation will be in accordance with the state's applicable accessibility requirements.

#### 3.2.7 SITE-SPECIFIC REHABILITATION

#### 3.2.7.1 SWEDE JOHNSON RECREATION AREA (SRA-TX)

Based upon Recreation and Visitor Survey Monitoring Reports, SRA-TX will evaluate the need to install an accessible restroom/shower building with new on-site sewer facilities. Plans would also include expanding electrical service to the restrooms. A public water supply is available in this recreation area.

#### 3.2.7.2 TAILRACE CHANNEL AREA (SRA-TX)

The Authorities will continue to maintain the primitive boat ramp for 4x4 vehicle use.

#### 3.2.7.3 SPILLWAY CHANNEL AREA (SRA-LA)

The Authorities will maintain canoe and kayak launch access below the spillway when the spillway channel area is not closed due to spillway releases or possible pending releases (see Section 6.2. Spillway Channel Recreation Access Plan, Safety Criteria, below). The Authorities will continue to maintain the primitive boat ramp.

#### 3.3 SCHEDULING MAJOR RECREATION FACILITY REHABILITATION

No major recreation facility rehabilitation is proposed at this time.

#### 3.3.1 Annual Facility Inspection & Prioritized List of Items to Rehabilitate

The current condition of each TBRF will be evaluated during an annual inspection. TBRFs that may require major rehabilitation will be identified based on this evaluation. Such projects may include complete resurfacing or widening of facility roads, replacement of the underground water system, replacement of restrooms, or any combination of major rehabilitation work that may require extensive planning, contracting, and implementation.

An internal Annual Rehabilitation Report will be developed that includes a prioritized list and a proposed schedule for rehabilitation or replacement of Project recreation facilities for the upcoming year; and a summary of facilities that may require additional planning for major rehabilitation or capital improvement work that will occur beyond the current year/season. Annual Rehabilitation Reports will be maintained on file for a period of at least five (5) years.

#### 3.4 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Based on the results of the relicensing study, no capital improvements are warranted. Existing capacity at TBRFs far exceeds current demand. The Authorities will consider the need for future capital improvements during annual inspections and other planning efforts.

#### 4.0 RECREATION MONITORING PROGRAM

The Recreation Monitoring Program is designed to measure recreation use levels, recreation use impacts, visitor tolerances for impacts (crowding, conflict, use impacts, facility conditions, etc.) and management actions that may be used to address identified "impact problems." Combined, this information will allow managers to determine if the RMP's primary goal is being achieved.

The Recreation Monitoring Program defines the Authorities' intended recreation-related monitoring activities at the Project over the term of the new license. The program defines the Authorities' role in collecting and analyzing recreation data, and proposes how the data might be used to help make decisions about recreation management and capital facility improvements at the Project.

As described below, the Authorities will collect basic recreation use data every year beginning in the year following FERC approval of this RMP (expected in 2015; monitoring will begin in 2016 if so). A report summarizing the annual data and discussing any notable trends will be submitted to FERC with the Form 80 filings every six years beginning with the year 2020 Form 80. Should FERC's requirement for filing Form 80s be eliminated or revised, the Authorities will revise the RMP to reflect FERC's new reporting schedule or requirements.

Every 12 years beginning in 2026, the Authorities will undertake a comprehensive assessment of recreation use as discussed in Section 4.2.

#### 4.1 ANNUAL USE ESTIMATES AND FORM 80 REPORTING

Each year, the Authorities will collect and compile entrance fee information and observational data during routine maintenance at the TBRFs. This information will form the basis of use estimates, allow for tracking of trends over time, and support the examination of correlations among those trends.

Estimated Use at Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities

Estimates of the recreational activity at the TBRFs will be based on instantaneous counts and/or vehicle counts to document the number of vehicles and estimate use at each site. Where entrance fees are not collected, the Authorities will conduct instantaneous counts during routine maintenance.<sup>10</sup> These counts will be compared over the years to identify any change in the amount of use of the TBRFs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The Authorities may substitute over-the-road vehicle traffic counters in lieu of instantaneous counts.

#### Form 80 Summary

A report summarizing the annual data collected over the previous six years and discussing any notable trends will be submitted to FERC with the Form 80 filings beginning with the year 2020 as described in Section 5.1. Should FERC's requirement for filing Form 80s be eliminated or revised, this RMP will be deemed changed to reflect FERC's new reporting schedule or requirements.

#### 4.2 TWELVE-YEAR MONITORING

Every twelve years beginning in 2026, the Authorities will develop and file with FERC a Recreation Monitoring Report as described in Section 5.2. Methods for gathering data to develop this report will include administration of a visitor survey to determine if existing recreation facilities and opportunities are adequate to meet user preferences for recreation facilities and opportunities.

#### 5.0 CONSULTATION, REPORTING, AND PLAN REVIEW

Over the term of the new license, additional consultation may occur as necessary to ensure that the goals and objectives of the RMP are being met and the proposed measures are implemented. Consultation activities that will be conducted during the new license terms will include periodic reporting of recreation use as described below.

#### 5.1 RECREATION USE AND CONDITION SURVEY REPORT

The Authorities will prepare a Recreation Report every 6 years to be submitted to FERC with the Form 80. The report will include the following information:

- Summary of previous 6 years of Project recreation fee/occupancy indicator information;
- Summary of Annual Rehabilitation Reports;
- Form 80:
- Summary of recreation related impacts presented in other Project resource monitoring plans from the previous 6 years;
- Trend analysis from comparing existing monitoring report results to previous monitoring report results; and
- Proposed changes in any TBRF and/or Project management, if appropriate, based on monitoring results

The report will be submitted with the Form 80 filings every six years beginning with the year 2020 Form 80.

#### 5.1.1 SCHEDULE FOR RECREATION USE AND CONDITION SURVEY REPORTS

The Visitor Survey Report will be completed every six years by April 1 beginning in 2021, with the Authorities' submission of the 2020 Form 80 and recreation report.

#### 5.2 VISITOR SURVEY REPORT

Every 12 years beginning in 2027, the Authorities will complete a recreation questionnaire survey report aimed to determine if existing recreation facilities and opportunities are adequate to meet user preferences for recreation facilities and opportunities. The survey will include questions to determine visitor use by activity, e.g., fishing, boating, camping, and birding. Based on the survey, the Authorities will prepare a report including objectives, methods, results recommended reasonable resource management measures (which will include any need for recreation facility modification, closure, or new facilities) where appropriate, and a schedule of implementation for recommended resource management measures. The Authorities will address future TBRF recreation needs based upon the 12-year survey by implementing those measures approved by FERC. The survey will address recreational use in the tailrace and spillway channel areas within the Project Boundary. The Sabine River downstream of the Project Boundary is outside the scope of the Toledo Bend Project Recreation Management Plan<sup>11</sup> so it will not be addressed in the survey.

The Authorities will consult with Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the preparation of the reports prior to filing them with FERC. This consultation will include development of the surveys. The first report will be filed with FERC on April 1, 2027, with the Authorities' submission of the 2026 Form 80 and recreation report described in Section 5.1. The report will include:

- Annual recreation use figures;
- A discussion of the adequacy of recreation facilities at the project site to meet recreation demand;
- A description of the methodology used to collect all study data;
- If there is a need for additional facilities, a revised plan and schedule to accommodate recreation needs in the project area;
- The entity or entities responsible for constructing, operating, and maintaining the facilities;
- Documentation of agency consultation and agency comments on the revised report after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies; and
- Specific descriptions of how the agencies' comments are accommodated by the revised report.

#### 5.2.1 SCHEDULE FOR VISITOR SURVEY REPORTS

The Visitor Survey Report will be completed every 12 years by April 1 beginning in 2027, with the Authorities' submission of the 2026 Form 80 and recreation report, allowing for a 30 day stakeholder review period.

#### 5.3 REVISIONS TO THE PLAN

The Authorities will update the RMP every 12 years on the anniversary of license issuance beginning in 2027. Changes or revisions to the RMP will be considered if recreation resource

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Please see Section 1.2. Purpose of the Recreation Management Plan.

conditions change as a result of unforeseen effects, either from new or existing Project-related activities or from natural events. Any revisions to the RMP will be developed with consideration for economic feasibility and public interest with the purpose of continuing to provide reasonable public access and use to Toledo Bend Project lands and waters.

Any updates to the Plan would be prepared in coordination and consultation with stakeholders, as appropriate. If the Authorities do not adopt a particular recommendation, the filing would include the reasons for not doing so, based on project-specific information.

#### 5.3.1 SCHEDULE FOR REVISIONS TO PLAN

The RMP will be revised every 12 years by the anniversary of the issuance of the license beginning in 2027, allowing for a 30 day stakeholder review period.

#### 6.0 SPILLWAY CHANNEL RECREATION ACCESS PLAN

#### **6.1** BASELINE CONDITIONS

#### 6.1.1 CONTINUOUS FLOW RELEASES

Pursuant to License Article 402. Continuous Releases from the Spillway, there is a requirement to release continuous minimum flows at the project spillway of 144 cubic feet per second (cfs) through the later of: (1) the end of the second year of the license term; or (2) 10 days following the Commission's approval of the flow release plan required by License Article 403. Spillway Flow Release Plan. Upon the later of: (1) the commencement of the third year of the license term; or (2) the Commission-approved schedule required by Article 403, the continuous minimum flow releases will be according to Table 6.1.1-1, below.

TABLE 6.1.1-1 FLOW RELEASES												
Reservoir	Continuous Flow Releases at Spillway											
Elevation	(cfs)											
(msl)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			11101	,,,,,,	····uy	34.1		7166				
At >162 feet	150	150	300	300	300	300	200	200	200	200	200	150
From 162 feet to 156 feet	150	150	225	225	225	225	150	150	150	150	150	150
At <156 feet	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150

6.1.2 RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The spillway channel area facilities include parking and car-top boating access to the spillway channel, a primitive earthen boat ramp, and trash containers. There are no restrooms or picnic

tables in the area. Recreational activities include stream-side primitive camping, canoeing, kayaking, tubing and fishing access. There is ample parking along the road with just a short walk to the channel. Boating access is available below the spillway when the channel area is not closed due to spillway releases or possible pending releases (see Section 6.2. Safety Criteria, below). The spillway structure itself is a restricted area, plainly marked with keep out signs. Roads are routinely maintained, but 4x4 vehicle is recommended (ATVs are not allowed). There is a security patrol.

#### 6.2 SAFETY CRITERIA

When the lake level reaches 172 ft-msl elevation, the potential for closure of the spillway channel area can occur quickly should a rain event be forecast. In this event, the spillway channel area is accessed and the area is closed when spillway gate operations are imminent based upon current and forecasted conditions. Every effort is made to protect the public from an impending flood event based upon sound judgement that considers the lake level and the weather forecast.

Access to the spillway channel area is restricted when the Authorities issue an advisory (Advisory #1) to persons having interests in the Sabine River Basin below the reservoir advising that if the reservoir continues to rise, spillway gates may have to be opened. The first release trigger is 5 gates 1 ft (~5,000 cfs); access to the spillway channel area is prohibited in anticipation of reaching the first release trigger (governed by the FERC-Approved Spillway Operating Guide). Up-to-date reservoir elevations and releases information may be obtained from the Toledo Bend Project offices on a 24-hour per day basis at 337-286-5253 or 409-565-2273 or on the SRA-LA website (http://www.srala-toledo.com/).

Access to the spillway channel is resumed when spillway releases are ceased and conditions are determined to be safe for public access below the spillway.

#### 6.3 WARNING PROTOCOL

As described above, the Authorities make every effort to close the spillway channel area (prevent access through a locked gate) prior to the event. If there are vehicles or other signs of people in the spillway area prior to the gate being locked, every effort is made to locate these individuals. A siren is sounded prior to spillway gate operations.

#### 7.0 TAILRACE CHANNEL RECREATION ACCESS PLAN

#### 7.1 BASELINE CONDITIONS

#### 7.1.1 FLOW

When the Project is not generating, there is generally approximately 60 cfs of leakage combined from the two turbines.

#### 7.1.2 RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The tailrace channel area facilities include primitive parking, a primitive boat launch cut into the riverbank, and trashcans. There are no restrooms or picnic tables in the area. Recreational activities include primitive camping, canoeing, kayaking, and fishing.

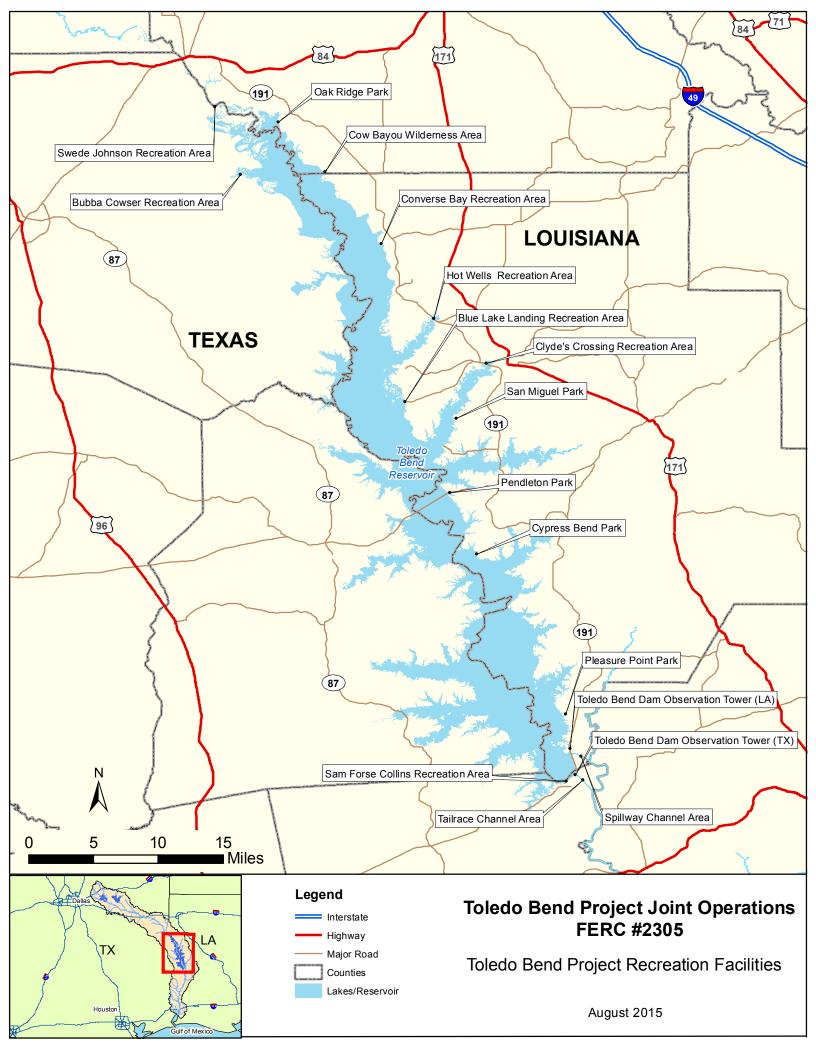
#### 7.2 SAFETY CRITERIA

Access to the tailrace channel is continuously restricted to approximately 280 meters below the Powerhouse. Also, due to backwater affects during spillway releases, the access to the tailrace channel is historically restricted according to the same protocol as the spillway channel described in Section 6.2, above.

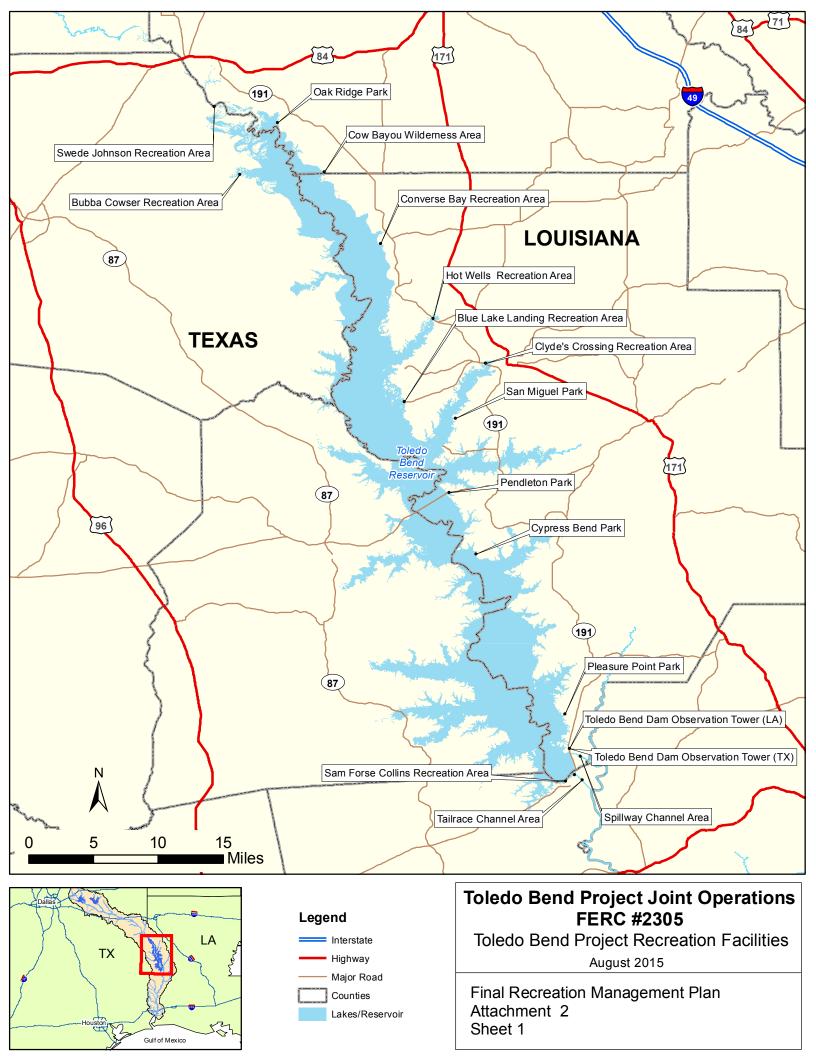
#### 7.3 WARNING PROTOCOL

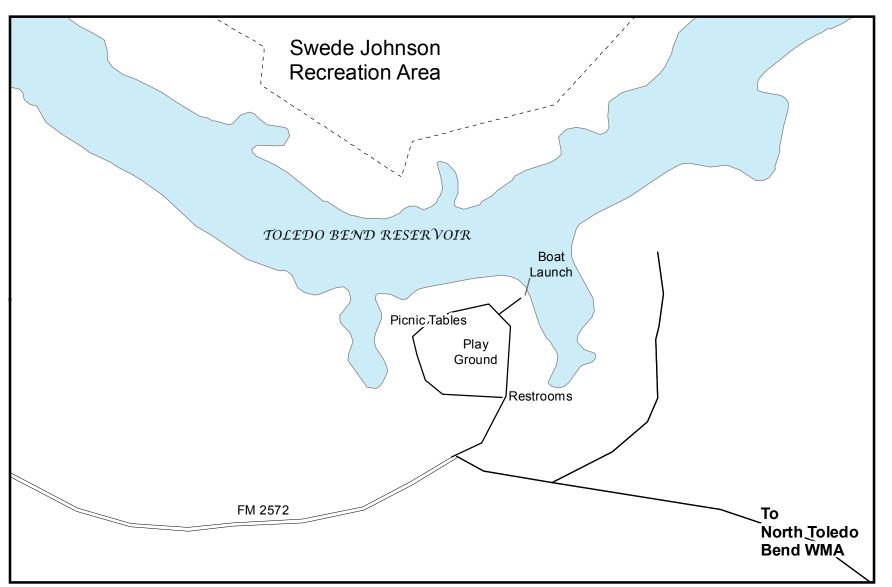
A warning siren is sounded prior to generation to alert recreationists downstream of the Powerhouse. An up-to-date generation schedule may be obtained from the Toledo Bend Project offices on a 24-hour per day basis at 337-286-5253 or 409-565-2273 or on the SRA-LA website (http://www.srala-toledo.com/).

# ATTACHMENT 1 TOLEDO BEND RECREATION FACILITIES MAP

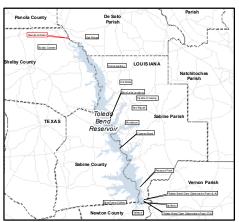


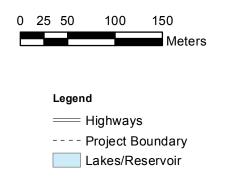
# ATTACHMENT 2 TOLEDO BEND RECREATION FACILITIES SITE PLANS





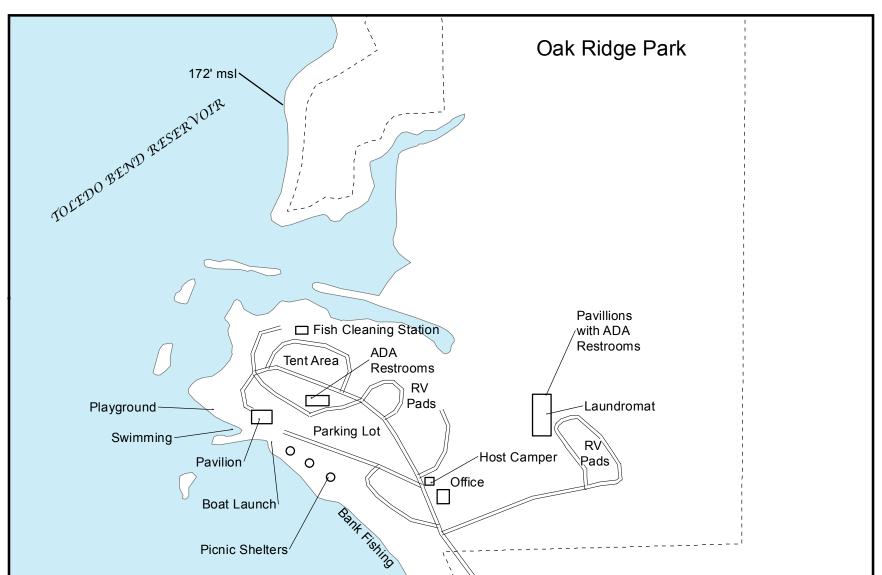


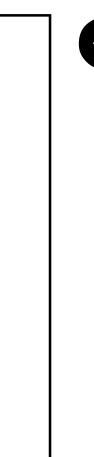


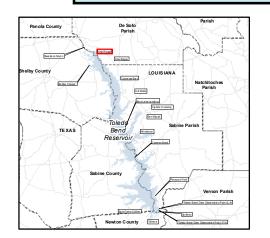


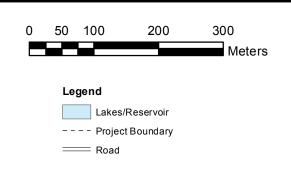
**Swede Johnson Recreational Area** 

August 2015



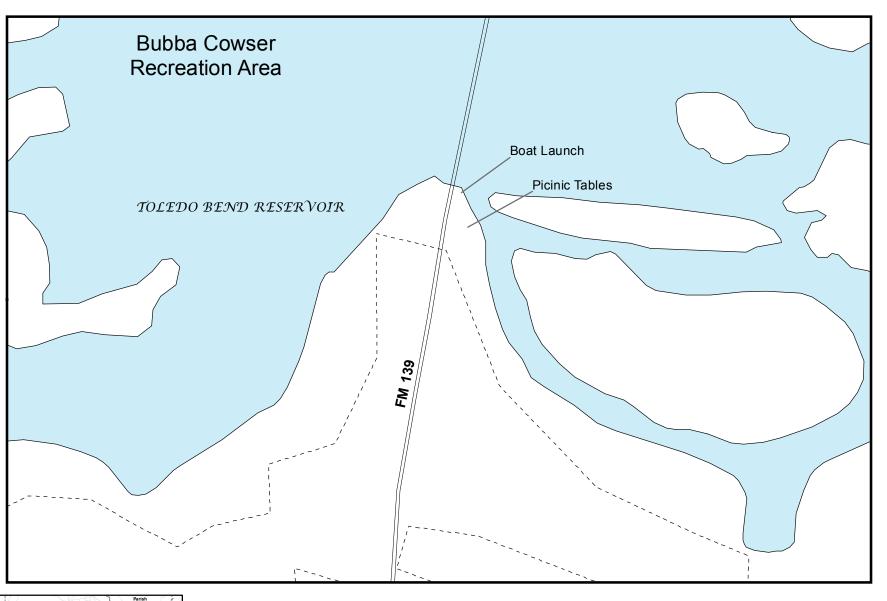




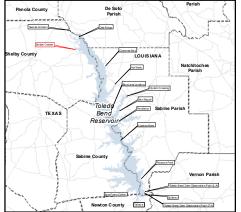


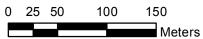
Oak Ridge Park

August 2015









#### Legend

=== Highways

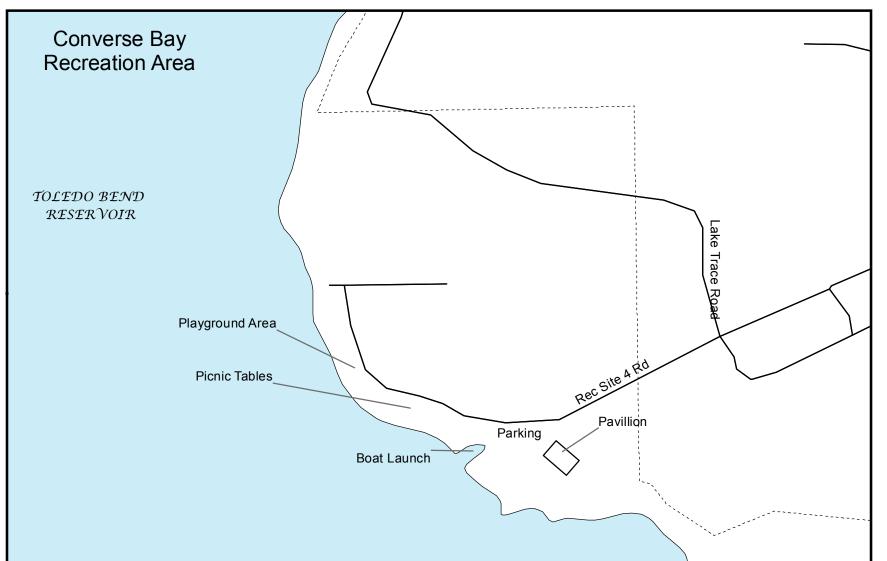
---- Project Boundary

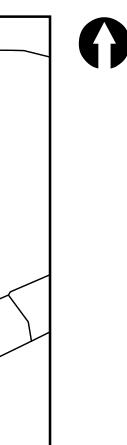
Lakes/Reservoir

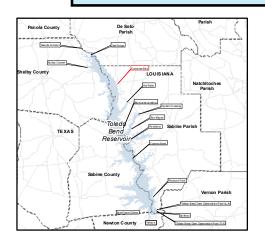
Toledo Bend Project Joint Operation FERC #2305

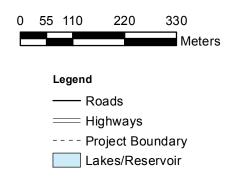
**Bubba Cowser Recreational Area** 

August 2015



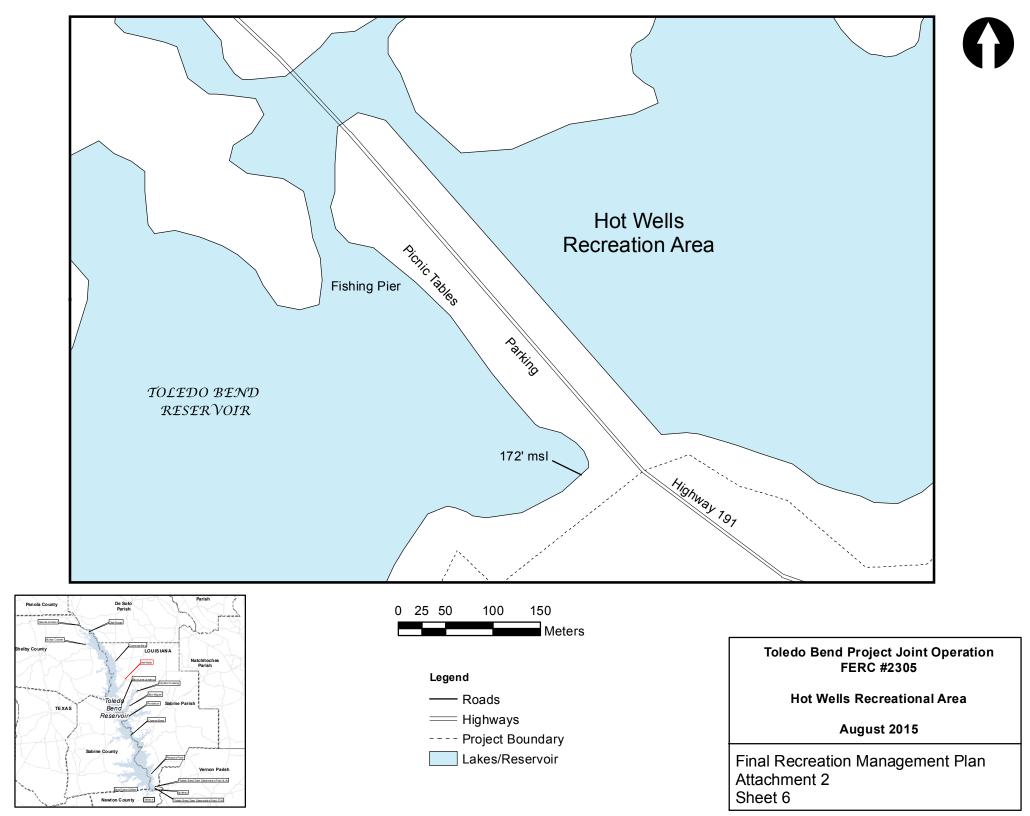


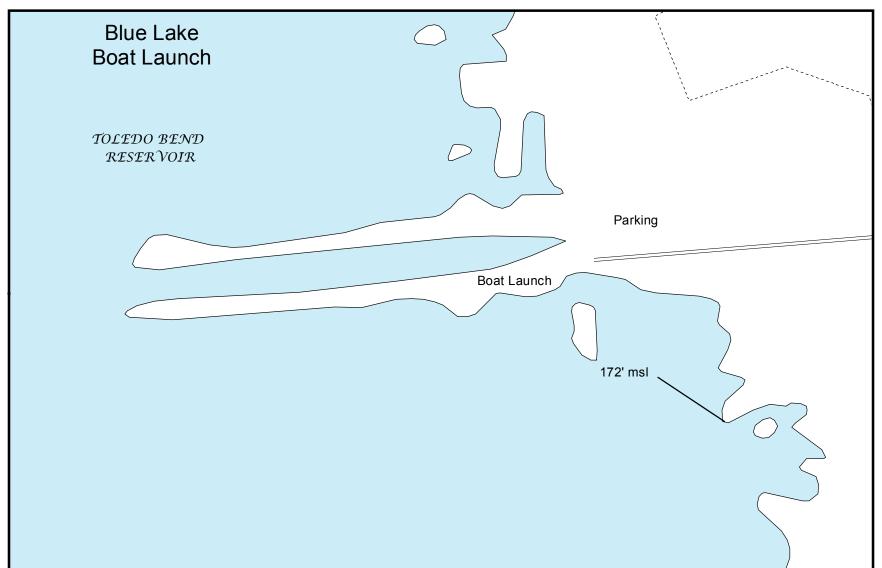


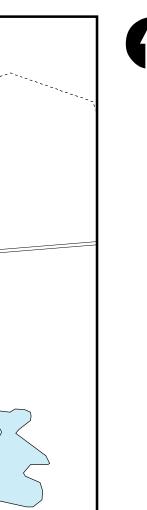


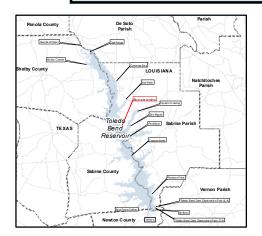
**Converse Bay Recreational Area** 

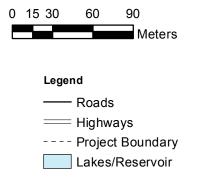
August 2015





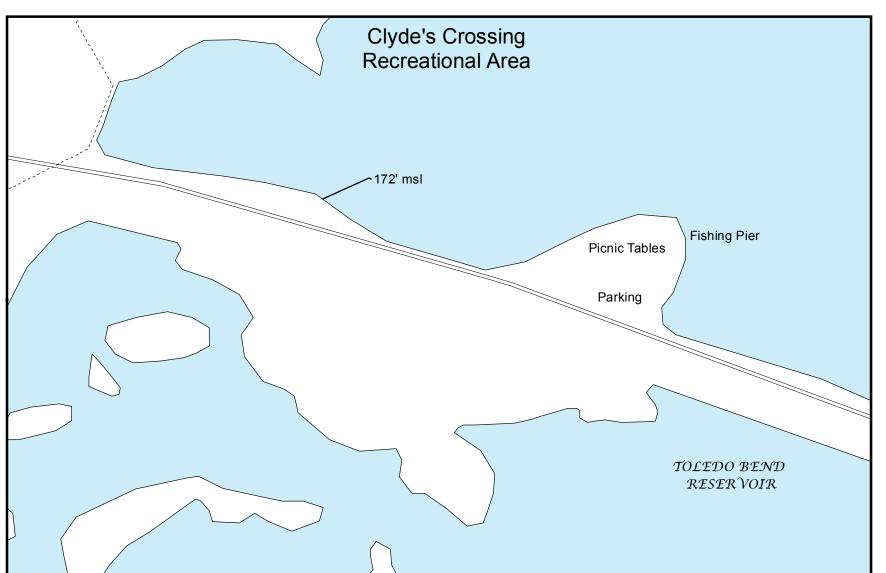




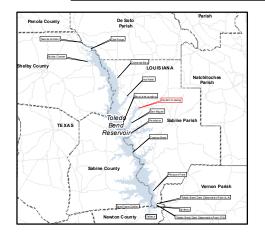


**Blue Lake Boat Launch** 

August 2015









#### Legend

---- Roads

=== Highways

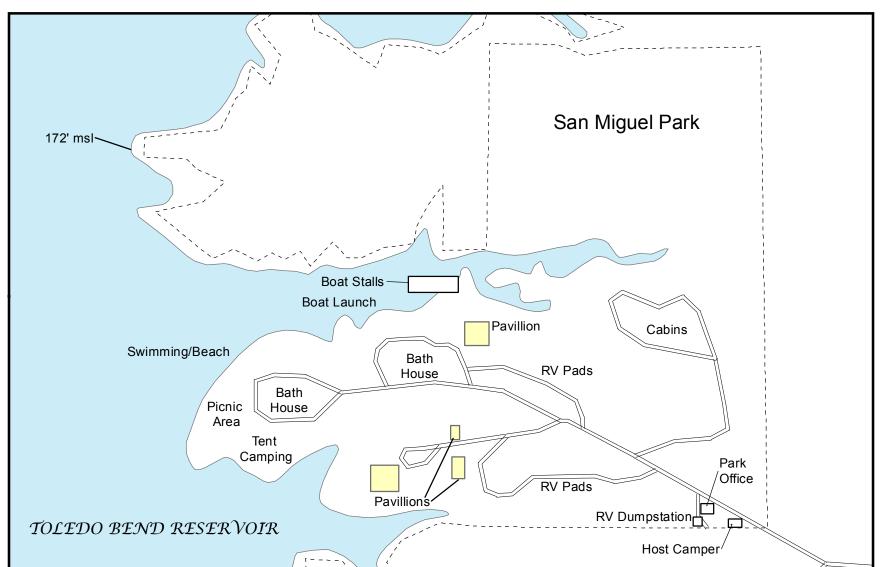
--- Project Boundary

Lakes/Reservoir

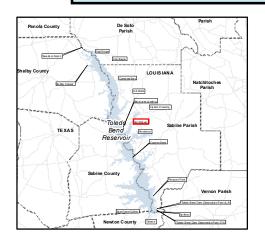
## Toledo Bend Project Joint Operation FERC #2305

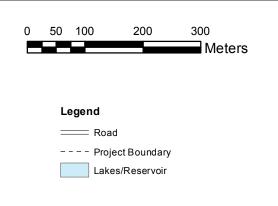
**Clyde's Crossing Recreational Area** 

August 2015



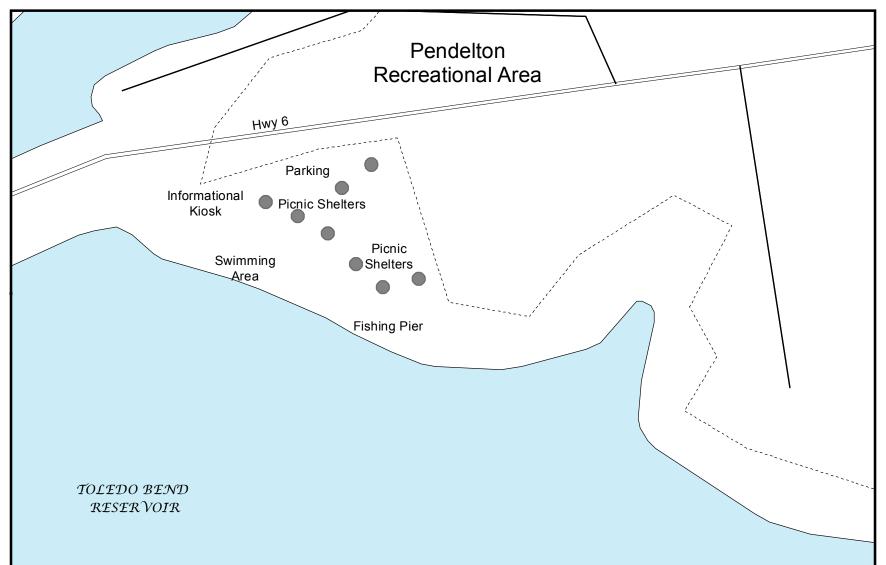


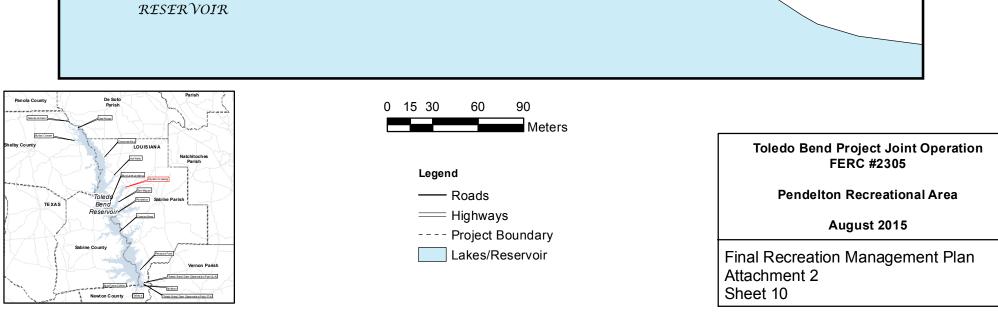


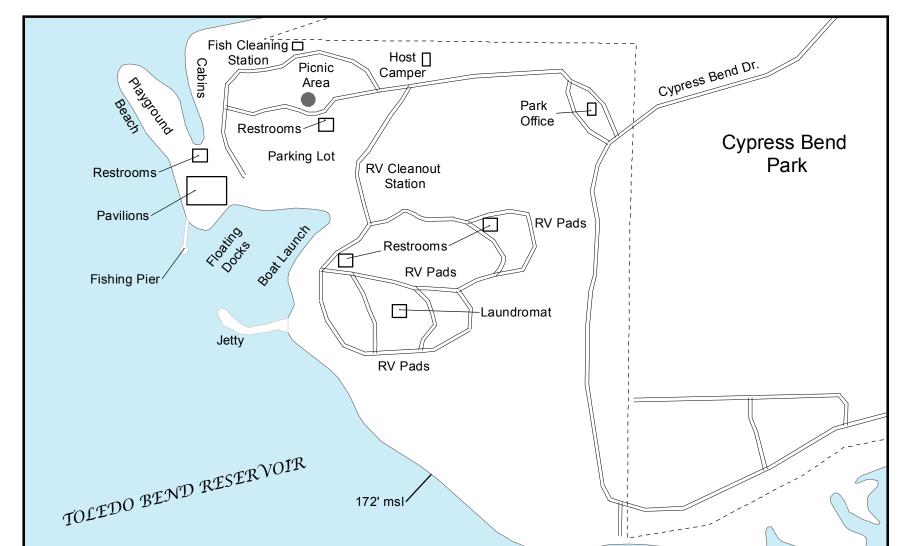


San Miguel Park

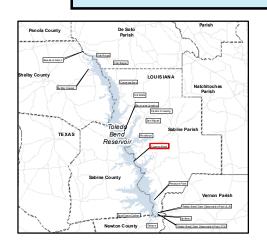
August 2015

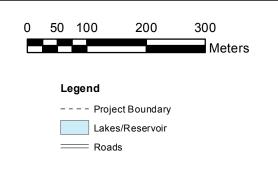






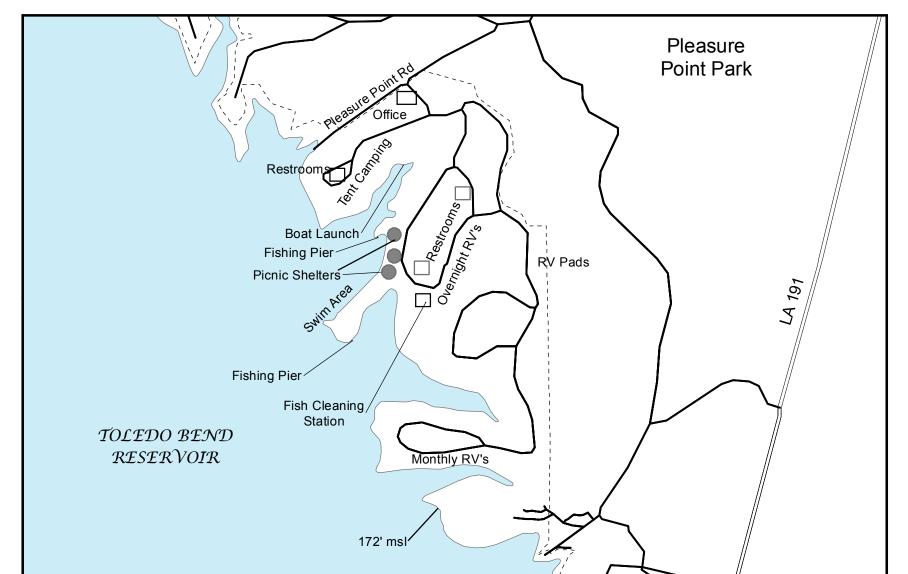




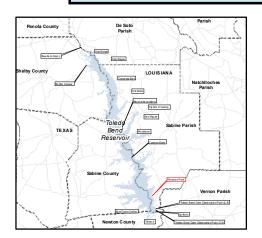


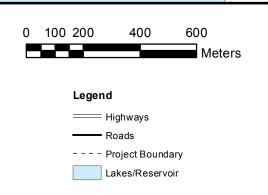
Cypress Bend Park

August 2015



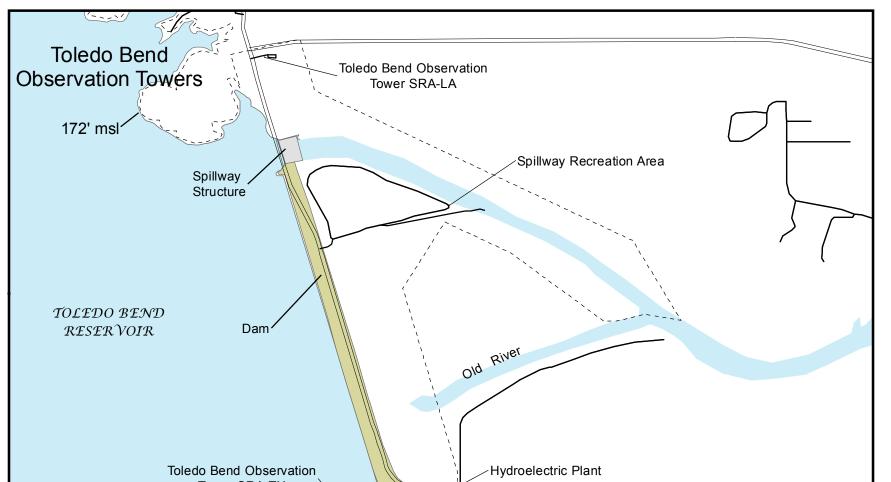


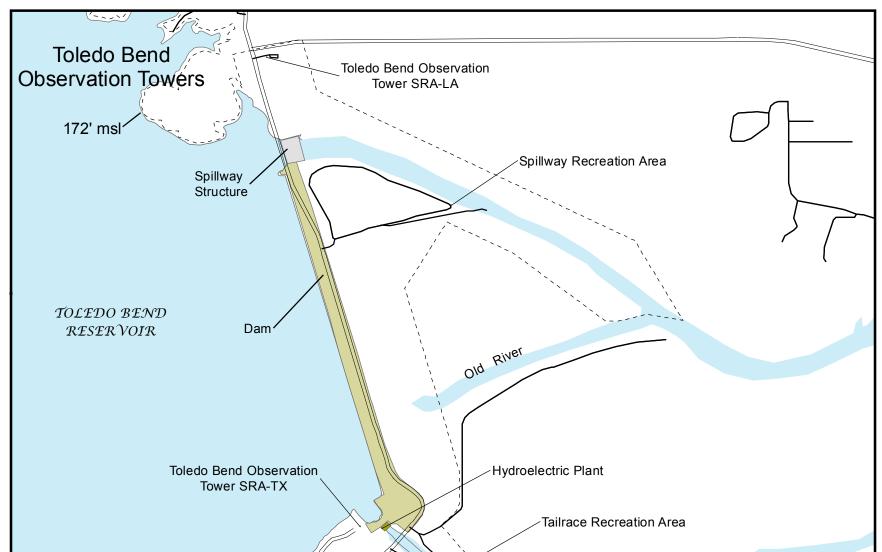


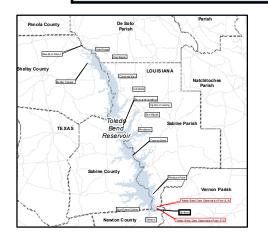


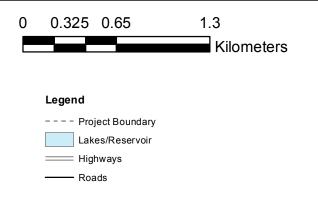
Pleasure Point Park

August 2015



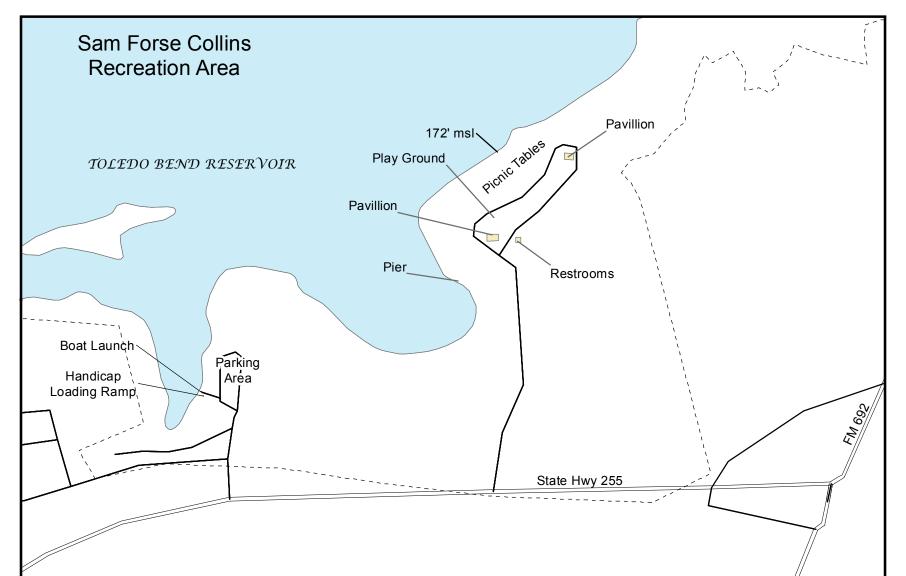




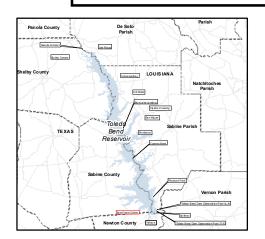


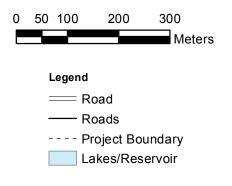
**Toledo Bend Observation Towers** 

August 2015



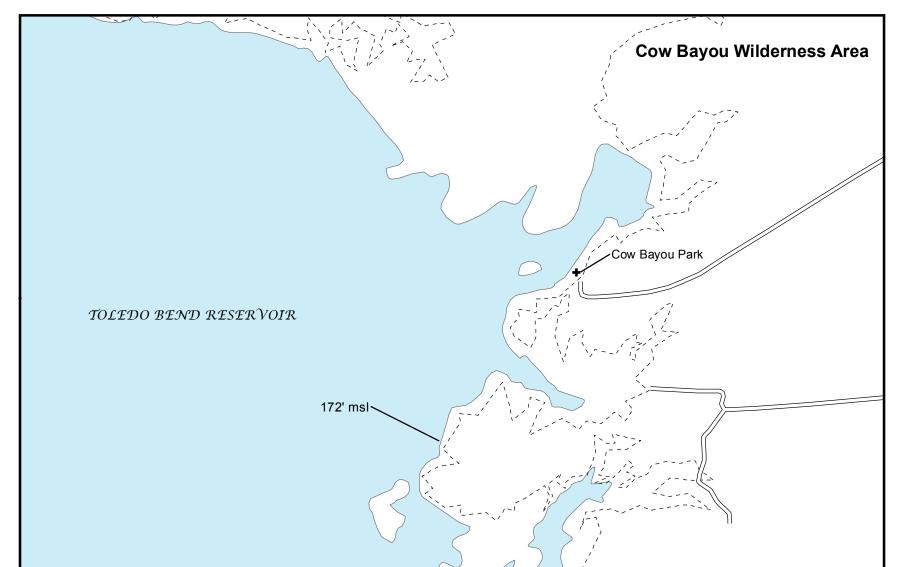




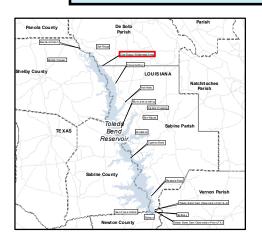


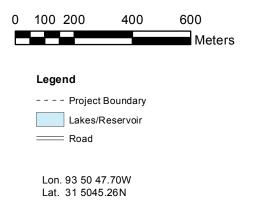
Sam Forse Collins Recreational Area

August 2015



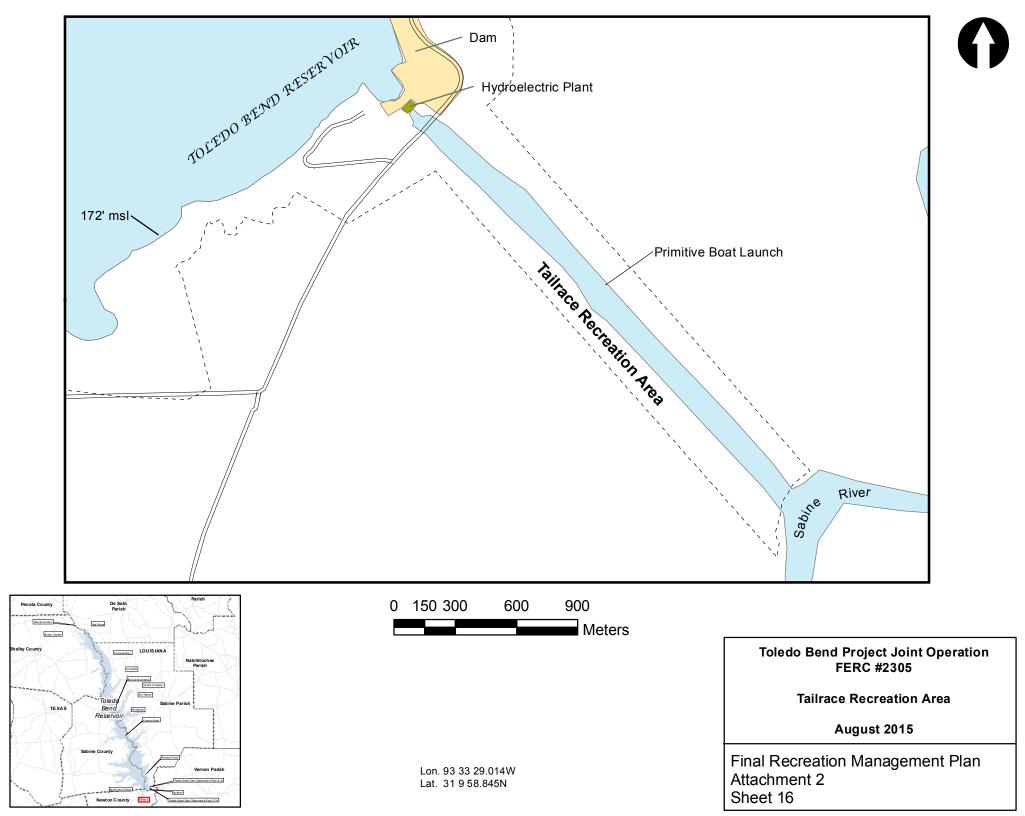




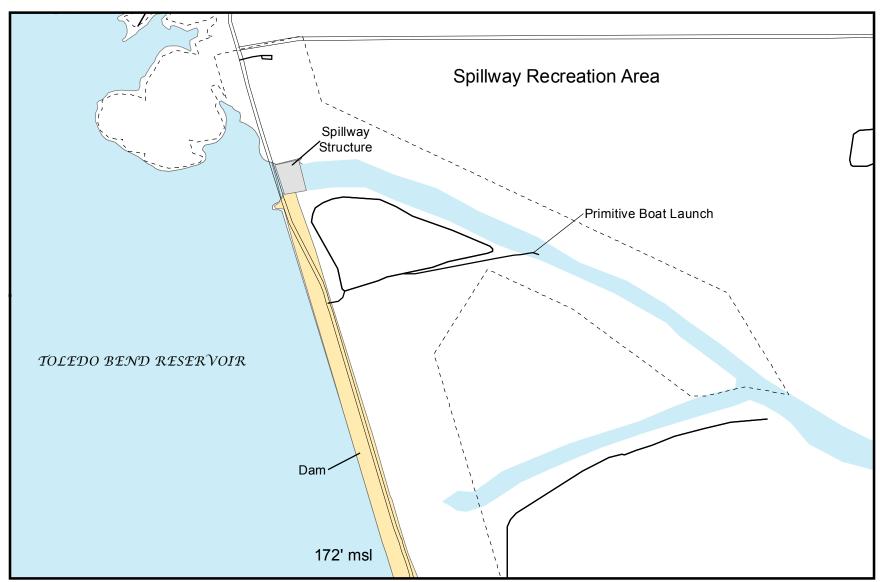


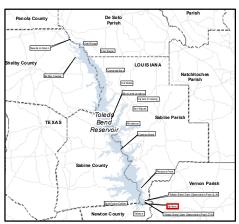
Cow Bayou Wilderness Area

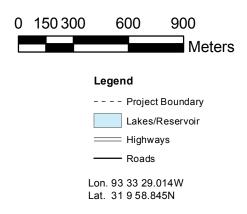
August 2015





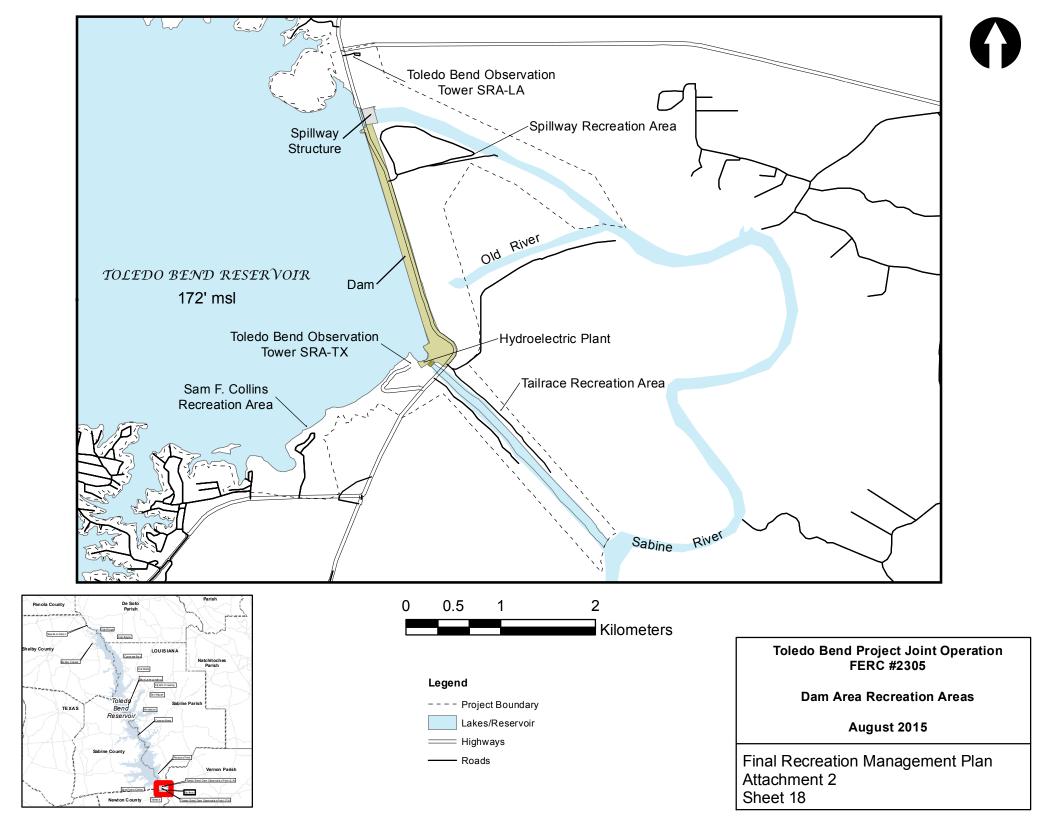






**Spillway Recreation Area** 

August 2015



# ATTACHMENT 3 CONSULTATION RECORD





June 30, 2015

Sabine River Authority

of Texas

Consulting Parties for Review of Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan

RE: Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan under License Article 410, Toledo Bend Project; FERC Project No. 2305

On August 29, 2014, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) issued a new 50-year license to co-licensees Sabine River Authority of Texas (SRA-TX) and Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana (SRA-LA) (collectively, the "Authorities") for the continued operation of the Toledo Bend Project, FERC Project No. 2305 (Project).<sup>1</sup>

License Article 410. Revised Recreation Management Plan (enclosed) requires the Authorities to file a revised Recreation Management Plan within one year of the issuance of the license. Article 410 requires that the revised plan must be developed after consultation with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, American Whitewater, and the Sabine Whitewater Club. To provide for this consultation, the Authorities must allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies and other entities to comment. Pursuant to this license requirement, please provide comments back to me within 30 days from the date of this letter (by July 30, 2015).

If you have any questions regarding this request for consultation, please contact me at (409) 746-2192 or <a href="mailto:ibrown@sratx.org">ibrown@sratx.org</a>.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Brown, TBPJO Compliance Officer

#### Enclosures

- Consultation Distribution List
- Article 410. Revised Recreation Management Plan
- Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan

<sup>-</sup> Sabine River Auth of Texas and Sabine River Auth., State of Louisiana, 148 FERC ₹ 62,171, Order Issuing New License (2014).

## Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project

(FERC Project No. 2305)

## Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan

#### **Consultation Distribution List**

#### U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Liz Agpaoa (via email)

Regional Forester, Southern Region

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

1720 Peachtree Road, NW

Atlanta, GA 30309

lagpaoa@fs.fed.us

Jason Engle (via email)

U.S. Forest Service

111 Walnut Ridge Road

Zavala, TX 75980

jaengle@fs.fed.us

Kimpton Cooper c/o (via email)

Sabine National Forest

5050 Hwy 21 East

Hemphill, TX 7k

kmcooper@fs.fed.us

#### U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Jeffrey D. Weller (via email)

Field Supervisor, Louisiana Ecological Services Office

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

646 Cajundome Boulevard, Suite 400

Lafayette, LA 70506

Jew weller@fws.gov

Arturo J. Vale, III (via email)

17629 El Camino Real

Houston, TX 77058

arturo vale@fws.gov

Seth Bordelon (via email)

646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400

Lafayette, LA 70506

seth bordelon@fws.gov

Jerry W Ziewitz (via email)

**SE Region Conservation Planning** 

10210 Miccosukee Road

Tallahassee, FL 32309

Jerry ziewitz@fws.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Regional Director** 

PO Box 1306

Albuquerque, NM 87102-1306

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Dir., Ecological Services

1875 Century Blvd NE Ste 200

Atlanta, GA 30345-3319

#### TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Kevin Mayes (via email)

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

PO Box 1685

San Marcos, TX 78667-1685

kevin.mayes@tpwd.state.tx.us

**Carter Smith** 

**Executive Director** 

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

4200 Smith School Road

Austin, TX 78744

#### LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Bobby Reed (via email)

Inland Fisheries Senior Technical Advisor

1213 North Lakeshore Drive

Lake Charles, LA 70601

breed@wlf.la.gov

Sean Kinney (via email)

**Biologist Supervisor** 

59952 Highway 191

Anacoco, LA 71403

skinney@wlf.la.gov

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

PO Box 98000

Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

#### LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION AND TOURISM

Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism c/o

Office of Lieutenant Governor Jay Dardenne

**Capitol Annex Building** 

1051 North Third Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

#### AMERICAN WHITEWATER

Kevin Colburn

National Stewardship Director

American Whitewater

2725 Highland Drive

Missoula, MT 59802

Roman Ryder

1601 S. Whispering Woods Dr.

Lake Charles, LA 70605

#### SABINE WHITEWATER CLUB

Sabine Whitewater Club (via email)

Lake Charles, LA

http://www.sabinewhitewater.com

info@sabinewhitewater.com

Article 410. Revised Recreation Management Plan. Within 1 year of license issuance, the licensees must file, for Commission approval, a revision to the proposed Recreation Management Plan filed with the Commission on March 6, 2012. The revised plan must include the following: (1) a comprehensive inventory and descriptions of the 16 identified project recreation facilities listed in ordering paragraph (B)(6) that the licensees manage at the project; (2) brief descriptions and location information for the 12 additional recreation areas (Haley's Ferry, Ragtown Recreation Area, East Hamilton, Indian Mounds Recreation Area, Lakeview Recreation Area, Willow Oak, North Toledo Bend State Park, South Toledo Bend State Park, Joaquin Public Ramp, Yellow Dog Park, Garrett Park, and Frontier Park) that are managed by other federal, state, and local agencies; (3) a detailed discussion of and an implementation schedule for the facility improvements proposed on pages 10-13 of the proposed recreation plan and any additional improvements for the Cow Bayou Wilderness Area, spillway channel area, and tailrace channel area; (4) a spillway channel recreation access plan that: (a) evaluates the physical condition of the spillway channel access site and associated uses to establish baseline conditions and recreational uses; (b) establishes specific safety criteria (either flow releases or associated reservoir levels) that would trigger closure of the site; and (c) provides a protocol for warning recreationists present in the spillway channel before releases occur (e.g., sounding a siren); and (5) a schedule for proposed recreation and visitor survey monitoring reports that would include provisions to file Recreation Management Plan updates every 12 years.

The revised plan must be developed after consultation with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, American Whitewater, and the Sabine Whitewater Club. The licensees must include with the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the consultation list, and a specific description of how comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensees must allow a minimum of 30 days for agencies and other entities to comment before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensees do not adopt a recommendation, the filing must include the licensees' reasons, based on site-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Upon Commission approval, the licensees must implement the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

# SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY, STATE OF LOUISIANA

# DRAFT REVISED TOLEDO BEND PROJECT (FERC No. 2305) RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

DRAFT 6/30/2015

AUGUST 2015

## Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project

(FERC Project No. 2305)

### Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan

#### **Consultation Distribution List**

#### U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Liz Agpaoa (via email)

Regional Forester, Southern Region

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

1720 Peachtree Road, NW

Atlanta, GA 30309

lagpaoa@fs.fed.us

Jason Engle (via email)

**U.S. Forest Service** 

111 Walnut Ridge Road

Zavala, TX 75980

jaengle@fs.fed.us

Kimpton Cooper c/o (via email)

Sabine National Forest

5050 Hwy 21 East

Hemphill, TX 7k

kmcooper@fs.fed.us

## U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Jeffrey D. Weller (via email)

Field Supervisor, Louisiana Ecological Services Office

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

646 Cajundome Boulevard, Suite 400

Lafayette, LA 70506

Jew weller@fws.gov

Arturo J. Vale, III (via email)

17629 El Camino Real

Houston, TX 77058

arturo vale@fws.gov

Seth Bordelon (via email)

646 Cajundome Blvd., Suite 400

Lafayette, LA 70506

seth bordelon@fws.gov

Jerry W Ziewitz (via email)

**SE Region Conservation Planning** 

10210 Miccosukee Road

Tallahassee, FL 32309

Jerry ziewitz@fws.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Regional Director** 

PO Box 1306

Albuquerque, NM 87102-1306

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Dir., Ecological Services

1875 Century Blvd NE Ste 200

Atlanta, GA 30345-3319

## TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Kevin Mayes (via email)

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

PO Box 1685

San Marcos, TX 78667-1685

kevin.mayes@tpwd.state.tx.us

**Carter Smith** 

**Executive Director** 

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

4200 Smith School Road

Austin, TX 78744

## LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Bobby Reed (via email)

Inland Fisheries Senior Technical Advisor

1213 North Lakeshore Drive

Lake Charles, LA 70601

breed@wlf.la.gov

Sean Kinney (via email)

**Biologist Supervisor** 

59952 Highway 191

Anacoco, LA 71403

skinney@wlf.la.gov

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

PO Box 98000

Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

## LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION AND TOURISM

Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism c/o

Office of Lieutenant Governor Jay Dardenne

**Capitol Annex Building** 

1051 North Third Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

## AMERICAN WHITEWATER

Kevin Colburn

National Stewardship Director

American Whitewater

2725 Highland Drive

Missoula, MT 59802

Roman Ryder

1601 S. Whispering Woods Dr.

Lake Charles, LA 70605

## SABINE WHITEWATER CLUB

Sabine Whitewater Club (via email)

Lake Charles, LA

http://www.sabinewhitewater.com

info@sabinewhitewater.com

From: <u>Jim Brown</u>

To: A. J. Vale (arturo\_vale@fws.gov); Jason Engle (jaengle@fs.fed.us); Jeffrey D. Weller (jeff\_weller@fws.gov); Jerry

Ziewitz (Jerry Ziewitz@fws.gov); Kevin Mayes (kevin.mayes@tpwd.state.tx.us); Kimpton Cooper

(kmcooper@fs.fed.us); Liz Agpaoa (lagpaoa@fs.fed.us); Reed, Bobby (breed@wlf.la.gov); Sabine Whitewater

(info@sabinewhitewater.com); Sean Kinney; Seth Bordelon (seth\_bordelon@fws.gov)

Cc: carl.chance@la.gov; "Kellie Ferguson"; "twilliams@sratx.org"; "Bill Hughes (bhughes@sratx.org)"

Subject: Request for consultation and comments on TBPJO Revised Recreation Management Plan

**Date:** Tuesday, June 30, 2015 8:08:00 AM

Attachments: TBPJO Revised RMP for Consultation Distribution.pdf

Consulting Parties for Review of Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan,

Please find attached our request to review and comment on the revised Recreation Management Plan, pursuant to the consultation requirements of Article 410 of the license for the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project, FERC #2305.

Thank you very much,

Jim Brown TBPJO Compliance Officer

Sabine River Authority of Texas P.O. Box 579 Orange, TX 77631-0579 409-746-2192 409-746-9695 (Fax) www.sratx.org

jbrown@sratx.org

## Jim Brown

From:

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	Vale, Arturo <arturo_vale@fws.gov> Wednesday, July 22, 2015 3:34 PM jbrown@sratx.org John Botros; Christopher Chapa Re: Request for consultation and comments on TBPJO Revised Recreation Management Plan</arturo_vale@fws.gov>
Jim,	
Thank you for the opportu and Wildlife Service has r	unity to comment on the Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan. The U.S. Fish no comments on the plan.
On Tue, Jun 30, 2015 at 8	::13 AM, Jim Brown < <u>jbrown@sratx.org</u> > wrote:
Consulting Parties for Re	eview of Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan,
	request to review and comment on the revised Recreation Management Plan, pursuant rements of Article 410 of the license for the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project, FERC
Thank you very much,	
Jim Brown	
TBPJO Compliance Offi	cer
Sabine River Authority of	of Texas
P.O. Box 579	
Orange, TX 77631-0579	
409-746-2192	
409-746-9695 (Fax)	
www.sratx.org	
jbrown@sratx.org	

--

A.J. Vale U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fish and Wildlife Biologist 17629 El Camino Real Houston, TX 77058 281-286-8282 ext. 223 fax. 281-481-5882

### Jim Brown

From: John Botros < John.Botros@tpwd.texas.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2015 2:41 PM

**To:** jbrown@sratx.org

Cc: Stephan Magnelia; Kevin Mayes; Timothy Birdsong; Colette Barron Bradsby; Spencer

Dumont; Dave Terre; Todd Driscoll; A.J. Vale

**Subject:** RE: Request for consultation and comments on TBPJO Revised Recreation

Management Plan

Attachments: TPWD comments - TBPJO Recreational Management Plan 07-30-2015.pdf

Jim,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan for the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project. Please see the attached letter with our comments.

Best,

John Botros Aquatic Biologist TPWD – Inland Fisheries River Studies Program PO Box 1685 San Marcos, TX 78667 (512) 754-6844 x258



Life's better outside."

From: Jim Brown [mailto:jbrown@sratx.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2015 8:14 AM

To: A. J. Vale; Jason Engle; Jeffrey D. Weller; Jerry Ziewitz; Kevin Mayes; Kimpton Cooper; Liz Agpaoa; Reed, Bobby;

Sabine Whitewater; Sean Kinney; Seth Bordelon

Cc: carl.chance@la.gov; 'Kellie Ferguson'; twilliams@sratx.org; 'Bill Hughes'

Subject: Request for consultation and comments on TBPJO Revised Recreation Management Plan

Consulting Parties for Review of Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan,

Please find attached our request to review and comment on the revised Recreation Management Plan, pursuant to the consultation requirements of Article 410 of the license for the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project, FERC #2305.

Thank you very much,

Jim Brown
TBPJO Compliance Officer

Sabine River Authority of Texas P.O. Box 579

Orange, TX 77631-0579 409-746-2192 409-746-9695 (Fax) www.sratx.org jbrown@sratx.org



Life's better outside."

July 30, 2015

Mr. Jim Brown, TBPJO Compliance Officer Sabine River Authority of Texas P.O. Box 579 Orange, Texas 77631-0579

Commissioners

Dan Allen Hughes, Jr. Chairman Beeville

> Ralph H. Duggins Vice-Chairman Fort Worth

T. Dan Friedkin Chairman-Emeritus Houston

> Bill Jones Austin

James H. Lee Houston

Margaret Martin Boerne

S. Reed Morian Houston

> Dick Scott Wimberley

Lee M. Bass Chairman-Emeritus Fort Worth

Carter P. Smith Executive Director Re: TPWD COMMENTS – Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan for the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2305

Dear Mr. Brown,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan (RMP or Plan) prepared for the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project (Project) as per Article 410 of License No. 2305 issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is the state agency charged with the primary responsibility for protecting the state's fish and wildlife resources, providing outdoor recreation opportunities and making recommendations to local, state, and federal agencies that approve, permit, license, or construct developmental projects. We respectfully submit the following comments and recommendations regarding the proposed RMP.

Inventory of Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities (TBRFs): The RMP provides a description of features and amenities at facilities within the Project boundary, and it indicates that existing TBRFs are meeting current demand and needs of many types of users. The Plan also states that existing TBRFs are sufficient to meet future demand without the need for expansion or land acquisition over the term of the new license.

TPWD has the following questions regarding the TBRF inventory: What is the parking capacity at each of TBRFs with a boat launch/ramp? Is the current parking capacity at each of the facilities adequate to support both boating and non-boating users during peak seasons? Please evaluate the adequacy of current parking capacities and include this information in the RMP.

Furthermore, please include in the RMP which, if any, TBRFs with boat launches/ramps may be adversely affected when the reservoir elevation is within its normal hydropower operating range of 168 and 172 feet above mean sea level (msl) and at 162.2 msl. What proportion of boat launches are stranded (unavailable to launch a boat) at these reservoir levels? How recreational access will be addressed during times of drought is a component of the FERC required Drought Contingency Plan to be developed by the Authorities; please add a statement in the RMP to explain the relationship between the two plans.

Capital Improvements: Section 3.4 of the RMP states that no capital improvements are needed and the Authorities will consider potential future capital improvements during annual inspections and other planning efforts. TPWD would point out that there is no facility to adequately support large events (i.e., the type of facility that can handle large tournaments) on the Texas side of the reservoir. Bass fishing tournaments at Toledo Bend contribute substantially to the local economy, with potential for an even larger economic and recreational benefit if a large-event public facility was available on the Texas side. The only such facility on Toledo Bend is Cypress Bend, a Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana

facility built to accommodate tournaments; out of necessity, all large tournaments use this facility. The usage information provided in the RMP clearly shows how important the Cypress Bend facility is to recreation at Toledo Bend. Although such a capital improvement may not be considered feasible for this version of the RMP, TPWD hopes that such a facility may be considered in future plans for capital improvements.

Recreational use monitoring: The RMP proposes to monitor recreational activity at the TBRFs. The Plan states that the Authorities will collect and submit to FERC use estimates annually as well as conduct more intensive visitor surveys every 12 years to determine use, satisfaction level, and facility needs. In addition to consultation for preparation of recreation use reports, we request the Authorities consult TPWD when developing the 12-year visitor use survey questionnaire. The 12-year visitor use surveys should include questions to determine visitor use by activity, i.e., fishing, boating, camping, birding, etc.. Please provide information in the RMP as to how the Plan intends to address future TBRF needs based on 12-year visitor survey results and whether the survey will address recreational use in the tailrace and spillway channels, or the Sabine River downstream.

**Spillway Channel Recreation Plan**: The RMP discusses baseline conditions, recreational opportunities, safety criteria and warning protocol for the spillway channel. Please develop and include an analogous section in the RMP for the tailrace channel.

Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities Map: Please improve the TBRF map included in Attachment 1 of the RMP. Specifically, we recommend a map clearly depicting the connections of the spillway and tailrace channels to each other and the Sabine River downstream.

TPWD appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Recreation Management Plan, and we look forward to further participation as the project moves into implementation and monitoring.

Sincerely,

John Botros

Hydropower Coordinator, Inland Fisheries

### Jim Brown

Bobby Reed < breed@wlf.la.gov> From: Thursday, July 30, 2015 4:54 PM Sent:

To: 'jbrown@sratx.org'

RE: Request for consultation and comments on TBPJO Revised Recreation Management Subject:

Attachments: TBPJO Revised RMP for Consultation Distribution-LDWF comments.pdf

Jim.

The Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan with LDWF comments is attached. Thanks for the opportunity to review.

## **Bobby Reed**

Inland Fisheries Senior Advisor Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries 1213 North Lakeshore Drive Lake Charles, LA 70601 337-488-3039 breed@wlf.la.gov



**From:** Jim Brown [mailto:jbrown@sratx.org] Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2015 8:14 AM

To: A. J. Vale; Jason Engle; Jeffrey D. Weller; Jerry Ziewitz; Kevin Mayes; Kimpton Cooper; Liz Agpaoa; Bobby Reed;

Sabine Whitewater; Sean Kinney; Seth Bordelon

Cc: Carl Chance; Kellie Ferguson; twilliams@sratx.org; 'Bill Hughes'

Subject: Request for consultation and comments on TBPJO Revised Recreation Management Plan

Consulting Parties for Review of Draft Revised Recreation Management Plan,

Please find attached our request to review and comment on the revised Recreation Management Plan, pursuant to the consultation requirements of Article 410 of the license for the Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project, FERC #2305.

Thank you very much,

Jim Brown TBPJO Compliance Officer

Sabine River Authority of Texas P.O. Box 579 Orange, TX 77631-0579 409-746-2192 409-746-9695 (Fax) www.sratx.org jbrown@sratx.org

Recreation Facility	Fee	Owner/Manager	Featured Amenities
Tailrace channel area	No	SRA-LA and SRA-TX	primitive small boat launch, trashcans, parking
Spillway channel area	No	SRA-LA and SRA-TX	primitive small boat launch, trashcans, parking

### 2.1 TOLEDO BEND RECREATION FACILITIES USE LEVELS

The TBRFs include overnight earnping, picnicking, and a variety of other recreation opportunities. Recreation activities in the Project Area (or area within the FERC Project Boundary) are numerous and varied and include, but are not limited to camping, fishing, boating, swimming, hiking picnicking, and sightseeing.

There is a spectrum of recreation opportunities provided along the shoreline of Toledo Bend Reservoir. For example, a visitor may select an overnight experience that ranges from primitive camping in undeveloped sites; camping in a recreational vehicle (RV) with full electrical, water and sewer services; or renting a cabin with equipped kitchen and hotel-level services, such as satellite television.

Based on information collected in 2010, Table 2.1-1 summarizes the breakdown of annual recreation use at the Project recreation facilities.

TABLE 2.1-1
2010 DAY-USE RECREATION ESTIMATES FOR THE TOLEDO BEND PROJECT
RECREATION FACILITIES IN RECREATION DAYS<sup>2</sup>

Recreation Site <sup>2</sup>	Weekends and Holidays	Weekdays	Total RD	
Swede Johnson Recreation Area	5,746	7,173	12,919	
Oak Ridge Park	4,082	7,173	11,255	
Bubba Cowser Recreation Area	1,310	5,617	6,927	
Converse Bay Recreation Area	1,966	8,777	10,743	
Hot Wells Recreation Area	655	702	1,357	
Clyde's Crossing Recreation Area	1,893	3,160	5,053	
San Miguel Park	4,460	8,880	13,340	
Pendleton Park	728	2,984	3,712	
Cypress Bend Park	14,213	21,347	35,560	
Pleasure Point Park	13,532	15,711	29,243	
TB Observation Towers	1,512	2,391	3,903	
Sam Forse Collins Recreation Area	4,536	9,905	14,441	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Recreation days (RD) were calculated by determining average number of people per car (calculated by dividing average number of people per group (5.3) by average number of vehicles per group (2.1) as obtained from the visitor survey) and multiplied by average number of vehicles per site then multiplied by turnover (calculated by dividing average length of stay (4.4 hours) as

FINAL AUGUST 2015 TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

### Page: 19

	Subject: Sticky Note		
Last I heard they	had incorporated a bi	ting trail into the area around Cypress Bend	d. I don't see that included.
Author: skinney	Subject: Highlight	Date: 6/30/2015 2:31:42 PM	
Author: skinney	Subject: Highlight	Date: 6/30/2015 2:31:45 PM	

An RD is defined as each visit by a person to a development for recreation purposes during any portion of a 24-hour period (as defined in the Glossary of FERC Form 80 Terms, 2009).

3.1 Recreation Facility Operational Maintenance, Section 3.2 Recreation Facility Rehabilitation, 3.3 Scheduling Major Recreation Facility Rehabilitation, and 3.4 Capital Improvements.

As a benchmark for rehabilitation and capital improvements over the term of the new license, site plans for each of the TBRFs are presented in Attachment 2. The existing site plan can be used as an over-all master plan for maintenance, modification, and adaptation to the changing needs of the recreating public and the physical environment.

#### 3.1 RECREATION FACILITY OPERATIONAL MAINTENANCE

Each Authority is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the TBRFs under its jurisdiction. With the exception of the Toledo Bend Observation Towers, SRA-LA operates and maintains all TBRFs within Louisiana, and SRA-TX operates and maintains all TBRFs within Texas. The Authorities jointly operate and maintain the Toledo Bend Observation Towers, Tailrace Channel Area, and Spillway Channel Area. The appropriate Authority may contract with concessionaires for the administration, operation, and maintenance of the TBRFs under its jurisdiction.

Operational maintenance activities keep permanent assets in an acceptable condition and include repairs, painting, replacement of minor parts and minor structural components. Operational maintenance excludes activities aimed at expanding the capacity of an asset or otherwise upgrading it to serve needs different from, or significantly greater than those originally intended. The work serves to keep the facility in an ordinary, efficient operating condition. Operational maintenance does not require prior FERC approval or agency consultation.

Examples of regular or routine operational maintenance activities include, but are not limited to interior painting, repair of broken windows, light bulb replacement, cleaning, unplugging drains, greasing, servicing, inspecting, oiling, adjusting, rightening, aligning, and sweeping. Maintenance activities may include work needed to meet applicable laws, regulations, and codes (such as compliance with the ADA) as long as the original intent or purpose of the fixed asset is not changed.

The operational maintenance activities to be carried out at the TBRFs include the activities listed below. The Authorities may perform these activities themselves or contract for the necessary personnel, equipment, and/or materials.

#### 3.1.1 ACCESS ROADS AND PAVEMENT

Roads and pavement will be maintained in good, passable condition. If a road is deemed unsafe for public passage, the road will be closed until the repair is completed. Road conditions will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

## 3.1.2 BOAT RAMPS AND DOCKS

The developed boat ramp surfaces will be kept in good, functional condition, and reasonably free of debris. Boat dock surfaces, hardware and other components (bumper strips, cleats, railings,

FINAL AUGUST 2015 TOLPDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

### Page: 34

Author: breed	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 7/30/2015 4:44:18 PM	
Boat docks/moor	ing wharves need tire bum	pers to avoid damaging boats.	
T Author: breed	Subject: Highlight Date	: 7/30/2015 4:44:33 PM	

etc.) will be maintained to provide safe and effective use. Boat ramps will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.1.3 PICNIC AND CAMP SITES

Picnic and camp sites will be maintained in a clean state, free of damage and varidalism. Tables will be sturdy and functional. Grills and fire rings will be in good, functional condition. Fire rings will be routinely cleared of litter, ashes, and inhumed material. Picnic and camp sites will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning. ADA improvements will be made when major campsite replacements are warranted.

## 3.1.4 RESTROOMS

Structures will be sanitary and maintained in good repair. If a structure is deemed in need of repair, it may be closed until repairs are completed. Walkways and access routes to structures will be kept reasonably free of obstructions or excess vegetation. Vault restrooms and portable toilets will be pumped as necessary to maintain sanitary conditions. Restrooms will be inspected on a weekly basis and more frequently if a problem call is received. If problems are noted plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.1.5 SIGNS, INFORMATION KIOSKS, BULLETIN BOARDS, AND FEE STATIONS

Information kiosks and boards will look professional, uncluttered, and contain appropriate current/seasonal information. Signage will be inspected on a weekly basis and implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.1.6 LITTER AND TRASH COLLECTION

Trash containers will be kept clean and emptied routinely so that garbage does not exceed the capacity of the containers. TBRFs will be maintained free of litter.

#### 3.1.7 UTILITIES

All utilities (e.g., water, wastewater, electrical) will be maintained in good working condition, and replaced as needed.

### 3.1.8 BUILDINGS AND OTHER STRUCTURES

Structures will be kept clean and maintained in good repair. If a structure is deemed in need of repair, it may be closed until repairs are completed. Walkways and access routes to structures will be kept free of obstructions or excess vegetation.

FINAL AUGUST 2015 TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

### Page: 35

Author: skinney Subject: Highlight Date: 7/8/2015 7:49:07 AM

Author: skinney Subject: Sticky Note Date: 7/8/2015 7:51:31 AM

There are several parks that are need of restrooms since there are none there. This would help keep unwanted bacteria out of the local drinking water supply.

### 3.1.9 PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The Authorities will inform the public of the recreation opportunities available at the TBRFs through the publication and distribution of brochures, the maintenance of information on an internet website, or other appropriate means. Communication media may evolve overtime, and the Authorities may revise the manner in which information about the TBRFs is made available to the public.

#### 3.2 RECREATION FACILITY REHABILITATION

This section identifies how the Authorities will rehabilitate and replace existing Project recreation facilities

Each Authority will be responsible for necessary and appropriate major rehabilitation (or replacement) at the TBRFs within its jurisdiction. The rehabilitation will be completed in accordance with the state's applicable accessibility requirements when undertaking rehabilitation and replacement of TBRFs. Except as may be provided in the Authorities' FERC-approved Historic Properties Management Plan, major rehabilitation does not require prior FERC approval or agency consultation.

#### 3.2.1 ROADS, PARKING AREAS AND CAMPGROUND VEHICLE SPURS

As needed, the appropriate Authority will rehabilitate existing roads and parking areas within the facility, in addition to campground vehicle spurs at each facility, as determined by a paving condition inspection. Specifically, inspections may identify the need for the following actions:

- Resurface and re-stripe parking areas where existing parking areas are present, including other maintenance in the parking area.
- Resurface all campground circulation roads.
- At unpaved, gravel parking areas, re-grade and clear the parking area and re-install vehicle barriers, as needed.
- · Resurface or overlay (asphalt) all camp sites spurs that are currently paved.

Rehabilitation of roads, parking areas and vehicle spurs will occur on a site-by-site basis at the TBRFs. Roads, parking areas and vehicle spurs will be scheduled for rehabilitation near the end of their useful life. If problems are noted during inspections, plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

#### 3.2.2 BOAT LAUNCHES: FLOATING BOAT DOCKS AND CONCRETE BOAT LAUNCHES

At each boat launch facility, the Authorities will replace existing floating boat docks and piers and concrete launch ramp with similar structures as needed. If problems are noted during inspections, plans will be made to implement a specific schedule for repairs or reconditioning.

FINAL AUGUST 2015 TOLEDO BEND PROJECT RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

### Page: 36

Author: skinney Subject: Highlight Date: 7/8/2015 8:40:03 AM

Author: skinney Subject: Sticky Note Date: 7/8/2015 9:01:44 AM

Improved advance notice to the public is needed for closures in the parks (example: beaches, boat ramps, bathrooms). A couple of examples for improvement include closure of the spillway road on the website and on the recording kept at the dam office (337-286-5253).

#### 3.2.7.3 SPILLWAY CHANNEL AREA (SRA-LA)

The Authorities will maintain canoe and kayak launch access below the spillway when the spillway channel area is not closed due to spillway releases or possible pending releases (see Section 6.2. Spillway Channel Recreation Access Plan, Safety Criteria, below). The Authorities will continue to maintain the primitive boat ramp.

#### 3.3 SCHEDULING MAJOR RECREATION FACILITY REHABILITATION

No major recreation facility rehabilitation is proposed at this time.

#### 3.3.1 Annual Facility Inspection & Prioritized List of Items to Rehabilitate

The current condition of each TBRF will be evaluated during an annual inspection. TBRFs that may require major rehabilitation will be identified based on this evaluation. Such projects may include complete resurfacing or widening of facility roads, replacement of the underground water system, replacement of restrooms, or any combination of major rehabilitation work that may require extensive planning, contracting, and implementation.

An internal Annual Rehabilitation Report will be developed that includes a prioritized list and a proposed schedule for rehabilitation or replacement of Project recreation facilities for the upcoming year, and a summary of facilities that pay require additional planning for major rehabilitation or capital improvement work that will occur beyond the current year/season. Annual Rehabilitation reports will be maintained on file for a period of at least five (5) years.

### 3.4 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Based on the results of the relicensing study, no capital improvements are warranted. Existing capacity at TBRFs far exceeds current demand. The Authorities will consider the need for future capital improvements during annual inspections and other planning efforts.

#### 4.0 RECREATION MONITORING PROGRAM

The Recreation Monitoring Program is designed to measure recreation use levels, recreation use impacts, visitor tolerances for impacts (crowding, conflict, use impacts, facility conditions, etc.) and management actions that may be used to address identified "impact problems." Combined, this information will allow managers to determine if the RMP's primary goal is being achieved.

The Recreation Monitoring Program defines the Authorities' intended recreation-related monitoring activities at the Project over the term of the new license. The program defines the Authorities' role in collecting and analyzing recreation data, and proposes how the data might be used to help make decisions about recreation management and capital facility improvements at the Project.

As described below, the Authorities will collect basic recreation use data every year beginning in the year following FERC approval of this RMP (expected in 2015; monitoring will begin in 2016

Final August 2015 Tourdo Bend Project Recreation Management Plan

### Page: 38

Author: breed Subject: Highlight Date: 7/30/2015 4:30:07 PM

Author: breed Subject: Sticky Note Date: 7/30/2015 4:41:43 PM

1. My main comment is to add more restroom facilities and fishing piers at SRA parks that currently have none.

## TBPJO

### FERC No. 2305

# Revised Recreation Management Plan Comments and Responses to Comments

Comment No.	Stakeholder	Date Context	Comment	Response to Comment
	1 LDWF	7/30/2016 2.1 Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities Use Levels		American Liberty Hospitality (resort management firm) and Cypress Bend Resort have removed the bike trail from their advertisements. The trail has been underutilized and not maintained properly. No change was made to the draft Revised RMP in response to this comment.
	2 LDWF	7/30/2016 3.1.2 Boat Ramps and Docks	Boat docks/mooring wharves need tire bumpers to avoid damaging boats.	SRA-LA does not use old tires for bumpers. They recently put new boards on the pier at Cypress Bend and will replace the old bumpers. The individual vessel owner should take a certain amount of responsibility for the care of his boat (e.g. carry throw over bumpers). No change was made to the draft Revised RMP in response to this comment.
	3 LDWF	7/30/2016 3.1.4 Restrooms	There are several parks that are in need of restrooms since there are none there. This would help with unwanted bacteria out of the local drinking water supply.	the SRA-LA maintains 12 restrooms at 5 recreational facilities. These 5 facilities are all manned and cleaning and maintenance is done daily. SRA-LA has found it difficult to maintain and keep clean restrooms at remote boat launches due to vandalism. No change was made to the draft Revised RMP in response to this comment.
	4 LDWF	7/30/2016 3.1.9 Public Notification	Improved advance notice to the public is needed for closures in the parks (example: beaches, boat ramps, bathrooms). A couple of examples for improvement: include closure of the spillway road on the website and on the recording kept at the dam office (337-286-5253).	access to the spillway recreation area is always closed when we are spilling water. Therefore anyone wanting to find out if
	5 LDWF	7/30/2016 3.4 Capital Improvements	Main comment is to add more restroom facilities and fishing piers at SRA parks that currently have none.	Bathrooms are addressed in the response to comments on Section 3.1.4, above. SRA-LA maintains fishing piers across the entire spectrum of Toledo Bend from north to south, specifically at Pleasure Point, Cypress Bend, Pendleton, San Patricio, and Clyde's Crossing. There is a boathouse at San Miguel that has heavy use for fishing. A possible fishing pier is in the capital improvement plans for Oak Ridge.
	6 TPWD	7/30/2015 Inventory of Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities (TBRFs)	What is the parking capacity at each of the facilities adequate to support both boating and non-boating users during peak seasons? Please evaluate the adequacy of current parking capacities and include this information in the RMP.	This comment is addressed in Section 2.4 Recreation Facility Boat Parking Capacity, which was added to the Draft Revised RMP.
	7 TPWD	7/30/2015 Inventory of Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities (TBRFs)	Please include in the RMP which, if any, TBRFs with boat launches/ramps may be adversely affected when the reservoir elevation is within its normal hydropower operating range of 168 and 172 feet above mean sea level (msl) and at 162.2 msl. What proportion of boat launches are stranded (unavailable to launch a boat) at these reservoir levels? How recreational access will be addressed during times of drought is a component of the FERC required Drought Contingency Plan to be developed by the Authorities; please add a statement in the RMP to explain the relationship between the two plans.	This comment is addressed in Section 2.3 Recreation Facility Boat Launch Accessibility, which was added to the Draft Revised RMP.
	8 TPWD	7/30/2015 Capital Improvements	TPWD would point out that there is no facility to adequately support large events (i.e., the type of facility that can handle large tournaments) on the Texas side of the reservoir. Bass fishing tournaments at Toledo Bend contribute substantially to the local economy, with potential for an even larger economic and recreational benefit if a largo-event public facility was available on the Texas side. The only such facility on Toledo Bend is Cypress Bend, a Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana facility built to accommodate tournaments; out of necessity, all large tournaments use this facility. The usage information provided in the RMP clearly shows how important the Cypress Bend facility is to recreation at Toledo Bend. Although such a capital improvement may not be considered feasible for this version of the RMP, TPWD hopes that such a facility may be considered in future plans for capital improvements.	changes was made to the draft Revised RMP in response to this comment.
	9 TPWD	7/30/2015 Recreational use monitoring	In addition to consultation for preparation of recreation use reports, we request the Authorities consult TPWD when developing the 12-year visitor use survey questionnaire. The 12-year visitor use surveys should include questions to determine visitor use by activity, i.e., fishing, boating, camping, birding, etc Please provide information in the RMP as to how the Plan intends to address future TBRF needs based on 12-year visitor survey results and whether the survey will address recreational use in the tailrace and spillway channels, or the Sabine River downstream.	This comment is addressed with edits to Section 5.2 Visitor Survey Report.

## TBPJO

FERC No. 2305

Revised Recreation Management Plan Comments and Responses to Comments

Comment No.	Stakeholder	Date	Context	Comment	Response to Comment
	10 TPWD	7/30/201	5 Spillway Channel Recreation Plan	The RMP discusses baseline conditions, recreational opportunities, safety criteria and warning protocol for the spillway channel. Please develop and include an analogous section in the RMP for the tailrace channel.	This comment is addressed in Section 7.0 Tailrace Channel Recreation Access Plan, which was added to the Draft Revised RMP.
	11 TPWD	7/30/201	5 Toledo Bend Recreation Facilities Map	Please improve the TBRF map included in Attachment I of the RMP. Specifically, we recommend a map clearly depicting the connections of the spillway and tailrace channels to each other and the Sabine River downstream.	, , ,