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TO: Gary Miller, Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region VI

FROM: Barry Forsythe, Ph.D., Technical Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

DATE: 13 June 2005

RE: Site visit trip report, Gulfco Marine Maintenance Site

Personnel from the Clear Lake, TX Ecological Services Field Office and myself visited the Gulfco Marine Site, Freeport, TX on April 21, 2005. Our intentions were to assess the habitat in and around the Site, photodocument such habitat and other observations, and mark via GPS landmarks/observations.

Initially we viewed the site, via boat, from the Freeport Channel and continued around to the north of the site in the oxbow. Shoreline habitat was limited along the Freeport Channel, where associated with the Site. The marsh and aquatic habitat was extensive along the oxbow that bounds the northern portion of the Site. Many wading birds were observed hunting in this area, along with oyster reefs, redfish, and many other baitfish species. Drainage from the northern portion of the Site would definitely reach this marsh/oxbow habitat. Various drainage points were observed on the southern portion of the Site that would be considered migration pathways from the Site to the Freeport Channel. The terrestrial portions of the site appeared to be represented by high marsh. The concrete secondary containment remaining onsite was full of water with as little as 6 inches of freeboard remaining. It was also noted that various cracks were seeping in the containment walls. Several drums, contents unknown, were within the containment and in various states of decomposition. The ground on the southern portion of the site was littered with demolition debris and paint chips. Gulls and skimmers were observed loafing near one of the boat slips. One bird's skeletal remains were observed near site #5.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me via phone or email.

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Table 1. Observations associated with Gulfco Marine Maintenance Site visit by USFWS personnel. Site numbers and lat./long. are associated with Figures 1 and 2.

Site Number	Lat./Long.	Comment
1	N 28° 58.464′ W 095° 17.397′	Point approximately 40' inland from upland shoreline/fringe marsh within a man-made channel leading from extensive marsh situated between site and waterway occurring to the north (oxbow). This channel is a major drainage pathway (D/P) connecting site and adjacent marsh to oxbow leading to Freeport Channel.
2	N 28° 58.472′ W 095° 17.407′	Point at immediate upland shoreline where above-mentioned channel enters into oxbow/fringe marsh.
3	N 28° 58.488′ W 095° 17.371′	Second major D/P leading from extensive marshland situated between site and oxbow, and east of major D/P mentioned in #1. Point taken at metal post (reference point) located approximately 50' inland from adjacent shoreline.
4	N 28° 58.525′ W 095° 17.327′	Point east of #3, representing easternmost side of abovementioned D/P.
5	N 28° 57.988′ W 095° 17.256′	D/P on south shoreline of site leading from upland areas into Freeport Channel and located near concrete containment area.
6	N 28° 57.987′ W 095° 17.249′	Second D/P on south shoreline slightly east of #5 where Portland cement dam was observed.
7	N 28° 58.008′ W 095° 17.216′	Additional D/P on south shoreline near concrete slab.
8	N 28° 58.009′ W 095° 17.205′	Additional D/P at west end of bulkhead facing Freeport Channel.
9	N 28° 58.041′ W 095° 17.158′	D/P at culvert leading from southeast corner of site into Freeport Channel. Receives runoff from eastern portion of site.
10	N 28° 58.159′ W 095° 17.342′	D/P from upland area (site tract located north of dividing paved road) into excavated pond near southeast corner.
11	N 28° 58.132′ W 095° 17.359′	Southernmost PVC screen pipe occurring in suspected waste pit area immediately adjacent to excavated pond.

Site Number	Lat./Long.	Comment
12	N 28° 58.154′ W 095° 17.375′	Northernmost PVC screen pipe at abovementioned area.
13	N 28° 58.170′ W 095° 17.401′	Point at or near north property line where D/P connects suspected waste pit with extensive marshland occurring between site and oxbow to north.
14	N 28° 58.118′ W 095° 17.459′	Point at estimated property line being northwest of ramp dry dock (on south side of dividing paved road) within D/P leading from site's north tract to extensive marshland situated north of site and dominant D/P from site to oxbow.
15	N 28° 58.040′ W 095° 17.457′	D/P on west side of site (north tract) leading to offsite runoff area west of site.
16	N 28° 57.982′ W 095° 17.416′	Road ditch at northwest corner of south tract adjacent to paved road dividing south tract from north tract.
17	N 28° 58.090′ W 095° 17.290′	Culvert from road ditch leading to north tract under paved road.

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