Gutierrez, Raul

From: Pitre, John - NRCS, Alexandria, LA <john.pitre@la.usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 2:06 PM
To: Farabee, Jacqueline R MVN; Balkum, Kyle; Bordelon, Seth; Cheatwood, Twyla; Davis, Dawn - NOAA Federal; Gutierrez, Raul; Hartman, Richard; Fontenot, Alison; Mallach, Troy - NRCS, Lafayette, LA; Marceaux, Josh; Maryman, Joe; Pecquet, Sharon; Templet, Kelley; Weigel, Matt; Williams, Patrick; Zumo, Stephanie
Subject: RE: GDE Exhibit 9 as presented to the Corps

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Certainly a controversial topic for several reasons un-related to wetland mitigation. I'm not sure I agree that a high fence or any fence for that matter (especially for a substantial distance) can be maintained to exclude feral swine and coyotes. Topics like genetic flow, impacts to surrounding areas, fair chase hunting, and mortality caused by the fence often are debated but I'm not sure the relation to an IRT recommendation. I do not agree removal of the high fence would cause the area to "quickly and completely be degraded by hogs, coyotes, and poachers".

Post Rapanos /Carabell case law provides guidance for CWA jurisdiction and a site specific question might be; Is the fence (or management of the fence, in any way) impacting the apparent connection to the adjacent waters of the US/wetlands? Other questions relating to soil, plant, and hydrology management since animal stocking is being controlled; Is the fence effecting ingress/egress of species that have impact on the wetland functions? Are exotic species in the enclosure or planned to ever be there? Is there documentation of forage/browse inventory, animal/forage budget, monitoring plan, and contingency plans as commonly required to achieve prescribed grazing?

-----Original Message-----
From: Farabee, Jacqueline R MVN [mailto:Jacqueline.R.Farabee@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 1:05 PM
To: Balkum, Kyle <kbalkum@wlf.la.gov>; Bordelon, Seth <seth_bordelon@fws.gov>; Cheatwood, Twyla <twyla.cheatwood@noaa.gov>; Davis, Dawn - NOAA Federal <dawn.davis@noaa.gov>; Gutierrez, Raul <Gutierrez.raul@epa.gov>; Hartman, Richard <Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov>; Kitto, Alison <kitto.alison@epa.gov>; Mallach, Troy - NRCS, Lafayette, LA <Troy.Mallach@la.usda.gov>; Marceaux, Josh <joshua_marceaux@fws.gov>; Maryman, Joe <jmaryman@wlf.la.gov>; Pecquet, Sharon <Sharon.pecquet@la.gov>; Pitre, John - NRCS, Alexandria, LA <john.pitre@la.usda.gov>; Templet, Kelley <Kelley.templet@la.gov>; Weigel, Matt <mweigel@wlf.la.gov>; Williams, Patrick <patrick.williams@noaa.gov>; Zumo, Stephanie <Stephanie.zumo@la.gov>
Subject: GDE Exhibit 9 as presented to the Corps

IRT Members:

Attached is a document (1.5 pages) as sent by the Sponsor of the GDE MB, titled "Ecological Functional Assessment as a Result of the High Fence Enclosure for GDE Investments Mitigation Bank". Please review this document and let me know if you feel it supplies you with the information you feel is necessary to review the GDE Mitigation Bank. As stated in our May 2, 2016, e-mail to the IRT the Corps has been requesting additional information for the review of this mitigation bank. I have attached your responses to my e-mail asking what information you would like requested for your review of this bank as well as your replies. If you feel that this document does or does not adequately address the information that you would like to see please let me know.

If you could respond to me by Monday May 23, 2016, that would be helpful as I am trying to prepare a letter to be sent to the Sponsor for next week.

Thanks again for your coordination efforts

Jacqueline R. Farabee
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Special Projects and Policy Section
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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Have patience. Worthwhile work takes time.

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