TOPIC: Ponderosa Ranch Mitigation Banking Instrument

DATE: 29 May 2013 **CONTACT:** Raul Gutierrez, 6WQ-EM, 11.027, x6697

PURPOSE/ACTION NEEDED: Signature of letter of support

DEADLINE DATE: 04 June 2013

BACKGROUND:

The Ponderosa Ranch of Pointe Coupee Mitigation Banking Instrument authorizes the establishment, operation, maintenance, and use of the Ponderosa Ranch Mitigation Bank. The bank is located in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana.

The project will restore 249.3 acres of bottomland hardwood forest and 52.6 acres of cypress swamp, enhance 2.1 acres of cypress swamp, and preserve 6.1 acres of bottomland hardwood forest. Hydrological improvements include the filling of 41,313 linear feet of internal drainage ditches. Additionally, approximately 100 acres will be treated for excessive tallow. Once work has been completed, the site will be protected under a conservation easement.

OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED:

U.S. Corps of Engineers – New Orleans District
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

RECOMMENDATION:

Signature of letter of support