APPENDIX I: SHPO SECTION 106 CONSULTATION

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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWERENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

June 8, 2004

Tom Baca
Chief, Division of Planning
National Wildlife Refuge System
Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

Re: Project review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
USFWS/Texas Chenier Plain National Wildife Refuge Complex Expansion
Proposed Management and Expansion Alternatives (USFWS)

Dear Mr. Baca,

Thank you for providing a description of the above proposed management and expansion alternatives for the Texas Chenier Plain complex. This letter serves as comment on the undertaking from the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission.

The review staff, led by Ed Baker, has completed its review. The preferred alternative would aid in the acquisition and potential conservation of many cultural resources, including those identified in your prospectus by the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory. Any of the alternatives adding acreage to the federal refuge would likely add to the number and diversity of locations protected by federal cultural resources regulations. To our knowledge, none of the locations identified would necessitate further management effort simply by virtue of their acquisition by your agency.

Management actions other than land acquisition will require case-by-case review by our agency if the undertaking could affect known or previously unrecorded resources in the area of potential effect. Our two agencies currently consult on such undertakings under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and a Programmatic Agreement. We do not feel that reviewing undertakings described under the various alternatives would add significantly to the current review workload.

We hope your undertaking proceeds as planned, since it would appear to greatly enhance the potential to preserve our states cultural resources. Thank you for your cooperation in this federal review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. **If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Ed Baker at 512/463-5866.**

Sincerely,

for F. Lawerence Oaks, State Historic Preservation Officer
FLO/elb

P.O. BOX 12276 · AUSTIN, TX 78711-2276 · 512/463-6100 · FAX 512/475-4872 · TDD 1-800/735-2989
www.thc.state.tx.us