

Label: "Defenders of Wildlife-FOIA"

Created by:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov

Total Messages in label:191 (29 conversations)

Created: 07-31-2017 at 15:40 PM

Conversation Contents

Border Wall and Solar Power....

"Andrew, Jonathan" <jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov>

From: "Andrew, Jonathan" <jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Thu Jun 08 2017 07:23:12 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: undisclosed-recipients;;
BCC: ernesto_reyes@fws.gov
Subject: Border Wall and Solar Power....

Trump Suggests Building Border Wall With Solar Panels.

The [Washington Post](#) (6/7, Yeo) reports that during a White House meeting Tuesday, President Trump suggested "a new idea on how to cover the costs for a proposed border wall between the United States and Mexico: build it with solar panels." According to comments posted by [Axios](#), Trump "floated the concept of 'beautiful structures,' 40 to 50 feet high, that generate clean electricity from the sun – and would help cover the cost of the project." The Post says "the realities of building a 1,000-mile wall covered with solar panels – and then getting that electricity to market on either side of the border – are not so simple" and "with few actual details about the design of the wall, the cost of building it or the price that would be paid for the electricity, it is difficult to make any realistic conclusions about the impact of Trump's solar wall."

--

Jon Andrew
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator
Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior

202-320-0718 (cell)

"Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>

From: "Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Sent: Thu Jun 08 2017 11:59:46 GMT-0600 (MDT)
"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Dawn Whitehead <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>, Mary Orms <Mary_Orms@fws.gov>, Pat Clements <Pat_Clements@fws.gov>, Robyn Cobb <Robyn_Cobb@fws.gov>, Clare Lee <Clare_Lee@fws.gov>, Amber Miller <Amber_Miller@fws.gov>, "Skoruppa, Mary" <mary_kay_skoruppa@fws.gov>, Gretchen Nareff <gretchen_nareff@fws.gov>, Philip Marley <philip_marley@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan_winton@fws.gov>, Mitch Sternberg <mitch_sternberg@fws.gov>, Chris Perez <chris_perez@fws.gov>, Kimberly Wahl

To:

<kimberly_wahl@fws.gov>, Eric Verderber
<eric_verderber@fws.gov>, Imer DeLaGarza
<imer_delagarza@fws.gov>, Laura delaGarza
<laura_delagarza@fws.gov>, Christine Donald
<christine_donald@fws.gov>, raul_garza <raul_garza@fws.gov>,
Elizabeth Demarse <elizabeth_demarse@fws.gov>, Gisela Chapa
<gisela_chapa@fws.gov>, Scot Edler <scot_edler@fws.gov>,
Chris Hathcock <chris_hathcock@fws.gov>, Romeo Garcia
<romeo_garcia@fws.gov>, Rene Avendano
<rene_avendano@fws.gov>, Rick Gonzalez
<rick_gonzalez@fws.gov>, Nicolas Caceres
<nicolas_caceres@fws.gov>, Gerardo Longoria
<gerardo_longoria@fws.gov>, Weylan Luckey
<weylan_luckey@fws.gov>, Alejandro Rodriguez
<alejandro_rodriguez@fws.gov>, Boyd Blihovde
<boyd_blihovde@fws.gov>, Jonathan Moczygemba
<jonathan_moczygemba@fws.gov>, Mark Spier
<mark_spier@nps.gov>, Rolando Garza
<rolando_garza@nps.gov>, Willy Cupit
<Willy.Cupit@tpwd.texas.gov>, Liana Lerma
<Liana.Lerma@tpwd.texas.gov>, Russell Hooten
<Russell.hooten@tpwd.texas.gov>, Jackie Robinson
<Jackie.robinson@tpwd.texas.gov>, Kendal Keyes
<Kendal.Keyes@tpwd.texas.gov>, Janice Engle
<janice_engle@fws.gov>, "Singleton, Melissa"
<melissa_singleton@fws.gov>, Aimee Roberson
<aroberson@abcbirds.org>, "Jesús Franco"
<jfranco@abcbirds.org>

Subject:

Fwd: Border Wall and Solar Power....

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Andrew, Jonathan** <jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 8:23 AM

Subject: Border Wall and Solar Power....

To:

Trump Suggests Building Border Wall With Solar Panels.

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202-320-0718 (cell)

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Ernesto Reyes
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Texas DOI State Border Coordinator
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office
3325 Green Jay Rd
Alamo, Texas 78516
Tel:956-784-7560
Fax:956-787-8338

Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>

From: Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
Sent: Thu Jun 08 2017 12:35:13 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Mary Orms
<Mary_Orms@fws.gov>, Pat Clements
<Pat_Clements@fws.gov>, Robyn Cobb
<Robyn_Cobb@fws.gov>, Clare Lee <Clare_Lee@fws.gov>,
Amber Miller <Amber_Miller@fws.gov>, "Skoruppa, Mary"
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CC: <rene_avendano@fws.gov>, Rick Gonzalez
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<melissa_singleton@fws.gov>, Aimee Roberson
<aroberson@abcbirds.org>, "Jesús Franco"
<jfranco@abcbirds.org>, kelli_stone@fws.gov,
robert_murphy@fws.gov, Tim Anderson
<tim_anderson@fws.gov>, Beau Hardegree
<beau_hardegree@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: Border Wall and Solar Power....

We have general concerns about the reflective nature of some solar panels as they might fool birds into thinking they are pools of water and the birds fly in and get scorched. However, yesterday we learned about the use of non-reflective solar panels as planned by SpaceX. I would hope we can recommend that all panels installed in our very birdy STX might be the non reflective sort.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 8, 2017, at 12:59 PM, Reyes, Ernesto <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov> wrote:

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Andrew, Jonathan** <jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 8:23 AM

Subject: Border Wall and Solar Power....

To:

Trump Suggests Building Border Wall With Solar Panels.

The [Washington Post](#) (6/7, Yeo) reports that during a White House meeting Tuesday, President Trump suggested “a new idea on how to cover the costs for a proposed border wall between the United States and Mexico: build it with solar panels.” According to comments posted by [Axios](#), Trump “floated the concept of ‘beautiful structures,’ 40 to 50 feet high, that generate clean electricity from the sun – and would help cover the cost of the project.” The Post says “the realities of building a 1,000-mile wall covered with solar panels – and then getting that electricity to market on either side of the border – are not so simple” and “with few actual details about the design of the wall, the cost of building it or the price that would be paid for the electricity, it is difficult to make any realistic conclusions about the impact of Trump’s solar wall.”

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Texas DOI State Border Coordinator
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office
3325 Green Jay Rd

Alamo, Texas 78516

Tel:956-784-7560

Fax:956-787-8338

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Conversation Contents

Fwd: Borderwall natural resources with DHS/CBP response!

"Brown, Nancy" <nancy_brown@fws.gov>

From: "Brown, Nancy" <nancy_brown@fws.gov>
Sent: Thu Jun 08 2017 07:24:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Sternberg, Mitch" <mitch_sternberg@fws.gov>, Ernesto_Reyes <Ernesto_Reyes@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Borderwall natural resources with DHS/CBP response!

FYI in case you didn't see this.

Best,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeff Humphrey** <jeff_humphrey@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Jun 7, 2017 at 8:10 PM
Subject: Borderwall natural resources with DHS/CBP response!
To: Brian Hires <brian_hires@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn_maestas@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth_ullenberg@fws.gov>, andy_devolder@fws.gov, jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov, nancy_brown@fws.gov, Steve Spangle <steve_spangle@fws.gov>, Doug Duncan <doug_duncan@fws.gov>, Marit Alanen <marit_alanen@fws.gov>, erin_fernandez@fws.gov
Cc: gavin_shire@fws.gov, Chris Tincher <chris_tincher@fws.gov>, seth_willey@fws.gov

Report confuses "tense" (whether or not the wall has been built), but WOW! DHS speaks/refers re borderwall environmental concerns...

<http://www.abc15.com/news/state/environmental-groups-say-border-wall-could-be-devastating-to-borderlands-area>

A spokesman for Customs and Border Protection sent us a statement saying:

"At this early stage, DHS cannot reasonably forecast what the environmental impacts of a wall might be. As noted, however, DHS is committed to responsible environmental stewardship. That means that DHS will continue to assess potential impacts, coordinate with relevant stakeholders, and to the extent possible, offset or mitigate potential impacts."

"CBP has Environmental Stewardship Plans and Reports available online for projects at all four border states including five reports linked to project in Arizona. I would suggest you examine the documents at the link below. The contents should address your questions and any concerns raised by the group."

Click [HERE](#) for that document.

From the main link "Prior to fence construction, CBP prepared Environmental Stewardship Plans (ESPs) that summarized the natural and cultural resource surveys conducted during fence planning and estimated the potential environmental impacts based on the initial fence

design. During construction, environmental monitors ensured implementation of the Best Management Practices (BMP) that were developed and recorded in the ESPs and reported on any deviations from the BMPs."

Sent from my iPhone

--

Nancy C. Brown
Public Outreach Specialist
Southwest Region, National Wildlife Refuge System
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

550 Westcott Street, #305
Houston, Texas 77007
Work: (713) 524-7330, ext 207
Cell: (830) 220-4760
Fax: (713) 524-7331

www.fws.gov/southwest/

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

"Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>

From: "Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Sent: Thu Jun 08 2017 11:54:08 GMT-0600 (MDT)
"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Dawn Whitehead <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>, Mary Orms <Mary_Orms@fws.gov>, Clare Lee <Clare_Lee@fws.gov>, Robyn Cobb <Robyn_Cobb@fws.gov>, Amber Miller <Amber_Miller@fws.gov>, "Skoruppa, Mary" <mary_kay_skoruppa@fws.gov>, Gretchen Nareff <gretchen_nareff@fws.gov>, Beau Hardegree <Beau_Hardegree@fws.gov>, Chip Wood <Chip_Wood@fws.gov>, Tim Anderson <Tim_Anderson@fws.gov>, Chad Stinson <Chad_Stinson@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny_perez@fws.gov>, Chris Perez <chris_perez@fws.gov>, Brunilda FuentesCapozello <Brunilda_FuentesCapozello@fws.gov>, Kimberly Wahl <kimberly_wahl@fws.gov>, Imer DeLaGarza <imer_delagarza@fws.gov>, Laura delaGarza <laura_delagarza@fws.gov>, Christine Donald <christine_donald@fws.gov>, raul_garza <raul_garza@fws.gov>, Elizabeth Demarse <elizabeth_demarse@fws.gov>, Gisela Chapa <gisela_chapa@fws.gov>, Scot Edler <scot_edler@fws.gov>, Chris Hathcock <chris_hathcock@fws.gov>, Romeo Garcia <romeo_garcia@fws.gov>, Eric Verderber

To:

<eric_verderber@fws.gov>, James Petty
<james_petty@fws.gov>, Rene Avendano
<rene_avendano@fws.gov>, Rick Gonzalez
<rick_gonzalez@fws.gov>, Iriz Elizondo <iriz_elizondo@fws.gov>,
Nicolas Caceres <nicolas_caceres@fws.gov>, Gerardo Longoria
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<Kendal.Keyes@tpwd.texas.gov>, Jonathan Andrew
<Jonathan_Andrew@ios.doi.gov>, Janice Engle
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<melissa_singleton@fws.gov>, Aimee Roberson
<aroberson@abcbirds.org>, "Jesús Franco"
<jfranco@abcbirds.org>

Subject: Fwd: Borderwall natural resources with DHS/CBP response!

FYI

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Date: Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 8:24 AM
Subject: Fwd: Borderwall natural resources with DHS/CBP response!
To: "Sternberg, Mitch" <mitch_sternberg@fws.gov>, Ernesto_Reyes
<Ernesto_Reyes@fws.gov>

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Label: "Defenders of Wildlife-FOIA"

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Created: 07-31-2017 at 15:41 PM

Conversation Contents

Fwd: question

"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>

From: "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>
Sent: Thu Apr 20 2017 08:22:35 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>, Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: question

FYI.

Guess I got the wrong refuge the meeting is at Santa Ana. See the email below.

Chuck Ardizzone
Project Leader
Texas Coastal Ecological Services
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211
Houston, TX 77058
W: (281) 286-8282 Ext 228
C: (713) 882-1912
F: (281) 488-5882

"Leaders must learn to discipline their disappointments. It's not what happens to us, it is what we choose to do about what happens that makes the difference in how our lives turn out."

Jim Rohn

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader"

John Quincy Adams

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicholopoulos, Joy** <joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 9:16 AM
Subject: Re: question
To: Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, "Willey, Seth" <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Cc: "Mr. Robert Jess" <Robert_Jess@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>

Hi folks-

So far, the info below is all I have received on the meeting next week.
I will ask Jon Andrew to send more info to this message's address list.

We are trying to keep the participation to a small group so that we can have more discussion. As I mentioned to Aaron and Ted, our total FWS participation will be limited to: 2 Refuge folks, 2 ES folks, and myself (Neither Aaron nor Kelly are able to attend). Thanks a bunch for being flexible and stay tuned for more info from Jon, Joy

On Apr 17, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Jonathan Andrew <jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Looks like this is a go for 10:00 for the 27th at Santa Ana. Wanted to make sure this was still good for you all. I think I can make it myself.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Date: April 17, 2017 at 4:50:32 PM EDT
To: Jonathan Andrew <Jonathan.Andrew@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting in Texas next week

Jon - Yes, all indicators are that we would like to proceed with a meeting on April 27th at the refuge. If there is another day that week that works better for everyone, we may be able to shift it. Would mid-morning (10AM) work for the meeting?

Thank you

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 8:08 AM, Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov> wrote:

Joy,

Doesn't look like anyone has coordinated the meeting with the refuge. Do you have any more info we can share with Rob? Thanks

Aaron

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jess, Robert" <robert_jess@fws.gov>
Date: April 20, 2017 at 7:42:19 AM MDT
To: Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>
Cc: kelly mcdowell <kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: question

Aaron,

I need some clarification as to when and where this proposed meeting is occurring. As seen below its at Laguna but neither staff nor I are aware of any such meeting- an update would be great.

rob

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ardizzone, Chuck <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 3:06 PM
Subject: Re: question
To: "Jess, Robert" <robert_jess@fws.gov>

Cc: Dawn Gardner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>

Rob, this is all I have. I have a feeling Ted got meetings mixed up. We have not heard anything from Joy.

Re: Border wall meeting at Laguna Atascosa NWR 27 April

Inbox x



Koch, Ted

Apr 13 (6 days ago)

to me, Ernesto, Dawn

Great, thanks. Joy will share more info.

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 10:58 AM, Ardizzone, Chuck <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov> wrote:

Ted,

got your voice message about the border wall meeting at Laguna Atascosa NWR on 27 April 2017. Ernesto Reyes handles the ES coordination on border wall issues. I have CCed him and Dawn on this email so they are aware of the meeting. I would plan on attending however I will be at NCTC that week. I looked at Ernesto's calendar and it looks like he can make it. Dawn may be able to make as well as she will be acting for me.

Chuck Ardizzone

Project Leader
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John Quincy Adams

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Jess, Robert <robert_jess@fws.gov> wrote:

Ernesto made mention that a meeting is going to be held at the Laguna Atascosa refuge next week on Thursday, April 27 and is in regards to border issues (ie fences?). Do you have anything further information as the station is not aware of the meeting and I'd like to give adequate notice to them as we have a hurricane meeting scheduled at the same time and place. I spoke to Kelly McDowell and he wasn't me to represent he and Aaron but hadn't heard it was ta the refuge. Any guidance would be appreciated!

Talk soon, rob

--

robert jess
project leader
south texas refuge complex
alamo, texas

--

robert jess
project leader
south texas refuge complex
alamo, texas

Santa Ana
NWR

USFWS / CBP Meeting (Border Wall)

17
4/27/18

- Great cooperation between CBP and DOI.
- RGV - 54 miles of fencing (existing)
- RGV - Busiest Sector
- How is it going to impact the community and the Refuge
- Try to reduce impacts on the environment as much as possible.
- Work with different agencies and entities, CBP wants the relationship with the Service to be kept intact.
- DC is here to support the Sector with their recommendations.
- 0-1 to 0-3 - Ballast fence with gaps between fence for water deflection.
- 34 miles (28 miles of wall levee)
- 6 miles in Roma 0-1 and 0-3, 52 potential landowners.
- Border Wall system - Same as the last time.
- 150' from the south side of the wall will be cleared with cameras and lights. Not light on the Refuge.
- All weather road. Lights shining on the fence and 150' road (Enforcement Zone)
- Contract in Mid May for Geo Tech boring. Need details on locations, will need a Special Use Permit.
- FY 18 - Bill will have more miles added in RGV out west up to Falcon Dam. Appropriations.
- Start in October for ~~construction~~ ^{appropriations}, will have funds in November ¹⁷ to start construction.
- First 3 miles will be in the Weslaco Sector.
- Santa Ana will get a wall across the Refuge.

- MOU between DOI and CBP - Mitigation.
- Put mitigation in MOU 6 million for 26 miles.
- IF wall is put on North side of levee, then it has to be 30' ~~high~~ ^{high}.
- Boca Chica is not a high priority for fence.
- LRSU will be impacted throughout with fence on the wildlife corridor.
- ESP plan will be done and surveys will be done for T&E.
- IAA will be the way of funding for restoration.
- 34 miles x \$200,000/mile for impacts from Border Fence.
- Press release in 1 to 2 weeks, but depends on CR or a full budget.
- Next week or two look at Geo Technical.
- Administrative record needs to be consistent and all info.
- Habitat restoration instead of mitigation language.
- Look at 3rd party to receive funds for habitat restoration.



U.S. Customs and Border Protection



4-27-2017
10 am
@ Santa Ana
NWR

Name	Title	Agency	Phone	E-Mail
BRYAN WINTON	REFUGEE MGR.	FWS	956 784-7521	bryan_winton@fws.gov
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBP RGTI	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	ASOS RGV HQ	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	REV Sector Command	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	DIVISION CHIEF	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	OPS Programs	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	REV Sector Deputy	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	SOS RGV HQ	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(on phone)	CBA		
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	(on phone)	CBP		

Santa Ana
NWR

Border Fence Meeting - CBP/FWS

7/14/17

- LRGV is working on veg. clearing of 150', 100', 50' to look at acreage for proposed clearing, on ArcGIS,
- CBP looking at coming out to the public on the proposed Border Fence in August.
- Look to put out sensors out along the river to reduce 150' enforcement zone along the fence on SANWR to reduce impacts.
- Pedestrian access through the border fence on SA will need to be designed for wheel chair ramp access
- There will be leeway on the proposed 150' enforcement zone depending on the area.
- There will be a road + sensors + drag road within the proposed 150' zone.
- This CBP group will coordinate with local FWS personnel throughout the border fence process to get our local FWS issues and recommendations up to their management.
- Proposed 200 miles of new roads; evaluate proposed roads.
- Existing fence will not have any additional road widen to 150' like the new border fence because it will be a different waiver.

Santa Ana
NWR

FWS / CBP Border Fence Coordination

7/6/17

- Baker Engineering Firm will develop engineering
- 80+ gate openings; 35 gates need to be placed for FY 17
- Real estate planning is been done for gates FY 17
- 28 miles of fence in Hidalgo to fill gaps; starting at SANWR
- FY 18 - Landowners will be contacted for wall construction
- RFP ready in October and construction in January 2018
- Towers on top of wall + lights and camera will shine on 150' wide enforcement zone. Wall cannot be higher than the levee + bollards on top of wall. Bollards will be 18' above the wall.
- McAllen to Falcon Dam will be 32 miles of proposed wall construction - 3rd quarter of FY 18.
- 1944 Treaty with Mexico cannot impact the floodplain.
- Prevent communities from been on south side of wall.
- Opportunity for placing wildlife openings.
- Place gaps on bollard fence for hydrology
- 3 miles on SANWR
- Advertise in Oct. FY 18 for contractors. Landowners will be contacted in Oct.
- 60 miles total in RGV of Border Fence construction
- \$77 million for new and existing roads - 50% funding for RGV
- All weather roads for existing and some new roads
- Topographic, geotech and hydrology analysis will be done by August FY 17; 100% in October
- Funding for 2.9 miles on environmental impacts on SANWR
- Develop a stewardship impact plan; avoidance, mitigation, BMP's
- September - Anticipate a waiver for construction

Santa Ana
NWR

Border Fence Coordination

7/6/17

Name	Agency	Contact
Ernesto Reyes	USFWS	Ernesto-Reyes@fws.gov
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	CBP OA	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	DHS S:T	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBP-RGV	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBA-RGV	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	..	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USACE	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USACE	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USACE	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBP	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USACE	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USACE	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBP/PMD RUS	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBP/RGV	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	USBP/RGV	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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GENERAL INFORMATION

Conservation Action Title: Texas Land Acquisition

Bureau: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Manager(s): Mitch Sternberg, Zone Biologist, South Texas Gulf Coast

Project Location: South Texas Refuge Complex

Initial Budget: \$110,371

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

200K-Texas Land Acquisition: We proposed an additional task to expend remaining funds that had been intended for land acquisition in South Texas for the endangered ocelot. We proposed a project to evaluate the effects of Tactical Infrastructure (TI) on bobcats (as a surrogate for ocelots), using GPS radio-telemetry collars and sensor-cameras in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

DESCRIPTION / DISCUSSION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS / IMPLEMENTATIONS

We monitored movements of bobcats on lands managed by Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge (LRGVNWR) in proximity to TI, and movements of ocelots on Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge (LANWR). Work on LRGVNWR was to inform us of the movements of wild cats relative to native habitats and TI. Work on LANWR assisted in assessing the size of the ocelot population, and movements of ocelots relative to wildlife corridors and large areas of thornscrub.

Task 1. Assess wild cat use of habitat in relation to TI

Background

Development of border security infrastructure has the potential to interrupt natural wildlife movement and dispersal of wildlife (Flesch *et al.* 2009) and the Border Fence/Wall, hereafter referred to as Tactical Infrastructure (TI), has already begun to do just that (Abhat 2011). Monitoring the movements of wildlife prior to the completion (i.e., complete closure; installation of gates across all roads) of the TI is vital for pre- and post-construction comparison. The study of bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) movement is especially useful, as bobcats can serve as surrogates for studies intending to investigate the implications of development and habitat fragmentation on the endangered ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*), which is found in the U.S only in Texas (41 individuals [Hilary Swarts, USFWS, pers. comm.]) and in Arizona (5 individuals recorded since 2009 [Erin Fernandez, USFWS, pers.com.]).

To monitor wildlife movement with respect to existing wildlife habitat and the TI in south Texas, trapping for bobcats was conducted on a tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge that contains a segment of border fence. Within this segment of TI, there are currently four road openings that are planned to be closed when large gates are installed which would further deteriorate the connectivity of the wildlife populations in the area.

Our objectives were to: 1) determine locations where bobcats cross the alignment of the TI, and 2) monitor bobcat use of any wildlife corridors.

Methods

Wildlife monitoring along the border fence infrastructure was implemented on a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service tract of land known as La Coma Tract, located south of Highway 281 in Hidalgo County, Texas. La Coma tract is part of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Wildlife Refuge (LRGVNWR). The tract provides a variety of open to dense woodland habitat (Sternberg 2003).

La Coma tract is bordered on the north by Highway 281 and on the south by the Rio Grande, and surrounded on the east and west by private land developed for agricultural use. The tract is bisected by a 5.21 km segment of incomplete TI and associated concrete flood-retention wall in a segment of infrastructure known as "Segment O-08". Segment O-08 consists of about 6 m tall steel bollard-style fencing with 12 cm gaps between each bollard. The fence sits atop a concrete levee wall with a sheer 4-4.5 m tall concrete face along the south side. Each landowner/roadway opening is roughly 12 m wide, two of which lie within habitat patches used by an abundance of wildlife near the Refuge and therefore are relevant to the current study.

Live-trapping was implemented from 10 December 2014 to 17 December 2014 using standardized USFWS protocols. Seven Tomahawk box-traps attached to live-animal bait-cages containing Eurasian collared doves were deployed along likely bobcat travel routes. Traps were checked at 0800h each morning, closed for the day, and reopened at approximately 1600h. USFWS staff and volunteers were responsible for all chemical immobilizations and handling of trapped bobcats. An intramuscular injection of a combination of Ketamine, Dexmedetomidine and Butorphanol was used for sedation. Sedated bobcats were weighed, sexed, aged, and examined for condition of coat, body, and dental condition. Each bobcat was fitted with a Tellus Ultralight GPS collar. Atipamezole and Naltrexone were used to reverse the initial injection following a period of at least 30 minutes to allow Ketamine to metabolize. Following the reversal injection, bobcats were placed inside an animal carrier and monitored for at least one hour prior to release to ensure a full recovery from anesthesia.

Tellus Ultralight GPS Collars were initially programmed to take a GPS location every three hours; collars would email GPS locations daily. Collars data were monitored daily and



Figure 1. Trapping locations for the three bobcats captured on La Coma tract of Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, near Runn, Hidalgo County, Texas, in December 2014.

occasionally remote updates were sent to the collars altering the GPS schedule when a collared animal came in proximity with the TI, to facilitate a fine-scale understanding of bobcat movement around the fence. Collars were, at times, altered to fix a GPS location every 15 minutes at the cost of expending more of the battery. Consecutive locations that crossed the TI were determined to be crossing events, and crossing events that occurred within an hour were used to assign a likelihood of where the TI was crossed by the bobcats.

Results

In December 2014, we conducted a total of 31 trap-nights on La Coma tract of LRGVNR. Three bobcats were captured, collared and released in the same area (Figure 1). Bobcat trapping success was 9.6% and total trapping success was 42%. A total of 8,150 GPS locations were recorded for all three bobcats. Bobcat female 01 (BF01) provided 2,488 locations. Bobcat male 02 (BM02) provided 3,325 locations. Bobcat female 03 (BF03) provided 2,337 locations.

BF01 was trapped and collared 12 December 2014 near the edge of mesquite thorn scrub and agricultural land north of the TI and levee wall, and south of State Highway 281. After 193 days the collar was triggered to drop-off by technicians remotely, due to signaling to us that it had a low battery and it was recovered shortly thereafter. BF01 crossed the TI 111 times. Within the hourly limit that we applied, she is suspected of crossing in roadway openings 5 times and around the eastern end of the TI 21 times, and across State Highway (SH) 281 a total of 14 times (Figure 2).

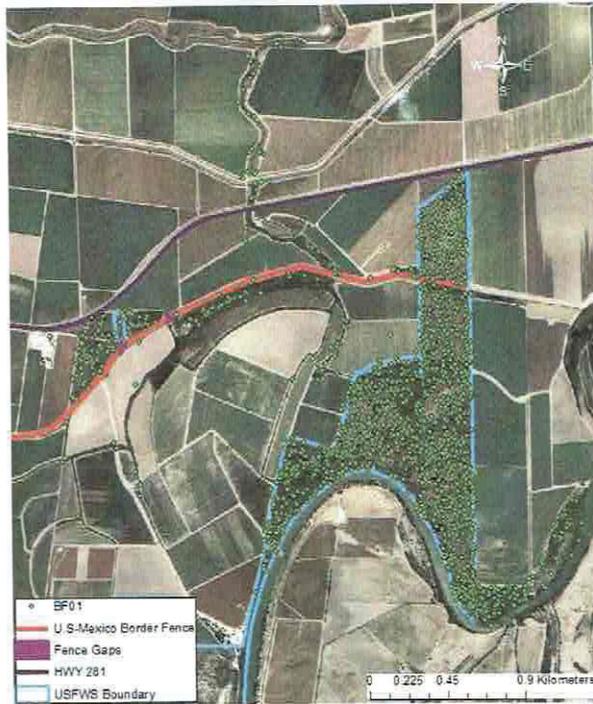


Figure 2. Locations of adult female bobcat BF01 from December 2014 to June 2015 with respect to the Tactical Infrastructure, near Runn, Hidalgo County, Texas.

BM02 was trapped and collared 16 December 2014 along a road created by U.S. Border Patrol, on the Refuge, south of the TI. After 165 days the collar was intentionally dropped remotely due to low battery and successfully recovered shortly thereafter. The collar recorded a total of 3,325 locations (Figure 3), many of which were north of the border fence on Las Palomas Wildlife Management Area, managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. BM02 crossed into Mexico on 4 January 2015 between the hours of 1700-2000h and returned to the U.S. on 7 January 2015 between the hours of 0500-0800h. BM02 crossed the TI 45 times. Within the hourly limit that we applied, he was suspected of crossing in roadway openings 24 times and around the eastern end of the TI 3 times, and across State Highway (SH) 281 a total of 33 times (Figure 2). BM01 moved across a larger area and often at a greater pace than the females, so his collar was programmed to provide additional GPS location data when he was near the TI, which provided very fine-scale evidence (i.e., 15-minute intervals) of use of two of the roadway openings.

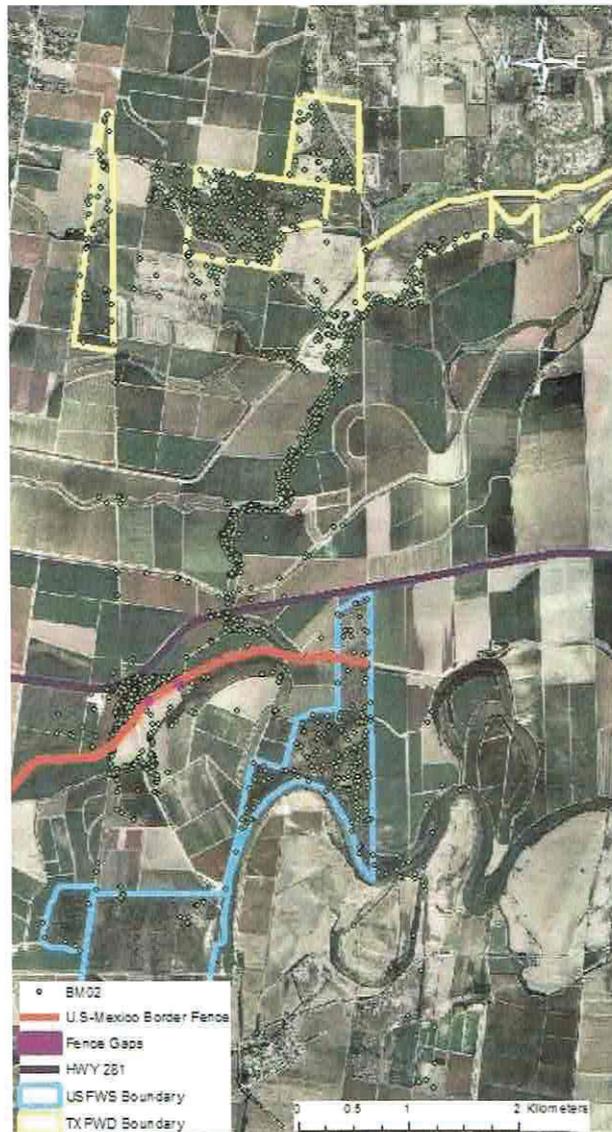


Figure 3. Locations of adult male bobcat BM02 from December 2014 to May 2015 with respect to the border wall infrastructure, near Runn, Hidalgo County, Texas.

BF03 was trapped and collared 16 December 2014 along the east side of the property south of the border infrastructure. After 179 days the collar was intentionally dropped remotely due to low battery and successfully recovered shortly thereafter. The collar recorded a total of 2,337 locations (Figure 4). BF03 crossed the TI 137 times; at least four times at roadway openings and at least 25 times around the eastern end of the TI. BF03 also crossed SH 281 30 times, including following the same route, but not quite arriving at the same Wildlife Management Area, as did BM02 on numerous occasions.

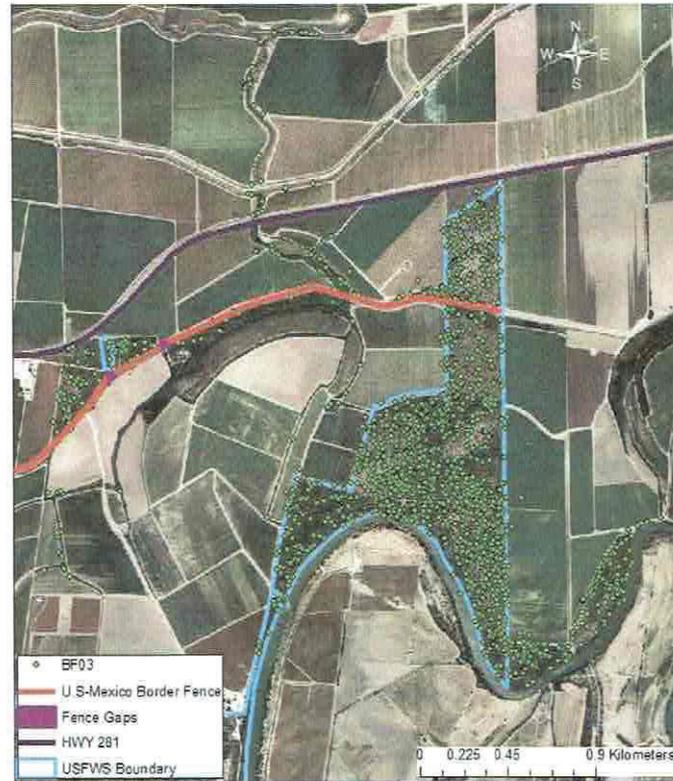


Figure 4. Locations of adult female bobcat BF03 from December 2014 to June 2015 with respect to the border wall infrastructure, near Runn, Hidalgo County, Texas.

Discussion

Like much of the remaining natural landscape in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, the La Coma tract is a stand of viable habitat segmented and isolated by roads, development, and other barriers. The likelihood of the closure of all openings in the Tactical Infrastructure to additionally fragment and degrade the use of the remaining habitat for wildlife, especially in areas used by the endangered ocelot, makes it important to study the impacts of the fence infrastructure on wildlife movement before, during, and following completion of the TI (Abhat 2011).

The preservation of wildlife corridors and critical habitat patches along the border fence is essential for preserving viable habitat for wildlife, including the endangered ocelot (Grigione and Myrkalo, 2004). The three collared bobcats in our study often crossed the TI at roadway openings on the levee. The home ranges of the females centered on the larger patch of habitat on the eastern portion of the Refuge and therefore they did not cross at the roadway openings often. This aligns with previous findings that female bobcats tend to remain within a single fragment while males more often range between multiple fragments (Tigas *et. al.* 2002). The same movement patterns are found in ocelots (Laack 1991), highlighting the need for large, connected patches of habitat.

The roadway opening to the west (1.08 km from the closest thornscrub patch) was never used by the bobcats, likely as it was so far removed from any significant patch of habitat. The movements of BM02 and BF03 between the USFWS Refuge tract and the TPWD Wildlife Management Area, as well as findings in Abhat (2011), are direct evidence of the need to protect wildlife corridors to maintain connectivity between larger tracts of preserved habitat for the benefit of wildlife. Specific to the current study, roadway openings in the TI near habitat remain critical to maintaining wildlife connectivity.

Other Lessons Learned

Theft of FWS game cameras on nearby refuge tracts, presumably by traffickers of illegal goods or undocumented immigrants, did affect our decision to place game cameras in more useful locations for ocelot monitoring (i.e., at LANWR). Trapping of bobcats was very successful and provided valuable input regarding wild cat movement relative to TI. Based on input we received during the monthly inter-agency conference calls, we re-aligned our efforts to more directly impact ocelot conservation and recovery by applying more of our resources towards actions on LANWR than along the Rio Grande. Through the Borderlands Management Taskforce, the Refuge has begun reviewing photos from the Texas Department of Transportation's cameras in the Drawbridge Program for wildlife occurrences in these areas along the Rio Grande. The GPS collars will be reused repeatedly for ocelot conservation. The battery and drop-off mechanism will be replaced at the Refuge's cost and they will be used for ocelot or bobcat monitoring in subsequent years.

Task 2. Assess the size of the population of ocelots and their movements on LANWR

Background

The endangered ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*) is found in the U.S. only in Texas (41 ocelots [Hilary Swarts, USFWS, pers. comm.]) and in Arizona (5 individuals recorded since 2009 [Erin Fernandez, USFWS, pers. comm.]). The final rule listing the ocelot as endangered in the U.S. (47 FR 31670, July 21, 1982) stated that the present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range posed the greatest threat to the survival of the ocelot in the U.S. The ocelot's range and distribution in the U.S. have been drastically reduced in the last two centuries. Over 90% of the dense thornscrub habitat that supported the ocelot in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas has been altered for agricultural and urban development (Jahrsdoerfer and Leslie 1988, Tremblay *et al.* 2005).

Our objectives were to: 1) determine the size of the ocelot population on and around LANWR, and 2) document ocelot use of any wildlife corridors, specifically those crossing roadways.

Methods

To assess the ocelot population status as well as their movements on and around LANWR, ocelots were live-trapped, as well as photographed using remote game cameras. IAA funds were used to accomplish the monitoring of ocelots from December 2014 to September 2015. Live-trapping was implemented from December 2014 to June 2015 using standardized USFWS protocols as described briefly under Task 1 above. All larger adult ocelots were fitted with a Tellus Ultralight GPS collar, or an Advanced Telemetry Systems VHF radiocollar, if a juvenile ocelot. GPS data was provided by email or downloaded from the field, as per bobcats under Task 1.

Results

We live-trapped for a total of 2,344 trap-nights from December to June 2015 and captured six ocelots, some multiple times (Figure 5). Significantly more VHF-tracking was needed by staff as smaller, juvenile ocelots are not appropriate carriers for the larger GPS collars, although several GPS collars were used on ocelots (Figure 6). Staff collected 148 VHF locations for three ocelots, and 3,059 GPS locations for three ocelots.

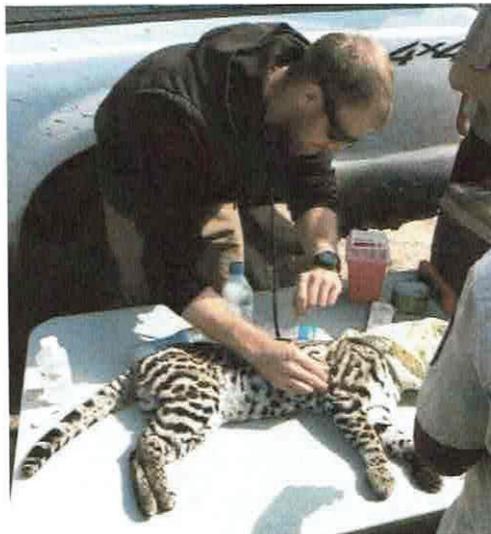


Figure 5. Ocelot that was live-trapped in January 2015 as part of the population monitoring conducted each year at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, Cameron County, Texas. Refuge Intern is observing heartrate as part of health-monitoring during sedation of the ocelot. Photo credit, Eric Hope for USFWS.

During the fall trapping season, the known ocelots varied from month to month, from 11-14 individuals, depending on newly-discovered (young) ocelots and the death of some ocelots, most of the latter, while crossing roadways. Game cameras were used to identify and monitor the movements of 14 ocelots during the season, including cameras funded through the current project, as well as cameras funded by Refuges and partners. Cameras photographed numerous

ocelots during the season and greatly assisted us in efficiently targeting where to trap for certain ocelots, and cameras provided data about the status of some more elusive ocelots that we had not been able to trap previously.



Figure 6. Male ocelot 263 photographed by a game camera within the hog-proof pen of a rainwater catchment at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, Cameron County, Texas. Note the black GPS collar that was attached to the ocelot during population monitoring in 2014-15.

Discussion

The accuracy of GPS collar data is important for the monitoring of wild cats for many reasons. One reason is that we are lacking specific information about ocelot denning and kitten survival. GPS collar data provide the added ability of resource managers to accurately depict when and where a female ocelot may have kittens based on the limited movement seen typically around a den. A second reason is the added ability to recognize and map areas where ocelots traverse the landscape of linear habitat (i.e., corridors) and roadways, sometimes successfully. This example is best illustrated by the movements of a (typically) young male ocelot when it leaves LANWR and begins exploring the area, looking for a new territory. Similar movements have been noted for female ocelots in the 1990s when the population was slightly larger (USFWS unpubl. data). These ocelot movement data are analyzed and form the basis for USFWS assisting state and federal departments of transportation in maintaining wildlife connectivity in the area for ocelots.

These movements inform us as to what habitat conditions ocelots are able and willing to use to traverse in a mostly unfriendly landscape on their way to establish a new territory of their own as an adult. The GPS data for all of these ocelots will be the basis for a model being developed by USFWS Region 2 Biologists in FY16 that will predict movements of ocelots across the landscape, and modelling ocelot recovery based on their predicted movements of ocelots across the landscape, as well as soils that can or currently do sustain ocelot habitat, and a strategic land acquisition and landowner partnership plan.

Discovery of three new (young) ocelots, some observed by cameras previously, and then by trapping, demonstrated that the LANWR ocelot population is still reproducing, and given previous years' estimates of ocelots on LANWR, the population is relatively stable. This does not diminish the fact that ocelots are at extreme risk of extinction in Texas in the next 50 years (Haines *et al.* 2006) given that the vast majority of habitat formerly used by ocelots has been converted or severely fragmented (Tremblay *et al.* 2005) and that vehicles strikes are the major factor in the death of ocelots in Texas still today (Haines *et al.* 2005; Hilary Swarts, USFWS, pers. comm.). USFWS and its partners need to cooperatively manage, acquire, protect, and restore areas that are or could be used by ocelots, and corridors between Texas populations, and between populations in Texas and Mexico (Grigione *et al.* 2009, Abhat 2011), however highly fragmented, must be functional if the ocelot is ever to be removed from the Endangered Species List.

Funds Expended

Living stipends for Refuge Interns	\$12,070.40
Field supplies	\$15,604.45
Game cameras and camera supplies	\$23,549.40
<u>Tellus Ultralight GPS collars</u>	<u>\$59,146.75</u>
<u>Total funding expended</u>	<u>\$110,371.00</u>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to Dave Kuhn and Greta Schmidt for significant contributions to data analysis and the report. We thank Ondina Diaz, Roy Reyna, Boyd Blihovde, Bryan Winton, and Jonathan Moczygamba for supporting this project on the National Wildlife Refuges. Thanks also to Heather Frederick, Eric Hope, Becca Thomas-Kuzilik, Pat McGovern, and Hilary Swarts for incorporating this project into the ocelot population monitoring work. Thanks to those responsible for the Inter-agency Agreement that made this study possible; namely, Mary Anderson, Larisa Ford, Grant Harris, Rob Jess, Kelly McDowell, John Petrilla, Ernesto Reyes, Liz Trujillo, and Customs and Border Protection.

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BMTF MEETING

WHERE: MCALLEN BORDER PATROL STATION

WHEN: WEDNESDAY MARCH 15TH 2017

TIME: 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

YOUR ARE INVITED TO THE BMTF MEETING TO BE HELD MARCH 15TH AT THE MCALLEN BORDER PATROL STATION. PLEASE JOIN US AND MAKE THE MEETING WHAT IT WAS INTENDED, A TIME TO FACILITATE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUM FOR COOPERATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING OF COMMON INTERNATIONAL BORDER ISSUES. THE BMTF ADDRESSES BORDER SECURITY, HUMAN SAFETY, AND NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION THROUGH SHARED INFORMATION AND COOPERATION.

BUREAU: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**ISSUE: FWS and Customs and Border Protection
Cooperation: Southern Border Challenges and Successes**



SUMMARY: Over the past several years there has been a substantial increase in coordination between the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) along our Nation's southern border. While FWS is working toward a successful balance of meeting individual agency missions, opportunities for improvement exist.

DISCUSSION:

Successes

FWS staff routinely work with CBP to coordinate infrastructure projects, law enforcement operations, training and other project planning. In addition, FWS staff engages with CBP at the national, sector, and station level to implement border protection projects. From an infrastructure standpoint, this has included providing access to lands managed by the FWS for construction of vehicle and pedestrian barriers, as well as for communications towers associated with the Secure Fence Act of 2006 and the SBInet. Additionally, CBP stages *Camp Grip*, a forward operating base that supports tactical border enforcement operations on Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and a helipad on Buenos Aires NWR.

In the arena of operations, coordination with CBP has been largely successful. CBP agents are routinely granted access to NWR lands for patrol activities. Additionally, FWS staff have identified Best Management Practices for CBP operations, and have conducted environmental awareness training for CBP agents. Moreover, NWR Law Enforcement Officers often work in tandem with CBP agents during apprehension of illegal immigrants, at times apprehending and detaining illegal immigrants until CBP agents arrive.

While cooperation has improved, challenges remain. Following is a synopsis of those challenges.

Operational Challenges

Communications – There is inconsistent communications from DHS on status of projects, decisions, etc. FWS field staff attempt to actively communicate and coordinate with DHS. Unfortunately DHS has not consistently informed the FWS of new and ongoing projects, nor provided consistent and timely decision-making.

Section 7 Consultation – Some DHS operations conflict with endangered species recovery, are not covered by the Real ID Act waiver, and are generally not addressed by finalized ESA section 7 consultations. To date DHS has not initiated such consultation.

Implications of Roosevelt Reservation for National Wildlife Refuges – As a result of CBP opening of the Roosevelt Reservation for border barrier construction, maintenance and operations we have noted increased illegal activities, and access has had negative impacts to federal lands. Clarifying authorities for management and operations within the Roosevelt Reservation will help minimize adverse environmental effects and facilitate the DHS mission.

Infrastructure Challenges

Barriers to Wildlife Movement and Management - Installation and operation of border infrastructure has significantly impacted the ability of FWS to protect and conserve trust resources. Formal coordination with DHS on border project design, installation, and operation, including cumulative infrastructure and operational impacts, would reduce impacts to fish and wildlife and advance both FWS and DHS missions. However, a process to facilitate this coordination has yet to be identified. CBP has indicated they would consider retrofitting portions of barriers with wildlife openings if FWS identifies locations and number of openings. However, in Arizona CBP has resisted including openings large enough to accommodate listed species (e.g., jaguars). Funding for retrofitting has yet to be identified.

The Real ID Act waiver also exempted border fence maintenance. Ensuring CBP and their contractors use appropriate methods to avoid and minimize additional impacts to listed species, their habitats, and NWR lands is challenging. FWS supports development of SBInet and once it is functional, sensor technology should allow for proactive CBP enforcement and may reduce off-road impacts occurring on NWRs and to listed species.

Mitigation Challenges

Status of Environmental Compliance Commitments - DHS and CBP have yet to implement many border conservation measures for new projects and maintenance activities to which they have committed and are legally obligated. FWS has formally notified CBP that they are required to consult under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act on their operational activities but CBP has not yet initiated consultation. Numerous violations of previously identified Best Management Practices have been documented and FWS and CBP have identified additional uncorrected construction deficiencies. Fence design and placement have caused erosion border-wide; and roadside/staging and re-vegetation have not been conducted properly, enabling establishment of non-native invasives. FWS is cooperating with CBP to identify these issues but funding to rectify most deficiencies has yet to be identified.

Status of DHS \$50 Million Mitigation Fund - FWS and DHS are pursuing completion of mitigation measures for border barrier projects waived under the Real ID Act. The mitigation projects were submitted by FWS in priority order for DHS approval; the estimated cost of projects submitted to date is \$52,474,593. An interagency agreement will soon be finalized transferring funding for 13 non-land acquisition projects totaling \$6.8 million. DOI is prepared to facilitate transfer of funding via an amended interagency agreement for acquisition of lands that will protect wildlife corridors, have willing sellers, and are unlikely to conflict with CBP operations. The CBP General Counsel has stated that a third party could be used by CBP or FWS to purchase and manage lands to meet mitigation goals. FWS is advocating that land acquisitions ranked for first year funding proceed immediately and that use of the third party approach be considered. FWS continues to support legislation that would substantiate that DHS has authority to fund land acquisition but requests that the third party approach also be used.

Contact: Benjamin N. Tuggle, Regional Director, Southwest Region, 505-248-6282

GENERAL INFORMATION

Conservation Action Title: Texas Land Acquisition

Bureau: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Manager(s): Dr. Larisa Ford/Ernesto Reyes

Project Location: Approximately 6 miles north of the intersection of State Highway 186 and County Road 10 or approximately at Latitude 26° 35' 7.30" North and Longitude 97° 58' 26.22" West, in northeastern Hidalgo County, Texas.

Initial Budget: \$3,000,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (from Project Description Worksheet)

DESCRIPTION / DISCUSSION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS / IMPLEMENTATIONS

Describe how you accomplished the tasks (IAW the project description worksheets); correlate what was done with these funds and how those actions match the PDW

1. List the tasks accomplished,
2. Describe for each task:
 - a. What was done and How it was accomplished
 - b. What worked
 - c. What did not (i.e. lessons learned)
 - d. Include photos, maps, etc (only those not included in contractor deliverables)

200K-Texas Land Acquisition: Under amendment four of the IAA, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) provided \$3 million dollars to acquire at least 500 acres of land for jaguarundi and ocelot habitat as part of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex (LRGVNWR). When the Tactical Infrastructure (TI) was built in South Texas, the movement corridors for the jaguarundi and ocelot, protected species, were affected and, in some areas, completely severed. This conservation action is to purchase at least 500 acres for future habitat away from the TI to increase the range of these two felids. The property selected has the potential for future high quality habitat and to increase the connectivity with other habitat nearby. It is located adjacent to the LRGVNWR Complex so future land management can be geared towards enhancing and protecting this habitat.

In April 2014, a 1,119-acre tract located in Hidalgo and Willacy counties, Texas, was purchased utilizing DHS funds per the IAA. The 1119-acre tract, which is a portion of El Tecolote Ranch, was simultaneously purchased by The Nature Conservancy from Four Owls Family Partners, Ltd., and then donated to the United States to be managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge. The acquisition of this tract meets the overall strategy for the recovery of the endangered ocelot and jaguarundi. The property was chosen due to its location within wildlife travel corridors and its proximity to other properties consisting of dense brush habitat, which is favored by both cat species.

The property is generally level to undulating with scattered low areas, some of which hold water from rainfall or delivered via pipeline from the privately-owned northern portion of El Tecolote Ranch. No structures are present. Vegetative cover is native brush with mesquite consistently found across the property. There are 11 ephemeral wetlands (playas), some modified for livestock watering, ranging in size from 1.4 acres to 0.2 acres with a total of 10.2 wetland acres. The nearest refuge tract is the Teniente Tract, approximately 2.4 miles south.

The mesquite-dominated rangeland has a mix of open prairie over fine sandy soils (Nueces Fine Sand). Brush or mature stands of mesquite are mixed with brasil, ebony, and native shrubs such as granjeno, and huisache in the depressional areas. Open areas contain thick blue carpets of sand phacelia, an annual wildflower. The light to moderate density of brush on the tract suggests modification of the climax vegetation community through years of continuous livestock grazing.

Wildlife noted during the survey included cardinals, vultures, caracaras, vermilion flycatchers, great horned owl, and kiskadee flycatchers. There were raccoon tracks, coyote, and exotic nilgai. The sandy tract had numerous Texas pocket gopher mounds. The property is unique in that it contains 12 study sites and nest boxes for the rare ferruginous pygmy owl.



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Contact: Benjamin N. Tuggle, Regional Director, Southwest Region, 505-248-6282

Label: "Defenders of Wildlife-FOIA"

Created by:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov

Total Messages in label:191 (29 conversations)

Created: 07-31-2017 at 15:41 PM

Conversation Contents

Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

Attachments:

/28. Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB/1.1 BMTF MAR'17.pdf
/28. Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB/2.1 BP
forOMB.CBPandFWSCoordination6.9.10.docx
/28. Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB/2.2 Draft Sabal Palm Briefing for RD.doc
/28. Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB/2.3 Border Fence Mitigation Conservation Action
Reports 2015 (1).docx
/28. Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB/5.1 BP
forOMB.CBPandFWSCoordination6.9.10.docx
/28. Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB/6.1 BP
forOMB.CBPandFWSCoordination6.9.10.docx

"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>

From: "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>
Sent: Fri Mar 10 2017 10:36:32 GMT-0700 (MST)
To: "Willey, Seth" <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Sherry Barrett
<sherry_barrett@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen
<Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker
<denise_baker@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap
CC: <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle
<Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>, Dawn Gardiner
<dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes
<ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
Attachments: BMTF MAR'17.pdf

FYI.

This has made the rounds at least once, but sharing again.

The next Border Management Task Force Meeting will be on March 15, 2017 in McAllen. Ernesto will be in attendance. Ernesto worked closely with the task force the last time portions of the wall were installed to address issues in Texas.

Chuck Ardizzone
Project Leader
Texas Coastal Ecological Services
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211
Houston, TX 77058
W: (281) 286-8282 Ext 228
C: (713) 882-1912
F: (281) 488-5882

"Leaders must learn to discipline their disappointments. It's not what happens to us, it is what we choose to do about what happens that makes the difference in how our lives turn out."

Jim Rohn

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader"

John Quincy Adams

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 11:16 AM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

Adding Sherry. In particular, Cynthia's folks notes that "if we have significant resource concerns we should have them identified now." For example, gene flow / connectivity. DHS has a March 25th date for a fence or wall plan.

Seth

Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
Southwest Region, USFWS
Seth_Willey@fws.gov
Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 9:56 AM, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov> wrote:

Fyi.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>
Date: March 10, 2017 at 8:21:24 AM MST
To: Joy Nicholopoulos <Joy_Nicholopoulos@fws.gov>, [Ted Koch@fws.gov](mailto:Ted_Koch@fws.gov),
Kelly McDowell <Kelly_McDowell@fws.gov>, Juliette Gutierrez
<juliette_gutierrez@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>
Date: March 10, 2017 at 6:37:52 AM MST
To: cynthia_martinez@fws.gov

Cc: brett_hunter@fws.gov, shannon_smith@fws.gov,
Jeff_Rupert@fws.gov, Aaron_Archibeque@fws.gov

Subject: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

Cynthia

Here are the highlights of the meeting yesterday at MIB. John Andrews organized the meeting with the intent of providing the latest info on the fence.

The first waivers will probably be for public lands to ensure a quick start. Folks are expecting a number of waivers to cover critical or vulnerable sections of the border.

Expect a significant increase in surveillance operations as well as activities related to construction.

Request for fence or wall design are now out in the private sector for consideration

If we have significant resource concerns we should have them identified now

John believes we will have an opportunity for consultation once the waivers are issued but does not know how the process will work. We need to have our people ready to work with the operational folks.

DHS has a March 25 date for a fence or wall plan

Mitigation funding is still a question but no one is optimistic

Sent from my iPad

"Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>

From: "Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
Sent: Fri Mar 10 2017 14:22:35 GMT-0700 (MST)
To: Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
Attachments: BP forOMB.CBPandFWSCoordination6.9.10.docx Draft Sabal Palm Briefing for RD.doc Border Fence Mitigation Conservation Action Reports 2015 (1).docx

We still have Larisa's folder on the share drive that is loaded with border info. Can you see our Share Drive?

Below are 3 documents with some good old stuff we should update....

She also had an excellent powerpoint overview of the border issues.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gardiner, Dawn** <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 3:18 PM
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
To: Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>

O.K. Here is the border briefing from 2010 that Benjamin gave to OMB. Would be good to update and add any strategic changes you and Steve want.

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 2:55 PM, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov> wrote:
No I didn't talk to him about it, but can.

Sent from my iPhone

Chuck Ardizzone
Project Leader
Texas Coastal ESFO
US Fish and Wildlife Service
17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211
Houston, TX 77508
C: 713-882-1912

On Mar 10, 2017, at 2:54 PM, Gardiner, Dawn <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov> wrote:

Did you and Steve talk about a unified border message?

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 2:50 PM, Ardizzone, Chuck <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov> wrote:

Dawn and Ernesto,

I would think that there should be something from the last go around for Texas on concerns about the wall. See Seth's email below (highlighted in yellow) and please be prepared to pull something together once they figure out a format.

Chuck Ardizzone
Project Leader
Texas Coastal Ecological Services
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Willey, Seth** <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 2:47 PM
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
To: "Barrett, Sherry" <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>
Cc: Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>, Maggie Dwire <maggie_dwire@fws.gov>

I have a call (and email) into Chuck Blair to try to figure that out. No response yet.

Seth

Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
Southwest Region, USFWS
Seth_Willey@fws.gov
Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 10:24 AM, Barrett, Sherry <sherry_barrett@fws.gov> wrote:

In what format do you want us to provide our concerns?

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 10:16 AM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

Adding Sherry. In particular, Cynthia's folks notes that "if we have significant resource concerns we should have them identified now." For example, gene flow / connectivity. DHS has a March 25th date for a fence or wall plan.

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Date: March 10, 2017 at 8:21:24 AM MST
To: Joy Nicholopoulos <Joy_Nicholopoulos@fws.gov>, Ted_Koch@fws.gov, Kelly McDowell <Kelly_McDowell@fws.gov>, Juliette Gutierrez <juliette_gutierrez@fws.gov>
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Sent from my iPad

--

Sherry Barrett
Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator
US Fish and Wildlife Service
2105 Osuna Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113
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Cell: (505) 363-2797

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E. Dawn Gardiner
Assistant Field Supervisor
Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
P.O. Box 81468
Corpus Christi, TX 78468-1468

(361) 994-9005 x 259
(361) 533-6765 work cell

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"Willey, Seth" <seth_willey@fws.gov>

From: "Willey, Seth" <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Sent: Fri Mar 10 2017 15:40:33 GMT-0700 (MST)
Sherry Barrett <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>, Dawn Whitehead <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
To: Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>
CC: Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

Hey Everyone,

A little more info here. As noted in earlier emails, HQ (through refuges) indicated that "if we have significant resource concerns we should have them identified now." Time appears very short as DHS is on the fast track for releasing their plan. Thinking we want to be proactive on this one, and get started on something quickly.

Chuck Blair (on detail to HQ) suggested we put together a table of stuff that meets the above standard. Not thinking this should be everything possibly impacted, but instead just a high level overview of significant concerns. Something useful in a briefing. That said, others have worked on this longer than I have. Despite some uncertainty in what is the best approach, I took a stab at starting something simple.

Chuck, do you think we are right track. Others, feel free to alter as you think appropriate. Anyone with this link can edit. Or if there is some other pre-existing document we could share, that might be fine (let us know).

Can folks take the ball and run with it? Thoughts?

 **Border Fence - Significant Resource Concerns**

Thanks,
Seth

Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
Southwest Region, USFWS
Seth_Willey@fws.gov
Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Charles Blair** <charles_blair@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 3:11 PM
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
To: "Willey, Seth" <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Cc: Thomas Harvey <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, cynthia_martinez@fws.gov, brett_hunter@fws.gov, shannon_smith@fws.gov, Jeff_Rupert@fws.gov, charisa_morris@fws.gov

Seth

There has been no discussion of format for the information. I suggest you compile in a spreadsheet and we will get you some additional guidance early next week.

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 10, 2017, at 12:09 PM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

Hey Charles,

Hope this finds you well, and that your detail is going well. Your email was shared with us via Aaron. Your email asks us to note soon if we have significant resource concerns related to the border fence. Wondering what format you would like to see? A bunch of BPs? a spreadsheet? something else? I'm thinking ES would like to contribute to a unified R2 response, if you think that would be helpful.

Thank,
Seth

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To: Seth Willey <seth_willey@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>

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To: Joy Nicholopoulos <Joy_Nicholopoulos@fws.gov>, Ted_Koch@fws.gov, Kelly McDowell <Kelly_McDowell@fws.gov>, Juliette Gutierrez <juliette_gutierrez@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>
Date: March 10, 2017 at 6:37:52 AM MST
To: cynthia_martinez@fws.gov
Cc: brett_hunter@fws.gov, shannon_smith@fws.gov, Jeff_Rupert@fws.gov, Aaron_Archibeque@fws.gov
Subject: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

Cynthia

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Sent from my iPad

Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>

From: Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>
Sent: Sat Mar 11 2017 05:08:58 GMT-0700 (MST)
To: "Willey, Seth" <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Sherry Barrett <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>, Dawn Whitehead <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>
CC:
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

Seth

I think this is the best approach until we receive additional information. I would include a contact for each resource concern. This should be the expert or most knowledge person that we can refer to DHS for consultation.

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 10, 2017, at 4:40 PM, Willey, Seth <seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

Hey Everyone,

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Can folks take the ball and run with it? Thoughts?

 [Border Fence - Significant Resource Concerns](#)

Thanks,
Seth

Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services
Southwest Region, USFWS
Seth_Willey@fws.gov
Work: 505-248-6492
Cell: 505-697-7600

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To: Seth Willey <seth_willey@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>

Fyi.

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Aaron_Archibeque@fws.gov
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Sent from my iPad

"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>

From: "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>
Sent: Mon Mar 13 2017 05:14:14 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Willey, Seth" <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Sherry Barrett <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>, Dawn Whitehead <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Charles Blair <charles_blair@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron_archibeque@fws.gov>
CC:
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
Attachments: BP forOMB.CBPandFWSCoordination6.9.10.docx

Seth,

here is a document that Dawn shared from the last go round with this issue. I think a lot if not all of the issues would still apply.

Chuck Ardizzone
Project Leader
Texas Coastal Ecological Services
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211
Houston, TX 77058
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C: (713) 882-1912
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 **Border Fence - Significant Resource Concerns**

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Sent from my iPad

"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>

From: "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>
Sent: Mon Mar 13 2017 05:20:51 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
CC: Seth Willey <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
Attachments: BP forOMB.CBPandFWSCoordination6.9.10.docx

Dawn and Ernesto,

Can you please work on propagating the table that is linked in Seth's email below ASAP. I forwarded the Briefing Paper that Dawn provided from 2010, and I think many if not all of those issues in the BP would still apply.

Chuck Ardizzone
Project Leader
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Date: Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 4:40 PM

Subject: Fwd: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

To: Sherry Barrett <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas_harvey@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>, Dawn Whitehead <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>

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From: "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>
Sent: Mon Mar 13 2017 05:30:30 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

I put the documents you sent on the shared drive under boarder wall information. I would be great if you can dig up the powerpoint you are talking about and put in on the shared drive.

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On Sat, Mar 11, 2017 at 7:09 PM, Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov> wrote:
We have old briefing papers and PowerPoint presentations for Border.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
To: Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Border Fence Meeting in MIB

We still have Larisa's folder on the share drive that is loaded with border info. Can you see our Share Drive?

Below are 3 documents with some good old stuff we should update....

She also had an excellent powerpoint overview of the border issues.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gardiner, Dawn** <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 3:18 PM
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
To: Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>

O.K. Here is the border briefing from 2010 that Benjamin gave to OMB. Would be good to update and add any strategic changes you and Steve want.

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 2:55 PM, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov> wrote:

No I didn't talk to him about it, but can.

Sent from my iPhone

Chuck Ardizzone
Project Leader
Texas Coastal ESFO
US Fish and Wildlife Service
17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211
Houston, TX 77508
C: 713-882-1912

On Mar 10, 2017, at 2:54 PM, Gardiner, Dawn <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov> wrote:

Did you and Steve talk about a unified border message?

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 2:50 PM, Ardizzone, Chuck
<chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov> wrote:

Dawn and Ernesto,

I would think that there should be something from the last go around for Texas on concerns about the wall. See Seth's email below (highlighted in yellow) and please be prepared to pull something together once they figure out a format.

Chuck Ardizzone

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From: **Willey, Seth** <seth_willey@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 2:47 PM
Subject: Re: Border Fence Meeting in MIB
To: "Barrett, Sherry" <sherry_barrett@fws.gov>
Cc: Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Susan Jacobsen <Susan_Jacobsen@fws.gov>, Denise Baker <denise_baker@fws.gov>, Chuck Ardizzone <chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Susan Millsap <susan_millsap@fws.gov>, Steve Spangle <Steve_Spangle@fws.gov>, Maggie Dwire <maggie_dwire@fws.gov>

I have a call (and email) into Chuck Blair to try to figure that out. No response yet.

Seth

Seth L. Willey
Deputy ARD for Ecological Services

Southwest Region, USFWS

Seth_Willey@fws.gov

Work: 505-248-6492

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On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 10:24 AM, Barrett, Sherry

<sherry_barrett@fws.gov> wrote:

In what format do you want us to provide our concerns?

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 10:16 AM, Willey, Seth

<seth_willey@fws.gov> wrote:

Adding Sherry. In particular, Cynthia's folks notes that "if we have significant resource concerns we should have them identified now." For example, gene flow / connectivity. DHS has a March 25th date for a fence or wall plan.

Seth

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--
Sherry Barrett
Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator
US Fish and Wildlife Service
2105 Osuna Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113
Office: (505) 761-4748
Cell: (505) 363-2797

--

E. Dawn Gardiner
Assistant Field Supervisor
Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
P.O. Box 81468
Corpus Christi, TX 78468-1468

(361) 994-9005 x 259
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E. Dawn Gardiner
Assistant Field Supervisor
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Label: "Defenders of Wildlife-FOIA"

Created by:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov

Total Messages in label:191 (29 conversations)

Created: 07-31-2017 at 15:40 PM

Conversation Contents

Species list for the TX border

Attachments:

/22. Species list for the TX border/1.1 Texas Species List.docx

"Tuegel, Marty" <marty_tuegel@fws.gov>

From: "Tuegel, Marty" <marty_tuegel@fws.gov>
Sent: Tue Jun 13 2017 08:45:17 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Dawn Whitehead <dawn_whitehead@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Subject: Species list for the TX border
Attachments: Texas Species List.docx

Dawn and Ernesto,

The attached list was generated off of IPAC and some of the species do not look correct. It is based on a mile wide buffer along the border. This is for a Congressional Response that is due tomorrow.

Can I get this by COB today?

Thanks,

Marty

Marty Tuegel
Branch Chief - Environmental Review
Ecological Services, Southwest Regional Office
500 Gold Avenue SW, Rm 6034
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM 87103
505 248-6651 office
505 362-5025 cell

Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>

From: Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>
Sent: Tue Jun 13 2017 11:35:57 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Tuegel, Marty" <marty_tuegel@fws.gov>
CC: Dawn Whitehead <dawn_whitehead@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Species list for the TX border

It is easier for me to list what stays on than what to delete...
Apologize for my typing here...

I guess we can leave sea turtles on the list. They do come onto the beach at the border with the Gulf beach. Your call. Otherwise these species are possible within a mile of the TX border with Mexico:

Jaguarundi
Bat
Ocelot
Vireo
Least tern
Mexican spotted owl
Aplomado falcon. Is not an experimental pop in Texas, even though it was put there by PFUND and looks like it should have been done that way 🍌 •
Piping plover
Red knot
Red crowned parrot
SW willow flycatcher
Yellow billed cuckoo
RG silvery Minnow- experimental pop
Texas hornshell
Chisos mt cactus
Hinkley oak
Lloyds cactus
Star cactus
Walkers manioc
Texas ayenia
Zapata bladderpod

Call my cell or text with questions

Dawn

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 13, 2017, at 9:45 AM, Tuegel, Marty <marty_tuegel@fws.gov> wrote:

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<Texas Species List.docx>