

**[EXTERNAL] RE: Pink House**

Shand, Dawne - Rep. (HOU) <Dawne.Shand@mahouse.gov>

Wed 11/1/2023 2:15 PM

To: Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>

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I see the emails flying! And, we received an epistle from a friend of Thomas Wetmore. You are in the middle of two difficult storm fronts! See you Friday

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**From:** Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 12:25 PM

**To:** Shand, Dawne - Rep. (HOU) <Dawne.Shand@mahouse.gov>

**Subject:** Pink House

Hi Dawne,

Hope you're doing well! While not specifically in your district, I know that this will affect you and your constituents, so I wanted to make sure you had advanced notice.

Tomorrow, we will publish a draft Environmental Assessment for a *proposal* to demolish the Pink House, restore the site, and open it to public access. Removal of the structure will be a painful thing for many to hear, but I know the Pink House group and many others have acknowledged repeatedly the considerable efforts collectively undertaken for over 7 years to exchange the property. The unfortunate reality is that continuing along that path indefinitely is not in the public's best interest. After an exhaustive search, there are no landowners willing/able to complete a viable land exchange as the house continues to deteriorate.

If we move forward with the proposal, we would install a public, ADA-accessible viewing platform in the area where the house presently sits.

Public release of the draft document will be tomorrow, so please keep a close hold on this. I hope to see you Friday at the MRBA meeting.

Finally --Happy Halloween! (and sorry I don't have better news).

Matt

**Matt Hillman**

Refuge Manager

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