



Texas General Land Office

PUBLIC NOTICE

Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS AND FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A FEDERAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STANDARD (FFRMS) FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

Date: February 11, 2026

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

These notices shall satisfy three separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about February 27, 2026, the GLO will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District for the release of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds appropriated under the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirement Act, 2017 (Pub. L. 115-56) and the Further Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-123), as amended, to undertake a project known as the Isom Stormwater Detention Basin Project for the purpose of alleviating flooding within the Halls Bayou watershed through the construction of an integrated dry bottom stormwater detention basin with dual weir and outfall structures with 550-acre feet of detention capacity, at a total cost of \$26,001,653.76 and located on the north side of Halls Bayou (P118-00-00) near Isom Street and Aldine-Westfield Road in north central Harris County, Texas.

FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED

Activity in Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Floodplain and Wetlands

This is to give notice that GLO, under 24 CFR Part 58, has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order(s) 11988 and Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program; GLO Contract# 24-033-000-E072 and HUD grant IDs B-17-DM-48-0001; B-18-DP-48-0001. The proposed project is located on the north side of Halls Bayou (P118-00-00) near Isom Street and Aldine-Westfield Road in north central Harris County, Texas and is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain and wetlands. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain



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was determined using the 0.2 percent flood approach. The stormwater detention basin will occupy approximately 55.8 acres of existing basins and forested land and will improve stormwater conveyance and decrease flood risk in this area through construction of an integrated stormwater detention basin with 550-acre feet of detention capacity, dual weirs, and an outfall structure. The purpose of the project is to alleviate flooding within the Halls Bayou watershed by maximizing floodwater storage capacity and reducing flood damage along Halls Bayou for storm events up to and including the 500-year event.

Construction activities include tree clearing; excavation; fill; incorporation of weirs, outfall structures, backslope swales, interceptor structures, silt fencing, clay lining, pipe outfalls, pilot channels; installation of junction boxes; slope stability; grading; and riprap. This project does not involve acquisition. Based on the effective FEMA FIRMs, a majority of the project limits are contained within the Regulatory Floodway and the 100-Year Floodplain, 4.9 acres are in the Floodway, and 37.5 acres are in the 100-Year Floodplain. The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 500-year flood approach, totaling 37.5 acres in the FFRMS floodplain. The remaining 0.7 acres are outside of the floodplain. The proposed action includes 0.04 acres of wetland impacts. The impacted wetlands provide no recreational, educational, scientific, cultural, or historic value. The proposed action is needed to alleviate flooding within the Halls Bayou watershed and will result in a net flood reduction along this section of Halls Bayou.

GLO has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial functions and intrinsic values of the existing floodplain and wetlands: Alternative 1) Wet Bottom Basin, 2) Dry Bottom Basin and 3) No Action. Alternative 1 consists of a wet bottom basin that would retain water for longer periods of time, inviting more wildlife and maintenance to manage algae, sediment, and mosquito control. This alternative also does not allow area for recreational use or privacy for neighboring residential areas. For these reasons, this alternative was not selected. Alternative 2 consists of grass-lined, dry bottom basin with an outfall pipe and weir structure, allowing for less maintenance, less mosquito breeding and making more space for recreational activities. Under the No Action Alternative, area residents and businesses would continue to be affected by area flooding. Extreme flood events in this area would continue to result in lost wages, damage to homes and businesses, mobility disruptions, and potential exposure to health risks associated with standing water. Therefore, the No Action alternative does not meet the purpose and need of the project and for these reasons was not the recommended alternative.

Alternative 2 was selected as the recommended alternative for this project due to timing and funding constraints that would be significantly increased for the other alternative due to permitting timelines and mitigation costs. The selected alternative would create approximately 550 acre-feet of total volume, reducing WSELs and peak flows along Halls Bayou P118-00-00 during storm events up to and including the 500-year event. The



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project will be constructed on land already owned by the Harris County Flood Control District and does not require acquisition, relocation or displacements. The proposed action minimizes impacts to wetlands by avoiding impacts to jurisdictional waters of the U.S. to the greatest extent possible. Best management practices will be implemented to avoid and minimize potential impacts to any threatened or endangered species by preserving a 20-foot riparian buffer around wetlands and waterbodies where practicable to preserve habitat for protected species. This buffer is located within Alligator Snapping Turtle (AST) habitat, and will ensure protection of nesting habitat, as well as provide roosting and pupping habitat for any tricolored bats that may occur in the project limits. To further ensure no impacts to the state-listed AST, an exclusion fence (approved by TPWD) will be installed along the buffer and will be observed daily by a biological monitor. Impacts to potentially occurring subsurface archeological resources will be avoided by the provision of an archeological monitor.

The GLO has reevaluated alternatives to building in the FFRMS floodplain and wetlands and has determined that it has no practicable alternative to the FFRMS floodplain and wetlands development. Environmental files documenting compliance with Executive Order 11988, and Executive Order 11990 are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments can be submitted to the GLO at the following address:

Texas General Land Office

Community Development & Revitalization (CDR) Division

PO Box 12873, Austin TX 78711-2873

(512) 475-5051

ATTN: David Camarena, Director of Environmental Oversight



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A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M at the address above and at: (<https://www.hcfcd.org/Activity/Projects/Cypress-Creek/TC-Jester-Stormwater-Detention-Basins>). Comments may also be submitted via email at env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The GLO on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Texas General Land Office's Community Development & Revitalization (CDR) Division, located at 1700 Congress Ave., Austin TX 78701-1495, as well as the Harris County Flood Control District, located at 9900 Northwest Freeway, Houston TX 77092, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9:00 am to 5:00 p.m. The ERR will also be made available to the public for review electronically and can be requested at env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Texas General Land Office's Community Development & Revitalization (CDR) Division. All comments received by February 26, 2026 will be considered by the GLO prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The GLO on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District certifies to HUD that Jet Hays in his capacity as Deputy Director of Integration consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Harris County Flood Control District to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the GLO's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases:



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- (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the GLO;
- (b) the GLO has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58;
- (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or
- (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division at: 451 7th Street SW, Room 7272, Washington, DC 20410 or by email at disasterrecovery@hud.gov.

Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Jet Hays, Deputy Director of Integration

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