Appendix A

Figures



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\1_GenLocation_11x17.mxd



ocument Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\z_LBCR_ExistCoverTypes_11x17.mx



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\3_LBCR_Streams_11x17.mxd



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\4_Lit_Zone_Tribs_11x17.mxd



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\5_LocalReservoirs_11x17.mxd



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\6_RiverbyRanchAerial_11x17.mxd



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\7_UBDCMS_Aerial_11x17.mxd



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\8_RiverbyVicinity_11x17.mxd



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\9_RiverbyCoverType_11x17.mxd



		8	60	v	V V
Soil Unit Name	Acres	6128	,00(Ŧ	
complex, 0 to 1 percent slopes	1745.95	Õ	1:50		Soils 1
m, 0 to 1 percent slopes	189.54	N O			byHydric
icota complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	5.43	A BOL	ы Ш	GNE	10 River
oam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	62.75	F&N	SCA	DESI	FILE
, 0 to 2 percent slopes	2381.04				
y loam, rarely flooded	847.76				
am, 0 to 1 percent slopes, rarely flooded	570.14				
o 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	790.55				e
o 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	76.38				Sit
loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	1925.42			`	י ר
				Ι.	<u>o</u>
Total:	8594.96				ati
			North Texas Municipal Water District		Location of Hydric Soils at the Proposed Miti
		W			>E
Legend					4055 International Plaza Suite 200 Fort Worth, Texas 76109-4895 817-735-7300
Non - Hydric	Soils				
Hydric Soils			1	0	
Proposed Mit	igation Site		•	-	
(Riverby Ran	ch)		FIG	URE	Ξ



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\11_UBDCMS_ExistCoverTypes_11x17.mxd

	F&N JOB NO. NTD06128 DATE: Nov 2016 SCALE: 1:36,000	DESIGNED: HHM DRAFTED: HHM FILE: LEADCOMS, EARLOWNING
	North Texas Municipal Water District	Proposed Upper Bois d'Arc Creek Mitigation Site Existing Cover Types
Cropland	w	E
Emergent Wetland Forested Wetland Grassland Open Water Shrub Wetland		Freese and Nichols 4055 International Plaza Suite 200 Fort Worth, Texas 76109-4895 817-735-7300
Upper Bois d'Arc Creek Mitigation Site	1	1 URE



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\12_UBDCMS_HydricSoils_11x17.mxd



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\13_RiverbyConceptualmodel_11x17.mxd





Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\15_RiverbyWork_Type11x17.mxd





- Emergent Wetland Enhancement
- Emergent Wetland Restoration
- Forested Wetland Enhancement
- Forested Wetland Restoration
- Grassland-Old Field

Lacustrine

- Riparian Woodland / Bottomland Hardwood Enhancement
- Riparian Woodland / Bottomland Hardwood Restoration
- Shrub Wetland Preservation
- Upland Deciduous Forest











Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\16_RiverbyProp_Mitigation_MB_11x17.mxd





Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\17_UBDCMS_PropCoverTypes_11x17.mxd



Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\18_Upper_BDC_MA_RGA_8x11.mxd

NAD 1983 StatePlane Texas North Central FIPS 4202 Feet



Document Path: H:\ENVIRONMENTAL\FINAL_EXHIBITS\Mitigation\Revisions\Mitigation_Plan\19_OnSite_Tribs_RGA_11x17.mxd



Appendix B

Common and Scientific Names (Existing)

Organisms Identified within Mitigation Plan

Common Name	Scientific Name
Bi	rds
American crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos
Barred owl	Strix varia
Canada goose	Branta canadensis
Carolina chickadee	Poecile carolinensis
Carolina wren	Thryothorus ludovicianus
Common yellowthroat	Geothylpis trichas
Ducks	Family: Anatidae
Great blue heron	Ardea Herodias
Great egret	Ardea alba
Indigo bunting	Passerina cyanea
Northern cardinal	Cardinalis
Northern harrier	Circus cyaneus
Painted bunting	Passerina ciris
Red-tailed hawk	Buteo jamaicensis
Solitary warbler	Family: Parulidae
Tufted titmouse	Baeolophus bicolor
White-eyed vireo	Vireo griseus
White-fronted goose (greater)	Anser albifrons
Fo	rbs
American lotus	Nelumbo lutea
Arrowhead	Sagittaria spp.
Balloon vine	Cardiospermum halicacabum
Black-eyed susan	Rudbeckia hirta
Buttercup	Ranunculus spp.
Clasping coneflower	Dracopis amplexicaulis
Dock	Rumex spp.
Drummond phlox	Phlox drummondii
Eared redstem	Ammannia auriculata
Evening primrose (pink)	Oenothera speciosa
Frogfruit	Phyla spp.
Goldenrod	Solidago spp.
Illinois bundleflower	Desmanthus illinoensis
Indian blanket	Gaillardia pulchella
Ironweed	Vernonia spp.
Lazy daisy	Aphanostephus sp.
Lemon mint	Monarda citriodora
Mockbishop weed	Ptilimnium nuttallii
Partridge pea	Chamaecrista fasciculata
Pennsylvania smartweed	Polygonum pensylvanicum
Plains coreopsis	Coreopsis tinctoria
Ragweed	Ambrosia spp.
Redstems	Ammannia spp.

Common Name	Scientific Name	
Roundleaf groundsel	Packera obouta	
Smartweeds	Polygonum spp.	
Sumpweed	Iva annua	
Water primrose	Ludwigia spp.	
Wild pea	Lathyrus spp.	
Gra	sses	
Barnyardgrass	Echinochloa crus-galli	
Broomsedge bluestem	Andropogon virginicus	
Bushy bluestem	Andropogon glomeratus	
Crowngrass	Paspalum sp.	
Eastern gamagrass	Tripsacum dactyloides	
Indiangrass	Sorghastrum nutans	
Little bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium	
Prairie wildrye	Elymus canadensis	
Purpletop	Tridens flavus	
Sand dropseed	Sporobolus cryptandrus	
Sand lovegrass	Eragrostis trichodes	
Sideoats grama	Bouteloua curtipendula	
Switchgrass	Panicum virgatum	
Virginia wildrye	Elymus virginicus	
Ins	ects	
Butterflies	Order: Lepidoptera	
Mosquitoes	Family: Culicidae	
Bees	Order: Hymenoptera	
Dragonflies	Order: <i>Odonata</i>	
Man	nmals	
Raccoon	Procyon lotor	
American Beaver	Castor canadensis	
River otter	Lutra canadensis	
Feral hog	Sus scrofa	
White-tailed deer	Odocoileus virginianus	
Reptiles		
Ornate box turtle	Terrapene ornata	
Cottonmouth water moccasin	Agkistrodon piscivorus	
Copperhead	Agkistrodon contortrix	
Amphibians		
Frogs	Order: Anura	
Southern Leopard frog	Rana sphenocephala	
Rushes and Sedges		
Blue sedge	Carex glaucodea	
Cherokee sedge	Carex cherokeensis	
Flatsedge	Cyperus spp.	
Flatstem spikerush	Eleocharis compressa	

Common Name	Scientific Name	
Grassleaf rush	Juncus marginatus	
Green flatsedge	Cyperus virens	
Horned beakrush	Rhynchospora corniculata	
Slimpod rush	Juncus diffusissimus	
Spikerush	Eleocharis spp.	
Shrubs and Vines		
American beautyberry	Callicarpa americana	
Baccharis	Baccharis spp.	
Buttonbush	Cephalanthus occidentalis	
Coralberry	Symphoricarpos orbiculatus	
Deciduous holly	Ilex decidua	
Hydrolea	Hydrolea ovata	
Poison ivy	Toxicodendron radicans	
Salt cedar	Tamarix chinensis	
Sandbar willow	Salix exigua	
Swamp privet	Forestiera acuminata	
Virginia creeper	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	
Tr	ees	
American sycamore	Platanus occidentalis	
Black cherry	Prunus serotina	
Black hickory	Carya texana	
Black oak	Quercus velutina	
Black walnut	Juglans nigra	
Black willow	Salix nigra	
Bois d'Arc	Maclura pomifera	
Box elder	Acer negundo	
Bur oak	Quercus macrocarpa	
Cedar elm	Ulmus crassifolia	
Cherrybark oak	Quercus pagoda	
Chinkapin oak	Quercus muehlenbergii	
Dogwood	Cornus spp.	
Eastern cottonwood	Populus deltoides	
Eastern redbud	Cercis canadensis	
Eastern red cedar	Juniperus virginiana	
Elm	Ulmus spp.	
Green ash	Fraxinus pennsylvanica	
Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis	
Hawthorn	Crataegus spp.	
Hickory	Carya spp.	
Honey locust	Gleditsia triacanthos	
Overcup oak	Quercus lyrata	
Pecan	Carya illinoinensis	
Post oak	Quercus stellata	
Persimmon	Diospyros spp.	
Red maple	Acer rubrum	

Common Name	Scientific Name	
Red mulberry	Morus rubra	
Shumard oak	Quercus shumardii	
Soapberry	Sapindus spp.	
Southern red oak	Quercus falcata	
Sugarberry	Celtis laevigata	
Water oak	Quercus nigra	
White oak	Quercus alba	
Willow oak	Quercus phellos	
Other		
Crayfish	Family: Cambaridae	
Mussels	Family: Unionidae	
Mosquitofish	Gambusia affinis	
Land snails	Class: Gastropoda	

Appendix C

Habitat Evaluation Procedures

Estimation of Future Wetland Habitat Unit Production at Riverby Ranch

The purpose of this memo is to describe the methods used to estimate the Habitat Units (HU) values at the near-site mitigation property Riverby Ranch. Baseline and future HU values were estimated for three wetland cover type categories. *Existing Emergent Wetlands* refer to the acreage of land at Riverby Ranch designated as these cover types in the July 2009 field evaluations. *Restored Shrub Wetlands* and *Restored Emergent Wetlands* are those acreages expected to be converted from existing *Cropland* or *Grassland* acreage.

Baseline (year 0) HU values for *Existing Emergent Wetlands* were calculated using Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP) analysis of habitat variables measured in the field in September and October 2010. No baseline (year 0) HU calculations for Existing Shrub Wetlands was performed, as discussed in the Mitigation Plan. Baseline HU values for *Restored Shrub Wetlands* and *Restored Emergent Wetlands* and expected future HU values for all cover type categories were calculated from predicted values for each habitat variable used in the HEP analysis.

The following sections describe the planned enhancement and/or restoration actions that were predicted to affect a change in future habitat variable values. Other mitigation efforts may be proposed in the Mitigation Plan, but are not included in the following discussion.

Restored Shrub Wetlands

The Mitigation Plan proposes to construct 150 acres of *Restored Shrub Wetlands* from existing *Cropland* and *Grassland* areas of Riverby Ranch. The baseline HSI value for this cover type category was calculated from the predicted values of *Shrub Wetland* habitat variables if measured in a *Cropland* or *Grassland* area, resulting in a Year 0 value of 0 HUs. The Mitigation Plan proposes the following preservation, enhancement, and restoration efforts at these sites:

- Establishment of a deed restriction
- Cessation of land clearing
- Cattle removal/control of herbivores
- Invasive species removal/control
- Restoration of vegetation, particularly the planting of native shrub wetland species
- Restoration of wetland hydrology

These efforts, along with a 5-year time period of vegetative growth, were predicted to result in positive changes to habitat variables for this cover type. These changes, described in the table below, would produce an expected gain of 103.5 HUs.

T:\Mitigation\Mitigation Plan\Draft Mitigation Plan\October 2016 Mitigation Plan\Appendices\Appendix C HEP\Riverby Future HU Assumptions (HEP).docx

Habitat Variable Affected	Predicted Values		
	Year 0	Year 5	
Distance to water (mi.) (Raccoon)	0	0.1	
Water regime: A) Permanent water; B) Semi-permanent water; C) None or ephemeral flooding (<i>Raccoon and Green Heron</i>)	0	В	
Water regime: 1) Permanent; 2) Intermittently exposed; 3) Semi-permanent; 4) Seasonally flooded; 5) None or ephemeral (<i>Swamp Rabbit</i>)	0	4	
Water current: A) Still or slow; B) Moderately slow; C) Moderately fast; D) Fast (Green Heron)	А	А	
Number per acre of refuge sites (Raccoon)	0	1	
Percent water area <10" deep (Green Heron)	0	100	
Percent emergent herbaceous cover in littoral zone (Green Heron)	0	50	
Percent water area covered by logs, trees limbs, shrub cover or herbaceous vegetation in summer (<i>Wood duck</i>)	0	50	
Percent water surface covered by logs, tree or shrub overhangs, etc. in winter (<i>Wood duck</i>)	0	50	
Aquatic substrate composition: A) Muddy; B) Sandy; C) Rocky (Green Heron)	A	А	
Number per acre of potential nest cavities (Wood Duck)	0	1	
Percent shrub crown closure (Swamp Rabbit)	0	50	
Percent herbaceous canopy cover (Swamp Rabbit)	0	75	

Existing Emergent Wetlands

Riverby Ranch contains 1,377 acres of *Existing Emergent Wetlands*. The baseline HSI value of this covertype was calculated from field data to be 0.23, which equates to 316.7 HUs. The Mitigation Plan proposes the following preservation and enhancement efforts at the site:

- Establishment of a deed restriction
- Cattle removal/control of herbivores
- Invasive species removal/control

These efforts along with a 5-year time period of vegetative regeneration are predicted to result in positive changes to the habitat variables for this cover type. These changes, described in the table below, would produce a expected gain of 275.4 HUs in 5 years.

T:\Mitigation\Mitigation Plan\Draft Mitigation Plan\October 2016 Mitigation Plan\Appendices\Appendix C HEP\Riverby Future HU Assumptions (HEP).docx

Habitat Variable Affected	<u>Predicted Change in Value</u> (Year 5)
Percent cover of emergent herbaceous in littoral zone (Green heron)	Increase from 0% to 80%
Percent of water area covered by logs, trees limbs, shrub cover or herbaceous vegetation in summer (live or dead & overhanging within 1 m of surface) (<i>Green heron</i>)	Increase from 0% to 30%
Percent of water surface covered by logs, tree or shrub overhangs, etc. in winter (persistent) (<i>Wood duck</i>)	Increase from 0% to 10%

Restored Emergent Wetlands

The Mitigation Plan proposes to construct 1,100 acres of *Restored Emergent Wetlands* from existing *Cropland* and *Grassland* areas of Riverby Ranch. The baseline HSI value for this cover type category was calculated from the predicted values of *Emergent Wetland* habitat variables if measured in a *Cropland* or *Grassland* area, resulting in a Year 0 value of 0 HUs. The Mitigation Plan proposes the following preservation, enhancement, and restoration efforts at these sites:

- Establishment of a deed restriction
- Cattle removal/control of herbivores
- Invasive species removal/control
- Restoration of wetland hydrology
- Restoration of vegetation

Over the 5-year period, the above actions are expected to result in positive changes to the habitat variables for this cover type. These changes, described in the table below, would produce an expected gain of 440 HUs.

Habitat Variable Affected	<u>Predicted Change in Value</u> (Year 5)
Distance to water (Raccoon)	Decrease from ~500 yd. to 0 yd.
Water regime category (Permanent, Semi-permanent, or None/Ephemeral) (Raccoon, Green heron)	Change from "None/Ephemeral" to "Permanent"
Percent of water area less than 10 in. deep in average summer conditions (Green heron)	Increase from 0% to 50%
Percent cover of emergent herbaceous in littoral zone (Green heron)	Increase from 0% to 80%
Percent of water area covered by logs, trees limbs, shrub cover or herbaceous vegetation in summer (live or dead & overhanging within 1 m of surface) (<i>Green heron</i>)	Increase from 0% to 30%

T:\Mitigation\Mitigation Plan\Draft Mitigation Plan\October 2016 Mitigation Plan\Appendices\Appendix C HEP\Riverby Future HU Assumptions (HEP).docx

Percent of water surface covered by logs, tree or shrub overhangs, etc. in	Increase from 0% to 10%
winter (persistent) (Wood duck)	

T:\Mitigation\Mitigation Plan\Draft Mitigation Plan\October 2016 Mitigation Plan\Appendices\Appendix C HEP\Riverby Future HU Assumptions (HEP).docx
Appendix D

Hydrogeomorphic Method (HGM) for Forested Wetlands

Technical Memorandum on Functional Assessment of Forested Wetlands at the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site using the Modified East Texas HGM

MEMORANDUM



Innovative approaches Practical results Outstanding service

www.freese.com

4055 International Plaza, Suite 200 • Fort Worth, Texas 76109 • 817-735-7300 • fax 817-735-7492

TO:	Robert McCarthy, North Texas Municipal Water District
CC:	Simone Kiel, P.E., Steve Watters, PWS
FROM:	Michael Votaw, PWS, CWB
SUBJECT:	Functional Assessment of Forested Wetlands at the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site using the Modified East Texas HGM
DATE:	6/22/2016
PROIECT:	NTD06128 - Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir

INTRODUCTION

At the request of the Tulsa District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) has completed a functional assessment of forested wetlands located within the footprint of the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir project (Figure 1). The functional assessment method utilized is a modification of the *Regional Guidebook for Applying the Hydrogeomorphic Approach to the Functional Assessment of Forested Wetlands in Alluvial Valleys of East Texas* (Regional Guidebook) (Williams, et al., 2010). Modifications to the guidebook were completed as a joint effort between the Tulsa District USACE, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Research and Development Center (ERDC), and Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA). Documentation of how the guidebook was modified can be found in *Modifying the East Texas Regional HydroGeoMorphic Guidebook for Use in Fannin County, TX, in the Lower Bois D'Arc Creek Reservoir Project* (Camp et al., 2016). The purpose of conducting the functional assessment was to develop indices for the wetland functions being performed by the forested wetlands within the proposed reservoir site and to estimate potential impacts to those forested wetlands resulting from reservoir construction. The six functions assessed using the modified hydrogeomorphic (HGM) assessment method include, Detain Floodwater, Detain Precipitation, Cycle Nutrients, Export Organic Carbon, Maintain Plant Communities, and Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife. The following information describes the application of the modified HGM method and the results from this effort.

METHODS

The methods used for this assessment followed the protocol as described in the Regional Guidebook for Applying the Hydrogeomorphic Approach to the Functional Assessment of Forested Wetlands in Alluvial Valleys of East Texas (Regional Guidebook) (Williams, et al. 2010) and from Modifying the East Texas Regional HydroGeoMorphic Guidebook for Use in Fannin County, TX, in the Lower Bois D'Arc Creek Reservoir Project (Camp et al., 2016).

The 4,602 acres (1,862 hectares) of forested wetlands within the footprint of the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir site would be classified as riverine wetlands according to the Regional Guidebook. Riverine wetlands are a class of wetlands that occur within the 5-year floodplains and riparian corridors associated with stream channels. Their primary source of water comes from overbank or backwater flow from the channel. Other sources of

hydrology include interflow, overland flow from adjacent uplands, tributary inflow, and direct precipitation. The forested wetlands within the proposed reservoir site and associated 5-year floodplain are shown on Figure 2.

Following the HGM methodology, riverine wetlands are further refined into two sub-classes: low-gradient riverine, and mid-gradient riverine. Low-gradient riverine wetlands occur within the floodplains of major rivers. The floodplains can be very wide even along relatively narrow channels, a common feature of modern coastal plain river systems (Bridge 2003). Typically, these systems have large, distinctive geomorphic features and often receive both backwater and overbank flooding. Their typical hydrogeomorphic setting includes point bars, backswamps, and natural levee deposits associated with meandering streams within the 5-year floodplain (Williams et al. 2010). Based on these characteristics, it was determined that the forested wetlands within the footprint of the proposed reservoir would fall within the sub-class, low-gradient riverine.

The Wetland Assessment Area (WAA) utilized for this functional assessment includes all of the forested wetlands identified within the footprint of the proposed reservoir (4,602 acres/1,862 hectares). According to the Regional Guidebook, each WAA belongs to a single regional wetland sub-class and is relatively homogenous with respect to the criteria used to assess wetland functions (i.e., hydrologic regime, vegetation structure, topography, soils, successional stage). All of the forested wetlands within the footprint of the proposed reservoir were identified as sub-class low-gradient riverine, are contiguous, and are located within the 5-year floodplain of Bois d'Arc Creek (Figure 2). Additionally, these wetlands are strongly associated with the Tinn Clay, 0-1 percent slopes, frequently flooded and Tinn Clay, 0-1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded soil map units (Figure 3) and all are dominated by three primary tree species including, green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*), and cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*). Based on these data, one WAA was identified that included all forested wetlands within the project area.

Following the identification of the WAA to designate the project boundary, sample plot locations were identified to collect field data. The plot locations were reviewed by all cooperating agencies involved in the project prior to data collection efforts. From December 15 through 17, 2015, FNI environmental scientists, regulatory staff from the Tulsa District USACE, and NTMWD representatives collected field data at 12 sample plot locations within the footprint of the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir site (Figure 4). Data collection was performed utilizing the modified low-gradient riverine data collection form and following the protocol described in the Regional Guidebook. At each sample plot location, data forms were completed, GPS coordinates were recorded, and photographs were taken. Photographs from each sample plot are located in Attachment A.

Field data collected during the December 2015 field efforts at the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir site were entered into the modified East TX HGM calculator provided by ERDC. Once data were entered, the calculator provided an average measure for each variable and its associated sub-index score. The average measure and sub-index scores for each variable evaluated for the forested wetlands at the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir site are summarized in Table 1. The sub-index scores for each variable were then utilized in the formulas (assessment models) for each of the six functions assessed to calculate a functional capacity index (FCI) value for each function. The FCI value represents the ability of a wetland to perform a specific function relative to the ability of reference standard wetlands to perform the same function. The theoretical FCI value ranges from 0.0 to 1.0, where wetlands with an FCI of 1.0 perform the assessed function at a level that is characteristic of reference standard wetlands. A lower FCI indicates that the wetland is performing a function at a level below that characteristic of reference standard wetlands. The FCI values for each function were then multiplied by the area (hectares) of forested wetlands in the WAA to determine functional capacity units (FCU) for each function, as shown in the following equation:

Functional Capacity Unit (FCU) = Functional Capacity Index (FCI) x Area (hectares)

RESULTS

In the case of the proposed reservoir site, the WAA was determined to be the total acreage of forested wetlands within the footprint of the reservoir, which was 4,602 acres (1,862 hectares). The FCI values and resulting FCU's for each function are summarized in Table 2. Output from the modified East TX HGM calculator, including the FCI calculator and Data Summary by Plot tabs, are located in Attachment B.

Th.

Table 1. Average Measure and Sub-Index Values of the Forested Wetlands within the Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site.

Variable	Name	Average Measure	Sub-Index
VPATCH	Forest Patch Size (ha)	2,500	1.00
V _{FREQ}	Change in Frequency of Flooding (years change)	0	1.00
V _{DUR}	Change in Growing Season Flood Duration (weeks change)	0	1.00
VPOND	Total Ponded Area (%)	30	1.00
V _{STRATA}	Number of Vegetation Strata	4	1.00
V _{SOIL}	Soil Integrity (%)	0	1.00
V _{TBA}	Tree Basal Area (m ³ /ha)	29	1.00
V _{TDEN}	Tree Density (stems/ha)	690	0.81
V _{SNAG}	Snag Density (stems/ha)	79	1.00
V _{OHOR}	O Horizon Accumulation (cm)	0	0.20
V _{COMP}	Composition of Tallest Woody Stratum (%)	0.70	0.70
V _{TCOMP}	Tree Composition (%)	0.70	0.70
V _{SSD}	Shrub-Sapling Density (stems/ha)	875	0.88
V _{GVC}	Ground Vegetation Cover (%)	29	1.00
VLITTER	Litter Cover (%)	57	0.92
VLOG	Log Biomass (m ³ /ha)	29	1.00
V _{WD}	Woody Debris Biomass (m ³ /ha)	51	1.00

Table 2. Functional Capacity Index (FCI) Values and Functional Capacity Units (FCU) of the Forested Wetlands within the Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site.

Function	Functional Capacity Index (FCI)	Functional Capacity Units (FCU)
Detain Floodwater	0.92	1,713.04
Detain Precipitation	0.78	1,452.36
Cycle Nutrients	0.85	1,582.70
Export Organic Carbon	0.87	1,619.94
Maintain Plant Communities	0.90	1,675.80
Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife	0.86	1,601.32











ATTACHMENT A Photographs



Photo 1. Site 1A, view looking north





Photo 3. Site 1A, view looking east



Photo 4. Site 1A, view looking west



Photo 5. Site 2, view looking north



Photo 6. Site 2, view looking south



Photo 7. Site 2, view looking east



Photo 8. Site 2, view looking west



Photo 9. Site 3A, view looking north



Photo 10. Site 3A, view looking south



Photo 11. Site 3A, view looking east





Photo 13. Site 4A, view looking north



Photo 14. Site 4A, view looking south



Photo 15. Site 4A, view looking east





Photo 17. Site 5A, view looking north



Photo 18. Site 5A, view looking south



Photo 19. Site 5A, view looking east



Photo 20. Site 5A, view looking west



Photo 21. Site 6, view looking north



Photo 22. Site 6, view looking south



Photo 23. Site 6, view looking east



Photo 24. Site 6, view looking west



Photo 25. Site 7A, view looking north



Photo 26. Site 7A, view looking south



Photo 27. Site 7A, view looking east



Photo 28. Site 7A, view looking west



Photo 29. Site 8A, view looking north



Photo 30. Site 8A, view looking south



Photo 31. Site 8A, view looking east



Photo 32. Site 8A, view looking west



Photo 33. Site 9, view looking north





Photo 35. Site 9, view looking east



Photo 36. Site 9, view looking west



Photo 37. Site 10A, view looking north



Photo 38. Site 10A, view looking south



Photo 39. Site 10A, view looking east



Photo 40. Site 10A, view looking west



Photo 41. Site 11A, view looking north





Photo 43. Site 11A, view looking east





Photo 45. Site 12A, view looking north





Photo 47. Site 12A, view looking east



Photo 48. Site 12A, view looking west



ATTACHMENT B Modified East TX HGM Calculator Output

FCI/FCU Calculator for the Fannin County, Texas Adaptation of the East Texas HGM Guidebook

Start with the Project Level Data Entry below. Enter in the yellow cells the number and size of the Wetland Assessment Area (WAA) being sampled, the project name, and location. Use the drop down menus to indicate whether this WAA represents the Project Site or Mitigation Site, before project or after project. Then go to the Data Entry tabs to enter individual field measurements for the tract and each plot. For information on determining how to split a project into WAAs, see A Regional Guidebook for Applying the Hydrogeomorphic Approach to the Functional Assessment of Forested Wetlands in Alluvial Valleys of East Texas (Williams *et al.* 2010). This spreadsheet calculator only allows for ten plots per WAA. If the WAA merits more plots, it must be subdivided to use this tool. Functional Results are automatically calculated based on the data entered into the Data Entry sheets. If the analysis includes mitigation sufficiency assessment, you may enter the functional results into the sufficiency calculator at http://el.erdc.usace.army.mil/wetlands/datanal.html.

Project Level Data Entry

T TOJECT Level							
Enter information in yellow cells, and select HGM Subclass and Site information from dropdown menus. A Subclass must be selected prior to printing out data sheets.							
Project Name:	Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Modified HGM Functio	nal Assessment					
Location:	Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Si	te					
Sampling Dates:	4/28/16 through 4/29/16						
HGM Subclass (present at this WAA: Low Gradient Riverine	WAA number:	1				
Brainat Sita: Proje	Broject Timing: Refore Project	- WAA size (ha):	1962				
			1002				
Final Summar	ies						
All summaries of resu	ults are automatically calculated based on data entered into the	individual plot entry da	ita sheets.				
Functional Resu	ults Summary: Enter Results in Section	A of the Mitigation S	ufficiency Calculator				
	F	Functional	Functional				
	Function	Capacity Index	Capacity Units				
	Detain Floodwater	0.92	1713.04				
	Detain Precipitation	0.78	1452.36				
	Cycle Nutrients	0.85	1582.70				
	Export Organic Carbon	0.87	1619.94				
	Maintain Plant Communities	0.90	1675.80				
	Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife	0.86	1601.32				
Variable Measur	re and Subindex Summary:						
Variable	Name	Average Measure	Subindex				
V _{PATCH}	Forested Patch Size (ha)	2500	1.00				
V _{FREQ}	Change in Frequency of Flooding (years change)	0	1.00				
V _{DUR}	Change in Growing Season Flood Duration (weeks change)	0	1.00				
V _{POND}	Total Ponded Area (%)	30	1.00				
V _{STRATA}	Number of Vegetation Strata	4	1.00				
V _{SOIL}	Soil Integrity (%)	0	1.00				
V _{TBA}	Tree Basal Area (m˘/ha)	29	1.00				
V _{TDEN}	Tree Density (stems/ha)	690	0.81				
V _{SNAG}	Snag Density (stems/ha)	79	1.00				
V _{OHOR}	O Horizon Organic Accumulation (cm)	0	0.20				
V _{COMP}	Composition of Tallest Woody Vegetation Stratum (%)	0.70	0.70				
V _{TCOMP}	Tree Composition (%)	0.70	0.70				
V _{SSD}	Shrub-Sapling Density (stems/ha)	875	0.88				
V _{GVC}	Ground Vegetation Cover (%)	29	1.00				
V _{LITTER}	Litter Cover (%)	57	0.92				
11 vz	I og Riomass (m ³ /ha)	29	1.00				
V _{LOG}		25	1.00				
DRAFT Ver. 5/19/16

WAA Data Summary:

WAA Number : 1

Low-Gradient Riverine

v	ariable	Plot 1	Plot 2	Plot 3	Plot 4	Plot 5	Plot 6	Plot 7	Plot 8	Plot 9	Plot 10	Plot 11	Plot 12	Number of Plots Used	Average Measure
1	V _{PATCH}	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	12	2500
2	V _{FREQ}	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0
3	V _{DUR}	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0
4	V _{POND}	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	12	30
5	V _{STRATA}	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	12	4
6	V _{SOIL}	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0
7	V _{TBA}	36.8	20.7	25.3	36.8	23.0	23.0	25.3	23.0	23.0	36.8	37	32	12	28.6
8	V _{TDEN}	550	725	1075	675	550	700	625	850	650	575	625	675	12	690
9	V _{SNAG}	50	100	125	75	25	100	50	75	100	75	125	50	12	79
10	V _{OHOR}	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0
11	V _{COMP}	0.51	0.66	0.55	1.00	0.72	0.66	1.00	0.51	1.00	0.44	1	1	12	0.70
12	V _{TCOMP}	0.51	0.66	0.55	1.00	0.72	0.66	1.00	0.51	1.00	0.44	1	1	12	0.70
13	V _{SSD}	625.0	750.0	1375.0	875.0	2875.0	375.0	875.0	375.0	750.0	750.0	625	250	12	875.0
14	V _{GVC}	42.5	22.5	18.8	52.5	3.8	27.5	17.5	37.5	53.8	33.8	13	21	12	28.6
15	VLITTER	61.3	57.5	15.0	60.0	70.0	20.0	67.5	47.5	83.8	22.5	89	90	12	57.0
16	V _{LOG}	21.9	20.9	0.0	0.0	2.9	47.7	10.9	92.7	13.3	6.5	62	71	12	29.2
17	V _{WD}	72.3	83.3	17.3	24.9	13.3	56.8	63.6	96.1	35.4	10.7	64	78	12	51.3

Technical Memorandum on Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir – Additional Forested Wetland Mitigation Proposal Based on the Modified East TX HGM Functional Assessment

MEMORANDUM



Innovative approaches Practical results Outstanding service

www.freese.com

4055 International Plaza, Suite 200 • Fort Worth, Texas 76109 • 817-735-7300 • fax 817-735-7492

TO:	Robert McCarthy, North Texas Municipal Water District
CC:	Simone Kiel, P.E., Steve Watters, PWS
FROM:	Michael Votaw, PWS, CWB
SUBJECT:	Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir – Additional Forested Wetland Mitigation Proposal Based on the Modified East TX HGM Functional Assessment
DATE:	9/30/2016
PROJECT:	NTD06128 - Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir

BACKGROUND

In 2007, the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) assessed the wildlife habitat value of the cover types, including forested wetlands, within the proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir site utilizing the Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP), developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). This study was conducted by an interagency team that included personnel from USFWS, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), NTMWD, and Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI). The results of this study showed that the forested wetlands within the footprint of the proposed reservoir obtained a habitat suitability index (HSI) score of 0.25 on a scale that ranges between 0.0 (poorest quality habitat) and 1.0 (highest quality habitat). Following the HEP protocol, the HSI score was multiplied by the number of acres (4,602) (1,862 hectares) of affected forested wetlands to quantify impacts to the forested wetlands, in terms of HEP habitat units (HU) and to determine what would be required as mitigation to offset those impacts. Results of the HEP evaluation for forested wetlands show that 1,150.5 HUs (0.25 HSI x 4,602 acres) would be impacted.

In February 2010, NTMWD purchased the approximately 15,000-acre Riverby Land and Cattle Company, LLC property (Riverby Ranch) located downstream of the proposed reservoir site to serve as a mitigation site. A separate interagency HEP study was conducted at Riverby Ranch in October 2010 to establish baseline conditions for the forested wetlands and other cover types located on the ranch. A subsequent HEP analysis was conducted to determine the number of habitat units that could be generated from the enhancement of existing forested wetlands and restoration of forested wetlands from existing grassland and cropland areas on the ranch. Results of this analysis showed that by enhancing 452 acres (182.9 hectares) of existing forested wetlands and restoring an additional 3,500 acres (1,416 hectares) of forested wetlands, the ranch could provide 2,266.1 HUs of forested wetland, resulting in an overall net gain of 1,115.6 HUs above what is expected to be impacted at the proposed reservoir site. This information was provided to the USACE in the December 2014 *Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Mitigation Plan*.

In 2015, NTMWD was required to conduct an additional study utilizing the Hydrogeomorphic Methodology (HGM) to further assess the potential impacts to the forested wetlands within the footprint of the proposed reservoir site.



The functional assessment method utilized is a modification of the *Regional Guidebook for Applying the Hydrogeomorphic Approach to the Functional Assessment of Forested Wetlands in Alluvial Valleys of East Texas* (Regional Guidebook) (Williams, et al., 2010). Documentation of how the guidebook was modified can be found in *Modifying the East Texas Regional HydroGeoMorphic Guidebook for Use in Fannin County, TX, in the Lower Bois D'Arc Creek Reservoir Project* (Camp et al., 2016). As directed by the USACE, both impacts and mitigation would be determined using an average of the FCI scores from the HGM Calculator Tool for the modeled functions. The average FCI score for the forested wetland functions assessed within the footprint of the proposed reservoir was calculated to be 0.86 (Table 1). To estimate impacts, the average FCI score (0.86) is multiplied by the area (1,862 hectares) of forested wetlands located within the footprint of the proposed reservoir. This results in 1,601.32 functional capacity units (FCUs) of impacts to forested wetlands (Table 2).

Table 1. Average Functional Capacity Index (FCI) Value for the Forested Wetlands within the Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site.

Function	Functional Capacity Index (FCI)
Detain Floodwater	0.92
Detain Precipitation	0.78
Cycle Nutrients	0.85
Export Organic Carbon	0.87
Maintain Plant Communities	0.90
Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife	0.86
AVERAGE	0.86

Table 2. Average Functional Capacity Index (FCI) Value and Functional Capacity Units (FCU) of the Forested Wetlands within the Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site.

Average Functional Capacity Index	Wetland Assessment Area	Functional Capacity Units
(FCI)	(WAA) (hectares)	(FCU)
0.86	1,862	1,601.32

In February of 2016, NTMWD conducted an HGM study on the forested wetlands located on Riverby Ranch to establish existing conditions. Four separate wetland assessment areas (WAAs) were identified and were evaluated independently. The average FCI score for the forested wetland functions assessed within each WAA were: 0.82 (WAA#1); 0.74 (WAA#2); 0.79 (WAA#3); and 0.74 (WAA#4). To determine existing FCUs, the average FCI score for each WAA is multiplied by the area of forested wetlands located within its respective WAA (Table 3).

Table 3. Average Functional Capacity Index (FCI) Value and Functional Capacity Units (FCU) of the Existing Forested Wetlands at the Proposed Mitigation Site (Riverby Ranch).

WAA	Average Functional Capacity Index (FCI)	Wetland Assessment Area (WAA) (hectares)	Functional Capacity Units (FCU)
WAA#1	0.82	33.3	27.2
WAA#2	0.74	81	59.81
WAA#3	0.79	49.3	38.86
WAA#4	0.74	19.3	14.25
TOTAL	N/A	182.9	140.12



In order to determine mitigation requirements utilizing the Modified East TX HGM approach and averaging FCI scores, the future functional conditions of the existing and proposed forested wetland mitigation areas on Riverby Ranch were predicted by evaluating each of the HGM sub-index variables to predict achievable values in 20 years. The assumptions made and resulting sub-index variable scores have been documented and are included as Attachment A. Once all future sub-index variable scores were predicted, the scores were entered into the Modified East TX HGM Calculator provided by ERDC. It was assumed that the existing FCI scores for the areas identified for restoration (existing grassland and cropland) have a baseline score of 0.0. Results of this evaluation show that the average FCI score for the proposed restored forested wetland areas located on Riverby Ranch would be 0.95 and the enhanced forested wetland areas would range between 0.95 and 0.93, for the four WAAs being analyzed. Following the establishment of the average FCI scores, a separate analysis was conducted using the Mitigation Sufficiency Calculator, also provided by ERDC, to determine if the proposed restored and enhanced forested wetlands on Riverby Ranch would provide sufficient mitigation to offset impacts to the forested wetlands at the proposed reservoir site. Table 4 summarizes the results of this analysis.

Table 4. Summary of Impacts at the Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site and Proposed Mitigation at Riverby Ranch.

Impacts					
		Average	Average	Baseline	Future
		Baseline	Future	Functional	Functional
	Hectares	Functional	Functional	Capacity	Capacity
		Capacity	Capacity	Units (FCU)	Units (FCU)
		Index (FCI)	Index (FCI)		
Proposed Reservoir Site	(-)1,862	0.86	0.0	1,601.32	0.0
Mitigation					
		Average	Average	Baseline	Future
		Baseline	Future	Functional	Functional
	Hectares	Functional	Functional	Capacity	Capacity
		Capacity	Capacity	Units (FCU)	Units (FCU)
		Index (FCI)	Index (FCI)		Uplift
Riverby Restoration	1,487.2	0.0	0.95	0.0	1,412.8
Riverby Enhancement	22.2	0.82	0.05	27.2	4 20
(WAA#1)*	55.5	0.82	0.95	27.2	4.30
Riverby Enhancement	01	0.74	0.02	E0.91	15 20
(WAA#2)*	01	0.74	0.95	59.61	15.59
Riverby Enhancement	40.2	0.70	0.02	20.06	6.00
(WAA#3)*	49.5	0.79	0.93	38.80	0.90
Riverby Enhancement	10.2	0.74	0.02	14.25	2 72
(WAA#4)*	19.5	0.74	0.95	14.25	5.75
Total	(+)1,670.1	N/A	N/A	140.12	(+)1,443.2
Net Gain/Net Loss	(-)191.9	N/A	N/A	140.12	-158.12

*Note-Future functional capacity units for forested wetland enhancement areas only reflect predicted uplift above existing conditions.



Use of the Modified East TX HGM methodology now shows that the proposed mitigation (as described in the December 2014 *Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Mitigation Plan*) for forested wetlands at Riverby Ranch is not sufficient to offset the impacts at the proposed reservoir site. To address this, NTMWD has started investigations of additional lands located upstream of the proposed reservoir site that could be used to provide additional forested wetland mitigation. The following paragraphs describe the methods used to identify potential additional mitigation property and the estimated mitigation amount (area and FCUs) that could be added to NTMWD's mitigation proposal to fully compensate for the forested wetland impacts at the proposed reservoir site.

METHODS AND RESULTS

Recognizing the USACE mandate to compensate for impacts as close to the impact site as practicable, NTMWD's additional mitigation property search focused on lands located along Bois d'Arc Creek upstream of the proposed reservoir site. The search was specifically focused on areas located within the 5-year floodplain and that were mapped as having hydric soils. Once these areas were identified, recent aerial photographs were used to identify sites that had been cleared for agricultural purposes, as these areas have the potential to produce the highest uplift (i.e., gain in FCUs). An additional objective during this process was to avoid fragmentation of the additional mitigation property and to create an area of contiguous forest to increase patch size. The additional mitigation area identified as a result of this search is depicted on Figure 1. This area includes approximately 1,900 acres of bottomlands along Bois d'Arc Creek.

Following the identification of potential additional mitigation property, NTMWD, FNI, and the USACE conducted site visits to verify site conditions and collect HGM data using the Modified East TX HGM protocol within existing forested wetland areas. Data were collected in three additional forested wetland plots (Figure 2) resulting in average FCI score of 0.78 (Table 5). Information collected during the site visits were also used to create a preliminary cover type map of the area being proposed for additional forested wetland mitigation (Figure 3).

Function	Functional Capacity Index (FCI)
Detain Floodwater	0.76
Detain Precipitation	0.67
Cycle Nutrients	0.78
Export Organic Carbon	0.74
Maintain Plant Communities	0.86
Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife	0.86
Average	0.78

Table 5. Average Functional Capacity Index (FCI) Value for the Existing Forested Wetlands along Bois d'Arc Creek Upstream of the Proposed Reservoir Site.

The final analysis conducted within the proposed additional mitigation area involved the use of the Modified East TX HGM Calculator Tool and Mitigation Sufficiency Calculator. It was assumed for the purposes of this analysis that the same sub-index variable scores could be achieved for the restored forested wetlands upstream of the proposed reservoir as at Riverby Ranch. Based on this assumption, the average FCI score (as calculated by the Calculator Tool) for the proposed restored forested wetland areas located upstream of the proposed reservoir would be 0.93. It was also assumed that the functions of the existing forested wetlands located upstream of the proposed reservoir would increase (i.e., be enhanced) the same as they are expected to at Riverby Ranch, resulting in an average FCI score of

Mitigation						
		Average	Average	Baseline	Future	
		Baseline	Future	Functional	Functional	
	Hectares	Functional	Functional	Capacity	Capacity	
		Capacity	Capacity	Units (FCU)	Units (FCU)	
		Index (FCI)	Index (FCI)		Uplift	
Upstream Restoration	445.1	0.0	0.93	0.0	413.94	
Upstream Enhancement*	232.2	0.78	0.93	181.12	34.83	
Total	677 3	N/A	N/A	181 12	AA8 77	

Table 6. Summary of Additional Forested Wetland Mitigation that Could Be Provided Upstream of the Proposed Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir.

*Note-Functional capacity units for forested wetland enhancement areas only reflect predicted uplift above existing conditions.

0.93. Based on these assumptions, the 232.2 hectares of existing forested wetlands within the additional mitigation area could provide 34.83 FCUs of uplift credit through protection and enhancement activities. Additionally, the existing cropland, grassland, shrub and emergent wetlands (445.1 hectares) within the additional mitigation area could be restored to forested wetlands to generate an additional 413.94 FCUs above a baseline of 0.0 in these non-forested areas. This would result in a net total of 448.77 FCUs that could be gained from the additional upstream mitigation area (Table 6).

If the total FCUs from the upstream mitigation site are combined with the total FCUs that would be generated at the Riverby Ranch mitigation site, this would result in a net gain in both area (485.4 hectares) and functions (290.65 FCUs) compared to what would be impacted at the proposed reservoir site (Table 7).

Table 7.	Summary	of Impacts a	at the Propose	ed Lower	· Bois (d'Arc	Creek	Reservoir	Site and	Proposed	Mitigation	at
Riverby I	Ranch and l	Upstream Mi	itigation Area.									

Impacts			
	Hostaros	Average Functional	Functional Capacity
	nectores	Capacity Index (FCI)	Units (FCU)
Proposed Reservoir Site	(-)1,862	0.86	(-)1,601.32
Mitigation			
	Hostaros	Average Functional	Functional Capacity
	nectales	Capacity Index (FCI)	Units (FCU) Uplift
Riverby Restoration	1,487.2	0.95	1,412.8
Riverby Enhancement	22.2	0.05	4.38
(WAA#1)*	55.5	0.93	
Riverby Enhancement	81	0.03	15.39
(WAA#2)*	01	0.55	
Riverby Enhancement	49 3	0.93	6.90
(WAA#3)*		0.55	
Riverby Enhancement	19 3	0.93	3.73
(WAA#4)*	19.5	0.55	
Upstream Restoration	445.1	0.93	413.94
Upstream Enhancement	232.2	0.93	34.83
Total	2,347.4	N/A	1,891.97
Net Gain/Net Loss	(+)485.4	N/A	(+)290.65

REFERENCES CITED

- Camp, A., J. Grogan, A. Urbanovsky, and H. Williams. 2016. Draft Report Modifying the East Texas Regional HydroGeoMorphic Guidebook for Use in Fannin County, TX, in the Lower Bois D'Arc Creek Reservoir Project. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, by the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture.
- Hans M. Williams, Adam J. Miller, Rachel S. McNamee, and Charles V. Klimas. 2010. A Regional Guidebook for Applying the Hydrogeomorphic Approach to the Functional Assessment of Forested Wetlands in Alluvial Valleys of East Texas. U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center.





ATTACHMENT A

Projected Values of Forested Wetlands Sub-index Variables at Mitigation Sites for the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site using the Modified East Texas HGM

Technical Memorandum on Projected Values of Forested Wetlands Sub-index Variables at Mitigation Sites for the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site using the Modified East Texas HGM **MEMORANDUM**

Innovative approaches Practical results Outstanding service

4055 International Plaza, Suite 200 • Fort Worth, Texas 76109 • 817-735-7300 • fax 817-735-7492 www.freese.com

то:	Robert McCarthy, North Texas Municipal Water District
CC:	Simone Kiel, P.E.
FROM:	Steve Watters, PWS, and Michael Votaw, PWS, CWB
SUBJECT:	Projected Values of Forested Wetlands Sub-index Variables at Mitigation Sites for the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Site using the Modified East Texas HGM
DATE:	6/24/2016
PROJECT:	NTD06128 - Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir

INTRODUCTION

In order to predict future functional conditions of forested wetland mitigation areas using the Modified East Texas HGM (the "Modified HGM") calculator, FNI wetland scientists evaluated each of the HGM sub-index variables to predict achievable values in 20 years. It was assumed that restored forested wetland areas would grow into a forest stand by year 20 with the majority of dominant trees reaching a diameter at breast height (dbh) of at least 4 inches. The results of our evaluation of future sub-index variable scores are summarized in Table 1 (attached).

The first column of Table 1 lists the sub-index variables of the Modified HGM method developed by Camp et al. (2016). The second column describes the measurement thresholds within which each variable would be scored a value of 1.0 based on the revised sub-index variable curves for the Modified HGM (see Attachment A). For example, for the variable Total Ponded Area (VPOND), the revised curve indicates that VPOND would score a 1.0 in areas where the total ponded area is between 20 and 60 percent. The third column of Table 1 indicates whether or not each variable may be manipulated or controlled by mitigation construction, and if so, it provides a description as to how the variable might be manipulated. Finally, the fourth column of Table 1 identifies our projected value of each sub-index variable at 20 years, the age when restored forested areas are expected to develop into a forest stand. These projected sub-index values are proposed to be used in the Modified HGM models to calculate the expected value of each function for the forested wetland mitigation areas 20 years following planting.

Reference

Camp, A., J. Grogan, A. Urbanovsky, and H. Williams. 2016. Draft Report - Modifying the East Texas Regional HydroGeoMorphic Guidebook for Use in Fannin County, TX, in the Lower Bois D'Arc Creek Reservoir Project. Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, by the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture.

able 1. Projected Values of Sub-index Variables for the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Forested Wetland Mitigation Areas 20 Years Follow	ing
lanting	

Sub-index Variables in the Modified East TX HGM	Index Curve Score of 1.0	Controllable/Constructible	Projected Score at 20
Model			Years Post-Planting
Change in Growing Season Flood Duration (VDUR)	No change in growing	This should automatically score 1.0 after	1.00
	season flood duration	construction.	
Change in Frequency of Flooding (VFREQ)	No change in frequency	This should automatically score 1.0 after	1.00
	of flooding	construction.	
Total Ponded Area (VPOND)	20-60% of site capable	Yes - grade site to pond between 20-60%	1.00
	of ponding	after heavy rain.	
Composition of Overstory Vegetation (VTCOMP)	100% concurrence of	Yes - plant to achieve dominant spp. from	1.00
	overstory stratum	Group 1. Non-dominant spp. planted from	
		Group 2 or 3 to increase VTBA, VLOG,	
		willow	
Number of Vegetation Strata (VSTRATA)	Site has all 4 vegetation	Yes - plant super-canopy species such as	1.00
	strata	cottonwood, sub-canopy species such as	
		ash, elm, sugarberry. It is expected that	
		shrubs/groundcover will develop over time.	
		ETx HGM Guidebook indicates 4 strata at	
		20 yr. Will plant cover crop - wheat, annual	
Spag Dopcity (VSNAG)	20,100 cpage/ba/9,40	rye	1.00
Shag Density (VSNAG)	snags/ac)	are short lived. Examples include	1.00
		sugarberry, cottonwood, green ash, and	
		black willow. Snags (min 6 ft. tall, 4 in dbh)	
		installed min 4.5 ft. above ground, 18 in	
		below ground at rate of min 10/acre.	
Tree Basal Area (VTBA)	Anything above 18	Yes - plant species which grow quickly.	1.00
	square meters/na (78	Examples include cottonwood, green ash,	
	sy. 11./dc)	and species selected for planting we	
		anticipate a minimum of 100 sq. ft /ac. At	
		20-years. Reference young wetland sites	
		within reservoir.	

Table 1.	Projected Values of Sub-index Variables for the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Forested Wetland Mitigation Areas 20 Years
Followin	g Planting (Continued)

Sub-index Variables in the Modified East TX HGM	Index Curve Score of 1.0	Controllable/Constructible	Projected Score at 20
Model			Years Post-Planting
Log Volume (VLOG)	5-60 cubic meters/ha	Yes - plant species which grow quickly, short lived, and that are prone to producing dead fall. Examples include sugarberry, cottonwood, and black willow. ETx HGM Guidebook indicates 5 cubic meters at year 20 for typical hardwoods.	1.00
Forest Patch Size (VPATCH)	Anything greater than 6,178 ac	Yes - plant larger blocks/patches of forested wetlands and/or plant adjacent to existing forested areas. Plant wildlife corridors to connect to other patches of forested areas.	1.00
Ground Vegetation Cover (VGVC)	Ground vegetation cover (herbaceous and woody) less than or equal to 4.5-ft. in height between 0-40%.	ETx HGM Guidebook indicates 100% cover at year 20 for typical hardwoods.	0.50
Shrub-Sapling Density (VSSD)	Woody stems less than 4 inches dbh and greater than 4.5-ft. in height between 1000- 4000 stems per hectare (405-1,620 stems per acre).	This should occur naturally over time. ETx HGM Guidebook indicates 5,000 stems/ha at year 20 for typical hardwoods. However, VSSD will be managed to maintain density to obtain 1,000-4,000 stems/ha.	1.00
Tree Density (VTDEN)	Density of the trees between 200-500 stems per hectare (81-202 stems per acre).	Yes - we are proposing to plant 435 trees/acre and anticipating with mortality at year 20, the tree density will be in the range of 100-200 trees/ac. This would achieve a score of 1.0.	1.00

Table 1. Projected Values of Sub-index Variables for the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Forested Wetland Mitigation Areas 20 Years
Following Planting (Continued)

Sub-index Variables in the Modified East TX HGM	Index Curve Score of 1.0	Controllable/Constructible	Projected Score at 20 Years
Model			Post-Planting
O-Horizon Organic Accumulation (VOHOR)	Partially decomposed	No. This would occur/develop	0.84
	organic matter such as	naturally over time. ETx HGM	
	leaves, twigs, needles,	Guidebook indicates 1 cm O-horizon	
	or sticks less than 1/4-	at year 20 for typical hardwoods.	
	inch in diameter,		
	flowers, fruits, insect		
	frass, dead moss, or		
	detached lichens on or		
	near the surface of the		
	ground. Anything over		
	1.25 cm (1/2-inch) thick.		
Litter Cover (VLITTER)	Average percent of the	ETx HGM Guidebook indicates	1.00
	ground surface covered	approximately 80% litter cover at year	
	by recognizable dead	20 for typical hardwoods. Planting of	
	plant material between	cover crop will also contribute to litter	
	60-100%.	cover.	
Woody Debris Biomass (VWD)	20-90 cubic meters per	Yes - plant species which grow quickly,	1.00
	hectare (706-3178 cubic	short lived, and that are prone to	
	feet per hectare).	producing dead fall. Examples include	
		sugarberry, cottonwood, and black	
		willow. ETx HGM Guidebook indicates	
		72 cubic meters/ha at year 20 for	
		typical hardwoods.	
Composition of Tallest Woody Stratum (VCOMP)	Composition and	Yes - plant to achieve dominant spp.	1.00
	diversity concurrence of	from Group 1. Non-dominant spp.	
	dominant woody	planted from Group 2 or 3 to increase	
	stratum. 100%	VTBA, VLOG, VSNAG, and VWD, e.g.	
	concurrence = 1.0.	cottonwood, black willow.	
Soil Integrity (VSOIL)	Percent of site with	Yes - do not manipulate soils following	1.00
	altered soils. 0%	initial restoration.	
	alteration = 1.0.		

*A-horizon variable was omitted from the Modified East Texas HGM Model by Williams et al. (2016)

ATTACHMENT A

Modified East Texas HGM Models and Revised Sub-index Curves Developed by Camp et al. (2016)

Revised models for Fannin County application of East Texas HGM Low Gradient Riverine Models

a. Detain Floodwater.

$$FCI = V_{FREQ} \times \left[\frac{(V_{LOG} + V_{GVC} + V_{SSD} + V_{TDEN})}{4} \right]$$

b. Detain Precipitation.

$$FCI = \frac{\left[V_{POND} + \frac{(V_{OHOR} + V_{LITTER})}{2}\right]}{2}$$

c. Cycle Nutrients.

$$FCI = \frac{\left[\frac{(V_{TBA} + V_{SSD} + V_{GCV})}{3} + \frac{(V_{OHOR} + V_{WD} + V_{SNAG})}{3}\right]}{2}$$

d. Export Organic Carbon.

$$FCI = V_{FREQ} \times \frac{\left[\frac{(V_{LITTER} + V_{OHOR} + V_{WD} + V_{SNAG})}{4} + \frac{(V_{TBA} + V_{SSD} + V_{GVC})}{3}\right]}{2}$$

e. Maintain Plant Communities.

$$FCI = \left[\left\{ \frac{\frac{[V_{TBA} + V_{TDEN}]}{2} + V_{COMP}}{2} \right\} \times \left[\frac{(V_{SOIL} + V_{DUR} + V_{POND})}{3} \right] \right]^{1/2}$$

.

f. Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife.

$$FCI = \begin{cases} \left[\frac{\left(V_{FREQ} + V_{DUR} + V_{POND}\right)}{3} \right] \times \left[\frac{\left(V_{TCOMP} + V_{STRATA} + V_{SNAG} + V_{TBA}\right)}{4} \right] \\ \times \left[\frac{\left(V_{LOG} + V_{OHOR}\right)}{2} \right] \times V_{PATCH} \end{cases}^{1/4}$$

Revised models for Fannin County application of East Texas HGM in Mitigation Flats Wetlands

a. Detain Floodwater. Not Assessed.

b. Detain Precipitation.

$$FCI = \frac{\left[V_{POND} + \frac{(V_{OHOR} + V_{LITTER})}{2}\right]}{2}$$

c. Cycle Nutrients.

$$FCI = \frac{\left[\frac{(V_{TBA} + V_{SSD} + V_{GCV})}{3} + \frac{(V_{OHOR} + V_{WD} + V_{SNAG})}{3}\right]}{2}$$

d. Export Organic Carbon. Not Assessed.

e. Maintain Plant Communities.

$$FCI = \left[\left\{ \frac{\frac{[V_{TBA} + V_{TDEN}]}{2} + V_{COMP}}{2} \right\} \times \left[\frac{(V_{SOIL} + V_{POND})}{2} \right]^{1/2} \right]^{1/2}$$

f. Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife.

$$FCI = \begin{cases} V_{POND} \times \left[\frac{(V_{TCOMP} + V_{STRATA} + V_{SNAG} + V_{TBA})}{4} \right] \\ \times \left[\frac{(V_{LOG} + V_{OHOR})}{2} \right] \times V_{PATCH} \end{cases}^{1/4}$$

Revised V_{COMP} for Fannin County application of East Texas HGM Low Gradient Riverine Models (including diversity factor).

Table 5A. Suggested HGM ca	lculator tree species o	grouping based on field	d data and research on	the reference domain.
00				

	Group 1	Group 2		Group 3	
Ash	Fraxinus spp.	Black Walnut	Juglans nigra	Black Willow	Salix nigra
Bur Oak	Quercus macrocarpa	Box Elder	Acer negundo	Bois D'Arc	Maclura pomifera
Chinkapin Oak	Quercus muehlenbergii	Cherrybark Oak	Quercus pagoda	Eastern Cottonwood	Populus deltoides
Elm	Ulmus spp.	Dogwood	Cornus spp.	Eastern Redbud	Cercis canadensis
Pecan	Carya illinoinensis	Honey Locust	Gleditsia triacanthos	Hawthorn	Crataegus spp.
Shumard Oak	Quercus shumardii	Persimmon	Diospyros spp.	Soapberry	Sapindus spp.
Sugarberry	Celtis laevigata	Red Maple	Acer rubrum		
Water Oak	Quercus nigra	Sycamore	Platanus occidentalis		
Willow Oak	Quercus phellos	Hickory Spp.	Carya spp.		

Group 1 = Common dominants in reference standard sites

Group 2 = Species commonly present in reference standard sites, but dominance generally indicates man-made or natural disturbance Group 3 = Uncommon, minor or shrub species in reference standard sites, but may dominate in degraded systems

$Initial Quality Index \\ = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} (\# of dominants from Group 1 \times 1.0) + (\# of dominants from Group 2 \times 0.66) + \\ (\# of dominants from Group 3 \times 0.33) \\ \# of dominants from Groups 1, 2, and 3 \end{bmatrix}$

VSI = Adjusted Quality Index

Where if there are <u>3</u> or more dominants from Groups 1 and 2: *Adjusted Quality Index* = $1.0 \times Initial Quality Index$

Where if there are <u>2</u> dominants from Groups 1 and 2: *Adjusted Quality Index* = $0.66 \times Initial Quality Index$

Where if there is <u>1</u> dominant from Groups 1 and 2: *Adjusted Quality Index* = $0.33 \times Initial Quality Index$

And if there are <u>0</u> dominants from Groups 1 and 2: *Adjusted Quality Index* = $0.10 \times Initial Quality Index$

Revised curves for Fannin County application of East Texas HGM Low Gradient Riverine Models (also applied to Flats)

