

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This publication gives notice that Bastrop County has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Orders 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management, to determine the potential affect that its activities in surrounding floodplain will have on the human environment associated with the Bastrop County Complex Fire Recovery Program (BCCFRP). Through the Texas General Land Office (GLO) the BCCFRP will receive federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from HUD in the amount of \$23,802,962. The GLO was allocated HUD funding to help Bastrop County address unmet housing needs and urgent public infrastructure restoration as a result of the Bastrop County Complex Fire that occurred in September 2011. The CDBG Funding (April 16, 2012) and State of Texas Action Plan for Disaster Recovery (July 12, 2012) establish an outline of eligibility requirements and target \$4,760,592 for infrastructure restoration activities.

The location of 25 proposed infrastructure repair and restoration projects on Bastrop County road right-of-ways and three associated drainage easements has been determined, six of which are situated within the 100-year floodplain and listed below. All these projects are designed to have a positive impact on the environment by improvements and restorations to drainage culverts severely damaged by the 2011 wildfire. The design of these measures incorporates soil erosion control measures to support habitat recovery and avoid further environmental impact from the wildfire.

BA2-01: culvert on Jim Bowie Road, Paige

BA2-09: culvert on Mustang Drive, Paige

BA2-10: culvert on Alamo Ct, Paige

BA2-17: culvert on Tahitian Drive, Bastrop

BA2-28: (aka Site 2) culvert on Kaanapali Lane, Bastrop

BA2-29: (aka Site 11) culvert on Kelley Road East, Bastrop

The total area within the 100-year floodplain where the six infrastructure projects will be performed is 1.552 acres, which is approximately 0.006% of the total floodplain area in Bastrop County.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains 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 about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks 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 or affecting floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

This notice is required by Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988 for Floodplain Management, Section 2(ii) , and is implemented by HUD Regulations found at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management, and is also posted to the Bastrop County website at www.co.bastrop.tx.us/bcdisaster/. The 8-Step Decision Making Process includes public notices and the examination of practicable alternatives to building in the floodplain and wetlands. Additional project information, including maps of floodplains in Bastrop County and its census tracts, is contained in the Environmental Review Record on file with: Mr. Paul Pape, Bastrop County, 804 Pecan Street, Bastrop, TX 78602 and may be examined 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Comments to this notice can help identify potential floodplain impacts of restoring infrastructure in the floodplains, factors for consideration of BCCFRP implementation, and determination of ways to avoid or reduce impacts where there are no practicable alternatives. Written comments must be received by the Honorable County Judge, Mr. Paul Pape by close of business February 21, 2013 at: Bastrop County, 804 Pecan Street, Bastrop, TX 78602 or email to Paul.Pape@co.bastrop.tx.us. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Mr. Pape at (512) 332-7201 between 9:00am and 4:00pm weekdays.

Bastrop County (Bastrop Advertiser): February 7, 2013