TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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RANDY WATSON

Award Letter Receipt

Honorable Dan Gattis Williamson County Judge 303 Martin Luther King Georgetown, TX 78626

Dear Judge Gattis:

Please sign and return this Award Letter Receipt in reference to DR-1999-019 no later than December 17, 2015. The original award package should have included the following documents:

Award letter
Finding of No Significant Impact
Record of Environmental Consideration
Debarred Verification Form
Certificate of Completion Form
Award Letter Receipt

APPROVED SCOPE OF WORK:

<u>Project Description:</u> Williamson County proposes to implement a hazardous fuels reduction program to reduce wildfire hazards along the boundaries of Southwest Regional Park that are adjacent to residential development. The proposed action would reduce the quantity of hazardous vegetative fuel along the park perimeter to limit the movement of a wildfire across the park boundary. The proposed project area includes the 50 feet adjacent to approximately 4 miles (21,120 linear feet) of the park boundary for a total of approximately 24 acres.

The fuels reduction activities would include trimming or cutting highly flammable, dead, and diseased vegetation within the project area, selectively trimming trees, and cutting tree branches up to 10 feet from ground level. The proposed action would include removal of surface fuels and "ladder" fuels that have accumulated to reduce the canopy bulk density and diminish the chance of a fire transitioning into a crown fire or sustaining as a crown fire. The height of trimming and limbing would depend on the size, location, growth potential, and health of the tree. The proposed action may also include the selective removal of some trees larger than 8 inches in diameter only when necessary to achieve the desired canopy cover. Stumps of cut trees would not he removed but would be cut down to within 3 inches of the soil surface, but root balls would not be removed, and the soils would not be disturbed. The cut vegetation and debris will be either ground or mulched on-site and temporarily stored at the park. Depending on the topography, some areas may be reseeded with short grasses to reduce erosion.

Work would only be conducted between September 1 and February 28 to minimize impacts to federally listed bird species. The implementation of the proposed action is projected to occur over a period of approximately 12 weeks. Equipment used would include a variety of mechanized and hand equipment, such as shredders, power mowers, grinders, mulchers, chainsaws, hand saws, pole saws, seed broadcasters, rakes, hoes, shovels, ladders, scythes, etc. Work areas would be accessed by motorized vehicles, four-wheeled gator-type vehicles, and by foot, depending on topography. The mechanized equipment would be rubber-tracked to minimize ground disturbance in the project area.

Return the signed acknowledgement to:

Paula K. Logan

Deputy Assistant Director

Recovery, Mitigation & Standards

Texas Division of Emergency Management

Texas Homeland Security

Texas Department of Public Safety

5805 North Lamar Blvd., Box 4087

Austin, TX 78773-0001

TDEM-Mitigation@dps.texas.gov

I acknowledge the receipt of documentation for awarded project DR-1999-019.

Printed Name

Title

Signature

DAN A GATTIS

(04.77 July
Title

12-17-2315

Date