

**Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas**



Environmental Assessment

Prepared for

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

and

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

April 2017



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CHAPTER 1 PROJECT INTRODUCTION, NEED, AND PURPOSE

1.1 PROJECT INTRODUCTION

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), in partnership with the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas, is seeking the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) approval (through Federal Assistance grant) for a proposed project to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery center at Camp Whispering Cedars for hunter education instruction.

The Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (GSNETX) proposes to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery center at Camp Whispering Cedars (Camp) for hunter education instruction, train the public in safe and responsible archery, and to provide a safe archery experience. Further, GSNETX as well as youth from the surrounding communities and the general public will have the opportunity to learn about and develop archery skills. The Camp is located at 6010 Whispering Cedar Drive, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas (**Figure 1**).

This Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to evaluate the potential effects of the Proposed Action. This project would be funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) Program.

1.2 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

A proposed archery range with a 100' X 130' footprint would be located within the existing GSNETX property comprising approximately 92 acres. The site is currently comprised of Ashe Juniper and Chinese privet which will be largely cleared within the footprint to provide an archery range with maintained herbaceous ground cover and a shooting pavilion comprised of a covered awning. Access to the site for construction and use will be by existing footpath. Trees will be retained as practicable within the project area to provide shade for archery activities (**Figure 2**).

1.3 PROJECT NEED

Many of the individuals that would be served by this project come from low-income and ethnically diverse populations living in the geographical area. These individuals might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn about and develop archery skills if this facility is not constructed. In addition to learning about archery safety associated with learning archery skills, individuals will be able to come away more competent and confident in their abilities. Further, the location in southern Dallas provides the nearby community with access to an affordable and nearby range and access to archery safety and training classes.

In addition, youth will have the opportunity to participate in a progressive archery program by age level that is accompanied by learning about range setup; velocity; movement; Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); and, safety. The curriculum builds self-confidence and allows individuals from lower socioeconomic households to be exposed to STEM learning at little to no cost through participation in community outreach programming.



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1.4 PROJECT PURPOSE

1. Provide an outdoor archery experience to 3,000 girls and youth in grades K-12 and other members of the general public within the first twelve months of full operation of the archery center after construction is completed in 2017.
2. Provide a location for learning about hunter safety education associated with using archery equipment to at least 500 people annually and in the first full twelve months of operation after construction is completed in 2017.
3. Provide affordable archery opportunities to 1,000 community youth annually from low-socioeconomic populations and Title 1 schools annually and in the first full twelve months of operation after construction is completed in 2017.

1.5 PROJECT FUNDING

Financial assistance for this project would be provided by funding through a grant under the United States Fish & Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program that would be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The USFWS program provides grant funds to the states and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for projects to restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild birds and mammals and their habitat. Projects also include providing public use and access to wildlife resources, hunter education and development and management of ranges. The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson PR) of 1937.



CHAPTER 2 ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

The proposed action involves the creation of an archery center. Two alternatives were considered, which include a Preferred Alternative and a No Build Alternative. Because the purpose of the proposed action is, in part, to expand uses of an existing Girl Scouts of America facility, off-site alternatives were not considered.

2.1 ALTERNATIVE 1 – PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The Preferred Alternative would include the construction of the archery center as described in Section 1.2. This alternative would address the need for and purpose of the project.

2.2 ALTERNATIVE 2 – NO BUILD ALTERNATIVE

A No Build Alternative would result in no action being taken. This alternative would not address the need and purpose of the project. Under the No Build Alternative, the area would be utilized in a manner similar to existing land use patterns; the proposed project area would remain as wooded area. Consequently, the No Build Alternative would result in continued limited outdoor target range opportunities in the Southern Dallas area for the Girl Scouts. The No Build Alternative would also limit opportunities for the general public to experience archery education.



CHAPTER 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

3.1 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The Camp is located in southwest Dallas County in central north Texas. It is located in the Ledbetter Hills neighborhood of southwest Dallas, a major metropolitan area (**Figure 1**). The Camp is accessed by Whispering Cedars drive via Ledbetter Drive to the northeast. Rancho Lane is the arterial road to the southeast of the project location with Interstate 20 further south. Patriot Parkway is the main roadway to the west. O'Guinn Creek is located approximately 0.3 mile southwest of the project area. The project location is approximately two miles southeast of Mountain Creek Lake. Residential neighborhoods surround the project area; to the north (0.3 mile), to the east (0.4 mile), to the southeast and south (0.4 mile), and to the southwest (0.4 mile). Representative site photographs are provided in **Appendix A**.

3.1.1 Climate

The Dallas-Fort Worth climate is humid subtropical with hot summers and is characterized by a wide annual temperature range. Winters are mild, but northers occur about three times each month during this period, and often are accompanied by sudden drops in temperature. Periods of extreme cold that occasionally occur are short-lived, so that even in January mild weather occurs frequently. Characteristically, hot spells in summer are broken into three-to-five day periods by thunderstorm activity. There are only a few nights each summer when the low temperature exceeds 80°F. Summer daytime temperatures frequently exceed 100°F. Precipitation ranges from less than 20 to more than 50 inches. Throughout the year, rainfall occurs more frequently during the night. Usually, periods of rainy weather last for only a day or two, and are followed by several days with fair skies. A large part of the annual precipitation results from thunderstorm activity, with occasional heavy rainfall over brief periods of time. Snowfall is rare (NOAA, 2016).

3.1.2 Geology and Soils

Geologically, the proposed project area is underlain by the Austin Chalk formation comprised primarily of alternating layers of chalk and marl (USGS, 2016). Soil within the proposed project area is Eddy clay loam 3 to 8 percent slopes (**Figure 3**). Eddy clay loam 3 to 8 percent slopes occupies shoulder, summit, and backslope ridges. A typical soil profile begins with a moderately alkaline, grayish brown clay loam 4 inches thick surface layer. A second layer occupies a depth of 11 inches and consists of platy soft chalky limestone and about 15 percent, by volume, grayish brown clay loam. The underlying material is white soft chalky limestone. These soils are well drained (USDA, 2016).

3.1.3 Prime and Unique Farmland Soils

The project location does not contain prime or unique farmland soils (USDA, 2016).



3.1.4 Surface Water

No surface water features are present within the proposed project area. Stormwater run-off from the proposed project area follows the gentle surface slope southwest towards O'Guinn Creek which is located approximately 0.3 mile from the project area (**Figure 4**).

3.1.5 Groundwater

The major aquifer underlying the study area is the Trinity Aquifer. The proposed project area is in the Trinity subcrop between the Trinity outcrop to the west and the Carrizo-Wilcox outcrop to the east. The Trinity aquifer is a group of minor aquifers comprising the Trinity group. These minor aquifers include the Antlers, Glen Rose, Paluxy, Twin Mountains, Travis Peak, Hensell, and Hosston aquifers. These aquifers consist of limestones, sands, clays, gravels, and conglomerates. Their combined freshwater saturated thickness averages about 600 feet in North Texas and about 1,900 feet in Central Texas (TWDB, 2017). Trinity aquifer is characterized by slow recharge occurring from rainfall (Edwards Aquifer, 2016).

3.1.6 Topography

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Duncanville 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map indicates that the proposed project area is a gently sloping terrace (**Figure 4**). Elevations for the project area range from 670 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) at the southwest to 680 feet AMSL to the northeast. The slope of the project area soil type ranges from 3 to 8 percent (USDA, 2016).

3.1.7 Floodplains

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps display the documented flood zones of various water bodies and flood prone areas. According to FEMA, the entire proposed project area lies outside of FEMA-designated floodplain zones. The nearest floodplain is located approximately 0.20 mile to the southwest (FEMA, 2014) (**Figure 5**).

3.2 BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The project location and adjacent areas consist of a mature Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*) woodland with a dense Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) understory to twelve feet in height. The understory was previously cleared to access the area, but privet is rapidly re-establishing in the previously cleared area. A maintained foot trail exists from the project area southwest to open maintained lawn and structures associated with the Camp. The presence of the introduced invasive understory, Chinese privet, has completely displaced the native understory associated with the ecological setting present. The setting otherwise matches the mapped ecological systems classification of Edwards Plateau: Deciduous Oak - Evergreen Motte and Woodland as defined by the Texas Ecological Systems classification (TPWD, 2017).

3.2.1 Vegetation

The archery center will be constructed primarily in an area dominated by mature Ashe juniper with a previously cleared understory with dominant understory vegetation consisting of reestablishing Chinese privet. Overstory includes a single Texas red oak (*Quercus buckleyi*) and a single white ash (*Fraxinus americana*). The area immediately outside of the proposed



project area is the same vegetative community without the understory clearing. The understory is comprised of dense Chinese privet to twelve feet in height. Individual cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), and common hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) trees were also present in the adjacent areas. Trees other than Ashe juniper represent less than five percent combined absolute coverage within the tree stratum for the project area and surrounding vegetative community.

3.2.2 Threatened and Endangered Species

A threatened and endangered species habitat survey was conducted to assess the existing conditions in the proposed project area relative to such species. A current list of the state and federally listed threatened and endangered species and their preferred habitat was obtained from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) databases. The threatened and endangered species lists for Dallas County, Texas were used to determine listed species that could potentially occur in the proposed project area (**Appendix B**).

The Texas Natural Diversity Database (TXNDD) lists no species occurrences within or nearby the proposed project area. No estimated or designated critical habitat (50 CFR Parts 17 and 226) exists at the project location. No threatened or endangered species, or species of concern were observed during a field survey conducted by Titanium Environmental Services, LLC (TES). **Table 1** presents information regarding the presence or absence of their habitat within the proposed action area.



Table 1. Habitat suitability of federal and state listed threatened and endangered species with potential to occur in the Proposed Action Area

Class	Name		Federal Status ¹	State Status ²	Habitat Description ²	Habitat Present	Critical Habitat
	Common	Scientific					
Birds	Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	DL	T	Found primarily near rivers and large lakes; nests in tall trees or on cliffs near water; communally roosts, especially in winter; hunts live prey, scavenges, and pirates food from other birds.	N	N
	Black-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo atricapilla</i>	E	E	Oak-juniper woodlands with distinctive patchy, two-layered aspect; shrub and tree layer with open, grassy spaces; requires foliage reaching to ground level for nesting cover; deciduous and broad-leaved shrubs and trees provide insects for feeding; species composition less important than presence of adequate broad-leaved shrubs, foliage to ground level, and required structure; nesting season March-late summer.	N	N
	Golden-cheeked Warbler	<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>	E	E	Juniper-oak woodlands; dependent on Ashe juniper for long fine bark strips, only available from mature trees, used in nest construction; nests are placed in various trees other than Ashe juniper; only a few mature junipers or nearby cedar brakes can provide the necessary nest material; forage for insects in broad-leaved trees and shrubs; nesting late March-early summer.	N	N
	Interior Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	E	E	Subspecies is listed only when inland (more than 50 miles from a coastline); nests along sand and gravel bars within braided streams, rivers; also known to nest on man-made structures (inland beaches, wastewater treatment plants, gravel mines, etc.); eats small fish and crustaceans, when breeding forages within a few hundred feet of colony.	N	N
	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	-	T	Both subspecies migrate across TX from more northern breeding areas in U.S. and Canada to winter along coast and farther south; subspecies (<i>F. p. anatum</i>) is also a resident breeder in west TX, the two subspecies listing statuses differ, <i>F.p. tundrius</i> is no longer listed in TX; but because the subspecies are not easily distinguishable at a distance, reference is generally made only to the species level; see <i>F. p. anatum</i> subspecies for habitat.	N	N

Table 1 (cont'd). Habitat suitability of federal and state listed threatened and endangered species with potential to occur in the Proposed Action Area

Class	Name		Federal Status ¹	State Status ²	Habitat Description ²	Habitat Present	Critical Habitat
	Common	Scientific					
Birds (cont'd)	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	T	T	Wintering migrant along the Texas Gulf Coast; beaches and bayside mud or salt flats.	N	N
	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	T	-	Red knots migrate long distances in flocks northward through the contiguous United States mainly April-June, southward July-October. The Red Knot prefers the shoreline of coast and bays and also uses mudflats during rare inland encounters. Wintering Range includes-Aransas, Brazoria, Calhoun, Cameron, Chambers, Galveston, Jefferson, Kennedy, Kleberg, Matagorda, Nueces, San Patricio, and Willacy Counties. Habitat: Primarily seacoasts on tidal flats and beaches, herbaceous wetland, and tidal flat/shore.	N	N
	White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	-	T	Prefers freshwater marshes, sloughs, and irrigated rice fields, but will attend brackish and saltwater habitats; nests in marshes, in low trees, on the ground in bulrushes or reeds, or on floating mats.	N	N
	Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	E	E	Potential migrant via plains throughout most of state to coast; winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.	N	N
	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	-	T	Forages in prairie ponds, flooded pastures or fields, ditches, and other shallow standing water, including salt-water; usually roosts communally in tall snags, sometimes in association with other wading birds; breeds in Mexico and birds move into Gulf States in search of mud flats and other wetlands, even those associated with forested areas; formerly nested in Texas, but no breeding records since 1960.	N	N

Table 1 (cont'd). Habitat suitability of federal and state listed threatened and endangered species with potential to occur in the Proposed Action Area

Class	Name		Federal Status ¹	State Status ²	Habitat Description ²	Habitat Present	Critical Habitat
	Common	Scientific					
Mollusks	Louisiana Pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema riddellii</i>	-	T	Streams and moderate-size rivers, usually flowing water on substrates of mud, sand, and gravel; not generally known from impoundments; Sabine, Neches, and Trinity (historic) River basins.	N	N
	Sandbank Pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis satura</i>	-	T	Small to large rivers with moderate flows and swift current on gravel, gravel-sand, and sand bottoms; east Texas, Sulfur south through San Jacinto River basins; Neches River.	N	N
	Texas Heelsplitter	<i>Potamilus amphichaenus</i>	-	T	Quiet waters in mud or sand and also in reservoirs. Sabine, Neches, and Trinity River basins.	N	N
	Texas Pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia askewi</i>	-	T	Rivers with mixed mud, sand, and fine gravel in protected areas associated with fallen trees or other structures; east Texas River basins, Sulphur River, Cypress Creek, Sabine through Trinity rivers as well as San Jacinto River.	N	N
Reptiles	Alligator Snapping Turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	-	T	Perennial water bodies; deep water of rivers, canals, lakes, and oxbows; also swamps, bayous, and ponds near deep running water; sometimes enters brackish coastal waters; usually in water with mud bottom and abundant aquatic vegetation; may migrate several miles along rivers.	N	N
	Texas Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>	-	T	Open, arid and semi-arid regions with sparse vegetation, including grass, cactus, scattered brush or scrubby trees; soil may vary in texture from sandy to rocky.	N	N
	Timber Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	-	T	Swamps, floodplains, upland pine and deciduous woodlands, riparian zones, abandoned farmland; limestone bluffs, sandy soil or black clay; prefers dense ground cover, i.e. grapevines or palmetto.	Y	N

E=Endangered; T=Threatened; DL=Delisted; - = No Status; Y=Yes; N=No

¹ Source: USFWS 2017 ² Source: TPWD 2016

No designated critical habitat occurs within the proposed project area or within Dallas County.

No suitable habitat for federally listed species with potential to occur in Dallas County occurs on or near the proposed project area. The mature Ashe Juniper required for Golden-cheeked Warbler (*Setophaga chrysoparia*) habitat occurs on the project area, but the hardwood component required for suitable habitat is lacking (USFWS 1992; Campbell 2013). Only two trees other than Ashe Juniper exist within the project boundaries with similar Ashe juniper tree monoculture and near monoculture in the surrounding habitat. Hardwoods represent less than ten percent of the project area and surrounding area, disqualifying it as suitable habitat (Campbell 2013). Extensive Chinese privet growth is present in the surrounding area and is reestablishing within the previously cleared understory in the project boundaries. The invasive understory monoculture severely limits the natural occurring diversity (Hanula, 2009; Merriam, 2002; Wilcox, 2007) and severely restricts access to the peeling bark for nest building. Although previously cleared for site access, the area is rapidly re-establishing the privet understory and adjacent privet heights are from eight to twelve feet and from 80-100 percent areal coverage. Privet coverage also limits available forage and songbird habitat (Wilcox, 2007). Although the Chinese privet provides a very dense understory, the invasive understory monoculture limits wildlife utilization (Wilcox, 2007) including suitable prey species.

Refer to section 4.2.2.1 for biological evaluation and determination of effects information for threatened and endangered species.

3.2.3 Other Wildlife Species

Wildlife species tolerant of invasive thickets or occupying upper canopy habitat and tolerant of the surrounding urban development of Dallas are likely to be present on the subject property. Wildlife species that would likely utilize the project location include passerine birds, small rodents, and a variety of insects. The surrounding dense understory monoculture limits wildlife utilization, however wildlife species that might still occur include squirrels (*Sciurus* spp.), raccoons (*Procyon lotor*), nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), and a variety of birds, reptiles, insects, and arachnids. The state protected timber rattlesnake may utilize this habitat and care should be taken to avoid injury to this species. As with all state protected species, if encountered, the timber rattlesnake should be allowed to leave the area or to be translocated by a permitted individual.

3.2.4 Wetlands and other Waters of the United States

Jurisdictional wetlands, which are those that are regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, must exhibit three characteristics: hydrology, hydrophytes, and hydric soils (USACE, 1987). A formal wetland delineation, in accordance with the USACE guidelines, was not performed as part of the EA. However, observations were made during the field survey to determine the presence or absence of wetlands and other waters of the United States within the project area. No such features exist in or near the project area.



3.3 LAND USE

The project area and immediate surrounding areas are largely undeveloped. Facilities and structure associated with the Camp are present west of the project area. Residential neighborhoods surround the project area to the north (0.3 mile), to the east (0.4 mile), to the southeast and south (0.4 mile), and to the southwest (0.4 mile). According to the land use map available through the city of Dallas, Texas, the entire proposed project area is classified as *Planned Development* (**Figure 6**). The current Camp property land use is recreation.

3.4 CULTURAL RESOURCES

On September 1, 2016, Stone Point Services, LLC conducted a cultural resources survey investigation for the proposed project area. No cultural materials were recovered and no further archeological investigations were recommended. A coordination letter to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and a concurrence response (December 21, 2016) from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) can be found in **Appendix C**.

Based upon both pedestrian survey and shovel testing, no cultural resources were identified within the footprint of the proposed archery center. A search for findings from previous cultural resource investigations resulted in no records within the project area with the nearest recorded site occurring 0.98 mile from the project site. Tribal consultation period occurred from March 7, 2017 to April 18, 2017. No concerns were indicated during the consultation period.

3.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The GSNETX provided TES with a copy of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) addressing the entire Camp property and the report was issued on June 30, 2016. TES utilized the report in preparing the Hazardous Materials sections of this EA.

Hazardous substances/materials are defined as any solid, liquid, contained gaseous or semi-solid waste, or any combination of regulated wastes that may pose a potential hazard to human health and the environment. Hazardous substances are primarily generated by industry, hospitals, research facilities, and the government. Improper management and disposal of hazardous substances can lead to pollution of groundwater or other drinking water supplies, and the combination of surface water and soil.

According to the Phase I ESA, the assessment for hazardous materials consisted of a review of the Federal and State environmental databases; a site reconnaissance; interviews; and, review of facility-specific information. A regulatory database search was performed to obtain information concerning facilities that handle hazardous materials or regulated substances/materials. The databases are maintained by the State and/or Federal government regulatory agencies. The databases that were searched and the corresponding search distances from the project area are listed below in **Table 2**.



Table 2: Federal and State Environmental Record Sources

ASTM-REQUIRED STANDARD ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD SOURCES				
DATABASE	SEARCH RADIUS	PROPERTY LISTINGS	ADJACENT LISTINGS	TOTAL LISTINGS
Federal National Priorities List (NPL)	1 mile	0	0	0
Federal Delisted NPL Sites	1/2 mile	0	0	0
Federal CERCLIS List	1/2 mile	0	0	0
Federal CERCLIS NFRAP List	1/2 mile	0	0	0
Federal Corrective Action Sites (CORRACTS) Sites	1 mile	0	0	0
Federal RCRA Non-CORRACTS Treatment/Storage/Disposal (TSD) Facilities	1/2 mile	0	0	0
Federal RCRA Generators List	On-site and adjoining property	0	0	0
Federal Institutional Control/Engineering Control Registries	On-site	0	0	0
Federal ERNS List	On-site	0	0	0
State and Tribal Hazardous Waste Sites (SHWS)	1 mile	0	0	0
State and Tribal Landfill and/or Solid Waste Disposal Sites (SWLF)	1/2 mile	0	0	0
State and Tribal Registered Underground Storage Tank (UST) Sites	On-site and adjoining property	0	0	0
State and Tribal Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Sites	1/2 mile	0	0	0
State and Tribal Institutional Control/Engineering Control Registries	On-site	0	0	0
State and Tribal Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) Sites	1/2 mile	0	0	0
State and Tribal Brownfield Sites	1/2 mile	0	0	0

Source: GSNETX Phase I Environmental Site Assessment performed by EFI Global, Inc., June 2016

The ASTM regulatory database search reported no regulatory listings within the ASTM-designated distance search range.

Although the Phase I ESA identified the potential for certain environmental considerations, such as asbestos-containing materials and lead-based paint, these considerations do not apply to the location for the proposed archery center.

3.6 AIR QUALITY

The Clean Air Act requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants that are common in outdoor air, considered harmful to public health and the environment, and that come from numerous and diverse sources. More stringent nonattainment area rules are established for those areas found to exceed the NAAQS. The proposed project area is in Dallas County which is subject to ozone nonattainment area rules applying to ozone (TCEQ, 2017).

3.7 NOISE

There are no noise sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the proposed project. Noise sensitive receptors include schools, hospitals, daycare facilities, elderly housing, and convalescent facilities.

3.8 RECREATION

The proposed project area and surrounding property is privately owned and not in use or designated as a city, state, or federal recreational facility. Local, state, and federal recreational facilities such as parks, public swimming pools, and boat launches are operated and owned or overseen by government entities. Although not a city, state, or federal-designated recreational facility, the Camp does provide a variety of recreational opportunities for GSNETX as well as youth from the surrounding communities and the general public. Recreation is centered around activities associated with scouting and summer camp.

3.9 SAFETY

The Girl Scouts of North East Texas has extensive safety policies and procedures in place to ensure that activities on the subject property are safe for participants and others. Archery safety training is required of all participants and conducted by a certified USA Archery instructor, an instructor of equivalent certification, or an instructor with documented experience according to their council's guidelines (GSNETX, 2017). The facility will in turn be designed and constructed to meet or exceed safety standards set forth by the council's guidelines.

3.10 LOCAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

U.S. Census data from 2011-2015 was gathered for the block group containing the proposed action area property, as well as the four surrounding block groups totaling approximately 13 square miles, roughly centered on the proposed action area. Data for this area indicate 20 percent of households are below the poverty line (in poverty) and average median household income is \$49,884 (Census, 2017). The 2015 national average of persons in poverty is 13.5 percent and median household income is \$56,515 (Proctor, 2016). The surrounding area is below the national average in median income and above national average in poverty. Although predominantly residential, local businesses in the surrounding area see indirect economic contributions by patrons of the current Camp facilities who travel in from the surrounding region, potentially consuming gas, food, and similar items.



3.11 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, directs federal agencies to determine whether their programs, policies, and activities have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations.

In accordance with CEQ guidance, minority populations should be identified if the minority population in the project area “exceeds 50 percent” or if the percentage of minority population in the project area is meaningfully greater than the “minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of analysis” (CEQ 1997). Communities should be identified as “low income” based on the annual statistical poverty thresholds from the U.S. Census Bureau (CEQ, 1997).

Based on information provided in Section 3.10 (Local Economic Conditions) of this EA, there are low-income communities near the proposed project area. Likewise, census data indicates 40 percent of individuals reporting as a racial minority near the proposed project area (Census, 2017). The 2010 national average of persons reporting as a racial minority is 24.9 percent (Humes, 2011).



CHAPTER 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

4.1 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

4.1.1 Climate

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – Neither alternative has the ability to measurably affect climate.

4.1.2 Geology and Soils

Preferred Alternative – There would be soil disturbance due to construction of the proposed archery center. There would be no deep excavation in the proposed project area. Consequently, there would be no impacts anticipated to the site geology. Best management practices (BMPs) would be used throughout construction, and any remaining exposed topsoil would be stabilized following project activities.

No Build Alternative – No impact to geology and soils would occur within the proposed project area under the No Build Alternative.

4.1.3 Prime and Unique Farmland Soils

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – Neither alternative would affect prime and unique farmland soils, as none are present at the project location (USDA, 2016).

4.1.4 Surface Water

Preferred Alternative – Some locations within the proposed project area would be leveled, or graded to accommodate stormwater runoff, which would not have a notable effect on stormwater drainage. Stormwater control best management practices would be utilized during construction. The need for permanent stormwater controls is not anticipated following completion of the project construction. No long-term water quality impacts would occur as a result of the Preferred Alternative. Further, this alternative would not alter rainfall drainage patterns or contaminate or otherwise adversely affect the public water supply, water treatment facilities, or water distribution systems.

No Build Alternative – No impact to surface water quality would occur within the proposed project area under the No Build Alternative.

4.1.5 Groundwater

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – Groundwater would not be required for the proposed project. The project construction would involve shallow excavation which would not affect groundwater. No adverse effects to groundwater would occur as no use of or interaction with local groundwater would occur for either alternative.



4.1.6 Topography

Preferred Alternative – Some locations within the proposed project area would potentially be leveled, or gently graded towards existing slopes. Topography would not be significantly altered.

No Build Alternative – Topography would not change within the project area under the No Build Alternative.

4.1.7 Floodplains

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – The project area does not lie within any designated floodplain boundary; therefore, neither alternative would have an impact on floodplains.

4.2 BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

4.2.1 Vegetation

Preferred Alternative – An approximately 0.3 acre area of mature Ashe juniper and Chinese privet dominant woodland would be cleared as a result of construction activities. Ashe junipers will be left to the extent possible to provide shade for participants while allowing full use of the archery center. Herbaceous vegetation would be established and maintained in the cleared areas to accommodate archery center activities. Maintenance of these newly established herbaceous areas would have the benefit of preventing or minimizing the reestablishment of Chinese privet. There would be a net reduction in woodland habitat and an invasive species under the Preferred Alternative. BMPs would be utilized to minimize impacts to surrounding vegetation. The project design for the Preferred Alternative includes the minimal practicable impacts to native vegetation and minor impacts to existing vegetation would occur.

No Build Alternative – The area would continue in Chinese privet growth and re-establishment to pre-cleared conditions, reducing overall vegetation quality including tree establishment and growth.

4.2.2 Threatened and Endangered Species

In accordance with Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, federally funded, constructed, permitted, or licensed projects must take into consideration impacts to federally listed and proposed threatened or endangered species. Based on a review of TPWD, TXNDD, and USFWS records, no species occurrence or designated critical habitat for threatened and endangered species occurs in the proposed project area or adjacent to the project area. Of the species listed in **Table 1**, none have potential habitat in the project vicinity.

Preferred Alternative – No suitable habitat for listed species occurs on or near the project area. No species or sign of their activity were observed. Based on a review of TPWD, TXNDD, and USFWS records, no species occurrence or designated critical habitat for threatened and endangered species occurs in the proposed project area or near the project area. Consequently, there would be no effect to threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat as a result of the Preferred Alternative.



No Build Alternative – The area would continue in Chinese privet growth and re-establishment to pre-cleared conditions, precluding the existence of suitable habitat for listed species. There would be no impact to threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat as a result of the No Build Alternative.

4.2.2.1 Biological Evaluation and Determination of Effects

An Intra-Service Section 7 Biological Evaluation Form was completed in conjunction with this EA (**Appendix D**). This form outlines the determination of effects for federally listed endangered, threatened, and candidate species in relation to the Preferred Alternative actions. The determinations of effects are summarized below.

Preferred Alternative – The Preferred Alternative would have no effect to the Golden-cheeked Warbler. No suitable habitat would be impacted and no suitable habitat exists near the proposed action area. Activities would result in the removal of mature Ashe Juniper trees, but the lack of a sufficient hardwood component in this community makes it unsuitable for the species.

No direct or indirect effects to the remaining listed threatened or endangered species or their habitats would occur as no suitable habitat is present.

No Build Alternative – No effect for the listed species would occur under the No Build Alternative.

4.2.3 Other Wildlife Species

Preferred Alternative – Utilization of the proposed project area by other wildlife species is limited by the presence of Chinese privet as a thick understory of the project area and immediate surroundings and by the developed urban conditions of the project's vicinity. Wildlife species likely to utilize the area would include birds, small terrestrial mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and insects that are tolerant of these conditions. Such wildlife that could be utilizing the project area may experience some short term displacement impact during the project construction. However, affected species are expected to disperse to adjacent areas outside of the construction zone. The affected species should re-colonize (or continue to utilize) areas on the property that are not subjected to the development activities and utilize the maintained open areas created by the proposed action. Birds present in the area may fall under the protection of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Disturbance of occupied nests including eggs, young, and nesting birds is prohibited under MBTA. If clearing occurs during nesting season, vegetation in and adjacent to the clearing area would be surveyed for nests prior to the clearing activities. If nests are encountered, then work should cease immediately and TES or another qualified biologist should be contacted to survey and assist with MBTA compliance.

No permanent or long-term impacts to other wildlife species are expected to occur under the Preferred Alternative.

No Build Alternative – Continued growth and re-establishment of Chinese privet within the proposed project area would prevent biological succession and diversity thereby limiting potential wildlife utilization on the subject property.



4.2.4 Wetlands and other Waters of the United States

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – The proposed project area does not contain any wetlands or other waters of the U.S. Consequently, there would be no impacts to these resources under either alternative.

4.3 LAND USE

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – Currently, the proposed project area is an undeveloped area of the Camp. The city of Dallas designates land use for this property as Planned Development which is consistent with the current and intended use. Due to the minimal amount of disturbance of the property that would occur from the proposed action and the current land use designation, the proposed project activities would not result in adverse impacts to or substantial alteration of land use.

4.4 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Preferred Alternative – Stone Point Services, LLC completed an archeological investigation of the proposed project area and concluded that no cultural resources would be impacted by implementation of the Preferred Alternative. Tribal consultation for the project occurred from March 7, 2017 to April 18, 2017. No concerns were indicated during the consultation period.

In the event that archeological deposits or features should be encountered during construction, all operations in the area of potential effect would cease immediately and the Archeology Division of the THC would be contacted. Work would not resume until written authorization to proceed is issued by the USFWS after determination of appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural, religious, or scientific values. ..

No Build Alternative – No impact to cultural resources would occur as a result of the No Build Alternative.

4.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – No hazardous materials were found within the search criteria that would affect this project area. Therefore, there would be no impact from the hazardous materials to the Preferred Alternative or No Build Alternative.

4.6 AIR QUALITY

Preferred Alternative – Construction activities would likely cause a disturbance of soils in the proposed project area. Dust from this type of disturbance would become airborne during dry periods and could pose a nuisance to surrounding property owners and residents. Exhaust from construction equipment would be similar to that of nearby road and highway traffic. The project construction would not exceed NAAQS. Dust from construction activities can become a temporary and short-term nuisance for surrounding areas. The average annual wind speed for Dallas, Texas is 6.9 mph (WDB, 2016) and prevails from the south during most of the year (NOAA, 2016). Therefore, the periodic application of water to construction areas may be



necessary to help reduce the airborne dust load during dry periods. There would be no permanent or long-term impact to air quality as a result of the Preferred Alternative.

No Build Alternative – No impacts to air quality would occur as a result of the No Build Alternative.

4.7 NOISE

Preferred Alternative – Noise levels associated with construction equipment and activities would be of a temporary nature. Construction activities would occur during the daytime when such activities are more tolerable. Further, noise resulting from the project construction would be of an intermittent nature rather than constant. There would be no impacts to noise sensitive receptors as a result of the project.

No Build Alternative – Implementation of the No Build Alternative would not result in an increase in noise levels in the proposed project area nor surrounding areas.

4.8 RECREATION

Preferred Alternative – The nature of the Camp, in part, is to provide recreational opportunities to the public. The proposed project would result in an increase in capacity and variety of recreational usage at the Camp. The archery range would be available to youth from the surrounding communities and the general public as well.

No Build Alternative – Under the No Build Alternative, recreational services at the Camp would continue at their current level.

4.9 SAFETY

The Girl Scouts of North East Texas has extensive safety policies and procedures in place to ensure that activities on the subject property are safe for participants and others. Archery safety training is required of all participants and conducted by a certified USA Archery instructor, an instructor of equivalent certification, or an instructor with documented experience according to their council's guidelines (GSNETX, 2017). The facility will in turn be designed and constructed to meet or exceed safety standards set forth by the council's guidelines.

Preferred Alternative and No Build Alternative – Neither the Preferred Alternative nor the No Build Alternative would adversely affect Camp safety practices.

4.10 LOCAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Preferred Alternative – Minority and low-income populations are shown to be prevalent in the vicinity of the project area. No adverse impacts to these populations are anticipated as a result of the Preferred Alternative. Due to the nature of the Preferred Alternative, no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental impacts are anticipated. Additionally, the Preferred Alternative would not result in any displacements.

The Preferred Alternative would result in an expansion of services that would provide a positive impact due to increased use of the area. Locally, users traveling to the facility would result in an



increase in sales of gas, food, and other similar products. The construction of the archery center could provide some short-term employment opportunities. However, due to the relatively small scale of the proposed construction, the number of jobs would be minimal and effects to employment rates and the local economy from the construction labor force would be negligible.

In addition, many of the individuals served by this project come from low-income and ethnically diverse populations living in the geographical area. These individuals might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn and develop archery skills if this facility is not constructed. In addition to learning about archery safety associated with learning archery skills, individuals will be able to come away more competent and confident in their abilities. Further, the location in Southern Dallas provides the nearby community with access to an affordable and nearby range and access to archery safety and training classes.

No Build Alternative – There would be no change to the local economy from the implementation of the No Build Alternative.

4.11 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Preferred Alternative – Based on information provided in Section 3.10 (Local Economic Conditions) of this EA, there are low-income and minority communities near the proposed project area. However, the Preferred Alternative would not result in adverse effects to low income or minority populations. Rather, because the archery center will be open to the general public, the Preferred Alternative will provide the nearby community with access to an affordable and nearby range and access to archery safety and training classes.

No Build Alternative – No impacts would occur to minority and low income populations under the No Build Alternative.



CHAPTER 5 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Preferred Alternative – An analysis of cumulative effects is intended to disclose the incremental impacts that the alternatives could cause when considered in the context of impacts associated with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Based on information provided in this EA, it has been determined that the implementation of the Preferred Alternative would result in negligible impacts to the human environment and natural environment. It has been further determined that the cumulative effects are expected to be minimal to non-existent in some cases.

No Build Alternative – Cumulative effects to the human environment and natural environment would not occur under the No Build Alternative.



CHAPTER 6 COORDINATION WITH AGENCIES

Under the USFWS Grant Program, GSNETX has worked closely with the USFWS and TPWD to ensure compliance with the Grant requirements and other requirements, including preparation of this EA. In addition, coordination letters were sent to the USFWS, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, TPWD, THC, and TCEQ to inform them of the proposed project and to solicit their input regarding the performance of the EA. Copies of the agency coordination letters and agency responses are provided in **Appendix C**.



CHAPTER 7 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

In order to help make the public aware of the proposed project, the GSNETX placed public outreach statement flyers in its offices, on its website, and in its email newsletter. The information describes the proposed facility elements, need and purpose of the project, and funding support through the USFWS' Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Grant Program in collaboration with the TPWD.

The public outreach statement was posted from Monday, February 20, 2017 to Friday, March 31, 2017 at www.gsnetx.org/en/camps/our-camps.html and was available at five Dallas area GSNETX offices between those dates. A link to the public outreach statement was provided in the February GSNETX membership email newsletter sent in February, 2017.

Information in the public outreach statement directs the public to contact the GSNETX regarding any questions or comments they may have on the proposed project and the preparation of the environmental assessment, and to contact the TPWD regarding any questions on the grant administration process. To date, neither the GSNETX nor the TPWD have received any questions or comments regarding the proposed project. **Appendix E** contains a copy of the public outreach statement.



CHAPTER 8 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

The planning process for the GSNETX proposed archery center included environmentally protective measures. Further, such measures are planned for use during the construction of the proposed project and for on-going site maintenance. The following is a summary of some of those protective measures:

- The proposed archery center would be located in an area with no surface waters or jurisdictional Waters of the United States.
- Site placement utilizes a terrace to minimize the need for ground disturbance and earth moving operations during construction.
- Construction BMPs will be utilized to protect and minimize impacts to soils, vegetation, and downgradient surface waters.
- Trees will be left intact within the project area where they will not affect range usage.
- No suitable Threatened or Endangered species habitat will be impacted and the site has no recorded occurrence of protected species or their critical habitat on or near the construction area.
- No cultural resources were found and no previously recorded sites occur on or near the project area. In the event that archeological deposits or features should be encountered during construction, work would cease immediately and the Archeology Division of the THC would be contacted for further consultation.
- Vegetation removal will either occur outside of bird nesting season or, if clearing occurs during bird nesting season, vegetation in and adjacent to the clearing area should be surveyed for nests prior to the clearing activities. If nests are encountered, then work would cease immediately and TES or another qualified biologist should be contacted to survey and assist with MBTA compliance.



CHAPTER 9 PREPARERS

This environmental assessment document was prepared by the following individuals:

Titanium Environmental Services, LLC

- Dan Murphy, Natural Resources Project Manager – Dan has 30 years of experience in environmental analysis and documentation. He received his B.S. Degree in Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences from Texas A&M University and is a registered Professional Wetland Scientist (Society of Wetland Scientists) and Certified Wildlife Biologist (The Wildlife Society).
- Laura Rectenwald, Senior Scientist / Professional Geoscientist – Laura has 20 years of experience in performing environmental assessments. She obtained a Master of Science in Environmental Science from Baylor University and a Ph.D. in Forestry from Stephen F. Austin State University.
- Jeff Williams, Natural Resources Specialist, / Project Supervisor - Jeff has served in the biological science field over 15 years with a natural resource focus over the past 9 years. Jeff has a Bachelor of Science in Biology from West Texas A&M University and a Wetland Science and Management Certification from the University of Washington.
- Patrick Ireland, Environmental Scientist – Patrick has been involved with natural resource related projects for the last 7 years, 5 of which have been with Titanium Environmental Services, LLC. Patrick received a Bachelor of Liberal Arts from the University of Mississippi and a Master of Science in Fisheries Science from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.
- Kirian Brown, Biologist – Kirian has been involved with biological surveys and related environmental projects with Titanium Environmental Services, LLC for the last 3 years. Kirian received a Bachelor of Science from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from the University of Texas at Tyler.
- Joe Mars, GIS Specialist – Joe has 5 plus years as a Geographic Information Systems specialist. Joe has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Stephen F. Austin State University.
- Ray Montez, Environmental Scientist – Ray has recently joined Titanium Environmental Services, LLC following graduation from Stephen F. Austin State University with a Master of Science in Environmental Science. Ray also has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and an Associates of Science in Environmental Science. Ray is experienced in GIS and mapping work.

Stone Point Services, LLC

- Todd McMakin, Archaeologist - Todd McMakin, Senior Archaeologist for Stone Point Services, LLC. Todd received his B.A. in Anthropology from the College of Charleston in 1991 and his M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1995. Todd has been working in the field of archeology for more than 25 years and has been acting as Principal Investigator on projects for over 21 years.



Titanium Environmental Services, LLC

Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas – Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center Environmental Assessment

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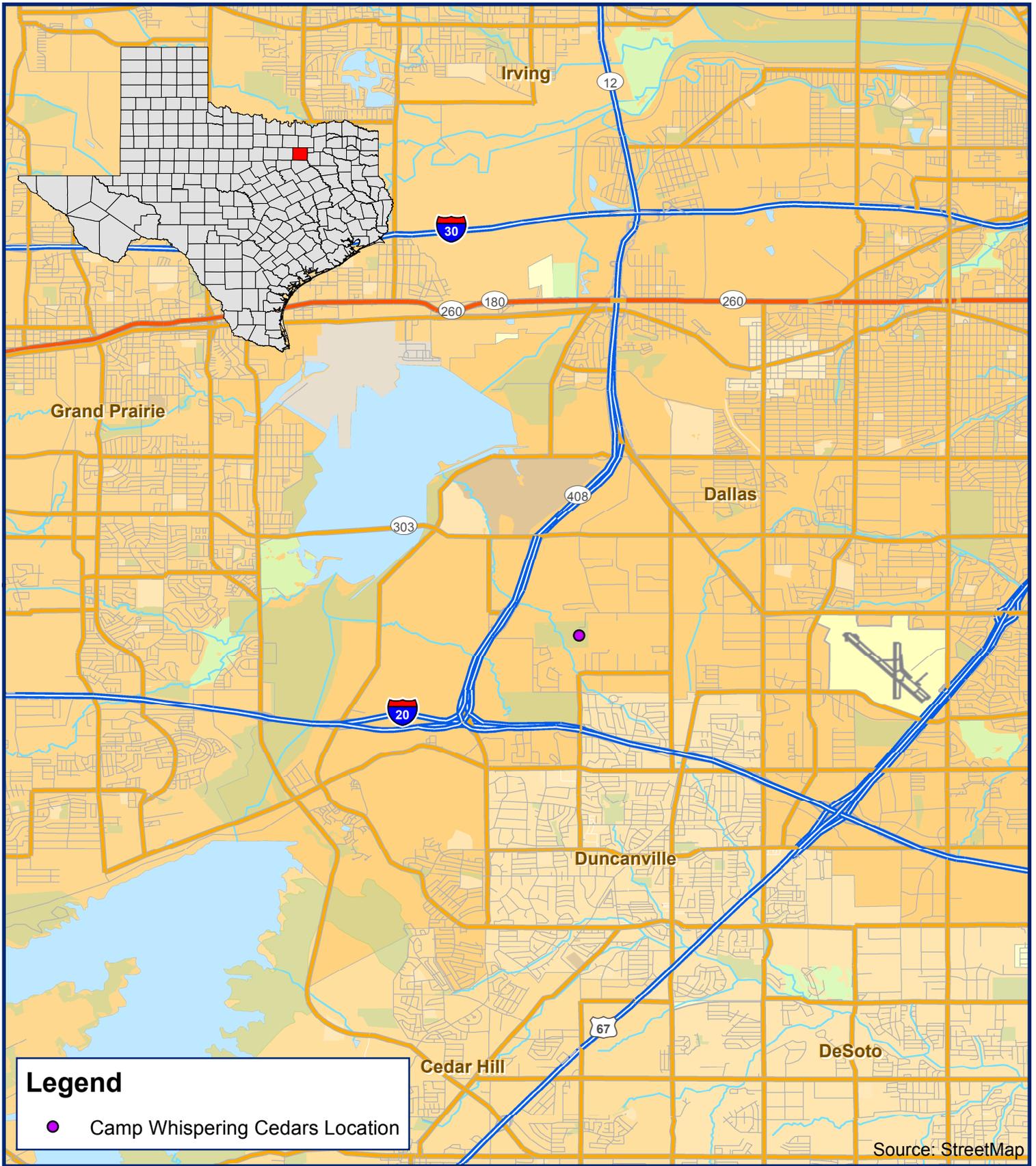
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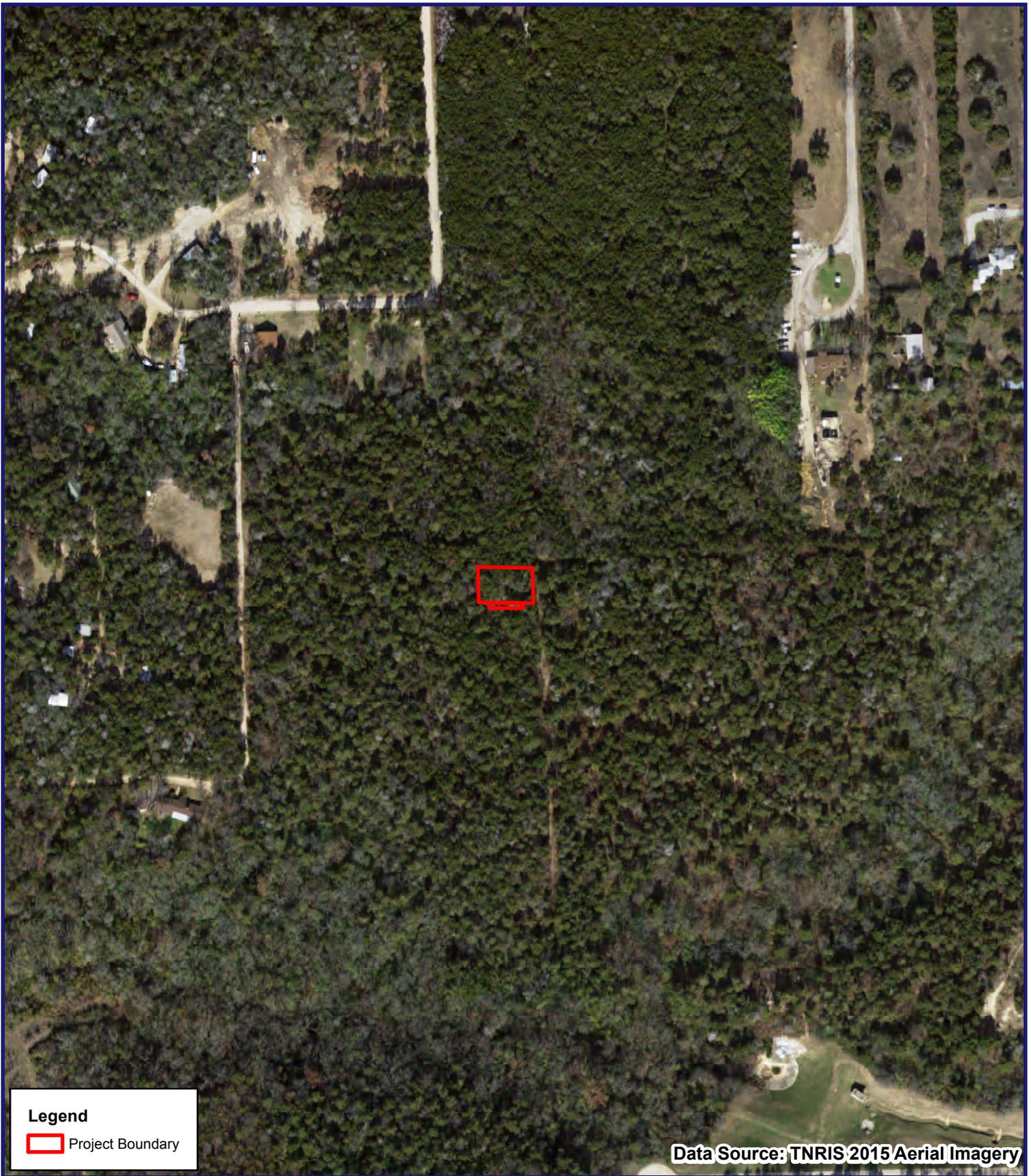
Figures




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www.titaniumenvironmental.com

CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 1
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Archery Center Environmental Assessment	Site Vicinity Map
		

Created by: K. Brown
 Date: 12.22.2016



Legend

 Project Boundary

Data Source: TNRIS 2015 Aerial Imagery



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CLIENT

Girl Scouts of
Northeast Texas

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Archery Center
Environmental Assessment

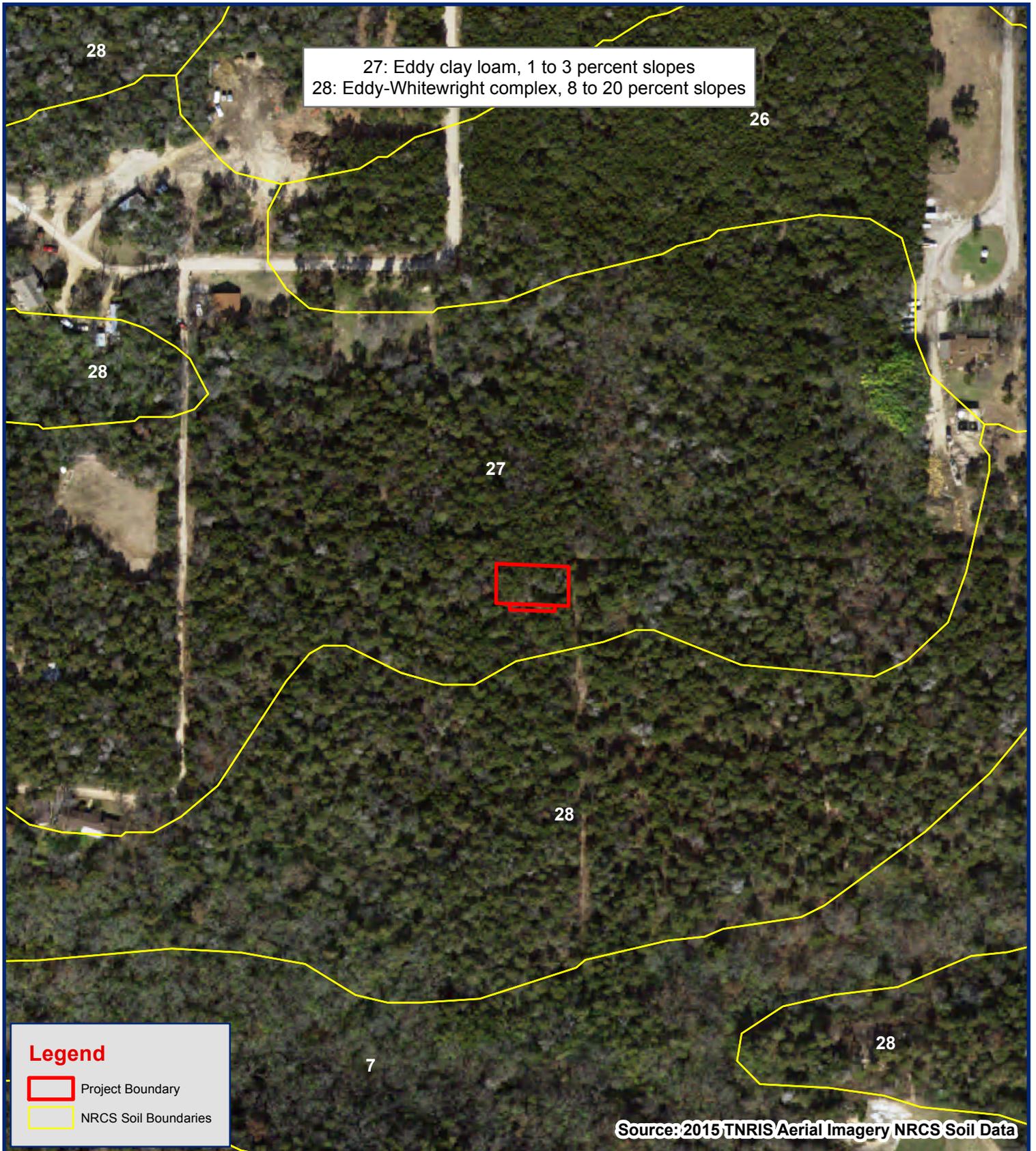
FIGURE 2

Project Layout Map



Created by: K. Brown
Date: 12.22.2016

27: Eddy clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes
 28: Eddy-Whitewright complex, 8 to 20 percent slopes

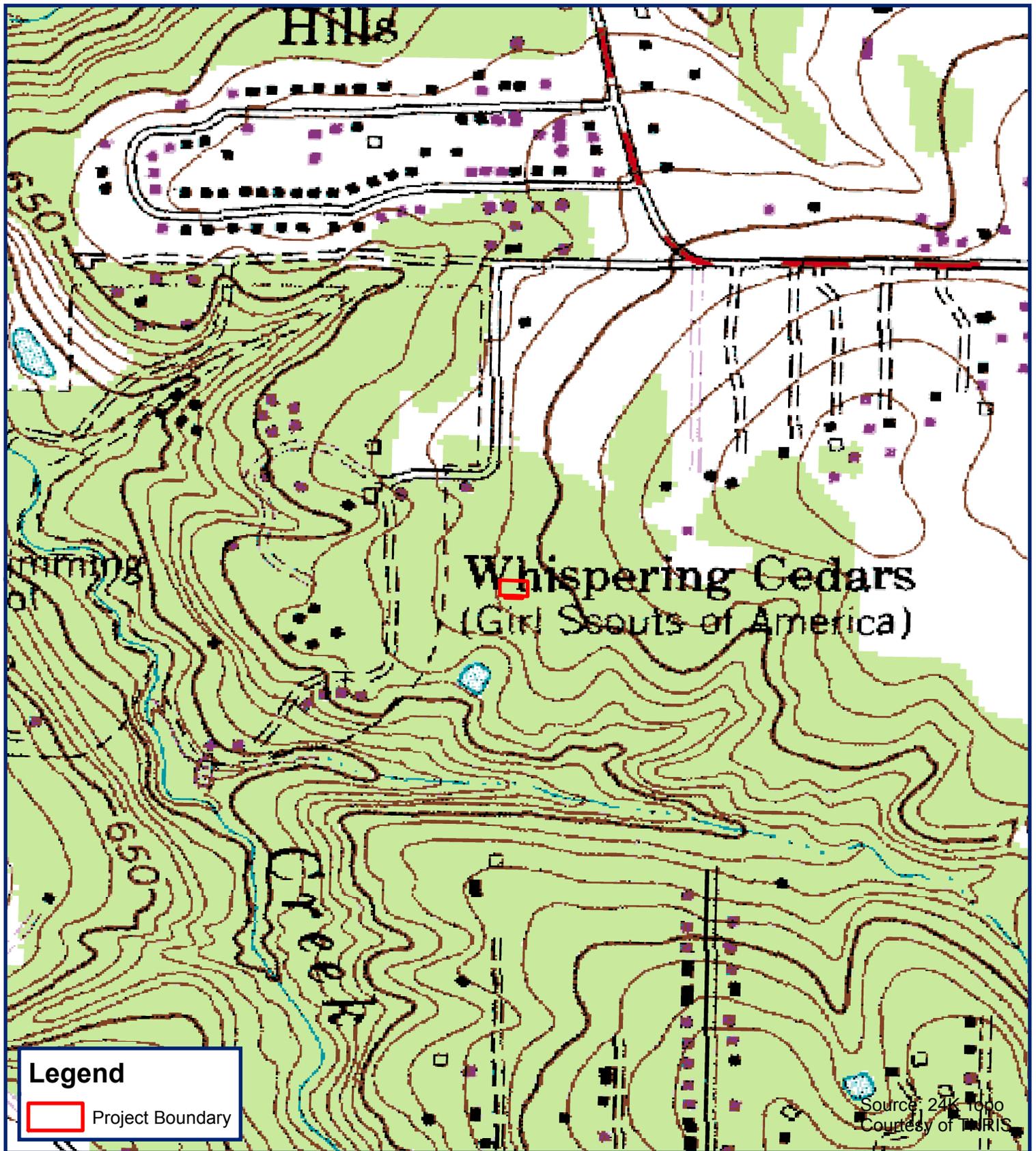


Legend

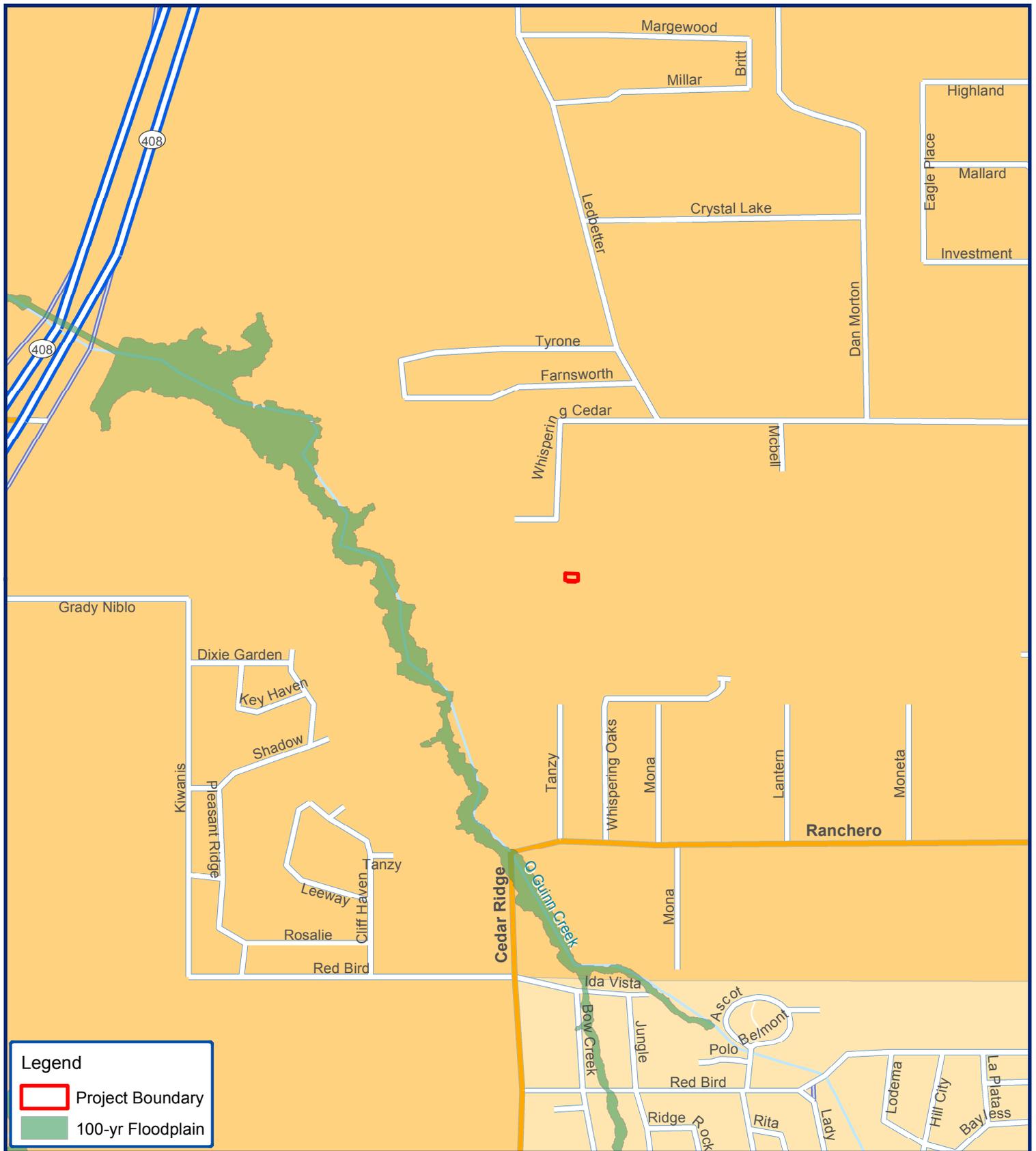
- Project Boundary
- NRCS Soil Boundaries

Source: 2015 TNRIS Aerial Imagery NRCS Soil Data

 <p>TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641 www.titaniumenvironmental.com</p>	CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 3
	Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Archery Center Environmental Assessment	NRCS County Soils
	<p>0 125 250 500</p>  Feet		Created by: K. Brown Date: 12.23.2016



 <p>TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641 www.titaniumenvironmental.com</p>	CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 4
	Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Archery Center Environmental Assessment	USGS Topographic Map
			Created by: K. Brown Date: 12.23.2016



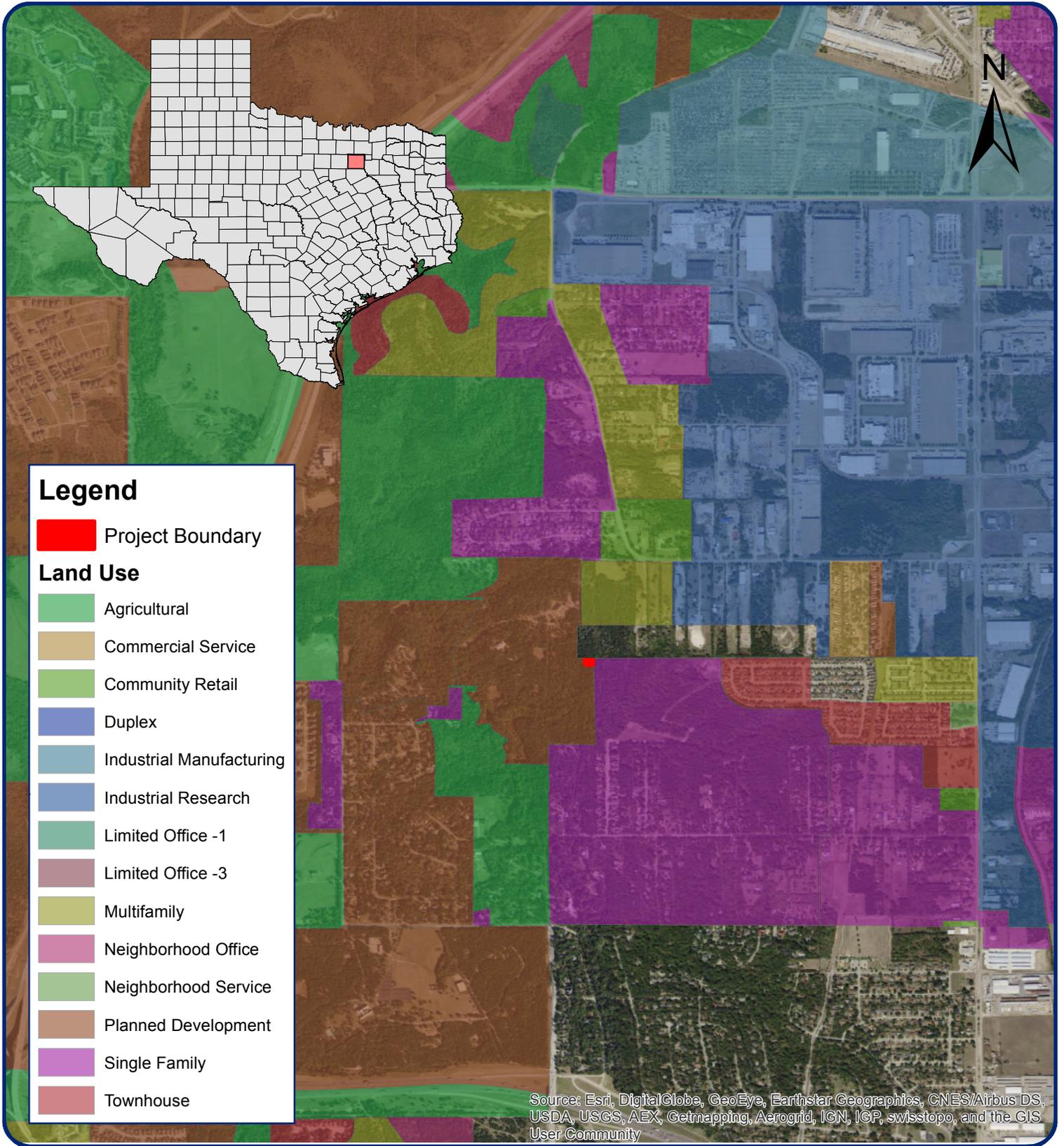

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CLIENT
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Archery Center Environmental Assessment

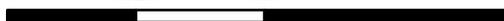
FIGURE 5
FEMA 100-Year Floodplain
Created by: P. Ireland Date: 12/20/2016






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CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 6
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Archery Center Environmental Assessment	Land Use Map
<p>0 0.25 0.5 1</p>  <p>Miles</p>		Created by: P. Ireland Date: 12/20/2016

**Appendix A
Representative Site Photos**

**Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center
Environmental Assessment
Dallas, Texas
REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOS
December 1, 2016**



Photo 1: Facing north along the western edge of the project area.



Photo 2: Largest Ashe juniper within the project area. Handle width is 5 inches.

**Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center
Environmental Assessment
Dallas, Texas
REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOS
December 1, 2016**



Photo 3: Facing north showing mature Ashe juniper in northeast corner of the proposed project area.



Photo 4: Facing south showing the eastern edge of the project area.

**Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center
Environmental Assessment
Dallas, Texas
REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOS
December 1, 2016**



Photo 5: Re-establishment of Chinese privet within previously cleared understory within the project area.



Photo 6: Edge of previously cleared understory area showing typical extent of Chinese privet understory surrounding the project area.

Appendix B
Threatened and Endangered Species List

IPaC resource list

Location

Dallas County, Texas



Local office

Arlington Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (817) 277-1100

📠 (817) 277-1129

2005 Ne Green Oaks Blvd
Suite 140
Arlington, TX 76006-6247

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arlingtontexas/>
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/EndangeredSpecies/lists/>

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and should not be used for planning or analyzing project level impacts.

[Section 7](#) of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to “request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action” for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency.

A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can only be obtained by requesting an official species list either from the Regulatory Review section in IPaC or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by creating a project and making a request from the Regulatory Review section.

Listed species¹ are managed by the [Endangered Species Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Black-capped Vireo <i>Vireo atricapilla</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5716	Endangered

Golden-cheeked Warbler (=wood) <i>Dendroica chrysoparia</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/33	Endangered
Least Tern <i>Sterna antillarum</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8505	Endangered
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> There is a final critical habitat designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat. http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> There is a final critical habitat designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat. http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Endangered

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

Migratory birds

Birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any activity that results in the take (to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct) of migratory birds or eagles is prohibited unless authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service³. There are no provisions for allowing the take of migratory birds that are unintentionally killed or injured.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in the take of migratory birds is responsible for complying with the appropriate regulations and implementing appropriate conservation measures.

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Year-round bird occurrence data <http://www.birdscanada.org/birdmon/default/datasummaries.jsp>

The migratory birds species listed below are species of particular conservation concern (e.g. [Birds of Conservation Concern](#)) that may be potentially affected by activities in this location, not a list of every bird species you may find in this location. Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, special attention should be made to avoid and minimize impacts to birds of priority concern. To view available data on other bird species that may occur in your project area, please visit the [AKN Histogram Tools](#) and [Other Bird Data Resources](#).

NAME	SEASON(S)
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Wintering

Bell's Vireo <i>Vireo bellii</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9507	Breeding
Burrowing Owl <i>Athene cunicularia</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9737	Wintering
Chestnut-collared Longspur <i>Calcarius ornatus</i>	Wintering
Dickcissel <i>Spiza americana</i>	Breeding
Fox Sparrow <i>Passerella iliaca</i>	Wintering
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Wintering
Harris's Sparrow <i>Zonotrichia querula</i>	Wintering
Hudsonian Godwit <i>Limosa haemastica</i>	Migrating
Lark Bunting <i>Calamospiza melanocorys</i>	Wintering
Le Conte's Sparrow <i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>	Wintering
Least Bittern <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6175	Breeding
Little Blue Heron <i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Breeding
Loggerhead Shrike <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8833	Year-round
Mccown's Longspur <i>Calcarius mccownii</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9292	Wintering
Mississippi Kite <i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>	Breeding
Orchard Oriole <i>Icterus spurius</i>	Breeding
Painted Bunting <i>Passerina ciris</i>	Breeding
Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Breeding
Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	Year-round
Rufous-crowned Sparrow <i>Aimophila ruficeps</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9718	Year-round
Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	Wintering
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher <i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>	Breeding
Short-eared Owl <i>Asio flammeus</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9295	Wintering
Sprague's Pipit <i>Anthus spragueii</i> http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8964	Wintering

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory bird species potentially occurring in my specified location?

Landbirds:

Migratory birds that are displayed on the IPaC species list are based on ranges in the latest edition of the National Geographic Guide, Birds of North America (6th Edition, 2011 by Jon L. Dunn, and Jonathan Alderfer). Although these ranges are coarse in nature, a number of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service migratory bird biologists agree that these maps are some of the best range maps to date. These ranges were clipped to a specific Bird Conservation Region (BCR) or USFWS Region/Regions, if it was indicated in the 2008 list of Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) that a species was a BCC species only in a particular Region/Regions. Additional modifications have been made to some ranges based on more local or refined range information and/or information provided by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists with species expertise. All migratory birds that show in areas on land in IPaC are those that appear in the 2008 Birds of Conservation Concern report.

Atlantic Seabirds:

Ranges in IPaC for birds off the Atlantic coast are derived from species distribution models developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) using the best available seabird survey data for the offshore Atlantic Coastal region to date. NOAA/NCCOS assisted USFWS in developing seasonal species ranges from their models for specific use in IPaC. Some of these birds are not BCC species but were of interest for inclusion because they may occur in high abundance off the coast at different times throughout the year, which potentially makes them more susceptible to certain types of development and activities taking place in that area. For more refined details about the abundance and richness of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, see the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other types of taxa that may be helpful in your project review.

About the NOAA/NCCOS models: the models were developed as part of the NOAA/NCCOS project: [Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#). The models resulting from this project are being used in a number of decision-support/mapping products in order to help guide decision-making on activities off the Atlantic Coast with the goal of reducing impacts to migratory birds. One such product is the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#), which can be used to explore details about the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species in a particular area off the Atlantic Coast.

All migratory bird range maps within IPaC are continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available.

Can I get additional information about the levels of occurrence in my project area of specific birds or groups of birds listed in IPaC?

Landbirds:

The [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#) provides a tool currently called the "Histogram Tool", which draws from the data within the AKN (latest, survey, point count, citizen science datasets) to create a view of relative abundance of species within a particular location over the course of the year. The results of the tool depict the frequency of detection of a species in survey events, averaged between multiple datasets within AKN in a particular week of the year. You may access the histogram tools through the [Migratory Bird Programs AKN Histogram Tools](#) webpage.

The tool is currently available for 4 regions (California, Northeast U.S., Southeast U.S. and Midwest), which encompasses the following 32 states: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

In the near future, there are plans to expand this tool nationwide within the AKN, and allow the graphs produced to appear with the list of trust resources generated by IPaC, providing you with an additional level of detail about the level of occurrence of the species of particular concern potentially occurring in your project area throughout the course of the year.

Atlantic Seabirds:

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the NOAA/NCCOS [Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project](#) webpage.

Facilities

Wildlife refuges

Any activity proposed on [National Wildlife Refuge](#) lands must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGES AT THIS LOCATION.

Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

WETLAND INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

Not for consultation

DALLAS COUNTY

BIRDS

		Federal Status	State Status
American Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	DL	T
<p>year-round resident and local breeder in west Texas, nests in tall cliff eyries; also, migrant across state from more northern breeding areas in US and Canada, winters along coast and farther south; occupies wide range of habitats during migration, including urban, concentrations along coast and barrier islands; low-altitude migrant, stopovers at leading landscape edges such as lake shores, coastlines, and barrier islands.</p>			
Arctic Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus tundrius</i>	DL	
<p>migrant throughout state from subspecies' far northern breeding range, winters along coast and farther south; occupies wide range of habitats during migration, including urban, concentrations along coast and barrier islands; low-altitude migrant, stopovers at leading landscape edges such as lake shores, coastlines, and barrier islands.</p>			
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	DL	T
<p>found primarily near rivers and large lakes; nests in tall trees or on cliffs near water; communally roosts, especially in winter; hunts live prey, scavenges, and pirates food from other birds</p>			
Black-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo atricapilla</i>	LE	E
<p>oak-juniper woodlands with distinctive patchy, two-layered aspect; shrub and tree layer with open, grassy spaces; requires foliage reaching to ground level for nesting cover; return to same territory, or one nearby, year after year; deciduous and broad-leaved shrubs and trees provide insects for feeding; species composition less important than presence of adequate broad-leaved shrubs, foliage to ground level, and required structure; nesting season March-late summer</p>			
Golden-cheeked Warbler	<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>	LE	E
<p>juniper-oak woodlands; dependent on Ashe juniper (also known as cedar) for long fine bark strips, only available from mature trees, used in nest construction; nests are placed in various trees other than Ashe juniper; only a few mature junipers or nearby cedar brakes can provide the necessary nest material; forage for insects in broad-leaved trees and shrubs; nesting late March-early summer</p>			
Henslow's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>		
<p>wintering individuals (not flocks) found in weedy fields or cut-over areas where lots of bunch grasses occur along with vines and brambles; a key component is bare ground for running/walking</p>			
Interior Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>	LE	E
<p>subspecies is listed only when inland (more than 50 miles from a coastline); nests along sand and gravel bars within braided streams, rivers; also know to nest on man-made structures (inland beaches, wastewater treatment plants, gravel mines, etc); eats small fish and crustaceans, when breeding forages within a few hundred feet of colony</p>			
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	DL	T
<p>both subspecies migrate across the state from more northern breeding areas in US and Canada to winter along coast and farther south; subspecies (F. p. anatum) is also a resident breeder in west Texas; the two subspecies' listing statuses differ, F.p. tundrius is no longer listed in Texas; but because the subspecies are not easily distinguishable at a distance, reference is generally made only to the species level; see subspecies for habitat.</p>			

DALLAS COUNTY

BIRDS

		Federal Status	State Status
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	LT	T
wintering migrant along the Texas Gulf Coast; beaches and bayside mud or salt flats			
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	T	
Red knots migrate long distances in flocks northward through the contiguous United States mainly April-June, southward July-October. A small plump-bodied, short-necked shorebird that in breeding plumage, typically held from May through August, is a distinctive and unique pottery orange color. Its bill is dark, straight and, relative to other shorebirds, short-to-medium in length. After molting in late summer, this species is in a drab gray-and-white non-breeding plumage, typically held from September through April. In the non-breeding plumage, the knot might be confused with the omnipresent Sanderling. During this plumage, look for the knot's prominent pale eyebrow and whitish flanks with dark barring. The Red Knot prefers the shoreline of coast and bays and also uses mudflats during rare inland encounters. Primary prey items include coquina clam (<i>Donax</i> spp.) on beaches and dwarf surf clam (<i>Mulinia lateralis</i>) in bays, at least in the Laguna Madre. Wintering Range includes- Aransas, Brazoria, Calhoun, Cameron, Chambers, Galveston, Jefferson, Kennedy, Kleberg, Matagorda, Nueces, San Patricio, and Willacy. Habitat: Primarily seacoasts on tidal flats and beaches, herbaceous wetland, and Tidal flat/shore.			
Sprague's Pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>		
only in Texas during migration and winter, mid September to early April; short to medium distance, diurnal migrant; strongly tied to native upland prairie, can be locally common in coastal grasslands, uncommon to rare further west; sensitive to patch size and avoids edges.			
Western Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia hypugaea</i>		
open grasslands, especially prairie, plains, and savanna, sometimes in open areas such as vacant lots near human habitation or airports; nests and roosts in abandoned burrows			
White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>		T
prefers freshwater marshes, sloughs, and irrigated rice fields, but will attend brackish and saltwater habitats; nests in marshes, in low trees, on the ground in bulrushes or reeds, or on floating mats			
Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	LE	E
potential migrant via plains throughout most of state to coast; winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties			
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>		T
forages in prairie ponds, flooded pastures or fields, ditches, and other shallow standing water, including salt-water; usually roosts communally in tall snags, sometimes in association with other wading birds (i.e. active heronries); breeds in Mexico and birds move into Gulf States in search of mud flats and other wetlands, even those associated with forested areas; formerly nested in Texas, but no breeding records since 1960			

INSECTS

		Federal Status	State Status
Black Lordithon rove beetle	<i>Lordithon niger</i>		
historically known from Texas			

DALLAS COUNTY

MAMMALS

Federal Status State Status

Cave myotis bat *Myotis velifer*

colonial and cave-dwelling; also roosts in rock crevices, old buildings, carports, under bridges, and even in abandoned Cliff Swallow (*Hirundo pyrrhonota*) nests; roosts in clusters of up to thousands of individuals; hibernates in limestone caves of Edwards Plateau and gypsum cave of Panhandle during winter; opportunistic insectivore

Plains spotted skunk *Spilogale putorius interrupta*

catholic; open fields, prairies, croplands, fence rows, farmyards, forest edges, and woodlands; prefers wooded, brushy areas and tallgrass prairie

MOLLUSKS

Federal Status State Status

Louisiana pigtoe *Pleurobema riddellii* T

streams and moderate-size rivers, usually flowing water on substrates of mud, sand, and gravel; not generally known from impoundments; Sabine, Neches, and Trinity (historic) River basins

Sandbank pocketbook *Lampsilis satura* T

small to large rivers with moderate flows and swift current on gravel, gravel-sand, and sand bottoms; east Texas, Sulfur south through San Jacinto River basins; Neches River

Texas heelsplitter *Potamilus amphichaenus* T

quiet waters in mud or sand and also in reservoirs. Sabine, Neches, and Trinity River basins

Texas pigtoe *Fusconaia askewi* T

rivers with mixed mud, sand, and fine gravel in protected areas associated with fallen trees or other structures; east Texas River basins, Sulphur River, Cypress Creek, Sabine through Trinity rivers as well as San Jacinto River

REPTILES

Federal Status State Status

Alligator snapping turtle *Macrochelys temminckii* T

perennial water bodies; deep water of rivers, canals, lakes, and oxbows; also swamps, bayous, and ponds near deep running water; sometimes enters brackish coastal waters; usually in water with mud bottom and abundant aquatic vegetation; may migrate several miles along rivers; active March-October; breeds April-October

Texas garter snake *Thamnophis sirtalis annectens*

wet or moist microhabitats are conducive to the species occurrence, but is not necessarily restricted to them; hibernates underground or in or under surface cover; breeds March-August

Texas horned lizard *Phrynosoma cornutum* T

open, arid and semi-arid regions with sparse vegetation, including grass, cactus, scattered brush or scrubby trees; soil may vary in texture from sandy to rocky; burrows into soil, enters rodent burrows, or hides under rock when inactive; breeds March-September

DALLAS COUNTY

REPTILES

	Federal Status	State Status
Timber rattlesnake <i>Crotalus horridus</i>		T
swamps, floodplains, upland pine and deciduous woodlands, riparian zones, abandoned farmland; limestone bluffs, sandy soil or black clay; prefers dense ground cover, i.e. grapevines or palmetto		

PLANTS

	Federal Status	State Status
Glass Mountains coral-root <i>Hexalectris nitida</i>		
GLOBAL RANK: G3; Apparently rare in mixed woodlands in canyons in the mountains of the Brewster County, but encountered with regularity, albeit in small numbers, under <i>Juniperus ashei</i> in woodlands over limestone on the Edwards Plateau, Callahan Divide and Lampasas Cutplain; Perennial; Flowering June-Sept; Fruiting July-Sept		
Glen Rose yucca <i>Yucca necopina</i>		
Texas endemic; grasslands on sandy soils and limestone outcrops; flowering April-June		
Hall's prairie clover <i>Dalea hallii</i>		
GLOBAL RANK: G3; In grasslands on eroded limestone or chalk and in oak scrub on rocky hillsides; Perennial; Flowering May-Sept; Fruiting June-Sept		
Osage Plains false foxglove <i>Agalinis densiflora</i>		
GLOBAL RANK: G3; Most records are from grasslands on shallow, gravelly, well drained, calcareous soils; Prairies, dry limestone soils; Annual; Flowering Aug-Oct		
Plateau milkvine <i>Matelea edwardsensis</i>		
GLOBAL RANK: G3 ; Occurs in various types of juniper-oak and oak-juniper woodlands; Perennial; Flowering March-Oct; Fruiting May-June		
Texas milk vetch <i>Astragalus reflexus</i>		
GLOBAL RANK: G3; Grasslands, prairies, and roadsides on calcareous and clay substrates; Annual; Flowering Feb-June; Fruiting April-June		
Tree dodder <i>Cuscuta exaltata</i>		
GLOBAL RANK: G3; Parasitic on various <i>Quercus</i> , <i>Juglans</i> , <i>Rhus</i> , <i>Vitis</i> , <i>Ulmus</i> , and <i>Diospyros</i> species as well as <i>Acacia berlandieri</i> and other woody plants; Annual; Flowering May-Oct; Fruiting July-Oct		
Warnock's coral-root <i>Hexalectris warnockii</i>		
in leaf litter and humus in oak-juniper woodlands on shaded slopes and intermittent, rocky creekbeds in canyons; in the Trans Pecos in oak-pinyon-juniper woodlands in higher mesic canyons (to 2000 m [6550 ft]), primarily on igneous substrates; in Terrell County under <i>Quercus fusiformis</i> mottes on terraces of spring-fed perennial streams, draining an otherwise rather xeric limestone landscape; on the Callahan Divide (Taylor County), the White Rock Escarpment (Dallas County), and the Edwards Plateau in oak-juniper woodlands on limestone slopes; in Gillespie County on igneous substrates of the Llano Uplift; flowering June-September; individual plants do not usually bloom in successive years		

Appendix C
Agency Coordination



November 28, 2016

United States Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202

Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to notify you that the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508). Financial assistance for this project is being provided through a grant under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that will be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Roberson PR) of 1937.

The Proposed Action is to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery facility to provide hunter education, instruction, train the public in the safe and responsible use of bows, and provide a safe archery shooting experience. The construction and operation of the outdoor archery center would accommodate the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas, as well as youth from the general public in surrounding communities with an opportunity to learn about and develop archery skills. The proposed location of Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center is at 6010 Whispering Cedar Drive, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas (**Figures 1 and 2**). The proposed footprint of the archery center would be approximately 100' X 130' within the existing Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas property comprising approximately 92 acres. Within this 100' X 130' footprint would be the following:

- 1) An archery range located on a manicured lawn.
- 2) A concrete shooting pavilion which includes covered shading and a storage structure that divides the space between the active shooting line and waiting area.
- 3) A shelter behind the shooting pavilion.

The EA will describe the need for and purpose of the proposed project, alternatives under consideration, the affected environment, and will assess the potential environmental effects of the alternatives.

To help ensure that the EA addresses environmental resource categories for which your agency manages or has the responsibility to regulate, it is requested that you provide any comments or recommendations you may have regarding the performance of the EA. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Please send any correspondence and information regarding this request to the attention of Mr. Patrick Ireland at Titanium Environmental Services, LLC, at P.O. Box 4029, Longview, TX 75606. If you have any questions regarding this matter, he can be contacted by phone at (903) 234-8443 or by e-mail at pireland@titaniumenvironmental.com. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

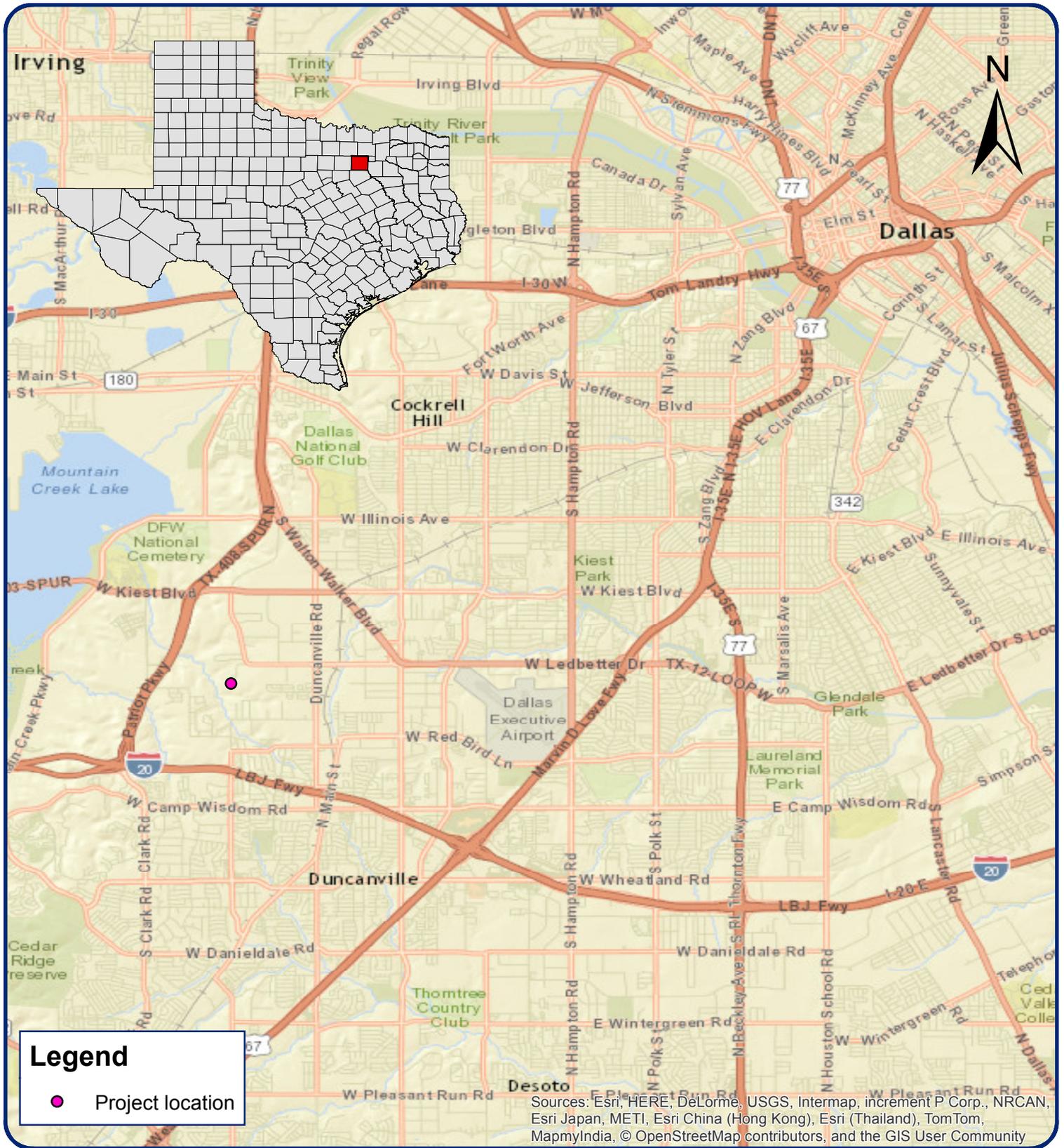
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

CC: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)



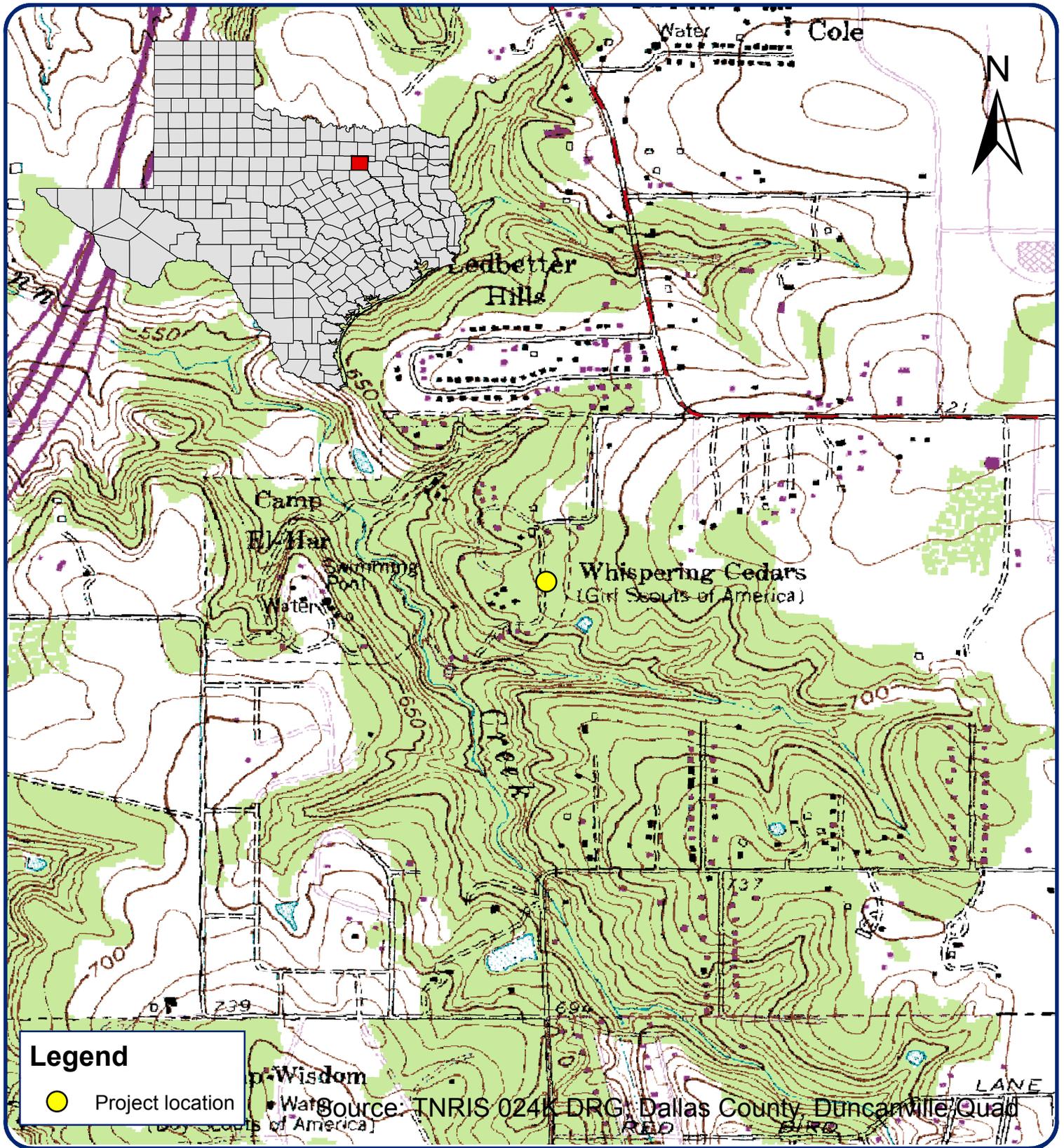
 **TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC**
 PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606
 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641
 www.titaniumenvironmental.com

CLIENT
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center

FIGURE 1
Location Map
Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016






TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC
 PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606
 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641
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CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 2
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center	Topographic Map (024K DRG)
0 1,125 2,250 4,500		Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016



November 28, 2016

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Air Quality – MC-163
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

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To help ensure that the EA addresses environmental resource categories for which your agency manages or has the responsibility to regulate, it is requested that you provide any comments or recommendations you may have regarding the performance of the EA. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Please send any correspondence and information regarding this request to the attention of Mr. Patrick Ireland at Titanium Environmental Services, LLC, at P.O. Box 4029, Longview, TX 75606. If you have any questions regarding this matter, he can be contacted by phone at (903) 234-8443 or by e-mail at pireland@titaniumenvironmental.com. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

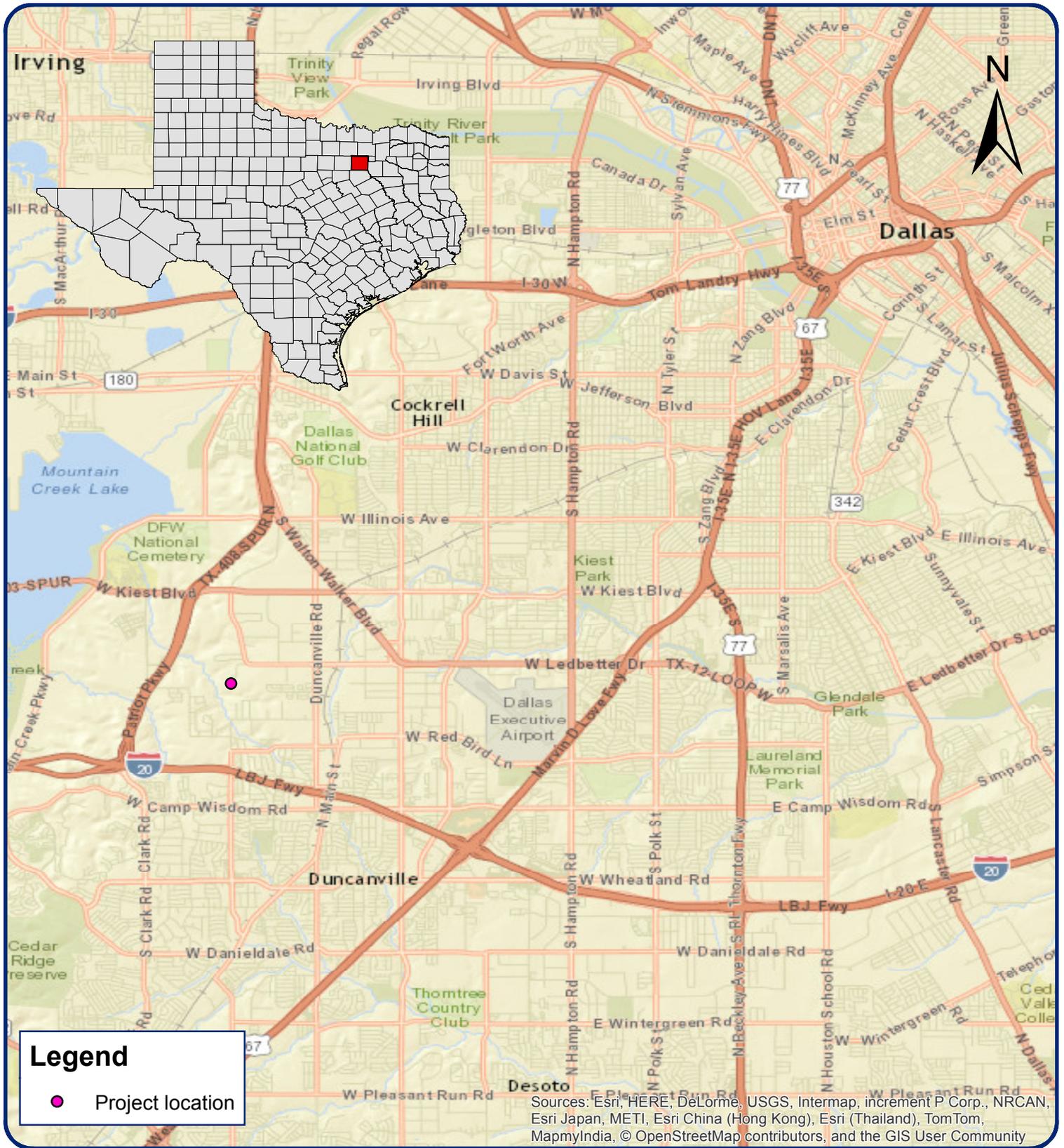
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Murphy". The signature is cursive and includes a horizontal line at the end.

Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

C: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)



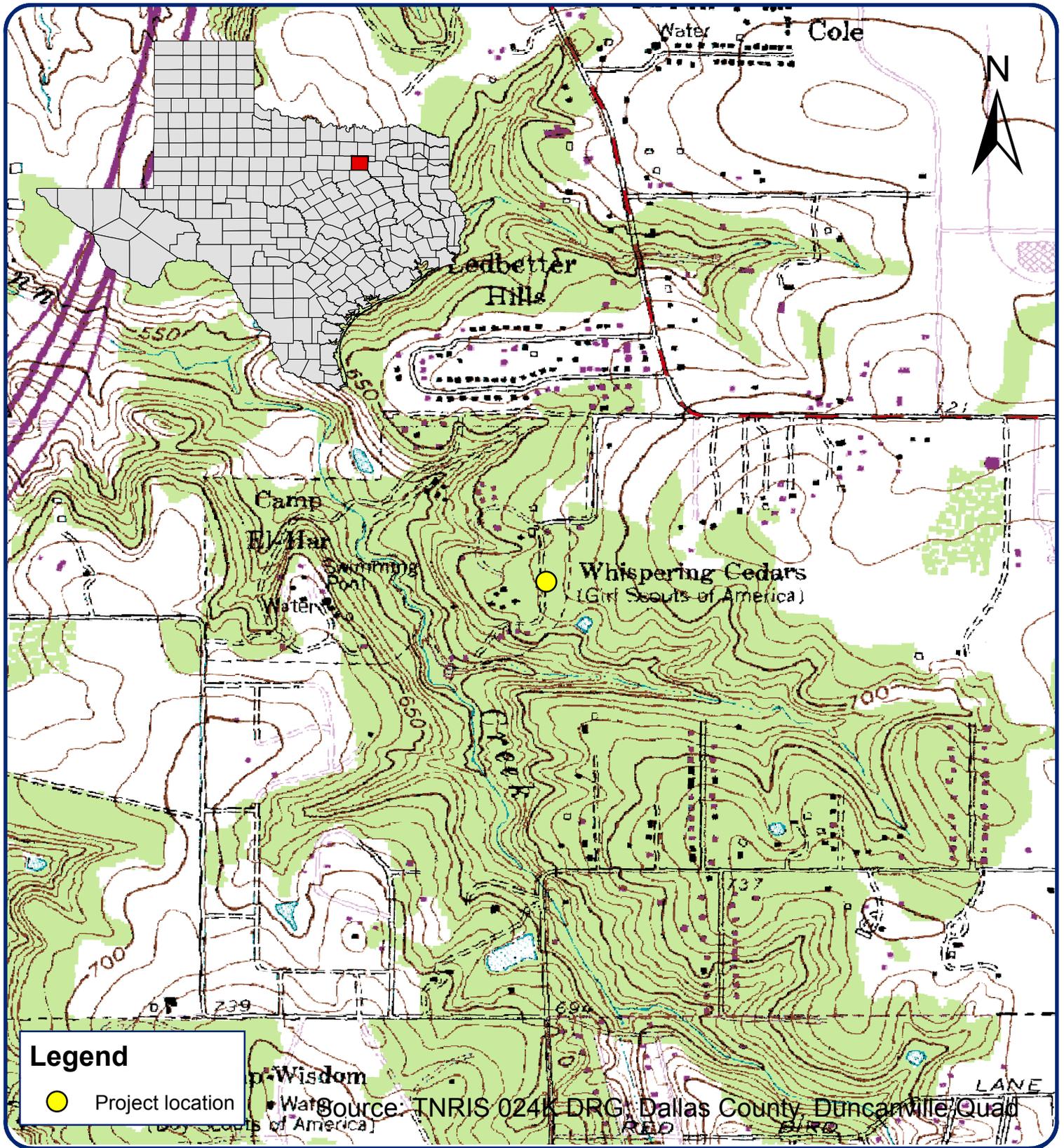
TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC
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 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641
 www.titaniumenvironmental.com

CLIENT
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center

FIGURE 1
Location Map
Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016






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CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 2
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center	Topographic Map (024K DRG)
0 1,125 2,250 4,500 Feet		Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016



November 28, 2016

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Water Quality – MC-148
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to notify you that the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508). Financial assistance for this project is being provided through a grant under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that will be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Roberson PR) of 1937.

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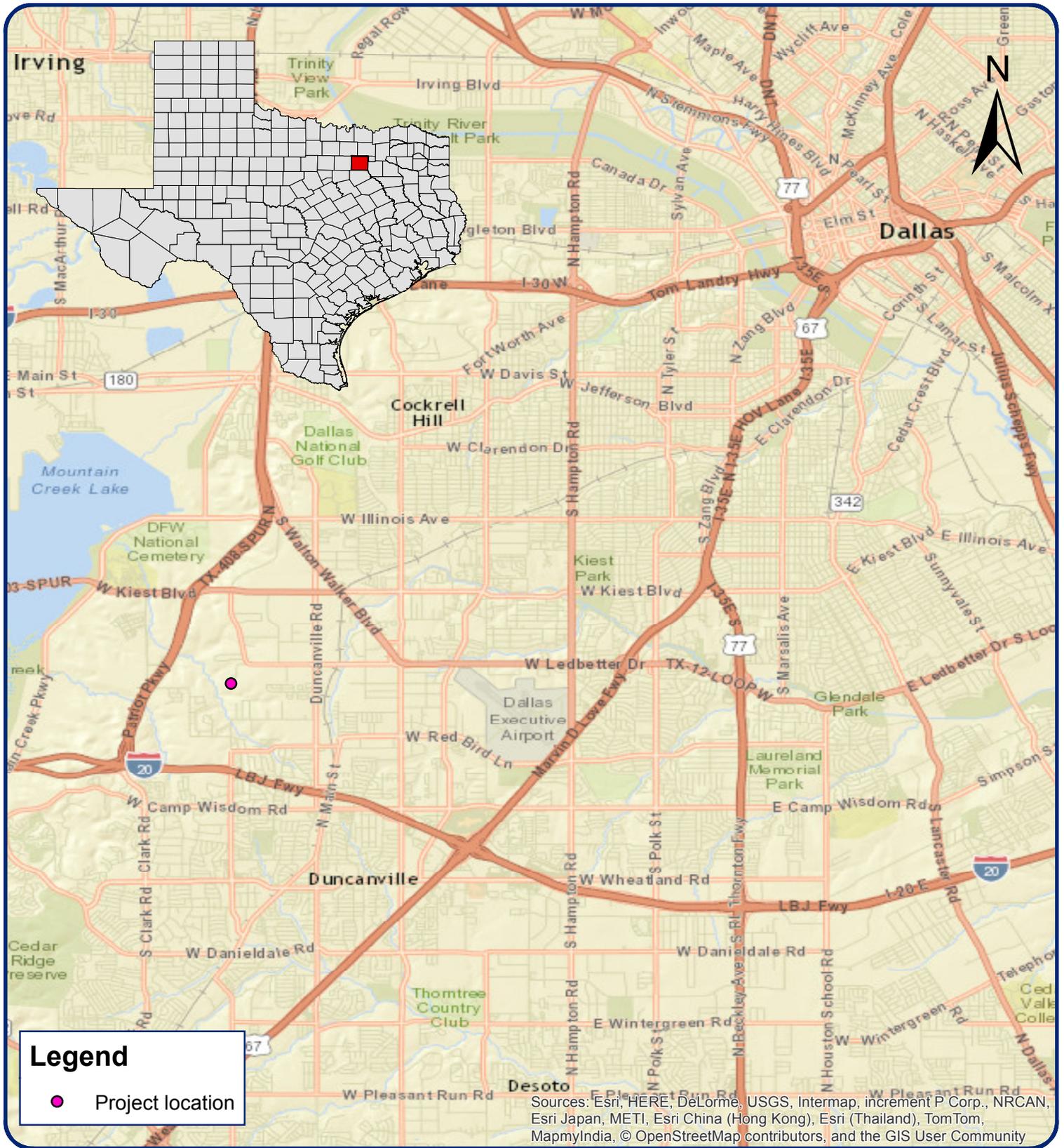
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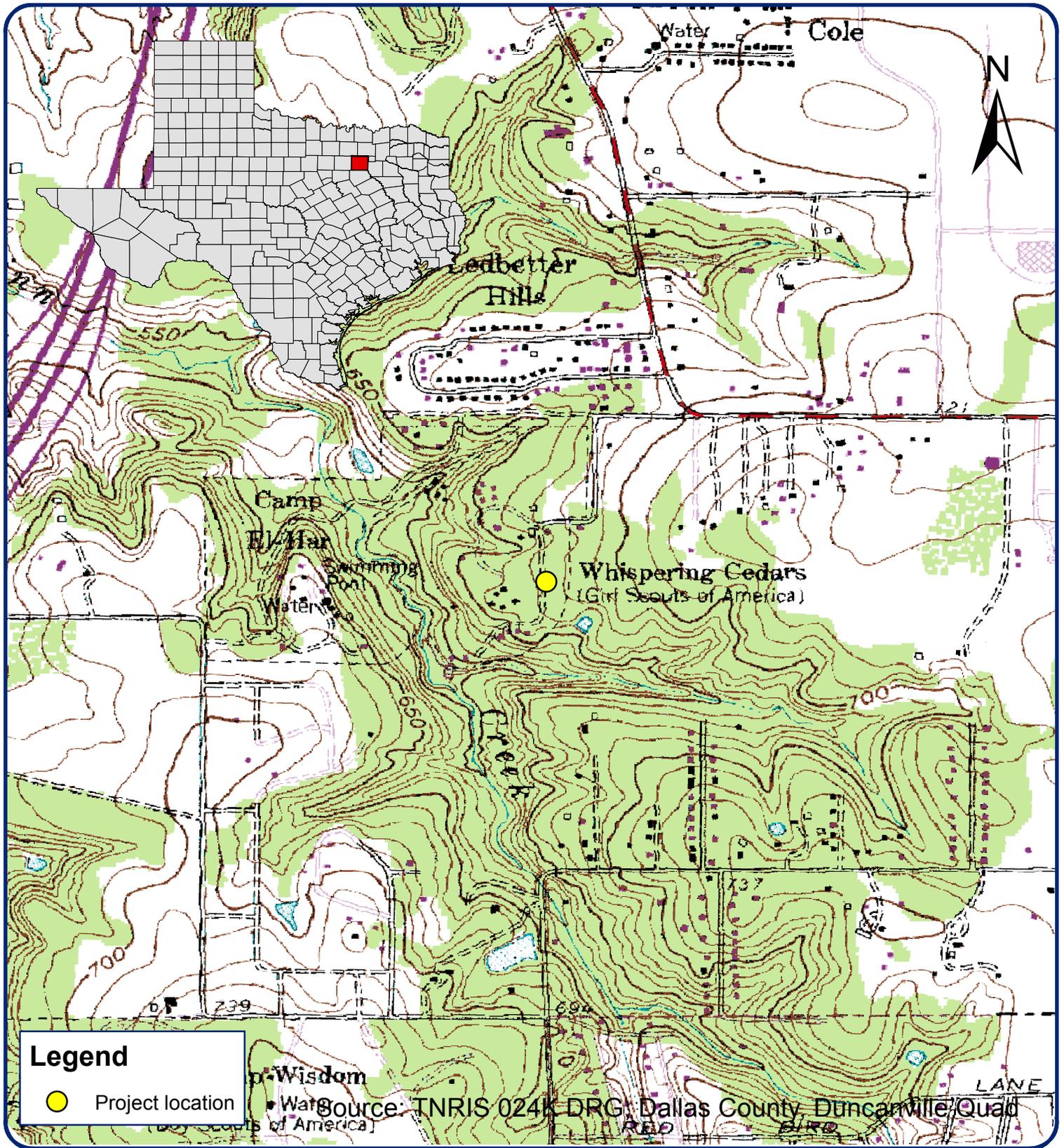
Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

CC: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)



 <p>TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641 www.titaniumenvironmental.com</p>	CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 1
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			Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016




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Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center	Topographic Map (024K DRG)
0 1,125 2,250 4,500		Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016

From: Peter Schaefer <peter.schaefer@tceq.texas.gov>

Date: January 6, 2017 at 1:40:37 PM CST

To: "pireland@titaniumenvironmental.com" <pireland@titaniumenvironmental.com>

Subject: Girl Scouts Archery Center

Mr. Ireland,

I am responding to your November 28, 2016 letter requesting TCEQ input that may be helpful to you during the EA preparation process. My team here at TCEQ reviews activities that require 401 water quality certification for projects that involve unavoidable impacts to waters in the state. This includes projects requiring an EA. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the lead agency for 404/401 permitting and is the first point of contact to determine what permits, if any, are required for the project being proposed. What TCEQ looks for when reviewing a 401 project is that the applicant avoid impacts to waters in the state as much as practicable. If complete avoidance is not possible, then we make sure that impacts have been avoided to the greatest extent practicable. And finally, we check to make sure that unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated consistent with our rules and regulations. Here is a link to our website that addresses 401 water quality certifications:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/401certification>

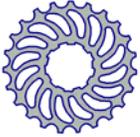
More things to consider. Since stream impacts are more difficult to replace than wetland impacts, every effort should be made to avoid impacting streams. Also, the riparian areas along streams are equally important in protecting the functions of the stream and should also be avoided where possible. If road crossings are planned on streams, note that culverts can result in secondary impacts by disrupting the natural flow of water and sediment. Spanning creek crossings with bridges is best and will allow for natural meandering of the stream course and will not inhibit the natural movement of sediment downstream. A cheaper alternative to the use of bridges is open bottom culverts, which has similar benefits as spanning with a bridge.

I hope this information is helpful.

Thanks,

Peter

Peter Schaefer
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
MC 150
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087
Work: (512) 239-4372



November 28, 2016

Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

This letter is to notify you that the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508). Financial assistance for this project is being provided through a grant under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that will be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Roberson PR) of 1937.

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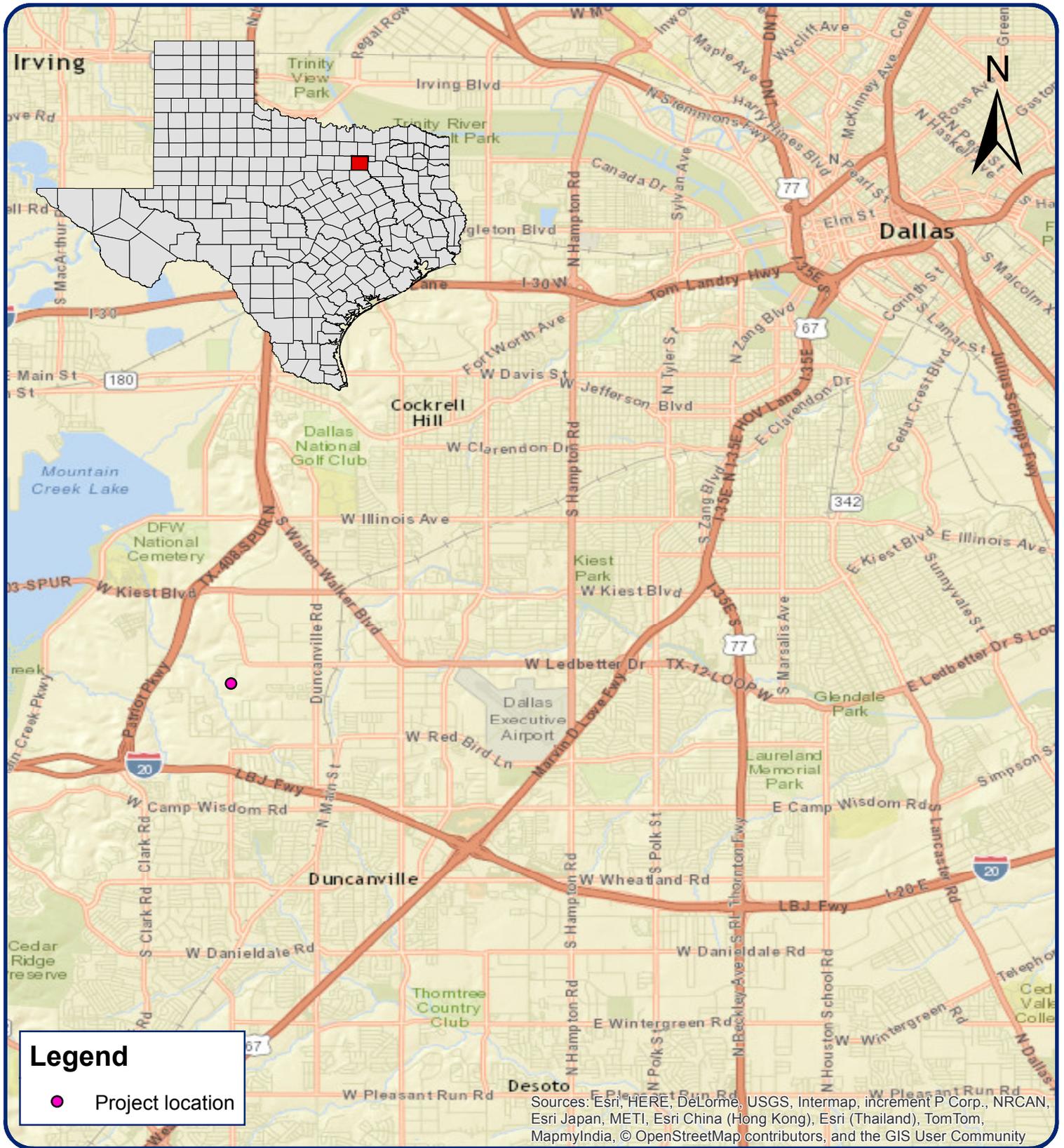
Sincerely,

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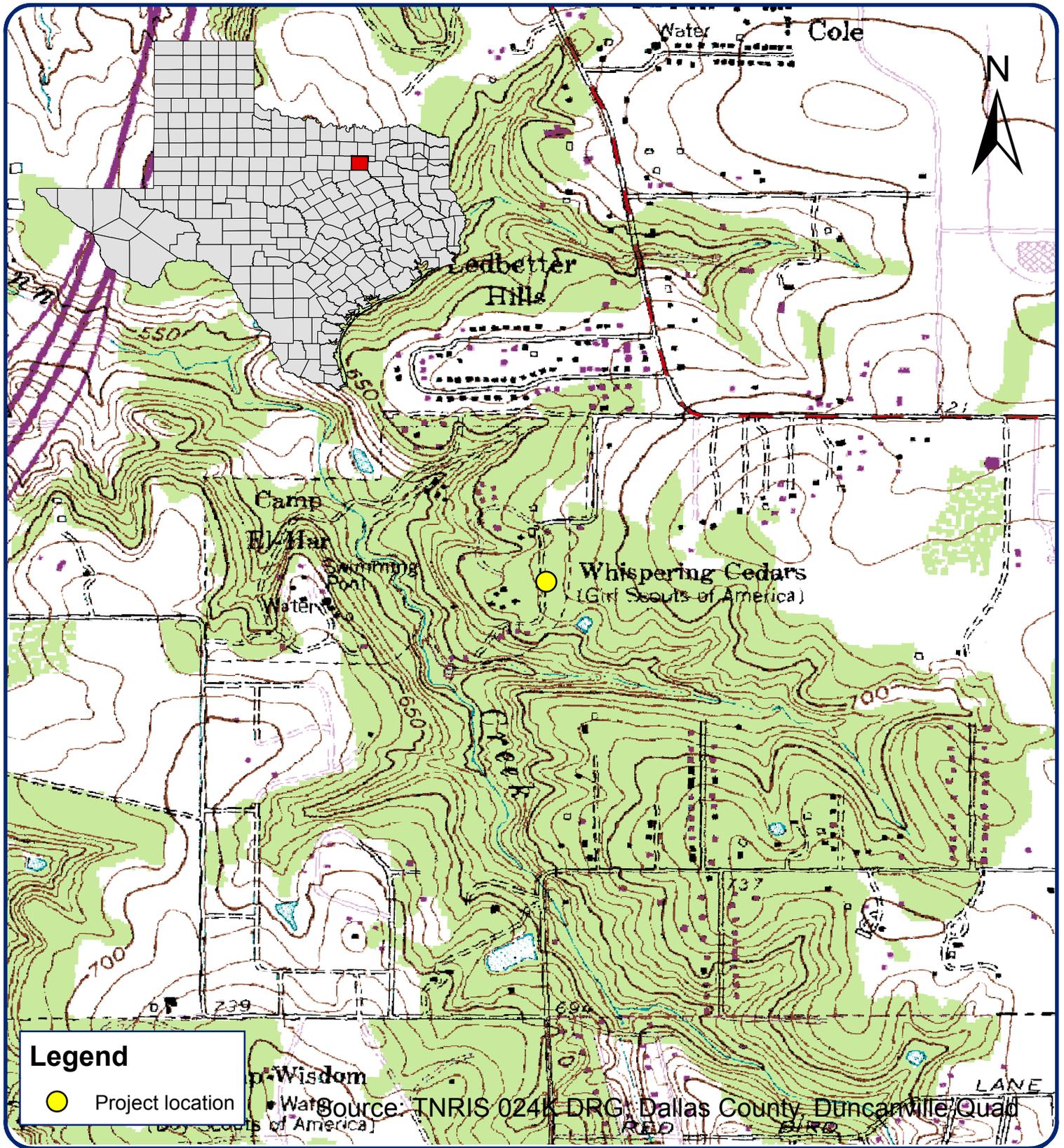
Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

CC: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)



 TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641 www.titaniumenvironmental.com	CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 1
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			Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016




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TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC

P.O. Box 4029
Longview, Texas 75606-4029

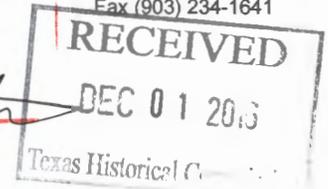
Phone (903) 234-8443
Fax (903) 234-1641

November 28, 2016

Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

NO HISTORIC
PROPERTIES AFFECTED
PROJECT MAY PROCEED

by Melvin A. Thacker
for Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
Date 12/21/16
Track# 201702417



Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Betsy
Dear Mr. Wolfe:

This letter is to notify you that the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508). Financial assistance for this project is being provided through a grant under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that will be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Roberson PR) of 1937.

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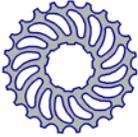
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Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

CC: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)



November 28, 2016

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Biological and Conservation Data System
Resource Protection Division
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Dear Sir or Madam:

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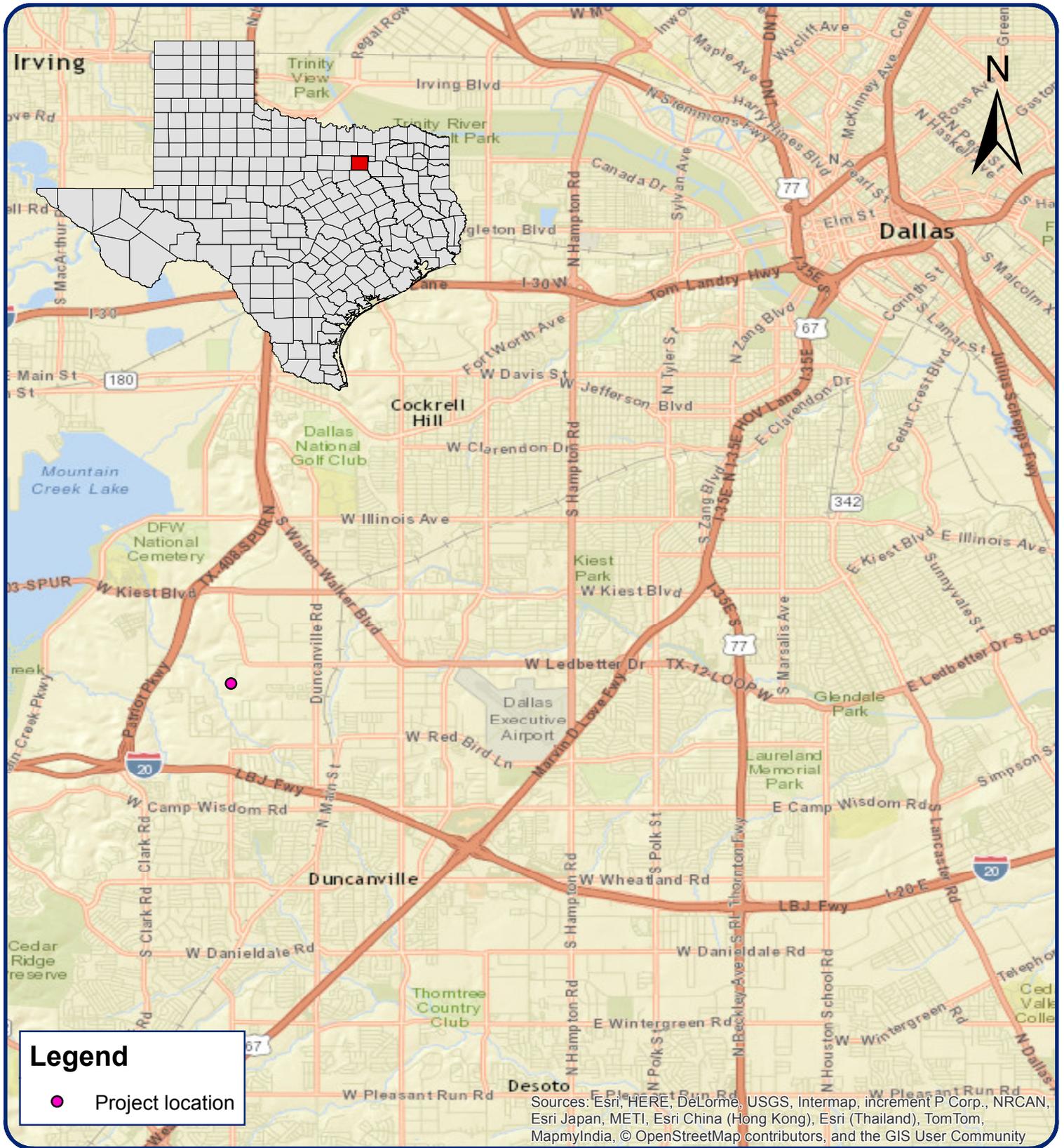
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TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC

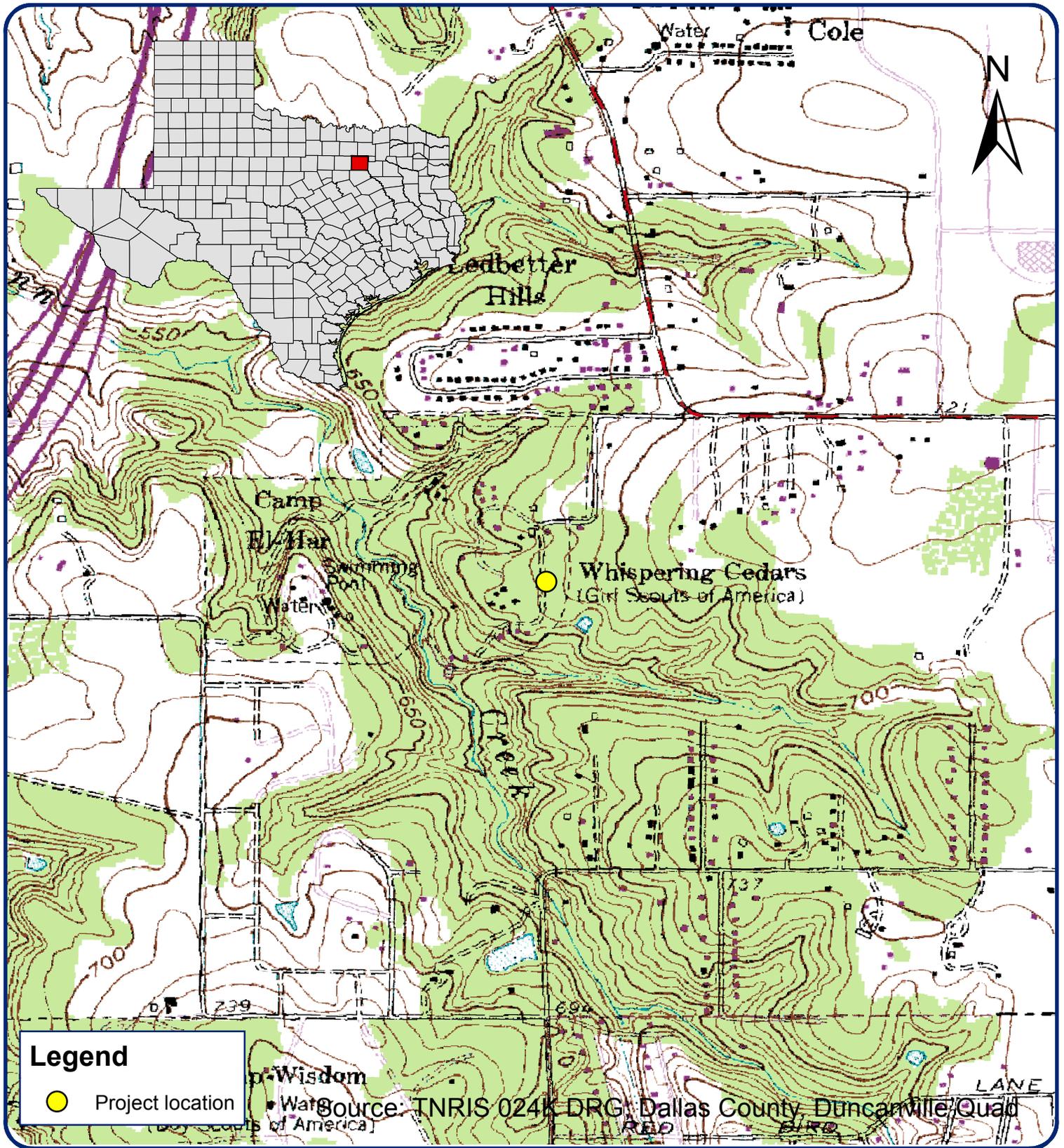
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CLIENT
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center

FIGURE 1
Location Map
Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016





TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC

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CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 2
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center	Topographic Map (024K DRG)
0 1,125 2,250 4,500 Feet		Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016



Life's better outside.®

December 15, 2016

Dan Murphy
Titanium Environmental Services, LLC
P.O. Box 4029
Longview, TX 75606-4029

Commissioners

T. Dan Friedkin
Chairman
Houston

Ralph H. Duggins
Vice-Chairman
Fort Worth

Anna B. Galo
Laredo

Bill Jones
Austin

Jeanne W. Latimer
San Antonio

James H. Lee
Houston

S. Reed Morian
Houston

Dick Scott
Wimberley

Kelcy L. Warren
Dallas

Lee M. Bass
Chairman-Emeritus
Fort Worth

Carter P. Smith
Executive Director

RE: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas Proposed Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center, Dallas County
TPWD Project 37298

Dear Mr. Dan Murphy:

In preparation of an Environmental Assessment, Titanium Environmental Services, LLC, on behalf of Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (GSNETX), has requested the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) provide comments or recommendations regarding potential environmental resource concerns.

As the state agency with primary responsibility for protecting the state's fish and wildlife resources and in accordance with the authority granted by Parks and Wildlife Code §12.0011, TPWD hereby provides the following recommendations and informational comments to minimize potential adverse impacts to the state's fish and wildlife resources, including rare, threatened and endangered species, in the construction and operation of the proposed project.

Project Description

GSNETX plans to utilize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program funds administered by TPWD to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery facility of approximately 100 feet by 130 feet in size within the existing GSNETX 92-acre property located at 6010 Whispering Cedar Drive, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas. The archery facility would include a manicured lawn archery range, a concrete shooting pavilion with covered shading and a storage structure, and a shelter behind the shooting range. A vicinity map and topographic map show the general vicinity of the project, though no details regarding the footprint relative to the property boundary were provided.

Future Project Submittals

Electronic: The TPWD Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program accepts project review requests through electronic submittal to WHAB@tpwd.texas.gov. If submitting requests electronically, please include unzipped geographic location files when available (e.g. GIS shape file or KMZ file).

Federal Regulations

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act prohibits taking, attempting to take, capturing, killing, selling/purchasing, possessing, transporting, and importing of migratory birds, their

eggs, parts and nests, except when authorized by the Department of the Interior.

Within the project area, potential impacts to migratory birds may occur during site preparation and grading activities through the disturbance of existing vegetation and bare ground that may harbor active bird nests, including nests that may occur in grass, shrubs and trees and on bare ground including gravel pads and roads.

Recommendation: If clearing vegetation during the nesting season is unavoidable, TPWD recommends surveying the construction area to ensure that no nests with eggs or young will be disturbed by construction. Any vegetation or bare ground areas where occupied nests are located should not be disturbed until the eggs have hatched and the young have fledged. The USFWS Migratory Bird Office can be contacted at (505) 248-7882 for more information.

The project area is located within the Central Flyway, a major bird migration corridor that leads to the Texas coast and Central/South America. Artificial nighttime lighting can attract and disorient night-migrating birds. Birds circling the lights' glare can cause exhaustion mortality.

Recommendation: Because the project would be located within a bird migration corridor, TPWD recommends GSNETX avoid the use of nighttime lighting or use the minimum amount of night-time lighting needed for safety and security and to down-shield lighting to light only the ground and reduce glare.

State Regulations

Section 68.015 of the Parks and Wildlife Code regulates state-listed species. Please note that there is no provision for capture, trap, take, or kill (incidental or otherwise) of state-listed species. The *TPWD Guidelines for Protection of State-Listed Species* includes a list of penalties for capture, trap, take, or kill of state-listed species (http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/habitat_assessment/media/tpwd_statelisted_species.pdf). State-listed species may only be handled by persons authorized through the TPWD permits offices. For more information on wildlife permits please visit <http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/business/permits/land/wildlife/>, and for information regarding permits for aquatic resources, please visit http://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/environconcerns/kills_and_spills/.

The Texas Natural Diversity Database (TXNDD) is intended to assist users in avoiding harm to rare species or significant ecological features. Given the small proportion of public versus private land in Texas, the TXNDD does not include a representative inventory of rare resources in the state. Please note that absence of information in the database does not imply that a species is absent from that area. Although it is based on the best data available to TPWD regarding rare species, the data from the TXNDD do not provide a definitive statement as to the presence, absence or condition of special species, natural communities, or other significant features within your project area. These data are not inclusive and **cannot be used as presence/absence data**. This information cannot be substituted for on-the-ground surveys. The TXNDD is updated continuously based on new, updated and undigitized records; for questions regarding a

record or to obtain digital data, please contact TexasNatural.DiversityDatabase@tpwd.texas.gov.

Although a review of the TXNDD indicated no known occurrences of threatened or endangered species within the vicinity of the project area, state-listed species could potentially be impacted if suitable habitat is present at or near the project site. The TPWD Annotated County Lists of Rare Species provide information regarding state-listed and rare species that have potential to occur within each county in Texas and are available at <http://tpwd.texas.gov/gis/rtest/>.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends the EA identify the state-listed species with potential to occur in Dallas County, identify whether the project area contains habitat suitable for state-listed species, and indicate if project activities would impact state-listed species or their habitats.

The project area is within a relatively undeveloped upland and riparian woodland area with a few treeless openings located along O'Guinn Creek, a tributary of Mountain Creek, which represents a major stream corridor within southwest Dallas County. Of the terrestrial species listed for Dallas County, the state-threatened timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) is more at risk for being impacted by construction activities due to its limited mobility and because of suitable habitat potentially occurring in or near the project area. The timber rattlesnake is a slow-moving, cryptic species that is less able to readily escape from heavy machinery than other wildlife. Various small vertebrates including snakes, lizards, toads and mice fall into trenches and become trapped. Wildlife unable to escape from trenches are susceptible to loss from backfilling activities, exposure to elements, starvation, dehydration, and predation by other wildlife.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends choosing the location of the archery range to avoid riparian woodland corridors along streams and to minimize the removal of native habitats by placing the range in an area of previous disturbance or lower quality habitat.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends the EA identify the species of grass, forbs, shrub and tree vegetation in the project footprint that will be removed due to construction disturbance.

Recommendation: TPWD encourages GSNETX and its contractors to be informed of the federal- and state-listed species and species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) with potential to occur in the project county and to take precautions avoid impacts to rare species if encountered in the project area. Wildlife observed during construction should be allowed to safely leave the site.

Recommendation: Because snakes are generally perceived as a threat and killed when encountered during clearing or construction, TPWD recommends GSNETX inform employees and contractors of the potential for the state-listed threatened timber rattlesnake to occur in the study area. Contractors should be advised to avoid impacts to these and other snakes. Compared to other rattlesnakes, the timber rattlesnake is a rather docile species. Injury to humans usually occurs when the

snake becomes agitated following harassment or when someone attempts to handle a recently dead snake that still contains its bite reflex. Therefore, contractors should avoid contact with the species if encountered and allow the snake to safely leave the premises.

Recommendation: State-listed threatened species observed during construction should be allowed to safely leave the site or be translocated by a permitted individual to a nearby area with similar habitat that would not be disturbed during construction. TPWD recommends that any translocations of reptiles be the minimum distance possible no greater than one mile, preferably within 100-200 yards from the initial encounter location. As a reminder, for purposes of relocation, surveys, monitoring, and research, terrestrial state-listed species may only be handled by persons permitted through the TPWD Wildlife Permits Office, <http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/business/permits/land/wildlife/research>.

Recommendation: If trenching is involved in construction such as where water, sewer, or electrical lines may be placed underground or during the construction of footings, TPWD recommends that any open trenches or excavation areas be covered overnight and/or inspected every morning to ensure no reptiles or other wildlife species have been trapped. Trenches left open for more than two daylight hours should be inspected for the presence of trapped reptiles prior to backfilling. If trenches cannot be backfilled the day of initial trenching, then escape ramps should be installed at least every 90 meters. Escape ramps can be short lateral trenches or wooden planks placed at an angle of less than 45 degrees (1:1).

Recommendation: For soil stabilization and/or revegetation of disturbed areas within the proposed project area, TPWD recommends erosion and seed/mulch stabilization materials that avoid entanglement hazards to snakes and other wildlife species. Because the mesh found in many erosion control blankets or mats pose an entanglement hazard to wildlife TPWD recommends the use of no-till drilling, hydromulching and/or hydroseeding rather than erosion control blankets or mats due to a reduced risk to wildlife. If erosion control blankets or mats will be used, the product should contain no netting or contain loosely woven, natural fiber netting in which the mesh design allows the threads to move, therefore allowing expansion of the mesh openings. Plastic mesh matting should be avoided.

Recommendation: To aid in the scientific knowledge of a species' status and current range, TPWD encourages reporting encounters of state-listed species to the Texas Natural Diversity Database according to the data submittal instructions found at <http://tpwd.texas.gov/txnndd>.

State Fish and Wildlife Resources

In addition to federal- and state-threatened and endangered species, Texas contains over 1,300 species that are considered to be Species of Greatest Conservation Need that, due to limited distributions and/or declining populations, face threat of extirpation or extinction but currently lack the legal protections given to threatened or endangered species. Information regarding SGCN can be found at http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/texas_rare_species/sgcn/

. Special landscape features, natural plant communities, and SGCN are rare resources for which TPWD actively promotes conservation, and TPWD considers it important to minimize impacts to such resources to reduce the likelihood of endangerment.

Based on habitat requirements or denning characteristics, SGCN from the Dallas County list with greater potential to occur on the site and with greater potential to be impacted by project activities include the Plains spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius interrupta*), Texas garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis annectens*), Glass Mountains coral-root (*Hexalectris nitida*), Warnock's coral-root (*Hexalectris warnockii*), Hall's prairie clover (*Dalea hallii*), Plateau milkvine (*Matelea edwardsensis*), Texas milk vetch (*Astragalus reflexus*), and Tree dodder (*Cuscuta exaltata*).

A review of the TXNDD revealed known occurrences of the Glass Mountains coral root, Warnock's coral-root, Plateau milkvine, Hall's prairie clover, and Little Bluestem – Indiangrass (*Schizachyrium scoparium* – *Sorghastrum nutans*) Series G2S2 native grassland communities within approximately 5 miles southwest of the GSNETX property. The GSNETX property may contain similar habitats as those containing the nearby known SGCN plant occurrences, namely oak-juniper woodlands and native grasslands or savannah opening. However, the characteristics of the project area cannot be determined without more information and field data from the site.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends taking precautions to avoid impacts to SGCN, natural plant communities, or special features if discovered in the project area during the site assessment or during construction, operation and maintenance. TPWD recommends assessing the site's vegetative characteristics and placing the archery center to avoid habitats of SGCN species and communities.

The lack of development at the GSNETX property may be protecting areas of suitable habitat that contain rare plant species.

Recommendation: Beyond the scope of the proposed project, TPWD recommends GSNETX consider conducting a rare plant assessment of the 92-acre property to identify whether it may support the SGCN plants mentioned above. Please contact TPWD for guidance or assistance in this endeavor.

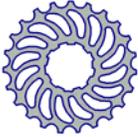
If you have any questions, please contact me at Karen.Hardin@tpwd.texas.gov or (903) 322-5001.

Sincerely,



Karen B. Hardin
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program
Wildlife Division

kbh/37298



November 28, 2016

Jennifer Walker, Permits Section Chief
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Division (Attn: CESWF-DE-R)
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, TX 76102 - 0300

Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. Walker:

This letter is to notify you that the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508). Financial assistance for this project is being provided through a grant under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that will be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Roberson PR) of 1937.

The Proposed Action is to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery facility to provide hunter education, instruction, train the public in the safe and responsible use of bows, and provide a safe archery shooting experience. The construction and operation of the outdoor archery center would accommodate the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas, as well as youth from the general public in surrounding communities with an opportunity to learn about and develop archery skills. The proposed location of Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center is at 6010 Whispering Cedar Drive, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas (**Figures 1 and 2**). The proposed footprint of the archery center would be approximately 100' X 130' within the existing Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas property comprising approximately 92 acres. Within this 100' X 130' footprint would be the following:

- 1) An archery range located on a manicured lawn.
- 2) A concrete shooting pavilion which includes covered shading and a storage structure that divides the space between the active shooting line and waiting area.
- 3) A shelter behind the shooting pavilion.

The EA will describe the need for and purpose of the proposed project, alternatives under consideration, the affected environment, and will assess the potential environmental effects of the alternatives.

To help ensure that the EA addresses environmental resource categories for which your agency manages or has the responsibility to regulate, it is requested that you provide any comments or

recommendations you may have regarding the performance of the EA. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Please send any correspondence and information regarding this request to the attention of Mr. Patrick Ireland at Titanium Environmental Services, LLC at P.O. Box 4029, Longview, TX 75606. If you have any questions regarding this matter, he can be contacted by phone at (903) 234-8443 or by e-mail at pireland@titaniumenvironmental.com. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

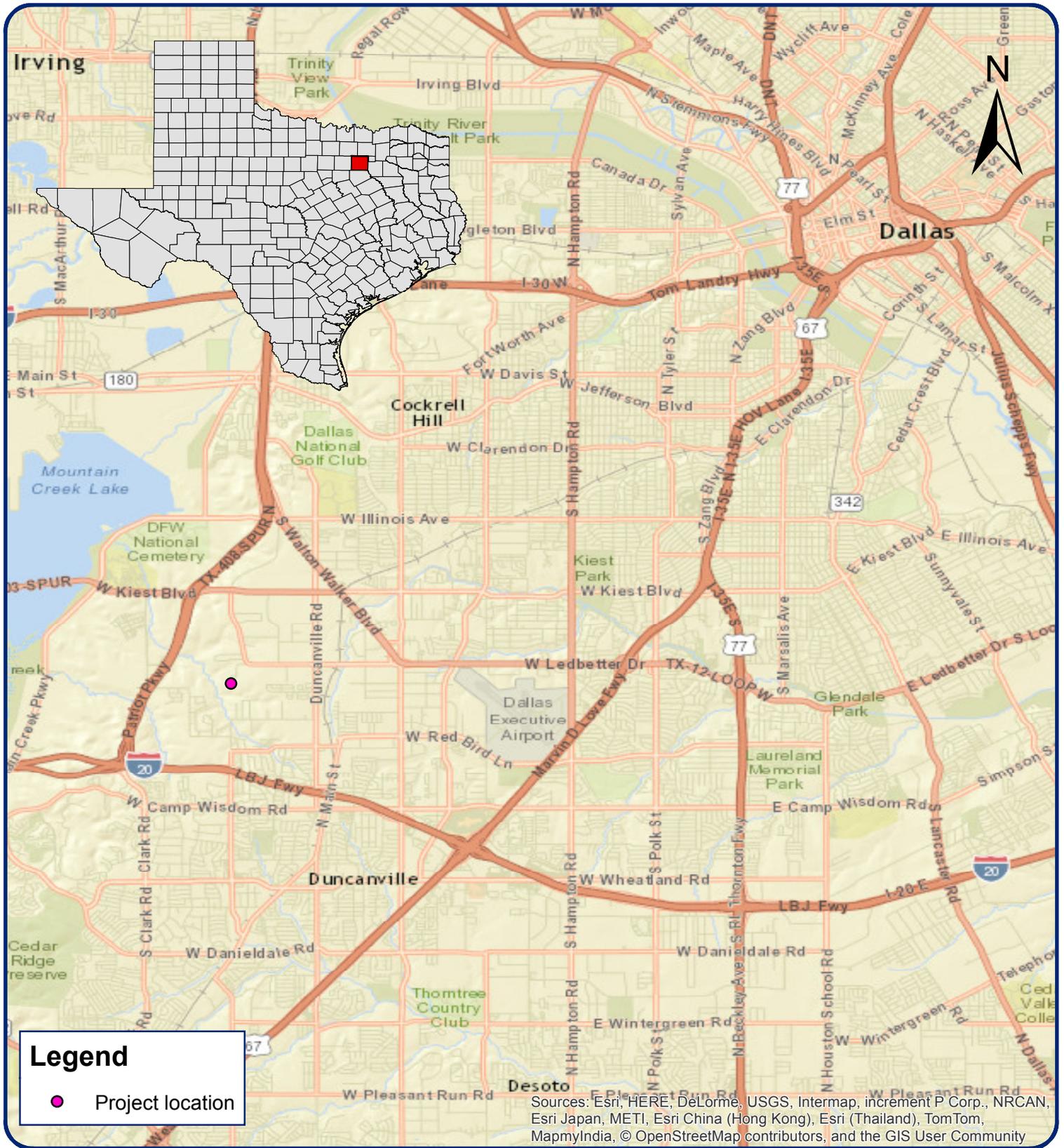
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

CC: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)



TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC

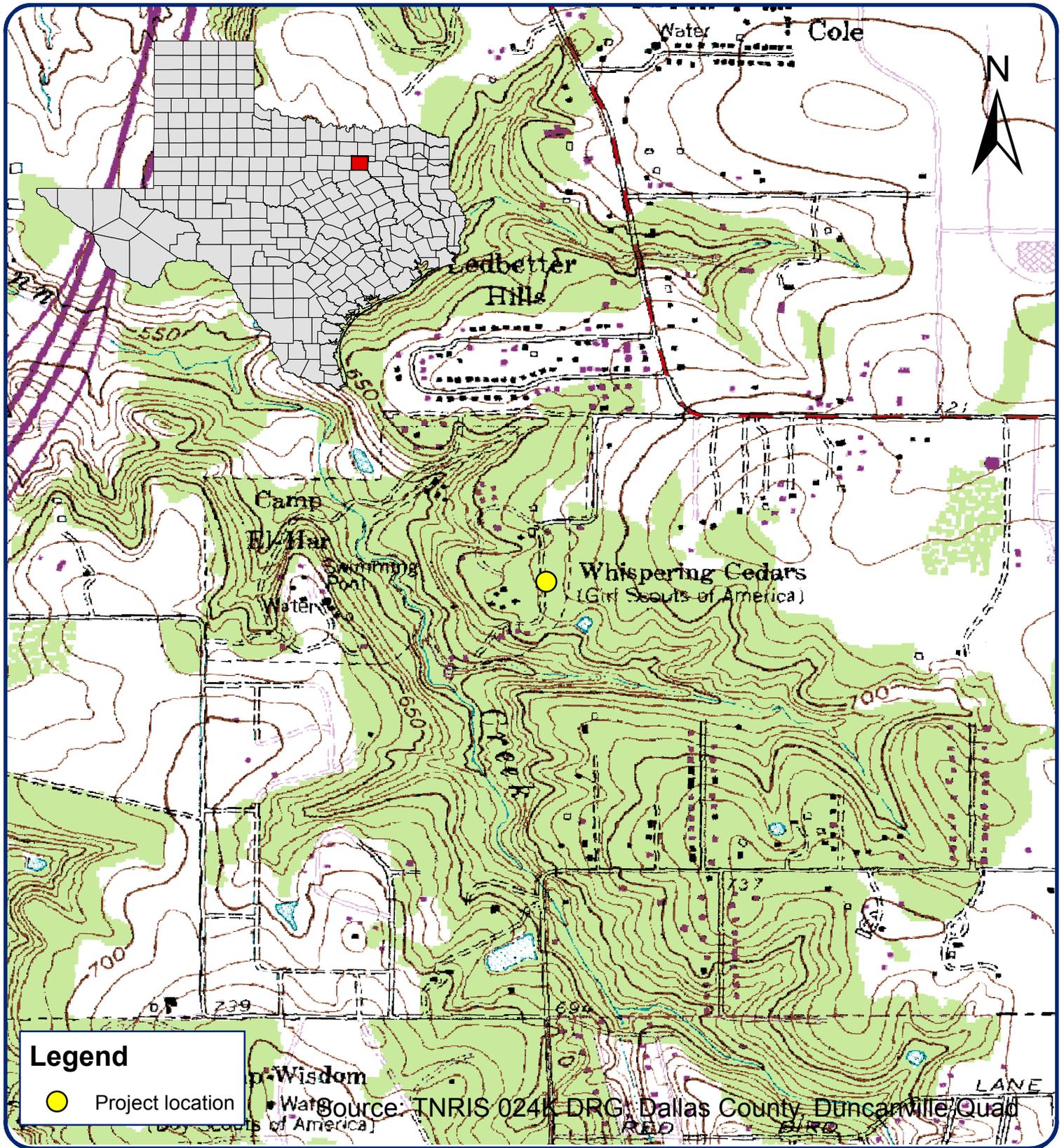
PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606
 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641
www.titaniumenvironmental.com

CLIENT
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center

FIGURE 1
Location Map
Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016






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 PO Box 4029 • Longview, Texas 75606
 Phone (903) 234-8443 • Fax (903) 234-1641
www.titaniumenvironmental.com

CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 2
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center	Topographic Map (024K DRG)
0 1,125 2,250 4,500 Feet		Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

December 7, 2016

Regulatory Division

SUBJECT: Project Number SWF-2016-00441, Girl Scouts Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center

Mr. Patrick Ireland
Titanium Environmental Services, LLC
P.O. Box 4029
Longview, Texas 75606

Dear Mr. Ireland:

Thank you for your letter received November 30, 2016, concerning a proposal by The Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas to construct and maintain an outdoor archery facility located in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas. This project has been assigned Project Number SWF-2016-00441. Please include this number in all future correspondence concerning this project.

Mr. Steve D. Lindamood has been assigned as the regulatory project manager for your request and will be evaluating it as expeditiously as possible.

We are unable to determine from the information provided whether Department of the Army authorization will be required. Please provide a more detailed description of the entire proposed project, a suitable map of the proposed project area showing the location of proposed discharges, the type and amount of material (temporary or permanent), if any, to be discharged, and plan and cross-section views of the proposed project. Please refer to the enclosed guidance for Department of the Army submittals for additional details about what you should submit for this and future projects.

If a Department of the Army permit is required, the project may be authorized by one or more general permits. For work to be authorized by general permit it must comply with the specifications and conditions of the permit. Projects that would not meet the specifications and conditions of a general permit may require authorization by individual permit.

We encourage you to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to streams, wetlands, and other waters of the United States in planning this project. Please forward your response to us as soon as possible so that we may continue our evaluation of your request. If we do not receive the requested information within 30 days of the date of this letter, we will consider your application administratively withdrawn. If withdrawn, you may re-open your application at a later date by submitting the requested information.

Please note that it is unlawful to start work without a Department of the Army permit when one is required.

You may be contacted for additional information about your request. For your information, please refer to the Fort Worth District Regulatory Branch homepage at <http://www.swf.usace.army.mil/Missions/regulatory> and particularly guidance on submittals at <http://media.swf.usace.army.mil/pubdata/envIRON/Regulatory/introduction/submittal.pdf>, and mitigation at <http://www.swf.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permitting/Mitigation> that may help you supplement your current request or prepare future requests.

If you have any questions about the evaluation of your submittal or would like to request a copy of one of the documents referenced above, please contact Mr. Steve D. Lindamood at the address above or telephone (817) 886-1670 and refer to your assigned project number.

Please help the regulatory program improve its service by completing the survey on the following website: http://corpsmapu.usace.army.mil/cm_apex/f?p=regulatory_survey

Stephen L Brooks
Chief, Regulatory Division



November 28, 2016

Adam Zerrenner, Field Supervisor
United States Fish & Wildlife Service
10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200
Austin, TX 78758

Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Zerrenner:

This letter is to notify you that the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508). Financial assistance for this project is being provided through a grant under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that will be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Roberson PR) of 1937.

The Proposed Action is to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery facility to provide hunter education, instruction, train the public in the safe and responsible use of bows, and provide a safe archery shooting experience. The construction and operation of the outdoor archery center would accommodate the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas, as well as youth from the general public in surrounding communities with an opportunity to learn about and develop archery skills. The proposed location of Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center is at 6010 Whispering Cedar Drive, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas (**Figures 1 and 2**). The proposed footprint of the archery center would be approximately 100' X 130' within the existing Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas property comprising approximately 92 acres. Within this 100' X 130' footprint would be the following:

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- 2) A concrete shooting pavilion which includes covered shading and a storage structure that divides the space between the active shooting line and waiting area.
- 3) A shelter behind the shooting pavilion.

The EA will describe the need for and purpose of the proposed project, alternatives under consideration, the affected environment, and will assess the potential environmental effects of the alternatives.

To help ensure that the EA addresses environmental resource categories for which your agency manages or has the responsibility to regulate, it is requested that you provide any comments or

recommendations you may have regarding the performance of the EA. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Please send any correspondence and information regarding this request to the attention of Mr. Patrick Ireland at Titanium Environmental Services, LLC at P.O. Box 4029, Longview, TX 75606. If you have any questions regarding this matter, he can be contacted by phone at (903) 234-8443 or by e-mail at pireland@titaniumenvironmental.com. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

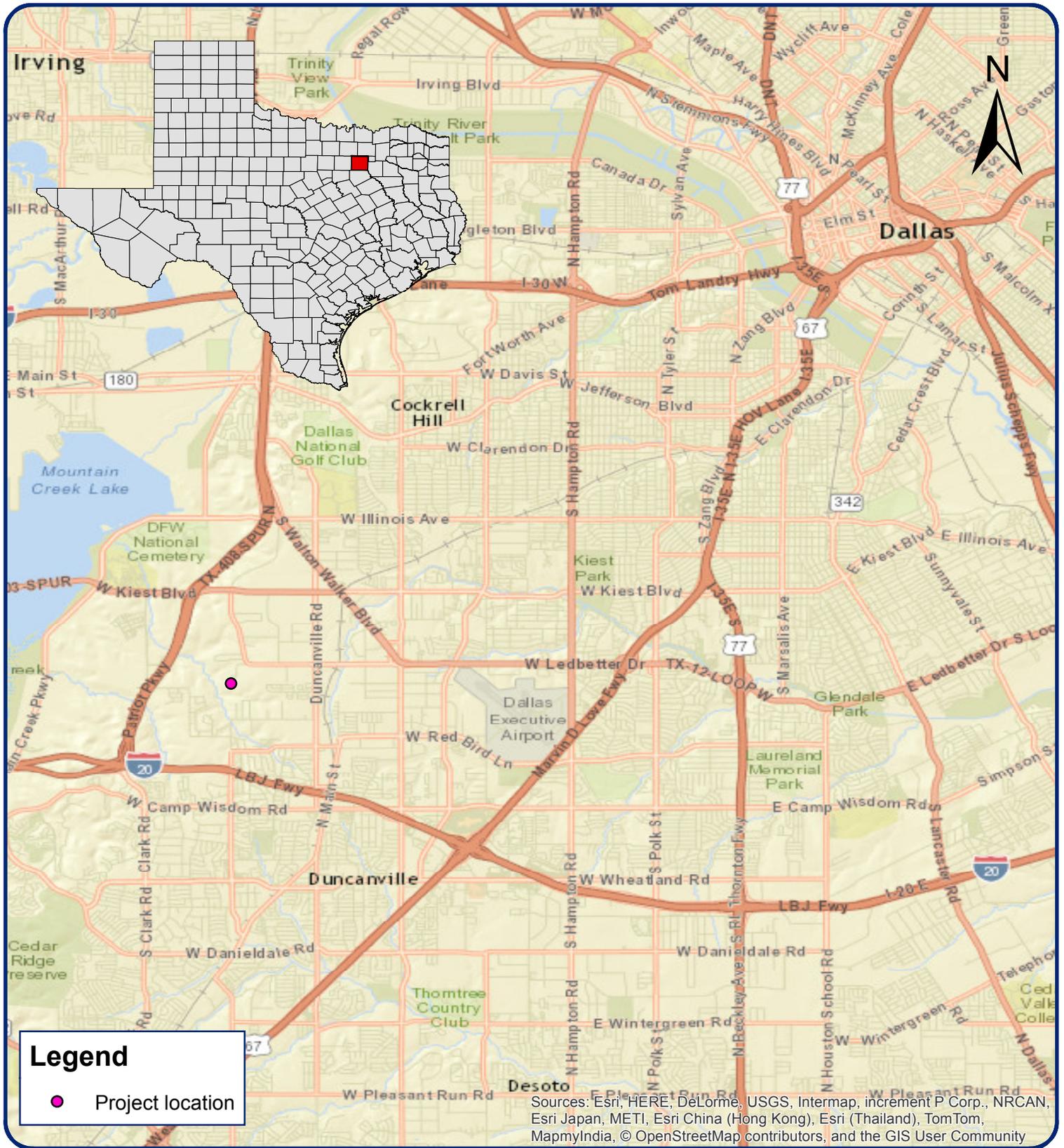
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

CC: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)



TITANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC

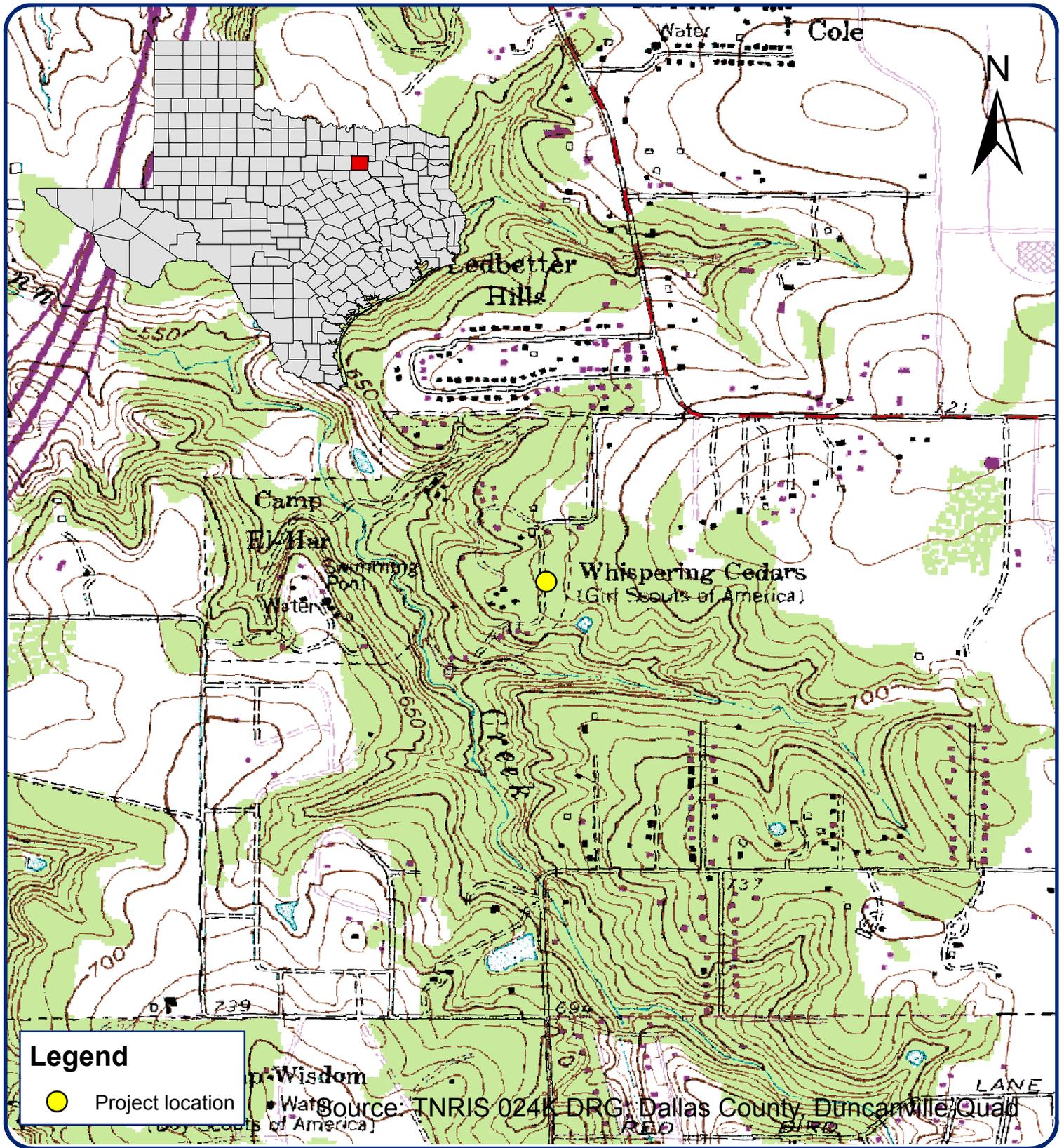
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CLIENT
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center

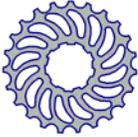
FIGURE 1
Location Map
Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016






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CLIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 2
Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas	Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center	Topographic Map (024K DRG)
0 1,125 2,250 4,500		Created by: Montez, R. Date: 22 Nov 2016



November 29, 2016

Debra Bills, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arlington, Texas Ecological Services Field Office
2005 Northeast Green Oaks Boulevard, Suite 140
Arlington, Texas 76006

Re: Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (Camp Whispering Cedars Archery Center)
Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. Bills:

This letter is to notify you that the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508). Financial assistance for this project is being provided through a grant under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that will be administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The program is authorized by the Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Roberson PR) of 1937.

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The EA will describe the need for and purpose of the proposed project, alternatives under consideration, the affected environment, and will assess the potential environmental effects of the alternatives.

To help ensure that the EA addresses environmental resource categories for which your agency manages or has the responsibility to regulate, it is requested that you provide any comments or recommendations you may have regarding the performance of the EA. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Please send any correspondence and information regarding this request to the attention of Mr. Patrick Ireland at Titanium Environmental Services, LLC at P.O. Box 4029, Longview, TX 75606. If you have any questions regarding this matter, he can be contacted by phone at (903) 234-8443 or by e-mail at pireland@titaniumenvironmental.com. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dan Murphy
Project Manager

Attachments

CC: Debbie Roling (Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas)
Renán Zambrano (TPWD – Target Range Grants)

**Appendix D
Intra-Service Section 7 Biological Evaluation Form**

INTRA-SERVICE SECTION 7 BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION FORM

Originating Person: Kelly Oliver-Amy/Jeff Williams
Telephone Number: (505) 248-7457/(903) 234 - 8443
Date: April 25, 2017

I. Region: Southwest Region 2

II. Service Activity (i.e. Grant Program):

Wildlife Restoration

III. Pertinent Species and Habitat:

A. Listed Species and/or Their Critical Habitat within the Action Area:

SPECIES/CRITICAL HABITAT	STATUS
Golden-cheeked Warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Endangered
Black-capped Vireo (<i>Vireo atricapilla</i>)	Endangered
Least Tern (<i>Sterna antillarum</i>)	Endangered
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)	Threatened
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Threatened
Whooping Crane (<i>Grus americana</i>)	Endangered

Note: See also Environmental Assessment (EA) sections 3.2.2 and 4.2.2 for complete list of state and federal species with potential to occur in Dallas County.

B. Proposed Species and/or Proposed Critical Habitat within the Action Area:

None

C. Candidate Species within the Action Area:

None

IV. Geographic Area and Action:

The Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (GSNETX) proposes to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery center at Camp Whispering Cedars (Camp) for hunter education instruction, train the public in safe and responsible archery, and to provide a safe archery experience. Further, GSNETX as well as youth from the surrounding communities and the general public will have the opportunity to learn about and develop archery skills. The Camp is located at 6010 Whispering Cedar Drive, Dallas, Texas.

V. Location: (See EA, Figure 1)

A. Ecoregion: Blackland Prairie

B. County and State: Dallas County, TX

C. Section, Township, and Range (or Latitude and Longitude):

32°41'13.50"N, 96°55'27.03"W (WGS 84)

D. Distance (Miles) and Direction to Nearest Town:

6010 Whispering Cedar Drive
Dallas, Texas 75236

VI. Description of Proposed Action:

A proposed archery range with a 100' X 130' footprint would be located within the existing GSNETX property comprising approximately 92 acres. The site is currently comprised of Ashe Juniper and Chinese privet which will be largely cleared within the footprint to provide an archery range with maintained herbaceous ground cover and a shooting pavilion comprised of a covered awning. Trees will be retained as practicable within the project area to provide shade for archery activities.

VII. Determination of Effects

A threatened and endangered species habitat survey was conducted to assess the existing conditions in the proposed project area relative to such species. No suitable habitat for listed species was observed. The following species from the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) Dallas County species list were eliminated from further analysis due to lack of suitable habitat and survey results (See EA Section 3.2.2).

A. Species eliminated from further analysis:

Species	Habitat	Habitat Present
Black-capped Vireo (<i>Vireo atricapilla</i>)	Oak-juniper woodlands with distinctive patchy, two-layered aspect; shrub and tree layer with open, grassy spaces; requires foliage reaching to ground level for nesting cover; deciduous and broad-leaved shrubs and trees provide insects for feeding; species composition less important than presence of adequate broad-leaved shrubs, foliage to ground level, and required structure; nesting season March-late summer.	No
Interior least tern (<i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i>)	Nests along sand and gravel bars within braided streams, rivers; also known to nest on man-made structures (inland beaches, wastewater treatment plants, gravel mines, etc.); eats small fish and crustaceans, when breeding forages within a few hundred feet of colony.	No
Piping Plover ¹ (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)	Wintering migrant along the Texas Gulf Coast; beaches and bayside mud or salt flats.	No
Whooping Crane (<i>Grus americana</i>)	Potential migrant via plains throughout most of state to coast; winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.	No
Rufa Red Knot ¹ (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Migrate long distances in flocks northward through the contiguous United States mainly April-June, southward July-October. Prefers the shoreline of coast and bays and also uses mudflats during rare inland encounters. Habitat: Primarily seacoasts on tidal flats and beaches, herbaceous wetland, and tidal flat/shore.	No

¹USFWS only requires consideration in Dallas County for wind energy projects

Mature Ashe junipers (*Juniperus ashei*) required for Golden-cheeked Warblers (*Setophaga chrysoparia*) are present, but the hardwood component necessary for their habitat is not present.

B. Explanation of effects of the action:

SPECIES/ CRITICAL HABITAT	IMPACTS TO SPECIES/CRITICAL HABITAT
Golden-cheeked Warbler	No impacts as no suitable habitat is present.

C. Actions to be implemented to reduce adverse effects:

SPECIES/ CRITICAL HABITAT	ACTIONS TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE EFFECTS
Golden-cheeked Warbler	No habitat disturbance will occur. However, vegetation removal will occur outside of nesting season if possible. If vegetation is removed during nesting season, a survey of the trees for active nests or birds would be done to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and avoid impacts to any birds and active nests.

VIII. Effect determination and response requested:

Based on a review of TPWD, TXNDD, and USFWS records, no species occurrence or designated critical habitat for threatened and endangered species occurs in the proposed project area or adjacent to the project area. No suitable habitat for listed species occurs on or near the project area. Due to the presence of mature Ashe juniper and the geologically similar setting to the escarpment, which is known to provide suitable Golden-cheeked Warbler habitat, an effects determination was performed. A summary of the effect determination for this species is presented below:

D. Effect Determination on Listed Species in the Project Vicinity:

Species	Effect Determination	Critical Habitat Determination
Golden-cheeked Warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	No Effect	Not designated

Based on a field investigation performed by TES, no suitable habitat for the Golden-cheeked Warbler or any other listed species is present on or adjacent to the proposed project area. Vegetation removal will occur outside of nesting season or the area will be checked for any presence of nests or birds before removal to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. USFWS Arlington Ecological Services was provided project information which included site location and environmental conditions. Ecological Services concluded that a determination of no effect based on a lack of suitable habitat and location was appropriate for the Golden-Cheeked Warbler. Ecological Services concurred that no suitable habitat existed for other federally listed species with potential to occur in the project area.

It has been determined that the project will have *no effect* on the Golden-cheeked Warbler.

State Recommendation:

A. Listed species/designated critical habitat:

no effect:

may effect, is not likely to adversely affect:

may effect, is likely to adversely affect:

B. Proposed species/proposed critical habitat:

no effect:

**is not likely to jeopardize proposed species/
adversely modify proposed critical habitat:**

**is likely to jeopardize proposed species/
adversely modify proposed critical habitat:**

C. Candidate species:

no effect:

is not likely to jeopardize:

is likely to jeopardize:

D. Remarks:

State Approval

Signature

Date

Federal Assistance Determination:

A. Listed species/designated critical habitat:

Determination

Response requested

no effect: Golden-cheeked Warbler
Black-capped Vireo
Interior least tern
Piping Plover
Whooping Crane
Rufa Red Knot

X

may effect, is not likely to adversely affect:

may effect, is likely to adversely affect:

___ Formal Consultation

B. Proposed species/proposed critical habitat:

Determination

Response requested

no effect:

**is not likely to jeopardize proposed species/
adversely modify proposed critical habitat:**

**is likely to jeopardize proposed species/
adversely modify proposed critical habitat:**

___ Conference

C. Candidate species:

no effect:

is not likely to jeopardize:

is likely to jeopardize:

___ Conference

D. Remarks:

Federal Assistance Grant Manager



Signature

4/25/17

Date

IX. Reviewing Ecological Services Office Evaluation:

A. Concurrence ___ Non-concurrence ___

B. Formal consultation required _____

C. Conference required ___

D. Remarks

Signature

Date

Appendix E
Public Involvement Documentation



CAMP WHISPERING CEDARS ARCHERY CENTER PROJECT

6010 Whispering Cedar Drive

Dallas, TX 75236

An Environmental Assessment (EA) for the construction of the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas (GSNETX) Camp Whispering Cedars (Camp) Archery Center is being prepared in accordance with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) guidelines, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The TPWD will be posting the draft EA on their website for review by the public.

The GSNETX Camp began operating as a Girl Scout camp facility in the 1920s. The facility currently offers cabin and lodge camping opportunities, hiking, swimming, and activities for skill and leadership development. GSNETX proposes to construct, operate, and maintain an outdoor archery facility to provide hunter education instruction, train the public in the safe and responsible use of bows and archery, and provide a safe archery experience. Further, GSNETX members as well as youth from the surrounding communities and the general public will have the opportunity to learn about and develop archery skills.

The proposed archery center would provide an outdoor archery experience to 3,000 girls and youth in grades K-12 and other members of the general public within the first twelve months of full operation of the archery facility. The facility will serve as a location for learning about hunter safety education associated with using archery equipment to at least 500 people annually and in the first full twelve months of operation. The facility would provide affordable archery opportunities to 1,000 community youth annually from low socio-economic populations and Title 1 schools annually and in the first full twelve months of operation.

GSNETX has applied for a grant for the proposed project under the USFWS Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. The grant is being administered by the TPWD. The project construction is planned to occur in 2017 immediately following completion of the EA process.

Questions regarding administration of the grant should be directed to the TPWD at (512) 389-8401 or via email at education@tpwd.texas.gov. Questions and comments regarding the GSNETX Archery Center project and the EA should be directed to Ms. Debra Roling at (972) 349-2462 or via email at droling@gsnetx.org.