

State Boating Access Program

Grant Application



Deadline: October 31st

Administered by the
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
(PWD 1068-P4000)
in cooperation with the
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

TEXAS STATE BOATING ACCESS PROGRAM
GENERAL INFORMATION

(Effective June 2012)

The **Boating Access Program** provides **75% matching fund grant assistance** to construct new, or renovate existing, public boat ramps that provide public access to public waters for recreational boating.

The State Boating Access Program receives funding from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act. Funds for the federal program are derived from the federal gasoline tax generated by sales of gasoline for recreational motorboats and a federal excise tax on the sales of fishing tackle and trolling motors. Fifteen percent of the state's annual apportionment from this federal program must be used to provide public recreational boating access.

Sponsors requesting assistance for new boating access facilities must submit an application to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and have it approved prior to any construction activities for which assistance is requested. Deadlines for submitting grant applications for the Texas State Boating Access Program is **October 31st** each year. **The maximum amount which may be requested for assistance is \$500,000 in matching grant funds.** Recommendations to fund individual projects typically will be placed on the January and August Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting agenda.

Current Department priorities for the funds are to improve boating access to saltwater resources and to extend existing public boat ramps to maintain access to reservoirs affected by low water levels. Obtaining these grant funds has become competitive. To reduce the cost and time to apply for funding, the initial application process has been streamlined. Projects approved for funding will require a Corps of Engineers permit authorizing the improvements and cultural and natural resource clearances be obtained by the project sponsor prior to the authorization of any construction activities.

Program assistance will be in the form of a one-time grant, and the local sponsor must be willing to assume all maintenance responsibilities, including grass mowing and weed control, litter/refuse pick-up and removal, signage maintenance, security surveillance, plus necessary repairs and renovations, as needed, to insure public use and safety. Project areas and facilities must be operated and maintained for the purposes intended throughout the expected lifetime of the facilities (25 years).

The applicant's 25% matching share may come from a number of sources including the following:

1. Local appropriations;
2. The value of donated land, cash, labor, equipment, or materials;
3. In-kind labor, equipment and materials to be provided by the applicant or another governmental/ educational entity;
4. Other state grant funds or programs which are not administratively prohibited.

Questions regarding matching share eligibility should be directed to the TPWD Recreation Grants Branch at 512/39-8128.

Sponsors of projects approved for funding must demonstrate legal control of the project site through one of the following means:

- a) Fee simple title; or
- b) Lease agreement with another governmental entity; or
- c) Multiple-use agreement with the State Department of Transportation or another governmental entity; or
- d) A proposed lease or multiple-use agreement with another governmental entity. If such an agreement is proposed, submit a draft lease/ agreement with letters of commitment from all participating entities to execute said lease/agreement if a grant is approved.

Boat docks, parking lots, and restrooms must be designed and constructed for barrier-free access, and overhead utility lines are prohibited in the fund-assisted project area. (NOTE: Overhead utilities in place prior to application submission will be addressed during the pre-award site visit, and sponsors will be advised if such utilities may remain, or if they must be buried/relocated.)

Facilities Eligible for Funding Assistance

- Launching facilities, such as ramps and boat lifts;
- Breakwaters;
- Loading docks
- Land acquisition;
- Fish cleaning stations;
- Restrooms, sewage treatment facilities, showers, potable water, security lights;

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- Parking areas associated with the access facilities;
- Camping facilities at areas accessible only by boat (must be accessible to motorboats);
- Access roads, bridges, signals, and other requirements to provide the public access to boating facilities;
- Engineering (planning and design), and environmental clearance and permit costs;
- Retaining walls to protect integrity of boat ramps and associated parking lots (limited to 200 feet on either side of constructed facilities);
- Dredging, stump removal, and aquatic weed control when activity can be shown to clear lanes to make water body more accessible primarily for recreational motorboats as opposed to general navigation;
- Navigational aids in the immediate area of access facilities;
- Signage for effective use of access facilities and recognition of the Sport Fish Restoration Program.

Facilities supported with State Boating Access Program funds should consist of a concrete ramp (each lane 12' to 15' wide), a parking area with at least 20 car-trailer spaces per launching lane (10' x 40' each), an access road, and necessary support facilities. Boat docks and parking lots must be designed and constructed in a barrier-free manner pursuant to state law, and overhead utility lines are prohibited in the fund-assisted project area.

Project Reimbursement Information

This is a reimbursement program, the sponsor is required to initially pay for project expenditures which later are to be reimbursed by the State. It will be necessary for the sponsor to keep careful financial records and submit adequate proof of payment to receive reimbursement for eligible project expenditures. Due to the utilization of federal funds for this program, the State and sponsors will be required to meet financial standards of OMB Circular A-133.

The Department will reimburse a sponsor up to a 95% of the grant amount until a final inspection and audit are completed. (5% of the grant amount will be withheld pending final inspection and approval of the project.)

For questions regarding program administration, contact the Recreation Grants Branch of TPWD at 512/389-8128.

BOATING ACCESS GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Upon receipt of an original and three (3) copies of all required information, Department staff will conduct a technical review of the application, assess the need for the project, and conduct an on-site inspection of the proposed project area.

Required Information:

1. TRANSMITTAL LETTER

To be submitted by the individual authorized in the resolution, to include:

- A. Name of the assistance program (Boating Access Grant) and amount of funds requested (maximum of \$500,000 in matching funds); and
- B. Project location (city, county, body of water, access road, and agency having jurisdiction over the body of water); and
- C. Name and phone number of the individual to be contacted for further information.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION

3. LOCATION MAP

This map should be an original general highway map of the county, or a portion of the county, where the project site is to be located.

Locate the following on the map:

- A. Project locations(s);
- B. Existing boat ramps available to the public;

5. SITE PLAN

- A. Site boundary dimensions or metes and bounds description;
- B. Layout of proposed improvements (ramp, parking, dock, access road to the nearest public street or road, restroom);
- C. Utility easements, above and below ground.

6. PHOTOGRAPHS OF PROJECT SITE

7. PROJECT NEED STATEMENT

Provide a short narrative as to why the project is needed and what your plan of action is to address those needs.

8. BUDGET SUMMARY

May include the following estimated costs:

- A. Professional services (may not exceed 12% of the estimated construction cost)
 - 1) Pre-Agreement Costs
 - a) Application preparation and site planning costs
 - b) Cultural and natural resource clearance
 - c) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit or clearance
 - 2) Architectural/Engineering Costs
 - Design services and professionally sealed construction plans
- B. Total and unit costs for each construction element
- C. Required Program Signage
 - 1) Temporary program acknowledgement sign (during construction)
 - 2) Permanent program acknowledgement sign or plaque

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

Resolution Number _____

WHEREAS, the (City/County/Water Authority/etc.), (hereinafter the "Sponsor"), is desirous of providing for the construction of a boating access facility on (Body of Water) at (Location), and;

WHEREAS, the State of Texas, acting through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (hereinafter the "Department"), under the authority of Section 11.033 and 31.141 of the Parks & Wildlife Code, would provide funding for such construction, and;

WHEREAS, the construction of such a facility would be of benefit to the citizens of (City/County) as well as transient recreational boaters from the State and other states:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the (City Council/Commissioner's Court/Water Board/etc.) in meeting this _____ day of _____, 20____, is hereby eligible for assistance and will enter into a project agreement with the Department to provide for said construction on a reimbursement basis, with the Sponsor providing 25% by appropriations or in-kind services, and the Department providing 75% matching funds for work accomplished.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The undersigned is herewith authorized to sign any or all documents pertaining to the construction;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Sponsor has matching funds available;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Sponsor will operate said facility; perform all necessary maintenance and repairs to ensure public use, health and safety; and provide security surveillance to eliminate creations of nuisance or hazard to the public or adjacent property owners; for the life of the facility (minimum 25 years);

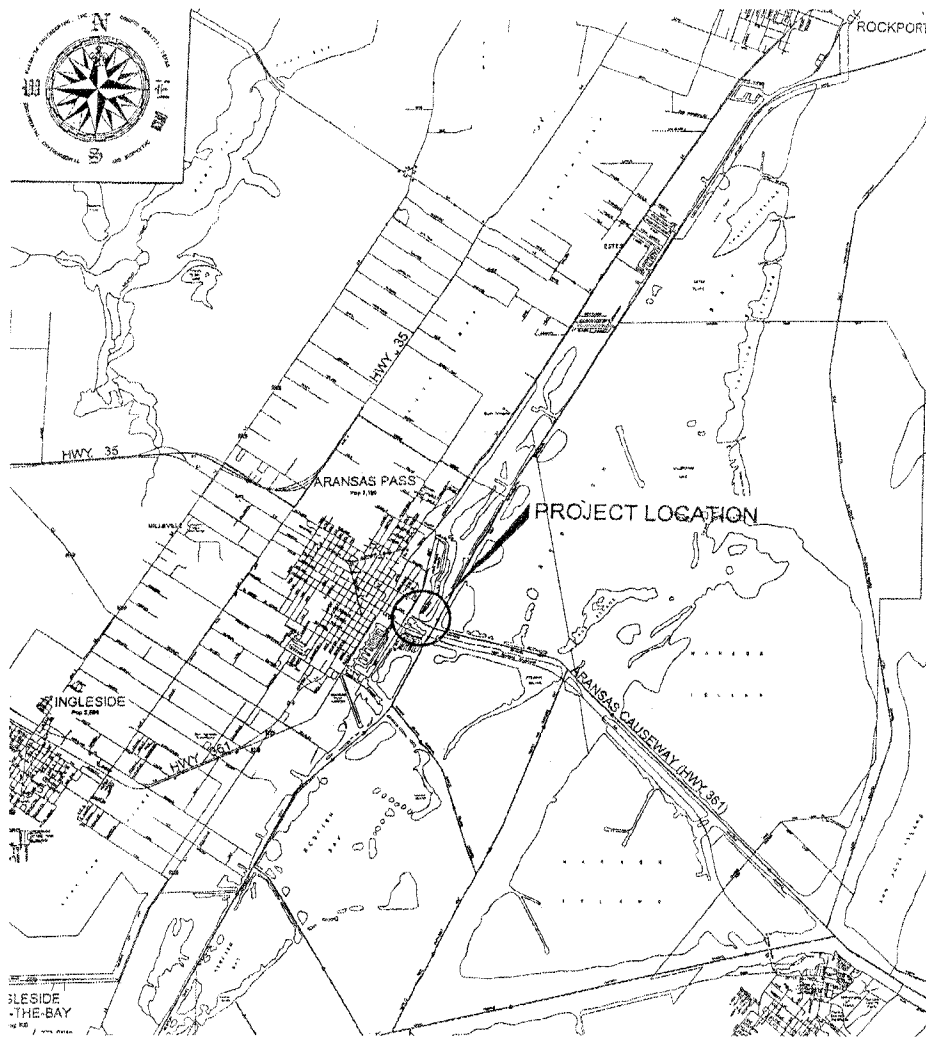
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That said facility will be open at all reasonable times to the public, and that revenue from any user fees will only be used to offset operation and maintenance costs of any supported facilities;

Signature of Official Authorized in Resolution

Typed Name, Title, and Telephone Number

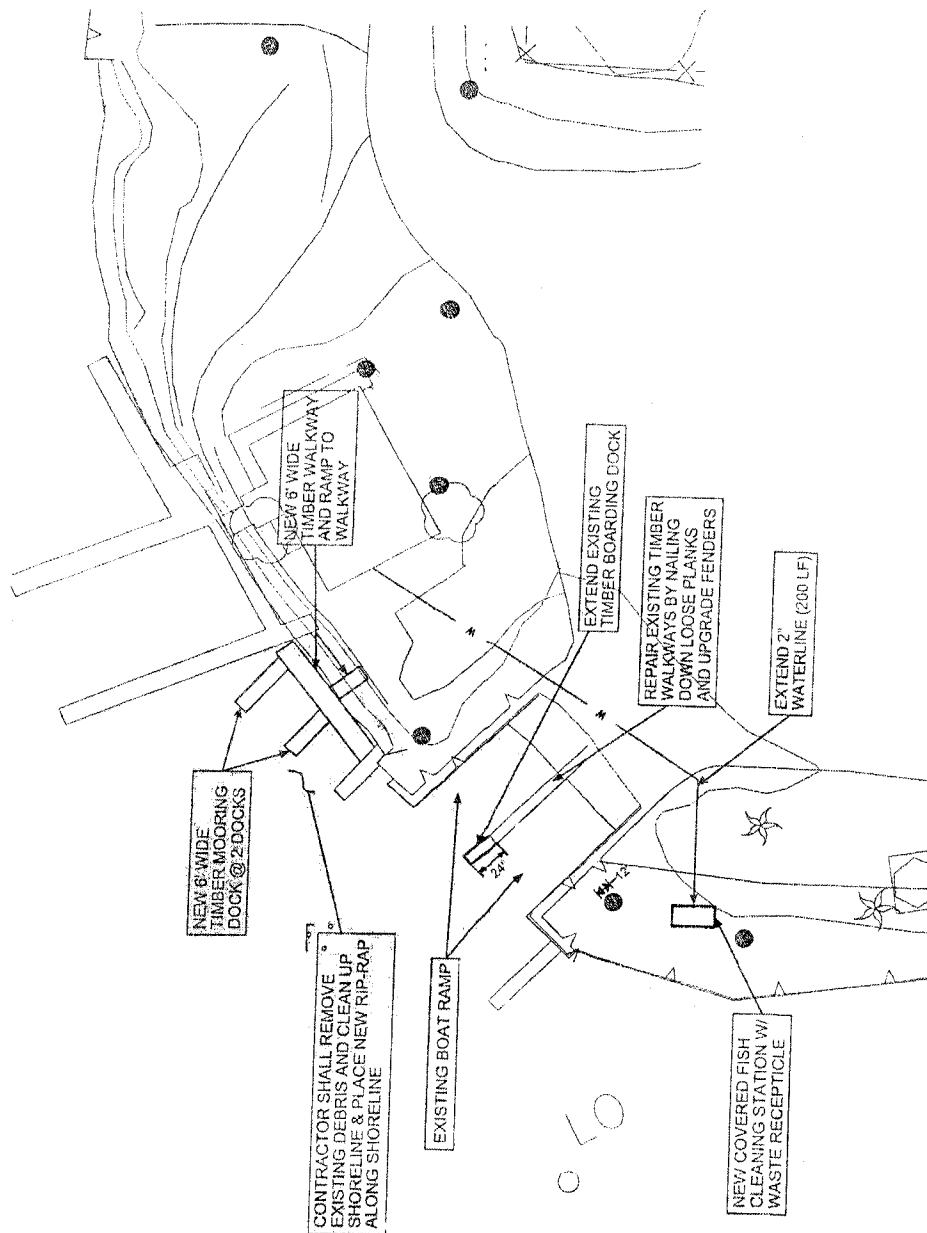
Date

Sample Project Location Map



Map size should be a full page in this document. The map above is pictured small due to file size limitations (it will be small for emailing). Click on a corner of the map and click and drag diagonally to enlarge or copy to clipboard and paste into a blank new document and enlarge before printing.

Sample Site Plan



The Sample Site Plan size should be a full page in this document. Above, it is pictured small due to file size limitations (it will be small for emailing). Click on a corner of the map and click and drag diagonally to enlarge or copy to clipboard and paste into a blank new document and enlarge before printing.

SAMPLE

BUDGET SUMMARY OF PROJECT ELEMENTS AND COSTS

(Insert name of project here)

(1) PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			\$26,666.00	*
A.	Application Preparation	\$1,000.00		
B.	Corps of Engineers 404 Permit	\$5,000.00		
C.	Cultural Resources Survey	\$2,000.00		
D.	Plans and Specifications	\$13,666.00		
E.	Inspections	\$5,000.00		
(2) CONSTRUCTION			\$315,000.00	
A.	Site Preparation	\$5,000.00		
B.	Roads and Parking	\$70,000.00		
C.	Bulkhead (100-Linear Feet)	\$20,000.00		
D.	Boat Ramps (4 Lanes)	\$100,000.00		
E.	Courtesy Docks (3)	\$15,000.00		
F.	Restroom	\$75,000.00		
G.	Dredging	\$20,000.00		
H.	Area Lighting	\$8,000.00		
I.	Signs	\$2,000.00		
TOTAL PROJECT:			\$341,666.00	
GRANT REQUEST (75%):			**\$256,249.50	
SPONSOR MATCH (25%):			\$85,416.50	

*	The amount requested for professional services cannot exceed 12% of the total for Section II.
**	The grant request cannot exceed \$500,000.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SIGNS

On-site program acknowledgement signs are required for all approved Texas State Boating Access grant projects. Signage requirements include a temporary sign which should be displayed throughout the activity stages of a project (once land acquisitions are complete – if applicable), and a sign or plaque which must be installed and maintained at the site perpetually.

Costs for program acknowledgement signs are reimbursable for approved projects if budgeted in the "Budget Summary".

Examples of both temporary and permanent acknowledgement signs are shown below. Information shown on the examples is the minimum information required by the Texas State Boating Access Program.

TEMPORARY SIGN (Minimum Size – 4' x 8')

THE CITY/COUNTY/DISTRICT OF (SPONSOR'S NAME)		
A PUBLIC BOATING ACCESS SITE AIDED BY		
<u>THE FEDERAL AID IN SPORT FISH RESTORATION ACT</u>		
Funded by Federal Gasoline Taxes Paid by Recreational Boaters		
ADMINISTERED BY THE		
TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT		
FOR THE		
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR/FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE		
<u>FUNDING</u>		
Federal Aid	75%	\$ 300,000
(City/County/District)	25%	\$ 100,000
Total Project		\$ 400,000

PERMANENT SIGN OR PLAQUE (Minimum Size – 10" x 12")

Project Name
A Federal Aid In Sport Fish Restoration Act Project
Sponsored By
The City/County/District of (Sponsor's Name)
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
U.S. Department Of Interior/Fish & Wildlife Service

**Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
State Boating Access Program**

Recreation Grants Branch Information

Mailing Address

Texas Parks & Wildlife
Recreation Grants Branch
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744

Office Location

Texas Parks & Wildlife
Recreation Grants Branch
1340 Airport Commerce Drive, Suite 600A
Austin, Texas 78741

Web: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/business/grants/>

Email: Rec.Grants@tpwd.state.tx.us

Tel: (512) 389-8128

Fax: (512) 389-8242

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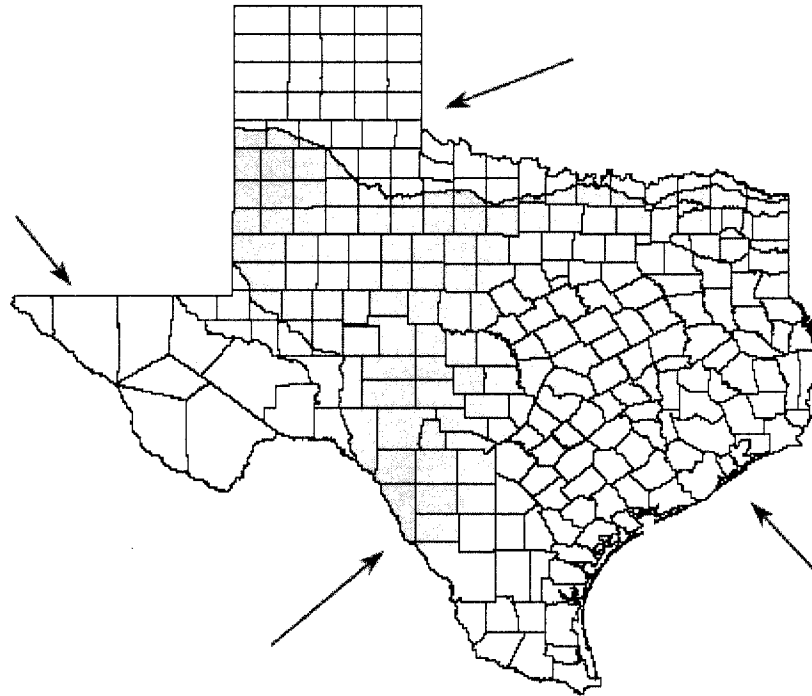
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Districts within the State of Texas

TULSA DISTRICT

Regulatory Branch, CESWT-PE-R
1645 South 101 East Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609
(918) 669-7400

ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT

El Paso Regulatory Office,
CESPA-OD-R-EP
Bldg. 6380 Morgan Road, 79906
P.O. Box 6096
Fort Bliss, Texas 79906-0096
(915) 568-1359



February 5, 2002

GALVESTON DISTRICT

Regulatory Branch,
CESWG-PE-R
2000 Fort Point Rd.
P.O. Box 1229
Galveston, Texas 77553-1229
(409) 766-3930

FORT WORTH DISTRICT

Regulatory Branch, CESWF-PER-R
819 Taylor Street, Room 3A37
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300
(817) 886-1731