July 11, 2008

Lori Valadez NRCS, Texas State Office 101 S Main St. Temple, TX 76501-7602

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Ms. Valadez,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

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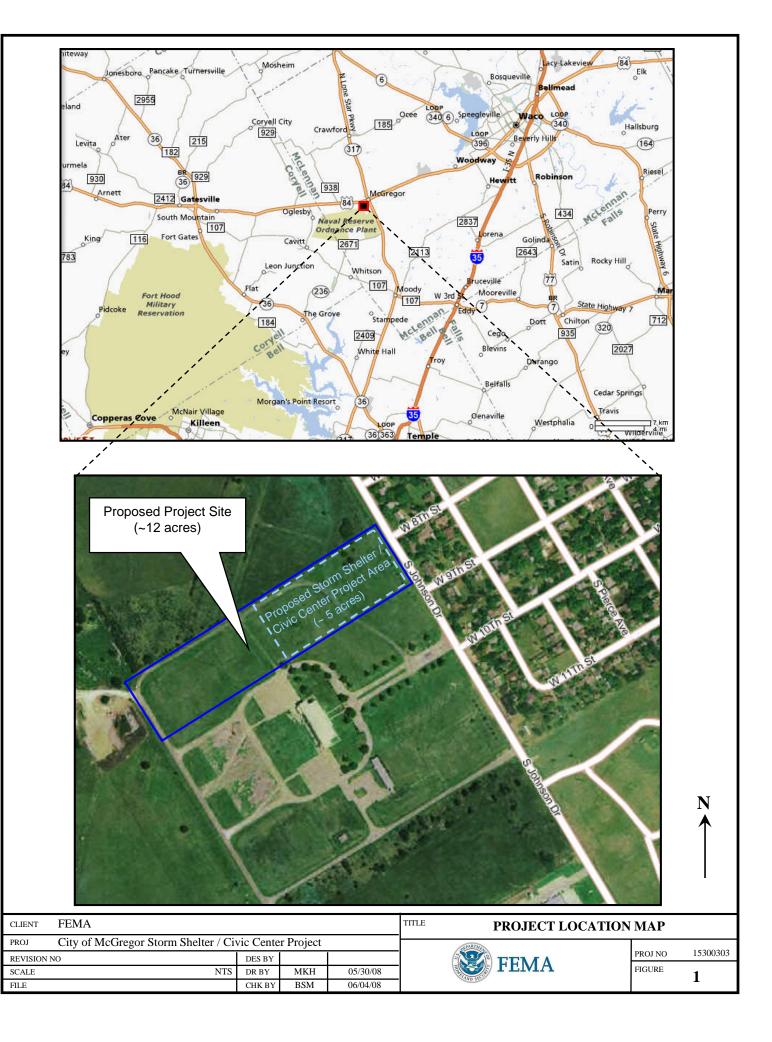
URS Group Inc. (URS) has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, URS requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me by telephone at 713.914.6490 or by electronic mail at brian mehok@urscorp.com.

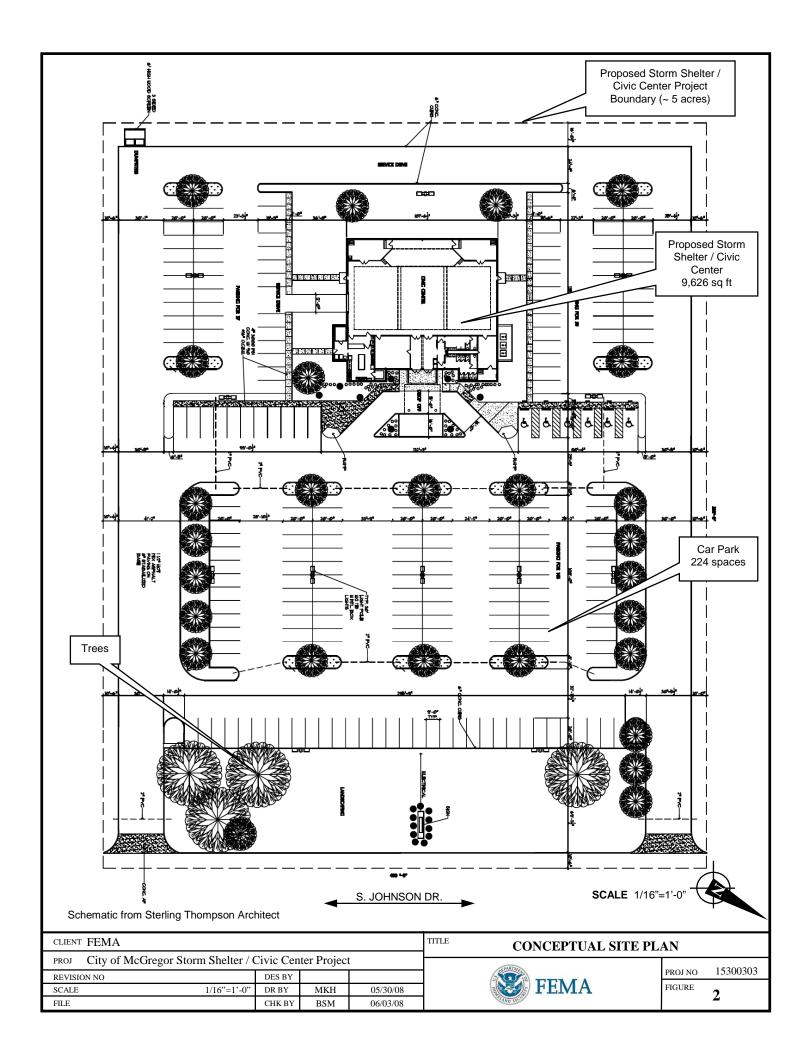
Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 





July 11, 2008

Mr. Richard Greene Regional Administrator EPA Region 6 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Mr. Greene,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 

B Pallock

July 11, 2008

Mr. Tom Cloud U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Arlington, Texas Ecological Services Field Office 711 Stadium Drive, Suite 252 Arlington, Texas 76011

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Mr. Cloud,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 

by B falker



#### USFWS RECEIVED

JUL 1 6 2008

July 11, 2008

ECOLOGICAL SERVICES ARLINGTON, TEXAS

Mr. Tom Cloud
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arlington, Texas Ecological Services Field Office
711 Stadium Drive, Suite 252
Arlington, Texas 76011

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Consult: 21450 - 2008-I-0225

THE STATE OF

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OAST FILE

NO.

Dear Mr. Cloud,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

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The proposed project would utilize the eastern portion (approximately 5 acres) of the 12-acre site for the construction the shelter building and approximately 225 parking spaces (Figure 2). Access to the site would be from South Johnson Drive. The site consists of mowed grass and contains no standing structures, although some infrastructure is present. A degraded paved road runs through part of the site; five fire hydrants are located along this road. There are seven separated sunken gas valve stations (each approximately 6x8 feet) in various parts of the site. A fiber optics line extends north to south across the site. Water and sewer service lines are located along South Johnson Drive. The required site work would consist of site clearing and grading within the 5-acre project area, the demolition or modification of the site's existing infrastructure, and the installation of water and sewer service with connections to the water and sewer lines along South Johnson Drive.

URS Corporation 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101 Houston, TX 77042 Tel: 713.914.6699 Fax: 713.789.8404

#### UIRS

The proposed site and the surrounding land to the west were formerly part of the Naval Reserve Ordnance Base. The site is bound by residential areas and Bluebonnet Park to the east side, privately owned scrub/shrub land to the north and west, and a commercial property (Convergys) to the south. The site is currently owned by the City of McGregor. According to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) of McLennan County, the proposed site is located in Flood Zone C, outside the 500-year floodplain.

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 

Enclosures as noted

NO ACTION
Date: 07-28-2008
Consultation #: 21450 - 2008-I-0225
Approved by William Jewell
For Adam Zerrenner, Field Supervisor
U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE, AUSTIN, TEXAS

July 11, 2008

Ms. Jessica Napier
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Branch; Forth Worth District (ATTN: CESWF-PER-R)
819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Ms. Napier,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 

by B Polloch



#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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

23 September 2008

Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division Regulatory Branch

SUBJECT: Project Number SWF-2008-00302, City of McGregor Storm Shelter and Civic Center

Mr. Brian Mehok URS Corporation 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101 Houston, TX 77042

Dear Mr. Mehok:

Thank you for your letter received 16 July 2008, concerning the proposal by the City of McGregor to construct a storm shelter and civic center in the City of McGregor, McLennan County, Texas. This project has been assigned Project Number SWF-2008-00302. Please include this number in all future correspondence concerning this project. Failure to reference the project number may result in a delay.

We have reviewed this project in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Under Section 404, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates the discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. The USACE responsibility under Section 10 is to regulate any work in, or affecting, navigable waters of the United States. Based on your description of the proposed work, other information available to us, and current regulations and policy, we have determined that this project will not involve any of the above activities. Therefore, it will not require Department of the Army authorization under the above laws. However, it is incumbent upon you to remain informed of any changes in USACE Regulatory Program regulations and policy as they relate to your project.

The USACE based this decision on a preliminary jurisdictional determination (JD) that there are not waters of the United States on the project site. This preliminary JD is valid for a period of no more than five years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants revision of the delineation before the expiration date. It is incumbent upon the applicant to remain informed of changes in the Department of the Army regulations.

raks di baraktarata in kalamaték, na mingraban sa

Thank you for your interest in our nation's water resources. If you have any questions concerning our regulatory program, please contact Ms. Heather Markway at the address above or telephone (817) 886-1745 and refer to your assigned project number.

Sincerely,

Stephen L Brooks Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosure

July 11, 2008

Mr. Leroy Biggers Regional Director TCEQ- Region 5 Office 2916 Teague Dr. Tyler, TX 75701-3734

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Mr. Biggers,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 

Affry B Pollar

July 11, 2008

Ms. Celeste Brancel-Brown Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 4200 Smith School Road Austin, TX 78744

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Ms. Brancel-Brown,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

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Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 

- B Pallock For



September 8, 2008

Life's better outside.™

Mr. Brian Mehok URS Corporation 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101 Houston, TX 77042

Commissioners

Peter M. Holt Chairman San Antonio

T. Dan Friedkin Vice-Chairman Houston

Mark E. Bivins Amarillo

J. Robert Brown El Paso

Ralph H. Duggins Fort Worth

Antonio Falcon, M.D. Rio Grande City

> Karen J. Hixon San Antonio

Margaret Martin Boerne

John D. Parker Lufkin

Lee M. Bass Chairman-Emeritus Fort Worth

Carter P. Smith

RE: Proposed Storm Shelter/Civic Center, City of McGregor, McLennan County

Dear Mr. Mehok:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) received the request for review and comments concerning the proposed construction project referenced above located in the City of McGregor. TPWD staff has reviewed the information provided and offers the following comments concerning this project.

The proposed project entails the construction of a 9,626-square-foot storm shelter/civic center on a 12-acre site on South Johnson Drive. The project would utilize the eastern 5 acres of the site for the shelter and a parking lot. Based on the information provided, the proposed improvements are located in areas that have been previously disturbed by development. The site was formerly part of the Naval Reserve Ordnance Base and consists of mowed grass with some infrastructure. Because the project is located in a previously disturbed and maintained area with little remaining wildlife habitat, adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources should be minimal.

No records of rare, threatened, or endangered species have been documented with 1.5 miles of the project areas in the Texas Natural Diversity Database (TXNDD). However, absence of information in an area does not imply that a species is absent from that area. 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. 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. The TXNDD is intended to assist users in avoiding harm to rare species or significant ecological features. 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. As your project progresses and for future projects, please request the most current and accurate information at <a href="mailto:txndd@tpwd.state.tx.us">txndd@tpwd.state.tx.us</a> or contact Dorinda Scott at (512) 389-8723.

Mr. Brian Mehok Page Two September 8, 2008

Determining the actual presence of a species in a given area depends on many variables including daily and seasonal activity cycles, environmental activity cues, preferred habitat, transiency and population density (both wildlife and human). The absence of a species can be demonstrated only with great difficulty and then only with repeated negative observations, taking into account all the variable factors contributing to the lack of detectable presence. If encountered during construction, measures should be taken to avoid impacting wildlife.

Recommendation: A list of rare, threatened, and endangered species that may occur in McLennan County is attached for your reference. Please review this list, as rare species could be present depending upon habitat availability. The TPWD county lists for rare and protected species may now be obtained online at <a href="http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/maps/gis/ris/endangered\_species.phtml">http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/maps/gis/ris/endangered\_species.phtml</a>. If during construction the project area is found to contain rare species, natural plant communities, or special features, TPWD recommends that precautions be taken to avoid impacts to them. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) should be contacted for additional species occurrence data, guidance, permitting, survey protocols, and mitigation for federally listed species. For the USFWS rare species lists please visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/EndangeredSpecies/lists/">http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/EndangeredSpecies/lists/</a>.

I appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on this project. Please call me at (512) 389-4579 if we may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Julie C. Wicker

Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program

Mila C. Wicker

Wildlife Division

JCW:gg.13314

Attachment

Last Revision: 8/8/2007 7:57:00 AM

#### MCLENNAN COUNTY

**BIRDS** Federal Status State Status American Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus anatum DL $\mathbf{E}$ 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. **Arctic Peregrine Falcon** Falco peregrinus tundrius DL Т 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. **Bald Eagle** Haliaeetus leucocephalus 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 Golden-cheeked Warbler Dendroica chrysoparia LE Ε 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 Henslow's Sparrow Ammodramus henslowii 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 Interior Least Tern Sterna antillarum athalassos LE 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 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 Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus DLET 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, thus the species level shows this dual listing status; because the

Western Burrowing Owl

see subspecies for habitat.

Athene cunicularia hypugaea

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

subspecies are not easily distinguishable at a distance, reference is generally made only to the species level;

White-faced Ibis

Plegadis chihi

Т

Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.

Annotated County Lists of Rare Species

#### MCLENNAN COUNTY

**BIRDS** 

Federal Status

State Status

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

Grus americana

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potential migrant via plains throughout most of state to coast; winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties

Wood Stork

Mycteria americana

Т

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

FISHES

Federal Status

State Status

Guadalupe bass

Micropterus treculii

endemic to perennial streams of the Edward's Plateau region; introduced in Nueces River system

Sharpnose shiner

Notropis oxyrhynchus

•

endemic to Brazos River drainage; also, apparently introduced into adjacent Colorado River drainage; large turbid river, with bottom a combination of sand, gravel, and clay-mud

Smalleye shiner

Notropis buccula

C

endemic to upper Brazos River system and its tributaries (Clear Fork and Bosque); apparently introduced into adjacent Colorado River drainage; medium to large prairie streams with sandy substrate and turbid to clear warm water; presumably eats small aquatic invertebrates

**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

Red wolf

Canis rufus

LE

E

extirpated; formerly known throughout eastern half of Texas in brushy and forested areas, as well as coastal prairies

#### MCLENNAN COUNTY

#### **MOLLUSKS**

Federal Status

State Status

False spike mussel

Quincuncina mitchelli

substrates of cobble and mud, with water lilies present; Rio Grande, Brazos, Colorado, and Guadalupe (historic) river basins

**Pistolgrip** 

Tritogonia verrucosa

stable substrate, rock, hard mud, silt, and soft bottoms, often buried deeply; east and central Texas, Red through San Antonio River basins

Rock pocketbook

Arcidens confragosus

mud, sand, and gravel substrates of medium to large rivers in standing or slow flowing water, may tolerate moderate currents and some reservoirs, east Texas, Red through Guadalupe River basins

Smooth pimpleback

Quadrula houstonensis

small to moderate streams and rivers as well as moderate size reservoirs; mixed mud, sand, and fine gravel, tolerates very slow to moderate flow rates, appears not to tolerate dramatic water level fluctuations, scoured bedrock substrates, or shifting sand bottoms, lower Trinity (questionable), Brazos, and Colorado River basins

Texas fawnsfoot

Truncilla macrodon

little known; possibly rivers and larger streams, and intolerant of impoundment; flowing rice irrigation canals, possibly sand, gravel, and perhaps sandy-mud bottoms in moderate flows; Brazos and Colorado River basins

REPTILES

Federal Status

State Status

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

Т

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

Timber/Canebrake

Crotalus horridus

Τ

rattlesnake

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



# Instructions for County Lists of Texas' Special Species

The Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) county lists include:

Vertebrates, Invertebrates, and Vascular Plants identified as being of conservation concern by TPWD within Texas. These special species lists are comprised of species, subspecies, and varieties that are federally listed; proposed to be federally listed; have federal candidate status; are state listed; or carry a global conservation status indicating a species is critically imperiled, very rare, vulnerable to extirpation, or uncommon.

The TPWD county lists do not include:

**Natural Plant Communities** such as Little Bluestem-Indiangrass Series (native prairie remnant), Water Oak-Willow Oak Series (bottomland hardwood community), Saltgrass-Cordgrass Series (salt or brackish marsh), Sphagnum-Beakrush Series (seepage bog).

Other Significant Features such as bird rookeries, migratory songbird fallout areas, comprehensive migratory bird information, bat roosts, bat caves, invertebrate caves, and prairie dog towns.

These lists are not all inclusive for all rare species distributions. The lists were compiled, developed, and are updated based on field guides, staff expertise, scientific publications, and the TPWD Natural Diversity Database (NDD) (formerly the Biological and Conservation Data System) occurrence data. Historic ranges for some state extirpated species, full historic distributions for some extant species, accidentals and irregularly appearing species, and portions of migratory routes for particular species are not necessarily included. Species that appear on county lists do not all share the same probability of occurrence within a county. Some species are migrants or wintering residents only. Additionally, a few species may be historic or considered extirpated within a county.

TPWD includes the Federal listing status for your convenience and makes every attempt to keep the information current and correct. However, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is the responsible authority for Federal listing status. The TPWD lists do not substitute for contact with the FWS and federally listed species county ranges may vary from the FWS county level species lists because of the inexact nature of range map development and use.

#### Status Kev:

LE, LT - Federally Listed Endangered/Threatened

PE, PT - Federally Proposed Endangered/Threatened

E/SA, T/SA - Federally Listed Endangered/Threatened by Similarity of Appearance

C - Federal Candidate for Listing; formerly Category 1 Candidate

DL, PDL - Federally Delisted/Proposed for Delisting

NL - Not Federally Listed

E, T - State Listed Endangered/Threatened

NT - Not tracked or no longer tracked by the State

"blank" - Rare, but with no regulatory listing status

This information is specifically for your assistance only; due to continuing data updates, **please do not redistribute the lists**, instead refer all requesters to the web site at: <a href="http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/maps/gis/ris/endangered species.phtml">http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/maps/gis/ris/endangered species.phtml</a> or to our office for the most current information available. For questions regarding county lists, please call (512) 389-4571.

Please use the following citation to credit the source for this county level information:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wildlife Division, Diversity and Habitat Assessment Programs. County Lists of Texas' Special Species. [county name(s) and revised date(s)].

July 11, 2008

Mr. Bobby Littlefield, P.E. Texas Department of Transportation (Paris District) 1365 N Main St. Paris, Texas 75460

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Mr. Littlefield,

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

FEMA proposes to assist the City in the construction of a 9,626-square-foot storm shelter/civic center on a 12-acre site on South Johnson Drive in McGregor (Figure 1). The proposed shelter is designed to accommodate 1,250 people and be capable of withstanding 250 mph winds. The City is located within FEMA Wind Zone IV, also known as tornado alley. Currently there are no storm shelters in the county capable of withstanding 250 mph winds. The proposed shelter would serve in mitigating possible injuries or deaths to residents within the community during severe storm events, and also serve as an evacuation point and refuge area for the region during a statewide disaster.

The proposed site and the surrounding land to the west were formerly part of the Naval Reserve Ordnance Base. The site is bound by residential areas and Bluebonnet Park to the east side, privately owned scrub/shrub land to the north and west, and a commercial property (Convergys) to the south. The site is currently owned by the City of McGregor. According to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) of McLennan County, the proposed site is located in Flood Zone C, outside the 500-year floodplain.

URS Group Inc. (URS) has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, URS requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me by telephone at 713.914.6490 or by electronic mail at brian\_mehok@urscorp.com.

Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Iffay B Pallah
for
Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 



100 SOUTH LOOP DRIVE • WACO, TEXAS 76704-2858 • (254) 867-2700

July 31, 2008

Brian Mehok Environmental Specialist URS Corporation 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101 Houston, TX 77042

RE: Request for Project Review – Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Mr. Mehok:

The Waco District (TxDOT) is in receipt of your letter to Mr. Bobby Littlefield, District Engineer, for the Paris District of TxDOT. Since the City of McGregor, McLennan County is located within the Waco District, we are the appropriate office for response.

Your review request related to the City of McGregor's proposed Storm Shelter/Civic Center does not appear to abut any TxDOT facilities or property from our review of your project location map. Therefore, TxDOT does not have jurisdiction within the project area and offers no further comment. The nearest TxDOT facility to the project site is US Highway 84 by way of South Johnson Drive, which is a city street.

If additional information is needed, contact Mr. Michael Rhodes, District Environmental Coordinator, at (254) 867-2739.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Skopik, P.E.

Waco District Engineer

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cc: M. Rhodes

J. Jasek, McLennan County Area Engineer

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July 11, 2008

Ms. Polly Edwards EPA Director Caddo Nation PO Box 487 Binger, OK 73009

Re: Request for Project Review - Construction of the City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas

Dear Ms. Edwards.

The City of McGregor, Texas (City) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

FEMA proposes to assist the City in the construction of a 9,626-square-foot storm shelter/civic center on a 12-acre site on South Johnson Drive in McGregor (Figure 1). The proposed shelter is designed to accommodate 1,250 people and be capable of withstanding 250 mph winds. The City is located within FEMA Wind Zone IV, also known as tornado alley. Currently there are no storm shelters in the county capable of withstanding 250 mph winds. The proposed shelter would serve in mitigating possible injuries or deaths to residents within the community during severe storm events, and also serve as an evacuation point and refuge area for the region during a statewide disaster.



The proposed site and the surrounding land to the west were formerly part of the Naval Reserve Ordnance Base. The site is bound by residential areas and Bluebonnet Park to the east side, privately owned scrub/shrub land to the north and west, and a commercial property (Convergys) to the south. The site is currently owned by the City of McGregor. According to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) of McLennan County, the proposed site is located in Flood Zone C, outside the 500-year floodplain.

URS Group Inc. (URS) has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, URS requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me by telephone at 713.914.6490 or by electronic mail at brian\_mehok@urscorp.com.

Sincerely,

URS Group, Inc.

Affry B Pallock—

for

Brian Mehok

**Environmental Specialist** 



July 11, 2008

Mr. F. Lawrence Oaks State Historic Preservation Officer Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276

Austin, TX 78711-2276

Phone: 512-463-6100 Fax: 512-463-8222

Reference: Request for Project Review - City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic

Center Project, McLennan County, Texas.

Dear Mr. Oaks:

The City of McGregor, Texas has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations. URS Group Inc. (URS) has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, located in McLennan County, Texas.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, and implemented by 36 CFR Part 800, requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties and provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on federal projects that will have an effect on historic properties prior to implementation. Historic properties are defined as archeological sites, standing structures, or other historic resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

URS Group Inc. has conducted a review of known cultural resources in proximity to the proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center (Figure 1). FEMA proposes to assist the City in the construction of a 9,626-square-foot storm shelter/civic center on a 12-acre site on South Johnson Drive in McGregor. The proposed project would utilize the eastern portion (approximately 5 acres) of the 12-acre site for the construction the shelter building and approximately 225 parking spaces (Figure 1). The proposed site and the surrounding land to the west were formerly part of the Naval Reserve Ordnance Base. The site is bound by residential areas and Bluebonnet Park to the east side, privately owned scrub/shrub land to the north and west, and a commercial property (Convergys) to the south. The site is currently owned by the City of McGregor.



The site consists currently of mowed grass and contains no standing structures, although some infrastructure is present. A degraded paved road runs through part of the site and five fire hydrants are located along this road. There are seven separated sunken gas valve stations in various parts of the site and a fiber optics line extends north to south across the site. Water and sewer service lines are located along South Johnson Drive. The required site work would consist of site clearing and grading within the 5-acre project area, the demolition or modification of the existing infrastructure, and the installation of water and sewer service with connections to the water and sewer lines along South Johnson Drive.

The online records of the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas (http://nueces.thc.state.tx.us/) and of the National Register of Historic Places (http://www.nps.gov/nr/) were used for this records review. The Texas Archeological Sites Atlas map indicates that a single linear cultural resources investigation was completed in 1983 within a 1 mile radius of the proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center (Figure 2). This survey follows along the eastern boundary of the subject property; however, the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas database indicates that significant recorded cultural resources were not encountered within, or in close proximity to, the proposed project as a result of this survey effort.

A total of five (5) cultural resources have been identified within a 1 mile (1.6 km) radius of the proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center: three archaeological sites (41ML113, 41ML256, and 41ML257); one Texas Historic Landmark (Glenn Crain and Mary Gulledge House); and a single National Register of Historic Places listed property (the Brown-Mann House) (Figure 2). Site 41ML113 was located 0.6 mi (0.96 km) south-southeast of the proposed property, while Site 41ML256 is positioned 0.75 mi (1.2 km) southwest of the proposed Storm Shelter/Civic Center footprint. Site 41ML257 was recorded approximately 0.14 mi (0.23 km) to the north of the northwest corner of the proposed project area. These three archaeological sites were characterized as historic surface scatters of building materials and foundation remnants, possibly representative of ranching or farming structures. None of these sites was considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Glenn Crain and Mary Gulledge House was constructed in 1892 and is representative of the Shingle architectural style. It is located approximately 0.63 mi (1 km) to the east-northeast of the project area (Figure 2). This property was listed as a Texas Historic Landmark in 2002. The Brown-Mann House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987, is situated about 0.63 mi (1 km) to the northeast of the proposed Storm Shelter/Civic Center (Figure 2). This structure was built in the late 1890's and is considered an example of the Colonial Revival and Queen Anne styles. None of the five (5) cultural resources identified above are positioned within the currently proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center.



Given the level of previous land-altering disturbance represented with the subject property, and as no known historic properties are located in close proximity to the proposed project area, we respectfully request that your office review the attached maps and provide a finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

If you have any questions regarding the records review, or require additional information for your review, please do not hesitate to contact Environmental Specialist Brian Mehok at (713) 914-6490 or Project Archaeologist Martin Handly at (225) 231-6328.

Please direct written correspondence to:

Brian Mehok URS Corporation 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101 Houston, TX 77042

Sincerely,

URS Group Inc.

Martin Handly, M.A. Project Archaeologist

Figure 1: Location of proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas.

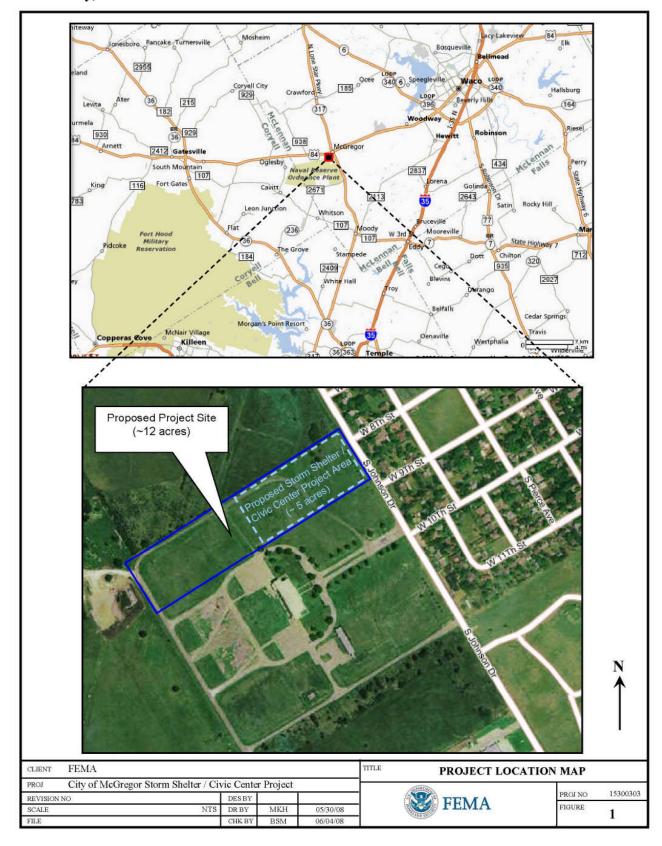
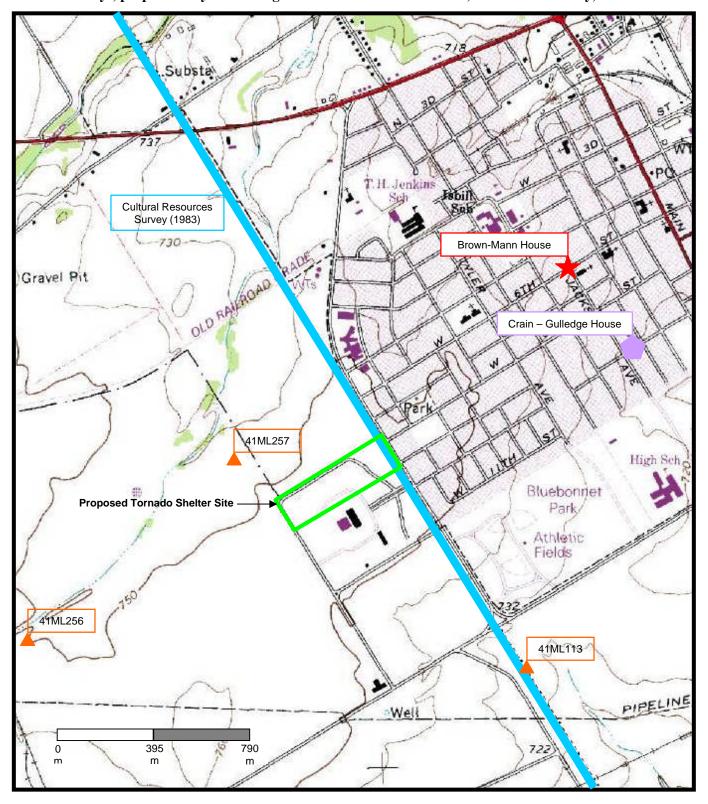


Figure 2: Locations of previously recorded archaeological sites, Texas Historic Landmarks, National Register of Historic Places properties, and previously completed cultural resources surveys, proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, McLennan County, Texas.





July 11, 2008

Mr. F. Lawrence Oaks
State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Phone: 512-463-6100 Fax: 512-463-8222

Reference:

Request for Project Review - City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic

Center Project, McLennan County, Texas.

Dear Mr. Oaks:

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The site consists currently of mowed grass and contains no standing structures, although some infrastructure is present. A degraded paved road runs through part of the site and five fire hydrants are located along this road. There are seven separated sunken gas valve stations in various parts of the site and a fiber optics line extends north to south across the site. Water and sewer service lines are located along South Johnson Drive. The required site work would consist of site clearing and grading within the 5-acre project area, the demolition or modification of the existing infrastructure, and the installation of water and sewer service with connections to the water and sewer lines along South Johnson Drive.

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A total of five (5) cultural resources have been identified within a 1 mile (1.6 km) radius of the proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center: three archaeological sites (41ML113, 41ML256, and 41ML257); one Texas Historic Landmark (Glenn Crain and Mary Gulledge House); and a single National Register of Historic Places listed property (the Brown-Mann House) (Figure 2). Site 41ML113 was located 0.6 mi (0.96 km) south-southeast of the proposed property, while Site 41ML256 is positioned 0.75 mi (1.2 km) southwest of the proposed Storm Shelter/Civic Center footprint. Site 41ML257 was recorded approximately 0.14 mi (0.23 km) to the north of the northwest corner of the proposed project area. These three archaeological sites were characterized as historic surface scatters of building materials and foundation remnants, possibly representative of ranching or farming structures. None of these sites was considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Glenn Crain and Mary Gulledge House was constructed in 1892 and is representative of the Shingle architectural style. It is located approximately 0.63 mi (1 km) to the east-northeast of the project area (Figure 2). This property was listed as a Texas Historic Landmark in 2002. The Brown-Mann House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987, is situated about 0.63 mi (1 km) to the northeast of the proposed Storm Shelter/Civic Center (Figure 2). This structure was built in the late 1890's and is considered an example of the Colonial Revival and Queen Anne styles. None of the five (5) cultural resources identified above are positioned within the currently proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center.

Given the level of previous land-altering disturbance represented with the subject property, and as no known historic properties are located in close proximity to the proposed project

area, we respectfully request that your office review the attached maps and provide a finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

If you have any questions regarding the records review, or require additional information for your review, please do not hesitate to contact Environmental Specialist Brian Mehok at (713) 914-6490 or Project Archaeologist Martin Handly at (225) 231-6328.

Please direct written correspondence to:

Brian Mehok URS Corporation 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101 Houston, TX 77042

Sincerely,

URS Group Inc.

Martin Handly, M.A. Project Archaeologist



July 11, 2008

Mr. Robert Cast Historic Preservation Officer Caddo Nation PO Box 487 Binger, OK 73009

Reference: Request for Project Review - City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic

Center Project, McLennan County, Texas.

Dear Mr. Cast:

The City of McGregor, Texas has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation - Competitive (PDM-C) program funding under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants funds under this program for pre-disaster mitigation activities which reduce overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations. URS Group Inc. (URS) has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed City of McGregor Storm Shelter/Civic Center, located in McLennan County, Texas.

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URS Corporation 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101 Houston, TX 77042 Tel: 713.914.6699 Fax: 713.789.8404



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