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May 9, 2014

Ms. Cynthia K. Dohner
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

Dear  Ms. Dohner:

Thank you for inviting the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to serve as a cooperating agency in the development of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for early restoration (Early Restoration PEIS) related to the *Deepwater Horizon* (DWH) oil spill.

The TPWD accepts this invitation. We also confirm that our role and assistance in this regard began when the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) initiated the effort to develop the PEIS on behalf of the *Deepwater Horizon* Trustee Council based on DOI's verbal invitation at that time. As both a Trustee Council member and National Environmental Policy Act cooperating agency (40 CFR 1508.5), TPWD will participate in the development of the Early Restoration PEIS; provide information and prepare analyses per its special expertise and jurisdictional responsibilities; make staff available to support interdisciplinary capability; and participate in public review processes.

Please consider Mr. Don Pitts the primary point of contact for this agency. Mr. Pitts can be reached at (512) 389-8754 and by email at don.pitts@tpwd.texas.gov.

We look forward to your continued cooperation with the Department of the Interior on this project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carter Smith
Executive Director

CS:JM:dh

cc: Ms. Jane Atwood, Office of the Attorney General of Texas
Ms. Jane Sarosdy, Texas General Land Office
Mr. Richard Seiler, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality