Rebecca Hensley, Regional Director, Ecosystem Resources Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment No	Response
1	The Final Integrated General Reevaluation Report – Environmental Assessment (FIGRR-EA) has been revised to correct the discrepancies noted in your comment. Please note that FIGRR-EA provides a table identifying dredged material quantities associated with the GRR features alone, as well as an updated Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) for the entire 2014 authorized project with the addition of the GRR quantities. All new work dredge material from the three features (channel widening, bend easing, and turning notch) which comprise the GRR recommended plan would be placed into upland Placement Area (PA) 1. All maintenance dredge material would be placed into the offshore dredge material disposal area (ODMDS 1A). Table 8-4 and the DMMP have been revised with updated calculations.
2	The construction and use of PA 8 has been authorized by the Water Resources Reform Development Act (WRRDA) 2014. It is not proposed for use in conjunction with the GRR recommended plan. References to the use of PA 8 in the Real Estate Plan relate to use under the 2014 authorized project.
3	A Consistency Determination for the Texas Coastal Management Plan (TCMP) has been coordinated with the Texas General Land Office, which has concurred that the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) is consistent with the goals and policies of the TCMP. The FIFR-EA recommended plan is the same as the TSP plan. The ecological benefits of potential beneficial use have been evaluated and it has been determined that the cost of using the material beneficially is not reasonably proportionate to the benefits. At this time, no USACE guidance exists for monetizing the economic value of the beneficial use services of restored marsh, and including this in the cost/benefit ratio.
4	There are no wetland impacts or mitigation associated with the GRR recommended plan. Impacts to wetlands associated with construction and use of PA 8 are addressed in the 2012 EIS for the 2014 authorized project. The mitigation plan for the 2014 authorized project will be revised during the Pre-construction Engineering Design Phase when that project proceeds to construction. At this time, it is anticipated that the mitigation area for PA 8 will be located adjacent to PA 8.
5	There are no wetland impacts or mitigation associated with the GRR recommended plan. The mitigation plan compensating for impacts to wetlands associated with PA 8 was described in the 2012 EIS and authorized by WRRDA 2014.