

## Final Progress Report

Project: Wetland Habitat Restoration/Enhancement at the Whitmire Unit  
GLO Contract No.: 08-019  
Reporting Period: October 2008

The Wetland Habitat Restoration/Enhancement at the Myrtle Foester Whitmire Unit (Whitmire Unit) created a reliable method to deliver fresh water to 2.65 miles of newly constructed canal that includes installation of field pipes and control structures. Construction included re-sectioning, cleaning and restoration of existing levees. Additional work involved the replacement of field pipes and control structures on two miles of existing canal and re-sectioned and restored levees on two laterals.

Before canal work began, the Refuge had a volunteer engineer / hydrologist survey the existing system of canals and levees located on the Refuge. Surveying was also done on the proposed new canal system.

Project partners and engineers met to finalize the design of the canal. Before construction began a complete survey of the canal site was completed. Water control structures needed were identified, and soil to be used for canal levees was brought in.

Quotes were provided for the construction of the canal with the contract(s) being awarded to Lester Construction, Inc. Engineering services were done by G & W Engineers with some final engineering being done by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA). Because of the rural location of the canal system on the Refuge there is a limited availability of qualified contractors in the area. Copies of contracts issued have been submitted for your review. Engineering work that was done by GBRA was provided on a time and material basis with a maximum amount of \$5,000.00 being allowed. This was done as the GBRA had said they would provide any additional engineering, surveying project management and dirt work as an in-kind donation.



This photo shows the old canal system. Part of the canal project included the eradication of invasive aquatic species done with machine and approved aquatic herbicide.



One of the many structures located within the canal system.



Installation of structures located within the canal system.



Heavy rains sometimes construction difficult.



Completed canal.

The completed project has 2.65 miles of newly constructed canal that includes installation of field pipes and control structures. Construction included re-sectioning, cleaning and restoration of existing levees. Additional work involved the replacement of field pipes and control structures on two miles of existing canal and re-sectioned and restored levees on two laterals.