



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE
COMMISSIONER DAWN BUCKINGHAM, M.D.

April 6, 2023

Mr. Austin L. Skero
Border Liaison Officer
Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Rangers
P.O. Box 261
Mason, TX 76856

RE: Islands in the Rio Grande, Maverick County, Texas

Dear Mr. Skero:

As Land Commissioner, it is my commitment to Texans that this agency uses all means available to gain complete operational control of the border. I hereby grant the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and Texas Rangers permission to access the State of Texas owned islands located in the Rio Grande in Maverick County, Texas, for the purpose of policing in order to curb the ongoing border crisis at our southern border. Additionally, the Texas General Land Office (GLO) will also permit vegetation management, provided compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations is upheld.

With these islands being located in the heart of the border crisis, where enough fentanyl has been seized in this region to kill a quarter of the US population, it is my hope that granting access to Texas law enforcement will aid in our state's robust push to control this unrepresented border surge. I have no doubt that having access to these islands can also reduce the record amount of illegal immigration and human trafficking pouring across our border in Maverick County.

The GLO will always take bold actions in order to protect Texans and step up when and where the federal government refuses to do so.

For Texas,

DAWN BUCKINGHAM, M.D.
Commissioner, Texas General Land Office

c: Governor Greg Abbott
Steven McCraw, Director/Colonel Texas Department of Public Safety