Mitigation Banking
HCFCD

Becky Martinez
Mitigation Banking

- What is a mitigation bank?
- Why does HCFCD have a mitigation bank?
- What mitigation banks does HCFCD have?
What is a Mitigation Bank?

• Site where aquatic resources are established, restored, enhanced, or preserved to offset losses of aquatic resources

• Advantages over permittee-responsible mitigation
What is a Mitigation Bank?

- Operates like a financial institution
- The USACE deposits credits into bank ledger
- HCFCD sells those credits as mitigation for permitted impacts to aquatic resources
Why does HCFCD have a Mitigation Bank?

- Expedites the USACE permitting process
  - Reliable, proven form of wetland impact mitigation
- Guarantees credits are available for County projects
HCFCD Mitigation Banks
Greens Bayou Wetlands Mitigation Bank
Greens Bayou Wetlands Mitigation Bank

Forested Wetlands

Emergent Wetlands
Subdivision A - Photos
Subdivision B - 1999
Subdivision B - Photos

[Image of wetland scene with birds flying in the water]

[Image of grassy area with trees in the background]

[Image of a calm pond with lily pads]

[Image of a grassy area with a small dock]
Subdivision C - 2015
Subdivision C - Plan
Subdivision C - Construction
Subdivision C - Photos
GBWMB: Operations & Maintenance

- Credit Maintenance
  - Annual site monitoring
  - Invasive Species Control
  - Property Management
  - Ledgers/Financial Records
GBWMB Service Areas
Harris Co. Umbrella Mitigation Bank Innovative Mitigation Banking

- Fairly new mitigation banking strategy for our region
- One Umbrella Mitigation Banking Instrument
  - With multiple Mitigation Site Plans
- HCFCD has identified three sites for HCUMB
  - Bender
  - Rothwood
  - Katy Hockley
HCFCD Mitigation Banks
HCUMB: Bender

• 69.9 Ac Undeveloped Site
• Wetland Preservation
HCUMB: Rothwood

- ~70 Ac. Former sand mining pit
- Stream Restoration
- Wetland Enhancement & Creation
- Stream & Wetland Credits
HCUMB: Katy Hockley

- ~70 acres, former agriculture land
- Wetland creation on the Katy Prairie
Red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)

American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)

Connecticut warbler (*Oporornis agilis*)

American robin (*Turdus migratorius*)

Black-Bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)
Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)

River Otter (*Lontra canadensis*)

Beaver (*Castor canadensis*)

Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*)

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

Eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*)
Questions??