

## Meeting of U.S. Ramsar Site Representatives -Uncertain, Texas

### Meeting Agenda

October 31, 2007 - November 3, 2007

#### November 1 \*

Morning: Arrivals and Registration

8:00 am Breakfast\*\* for those that want to go on the tour. Location TBA

9:00-11:00 am Boat Tour of Caddo Lake - General tour, history, etc

1200-1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Meeting Convenes

Welcome and Introductions (1:00-1:40) All participants will be asked to introduce themselves and state their expectations about the meeting.)

Summary of Survey Results of U.S. Ramsar Sites (1:40-2:00) (Kim Connolly and Royal Gardner). They will discuss findings with respect to public identification with Ramsar and benefits associated with Ramsar designation, as well as recommendations to strengthen Ramsar in the U.S.

Reports from Site Representatives (2:00-3:30) (Ramsar site representatives). Each site representative will have an opportunity to provide a brief overview of his or her site, highlight the role of Ramsar designation, management challenge and/or accomplishment. (6 minutes per site)

- a. Caddo Lake
- b. Everglades National Park
- c. Tijuana River Estuary
- d. Connecticut River Estuary
- e. Horicon Marsh
- f. Kawai Nui Marsh and Hamakua Wetlands
- g. Pelican Island
- h. Cache-Lower White Rivers
- i. Others?

3:15-3:45 pm Break

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\* All ground transportation to and from the airport, for meetings, meals and tours will be provided for those who need it. Maps will be provided for those who drive or rent cars.

\*\* Breakfast locations will be the sites for shuttles to meetings and tours.

4:00-5:00 pm      Discussion about Collaborative Opportunities  
a. Small Grants Program (Suzanne Slear)  
b. Common signage, brochures, and videos (Rick Lowerre)  
c. World Wetlands Day (Suzanne Slear & Marina Ratchford)  
d. National Communication, Education & Public Awareness (CEPA) Strategy (Suzanne Slear)  
e. Use of Ramsar designation in grant applications (Royal Gardner)  
f. Use of Ramsar designation in restoration funding (Royal Gardner)

5:00-6:00 pm      State Park “tours”

6:30 pm            Dinner at the State Park  
a. Welcoming Remarks  
b. International Update and Opportunities (Maria Rivera, Ramsar Secretariat, Switzerland and Rosa Montanez, CREHO, Panama)

November 2

7:30 am            Breakfast \*\* Location TBA

8:30 am            Site Managers Meeting Reconvenes: Discussion about Collaborative Opportunities: cont’d

Candidate Sites (10:00-10:50)

- a. Francis Beidler Forest, South Carolina (Kim Connolly)
- b. Olentangy River Wetland Research Park, Ohio (Bill Mitsch)
- c. Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Florida (Royal Gardner)
- d. South Texas refuges
- e. Others?

11:00 – 12:30pm      **U.S. National Ramsar Committee Meeting**

12:30 pm            Lunch, at the State Park

2:30 – 4:30 pm      Tours of Caddo Lake\* & Refuge. \*Boat tours on Friday may be divided by topic, such as invasive species, water quality, species, etc.)

6:00 pm            Dinner

November 3

8:00 am            Breakfast\*\* Location TBA

9:00 – 11:00 am      Tours of Refuge and Park (not of Lake, as Duck season opens this day.)

PHONE NUMBERS: Rick Lowerre 512 350-6960, Mary Sanger 512 970-4601, Randie Canup (HootnHoller, Uncertain, Tx.) 903 789-3269