



JFK Causeway Project Environmental Update

Volume 9

December 2002

Construction Underway on Project to Raise the Elevation of the JFK Causeway

Construction has begun on the project to raise the elevation of the JFK Causeway. In addition to the safety and hurricane evacuation aspects of the project, there are several environmental benefits that the project will provide. Some of these include the construction of a new bridge and removal of existing fill material to provide additional water circulation in the Laguna Madre, creation of additional bay bottom and seagrass habitat, and permanent water quality improvement measures. Due to the project's location in this unique and sensitive environment, an environmental inspector has been added to the project inspection team to help ensure that all the environmental commitments are met. This newsletter provides information from the environmental inspector regarding these commitments.

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- * Pile Driving for proposed wall D continued at first location (Humble Channel) throughout the week. At second location (halfway down proposed wall D) no pile driving took place for the week due to misaligned piles; workers began to extract piles on Friday, December 6.
- * Performed a visual audit of job site and inspected the living document (construction plans highlighted with pollution control devices in use) for the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. Living document and inspections were up to date.
- * Zachry Construction performing housekeeping, picking up old silt fence along proposed wall D (silt fence that had been replaced the previous week).
- * Pre-pour meeting for concrete at proposed West Bridge took place on Tuesday, December 3. Pouring of concrete took place on Friday, December 6.
- * Inspected wash out area for concrete trucks (trucks used for bridge pour) at the project site.

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- * The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Domestic Scan Team for Environmental Commitment Compliance met with TxDOT personnel from Environmental Affairs and the Corpus Christi District on Tuesday, December 10th, to discuss best practices and successes in the area of meeting environmental commitments on highway construction projects. The ongoing JFK construction project was discussed and the FHWA Domestic Scan Team visited the project office. The team's report is to be written in early 2003.
 - * Zachry Construction repaired silt fence and addressed other Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan items on Monday and Tuesday, December 9th and 10th.
 - * Pile Driving for proposed wall D continued at first location (Humble Channel) throughout the week. Piles were not driven at second location (halfway down proposed wall D).
 - * Zachry Construction set bridge panels throughout the week at the proposed West Bridge.
- Inspected wash out area for concrete trucks (trucks used for bridge pour) at the project site; area looks good.

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- * **Pile Driving for proposed wall D continued at first location (Humble Channel) throughout the week, and at second location (halfway down proposed wall D) beginning on Tuesday, December 17th.**
- * **Zachry Construction began to set fill material behind proposed wall C on Thursday, December 19th.**
- * **Zachry Construction set bridge panels throughout the week at the proposed West Bridge, and poured concrete for bridge slabs on Friday, December 20th.**
- * **Inspected wash out area for concrete trucks on Friday, December 20th (trucks used for bridge pour) at the project site.**

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December 30, 2002**

- * **Zachry Construction took off Wednesday and Thursday, December 25th and 26th, for the holidays.**
- * **Work during the week included pile driving for proposed wall D, leveling material brought in for fill at proposed wall C, and setting panels at proposed West Bridge.**