



Life's better outside.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

900 CR 218

Brookeland, TX 75931

409-698-9114

Todd.driscoll@tpwd.texas.gov

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21 July 2023

Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership

Friends of Reservoirs

Friends of Lake Livingston (FoLL) has applied for a Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership-Small Projects Grant. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is fully supportive of FoLL's habitat enhancement efforts at Lake Livingston. TPWD has served as an advisor to FoLL since their inception in 2013. The primary management issue at Lake Livingston is habitat loss resulting from siltation and reservoir aging. As documented in the most recent fisheries management plan for Lake Livingston, FoLL has been working with TPWD to help address the lack of habitat for 10 years. During this time, FoLL has introduced approximately 50,000 water willow plants in the reservoir. FoLL has also been heavily engaged with local communities, and now have 8 school districts and more than 15 local partners assisting with the project. Most recently, FoLL has adapted their strategies to include additional plant species and implemented a monitoring program to track project success and provide data to better refine project objectives. As a result of FoLL's efforts, Lake Livingston was named one of the 2015 "10 Waters to Watch" by the National Fish Habitat Partnership. Texan by Nature, founded by former First Lady Laura Bush, acknowledges the very best Texan-led conservation projects occurring in Texas. In 2017, the organization recognized FoLL as a Conservation Wrangler. Without question, FoLL would utilize this Small Projects Grant effectively and efficiently to maximize enhancement efforts at Lake Livingston.

Sincerely,

Todd Driscoll

TPWD – District Fisheries Biologist