



Life's better outside.®

September 8, 2010

Ms. Karla Klay
Artist Boat, Inc.
2415 Avenue K
Galveston, TX 77550-4403

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Carter P. Smith
Executive Director

Dear Ms. Klay:

On behalf of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, please allow me to express my sincere appreciation to Artist Boat for the outstanding contributions you made through the Galveston Island State Park Prairie Outreach Project. The work your group accomplished could not have been at a more valuable time after the devastation wreaked by Hurricane Ike in September 2008. For this, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will not forget the labors of Artist Boat that represents so well the agency's mission.

Your efforts in restoring 10 acres of prairie within the park are nothing short of phenomenal. Your acceleration of the natural healing process of this barrier island as well as bringing the agency closer to achieving the goals established in the 2010 Land and Water Resource Conservation and Recreation Plan have been recognized by many. By engaging youth and multiple partner groups, you accomplished not only restoration, but embedded a level of stewardship, responsibility and community in the natural world.

Recovering from Hurricane Ike has been a difficult process. Without partner groups such as Artist Boat, the success of our parks and resources across the state would suffer. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is fortunate to have your organization as a partner and your project emphasis the value of such relationships. From restoring the natural habitat to engaging future generations in outdoor learning experiences, as an agency and on a personal level, I am truly grateful. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carter Smith
Executive Director

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