

BOBBY JINDAL GOVERNOR

## State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM SECRETARY

JIMMY L. ANTHONY ASSISTANT SECRETARY

02 December 2010

Katie Brasted Woodlands Trail and Park 1112 Engineers Road Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Dear Mrs. Brasted,

The purposes of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Natural Heritage Program are to collect, organize and distribute detailed site-specific biodiversity data, and to interact with landowners to promote conservation. The Woodlands Trail and Park has been a registered natural area with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Natural Heritage Program since 2006. This bottomland hardwoods forest is important wildlife habitat and serves as vital resting habitat for neotropical migratory birds.

This tract is the largest remaining forest between New Orleans and open water, making it critical for many wildlife species in the area. This site is especially important now that many of the coastal forests and islands have been adversely impacted by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

On behalf of the Natural Heritage Program, I would like to give our support to Woodlands Trail and Parks in their efforts to restore one of the last remaining bottomland hardwood forests in the New Orleans area.

Sincerely,

**Amity Bass** 

Biologist Manager

Louisiana Natural Heritage Program

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries