



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

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Model airplane club to relocate at Benbrook Lake

FORT WORTH, Texas – The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Benbrook Lake announced today that the Fort Worth Thunderbird Radio-Control model airplane club will move from its current location inside Holiday Park to an area within Mustang Park at the lake.

The Thunderbird organization has leased property from the Corps since the 1960s and will move to meet new safety standards which strictly prohibit over-flight of public areas. These standards are set by the Thunderbirds parent national charter organization, the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Inc. The current location and size of the Thunderbird lease area allows over-flight of publicly accessible roadways, parking areas, picnic sites and developed shoreline areas of the park. In 2006, as a temporary solution to address these problems, the Corps closed certain parking areas and relocated several picnic sites in the park.

The Corps will relocate the lease area to an undeveloped area of Mustang Park, between the Bear Creek campground and the Mustang Point swimming beach. Mustang Park has long been operated as two separate park areas, the Bear Creek camping area and the Mustang Point multi-use area. The two public use areas are separated by approximately one-half mile of closed-to-vehicle-access and undeveloped park area; the Thunderbird facilities will be relocated into this area. Work is scheduled to begin in June 2008.

Developing the area will consist of clearing and maintaining a 450- by 800-foot area for access, parking, and runway and service facilities, in an area that provides a safe flight radius of 1200 feet that does not over-fly other recreation areas or facilities. Approximately 1000 feet of new road construction will be needed to access the area. Access to the new location would be through the existing Mustang Point multi-use area gated entrance.

Most work will be done with existing construction contracts by the lake office. To maximize use of limited funds, competitive outside bids may be solicited for part or all of the required work. Federal contracting procedures will apply in these cases.

Public comments and inquiries will be received at the Benbrook Lake Office, P.O. Box 26619, Fort Worth, Texas, 76126-0619, or by e-mail to CESWF-OD-BB@usace.army.mil for a 15-day period ending April 22, 2008.

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About the Fort Worth District : The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and military design and construction in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District web site at: www.swf.usace.army.mil .