

The Fabulous Big Thicket



Kevin Brady

Support Expansion of the Big Thicket Preserve!

Congressman Kevin Brady is proposing expansion of the Big Thicket National Preserve by as much as 100,000 acres, doubling its size!

Mr. Brady's plans include family-friendly features to attract tourists— canoe/kayak trails with water-based GPS waypoints, an elevated canopy walk so visitors can view life in the treetops, and an interactive visitor center for children, researchers and all who love nature.

“With the right vision and support, the Big Thicket can become a premiere eco-tourism attraction,” Mr. Brady told an audience at the 2008 Texas Wilderness Pow Wow. “My proposal has three primary goals: connect, expand, and preserve the Big Thicket.”

For more than 35 years Texas Conservation Alliance has pushed for establishing and expanding the Preserve, to protect its unique mix of natural landscapes — southeastern swamps, eastern forests, central plains, pine savannas, and dry sandhills.

The proposal targets land acquisition to connect the nine land units and six water corridors of the current preserve, to consolidate its scattered units. Land for the expansion would be purchased from willing sellers only.

Brady hopes to attract a million visitors per year to enjoy this national treasure.

Says Brady, “By expanding the Big Thicket National Preserve, we can protect the Preserve’s unique attributes against the challenges of increased development while tapping its enormous potential to attract tourists from around the state and nation.”



THICKET OF DIVERSITY

The Big Thicket National Preserve is conducting “Thicket of Diversity”, an inventory of *all* the plants, wildlife, birds, fungi, fish, and other “critters” who inhabit or migrate through the Preserve.

Scientists and volunteers recruited by the Big Thicket Association, an Alliance member organization, are helping compile one of the most comprehensive lists ever attempted.

To learn how *YOU* can help, go to www.thicketofdiversity.org/



For more information,
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