



## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** Unit Blackstone #1 and #2 Well Plugging and Reclamation

**PEPC Project Number:** 42574

**Project Description:**

The National Park Service (NPS) is coordinating with Unit Petroleum Company (Unit) for plugging and the surface reclamation of a well pad and access road associated with two natural gas wells known as Black Stone Wells #1 and #2. These natural gas wells are located within the Big Sandy Creek Corridor Unit of the Big Thicket National Preserve (Preserve) in Polk County, Texas. The location of the proposed project area is illustrated in Figure 1 to the right. These non-producing wells were drilled and their associated well pads and lease road constructed prior to the park's acquisition of the land on which they are situated.

Upon determining the Plan of Operations substantially complete, the Preserve will publish a notice of availability of the Plan of Operations and associated categorical exclusion document in the Federal Register for a 30-day public review period.

**Project Locations:**

**Location**

**County:** Polk

**State:** TX

**District:**

**Section:**

**Geo. Marker:**

**Other:**

**Mitigation(s):**

- No mitigations identified.

**Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):**

E.4 Removal of non-historic materials and structures in order to restore natural conditions.

**Explanation:**

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances (e.g. all boxes in the ESF are marked "no") or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

**Superintendent:**  **Signature** **Date:** 4/8/15

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Date:

4/8/15