

For Immediate Release

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Flint Hills Resources celebrates 20 years of wildlife habitat preservation in Dakota County

Voluntary conservation efforts through the Wildlife Habitat Council improve habitats, environmental education

ROSEMOUNT, Minn. (July 29, 2021) — Flint Hills Resources is celebrating 20 years of preserving habitat and increasing biodiversity with the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) through its Conservation Certification® program, a voluntary sustainability standard for habitat and species management and conservation education on corporate land holdings. This certification recognizes conservation efforts at the Pine Bend Bluffs in Dakota County and 2021 marks 20 years since Flint Hills was first certified.

[Click here](#) to download photos of the Pine Bend Bluffs. [Click here](#) to watch a video about Flint Hills' 20 years of WHC Certification.

WHC Conservation Certification is the only standard designed for broad-based biodiversity enhancement on corporate landholdings. For more than 30 years, WHC Certification has recognized meaningful habitat and species management and education programs around the world. Two Flint Hills locations – the Pine Bend Bluffs in Rosemount, Minnesota and the Wildlife Learning Preserve in Corpus Christi, Texas are WHC-Certified. The Pine Bend Bluffs are a natural area surrounding the Pine Bend refinery in Rosemount, Minnesota and Certified Silver by the WHC.

“Businesses with large landholdings have an important role to play in enhancing the habitat around their facilities,” said WHC President Margaret O’Gorman. “Our 20 years of partnership with Flint Hills has demonstrated how impactful WHC Certification can be to organizations, communities and our environment.”

Owned by Flint Hills Resources, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and Macalester College; and situated along the Mississippi River, the [Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area](#) is one of the largest natural areas in the Twin Cities. These hundreds of acres are a key migration corridor for millions of songbirds and 40 percent of North America’s waterfowl and shorebirds. Since the site was first certified, 113 species of migrating birds have been identified there. The rare, federally-endangered rusty patched bumble bee was discovered in the Pine Bend Bluffs in 2019 and 2020.

“This certification is a point of pride for Flint Hills and our employees who dedicate their time and talents to enhancing the natural lands and promoting a healthy environment for wildlife around our facilities,” said Geoff Glasrud, vice president and manufacturing manager at Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery. “We also rely on many external partners to maintain these lands and lead outreach efforts – we are so grateful for their collaboration.”

Since 2000, Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend has partnered with Friends of the Mississippi River and Great River Greening to restore hundreds of acres of natural prairie and oak savanna in the bluffs with the goal of restoring the land to pre-settlement conditions.

About Flint Hills Resources

Flint Hills Resources is a leading refining and chemicals company with operations primarily in the Midwest and Texas. Its manufacturing capability is built upon six decades of refining experience, and the company has expanded its operations through capital projects and acquisitions worth more than \$15 billion since 2002. Based in Wichita, Kansas, the company has approximately 3,300 employees and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Koch Industries, Inc.

Flint Hills Resources’ subsidiaries produce and market gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, asphalt, olefins, polymers and base oils. Flint Hills Resources’ refining business operates refineries in Minnesota (Rosemount) and Texas (Corpus Christi), with a combined crude oil processing capacity of more than 700,000 barrels per day. Its petrochemical business includes production facilities in Texas (Corpus Christi, Houston and Longview).

Flint Hills Resources also owns or operates more than 4,000 miles of pipelines that transport crude oil, refined petroleum products, natural gas liquids and chemicals. More information at www.fhr.com.

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