

= Texas Recreational Road 255 =

Recreational Road 255 (RE 255) is a Recreational Road located in Tyler , Jasper , and Newton counties , in the southeastern region of the U.S. state of Texas . The highway is approximately 56 @. @ 6 miles (91 @. @ 1 km) long , and travels through mainly rural areas in the northern portion of the three counties . RE 255 begins at an intersection with U.S. Route 69 (US 69) , in Tyler County , near the city of Colmesneil . The route travels through rural farmland in northern Tyler County , and crosses the Neches River into Jasper County . The roadway intersects State Highway 63 (TX 63) and US 96 , and helps form part of the Sam Rayburn Dam . The route continues into Newton County , intersecting TX 87 , before terminating at an intersection with Farm to Market Road 692 (FM 692) , near the Louisiana border . RE 255 helps provide access to Angelina National Forest , the Sam Rayburn Reservoir , and the Toledo Bend Reservoir , which give the highway its Recreational Road designation .

Recreational Road 255 began as Farm to Market Road 255 , with the first section of the route being designated in 1945 . Throughout the 1950s and the 1960s , FM 255 was extended several times , with the final extension being made in early 1970 . The first stretch of RE 255 was designated in 1970 by Minute Order 063535 , creating the first Recreational Road . The highway was extended three more times in the 1970s , completely replacing FM 255 . FM 255 had a short spur that was designated in 1970 , and was transferred over to RE 255 in 1974 when the main route was replaced . RE 255 Spur was cancelled in 1979 .

= = Route description = =

= = = Tyler County = = =

Recreational Road 255 begins at its western terminus at an intersection with U.S. Route 69 as a two @- @ lane , paved road . The highway proceeds eastward through mainly rural areas , passing several small farms . The roadway continues , intersecting County Route 3251 (CR 3251) and turning northeast . The road proceeds northeast before slowly bending east again and continuing . It proceeds through the small community of Oak Grove and turns northeasterly . RE 255 continues , passing several homes and the small Gregory Cemetery as well as intersecting several county roads and slowly bending east . The route continues easterly , passing through a large forest and intersecting CR 3725 before crossing the Neches River and exiting Tyler County .

= = = Jasper County = = =

After crossing the Neches River , RE 255 enters Jasper County and proceeds easterly . After a short distance , it crosses over a small relief creek for the Neches River and continues through heavily forested rural areas before turning slightly southeast . The route proceeds over a small creek before slowly bending northeastward . The roadway turns northerly and passes the small community of Beans . While traveling through Beans , the road passes several small farms and houses . It also intersects several county roads , including the former RE 255 Spur , which is now CR 32 . The highway then enters Angelina National Forest .

Recreational Road 255 continues slightly northeasterly , passing through mainly farmland before reaching its junction with SH 63 . RE 255 continues northward , entering the community of Ebenezer and intersecting a few local roads in the community . The roadway proceeds east and passes the McGee Cemetery . RE 255 proceeds to the Angelina River at the Sam Rayburn Dam . The road bends northeastward , passing through the small Overlook Park and continuing northeast along the dam . It turns southeast and continues along the dam . The dam ends after approximately 1 @. @ 5 miles (2 @. @ 4 km) and the highway exits Angelina National Forest and enters Twin Dikes Park . The roadway continues , taking a large bend southeast and intersecting several local roads that lead to the reservoir . The highway proceeds southeasterly , passing several small homes and

businesses that make up a portion of the community of Sam Rayburn . RE 255 proceeds northeast for a short distance before shifting eastward through Rayburn Country and intersecting FM 1007 . Turning southeast , the route passes the southern edge of the Rayburn Country golf resort before exiting the community of Sam Rayburn and reentering rural areas . RE 255 shifts southeast and proceeds to an intersection with U.S. Route 96 , a divided highway . The route bends northeasterly , intersecting CR 232 before proceeding out of Jasper County .

= = = Newton County = = =

RE 255 enters Newton County traveling eastward . The highway proceeds eastward before bending northeasterly and entering dense forest . Continuing eastward , the road reaches an intersection with SH 87 . The route continues east , passing the Mitchell Cemetery . The highway intersects a couple of county routes and turns east before crossing over a small cove on the Toledo Bend Reservoir . RE 255 the enters the community of South Toledo Bend . It travels parallel to the reservoir , passing several small neighborhoods before shifting eastward . RE 255 passes the Shady Oaks Marina and the Sam Forse Collins Recreational Area before reaching its eastern terminus at an at @-@ grade intersection with FM 692 .

= = = Traffic = = =

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) publishes yearly reports of the highway 's annual average daily traffic (AADT) , with counts usually taken near intersections . In 2010 , RE 255 's highest traveled point was at the intersection with FM 1007 , with a daily county of approximately 2 @, @ 800 vehicles . The lowest traveled point along the highway is just east of the intersection with SH 87 , with a daily county of approximately 550 vehicles . The most traveled point in Tyler County is at the intersection with US 69 , with a daily count of 1 @, @ 100 vehicles . The intersection with FM 1007 has the highest AADT counts in Jasper County , while the most densely traveled point in Newton County is near the intersection with FM 692 , at a count of 880 vehicles . These counts are somewhat higher than those of 2008 , when the highest taken count , which was also at the FM 1007 intersection , was at just 2 @, @ 200 vehicles . The least traveled point had a count of 510 vehicles . At 56 @. @ 596 miles (91 @. @ 082 km) long , RE 255 is the longest highway in the TxDOT 's Recreational Road system . No portion of the highway is listed as part of the National Highway System (NHS) , a network of roads important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility .

= = History = =

The first portion of what would become RE 255 was designated on June 12 , 1945 as the first stretch of Farm to Market Road 255 (FM 255) . This route traveled from an intersection with SH 63 to Ferguson at a length of approximately 2 @. @ 8 miles (4 @. @ 5 km) . On September 27 , 1960 , FM 255 was extended 4 @. @ 4 miles (7 @. @ 1 km) northeastward to the McGee Bend Dam on Lake Sam Rayburn . FM 255 was extended on June 15 , 1961 along a road that traveled along the McGee Bend Dam to an intersection with US 96 . This extension added approximately 8 @. @ 3 miles (13 @. @ 4 km) to the route . In 1962 , three small bridges were constructed in western Jasper County . These bridges still function along the modern route . On October 1 , 1963 , FM 255 was extended approximately 0 @. @ 8 miles (1 @. @ 3 km) southeastward from SH 63 . In 1965 , the current bridge over the Angelina River was constructed . FM 2628 from US 69 east 4 @. @ 4 miles and FM 3125 from SH 87 to FM 692 were combined with the route on February 15 , 1970 , adding 4 @. @ 4 miles (7 @. @ 1 km) and 11 @. @ 3 miles (18 @. @ 2 km) respectively to FM 255 .

On April 1 , 1970 , Recreational Road 255 was officially designated by TxDOT Minute Order 063535 . The route was approved by the TxDOT 's Administration Circle on April 15 , 1970 . RE 255 was the first route to be designated by the TxDOT as a Recreational Road . RE 255 began as the

portions of FM 255 traveling from approximately 4 @. @ 8 miles (7 @. @ 7 km) east of US 69 to Beans Place 2 @. @ 7 miles west of SH 63 and from US 96 to SH 87 . In 1971 , the modern bridge crossing over the small Indian Creek , located in western Jasper County , was constructed . In March 15 , 1974 , RE 255 was extended eastward approximately 2 @. @ 7 miles (4 @. @ 3 km) from Beans Place to SH 63 , giving the highway a total length of approximately 29 @. @ 3 miles (47 @. @ 2 km) . In 1976 , the current bridge crossing the small Rocky Creek in western Newton County was constructed . In 1977 , three of the route 's current bridges were constructed . Two of the bridges cross over the Neches River and the other is a small bridge located in Newton County . The final portions of FM 255 was transferred to RE 255 on September 15 , 1978 , adding approximately 27 @. @ 9 miles (44 @. @ 9 km) to RE 255 . In 1981 , the last two current bridges along the route were constructed . Both are small bridges located in western Newton County . Twelve years after being cancelled , FM 255 was redesignated to a short road in Webb County . This route has since been cancelled and redesignated as Urban Road 255 , which was cancelled and added to SH 255 .

= = Future = =

Recreational Road 255 is located within the study area of the proposed Interstate 14 , the Gulf Coast Strategic Highway . The current proposed routing of the Interstate would run along State Highway 63 , to the south of RE 255 , but no official routing has decided on . A possible alternative routing of the highway would replace RE 255 as part of the interstate .

= = Major junctions = =

= = Spur route = =

Recreational Road 255 Spur (RE 255 Spur) was a short spur connection of FM 255 and later RE 255 that connected the small Beans community in Jasper County to RE 255 . The spur was 0 @. @ 700 miles (1 @. @ 127 km) long .

RE 255 Spur began at an intersection with RE 255 near Beans Community , inside the southern edge of Angelina National Forest . The highway proceeded southeastward through rural areas , passing several small fields and houses . The roadway continued to its eastern terminus , a dead end point .

RE 255 Spur was originally designated on February 15 , 1970 , as FM 255 Spur , on its present location . The spur was redesignated as RE 255 on March 15 , 1974 . The spur was cancelled and turned back to local maintenance on December 18 , 1979 . The route has since been added to CR 1002 .

Major junctions

The entire highway was in Beans , Jasper County .