

= Texas Recreational Road 8 =

Recreational Road 8 (RE 8) is a Recreational Road located in McMullen County in the southeastern portion of the U.S. state of Texas . The highway is approximately 1 @. @ 1 miles (1 @. @ 8 km) in length , and connects Texas State Highway 72 (TX 72) to the community of Calliham and Choke Canyon State Park . The roadway travels through rural areas and central Calliham . Calliham was first laid out in 1922 , and a road first appeared in the location of RE 8 by 1940 . Farm to Market Road 99 (FM 99) was designated in the location of RE 8 in 1954 . Recreational Road 8 was officially designated in June of 1981 , after FM 99 was relocated . The highway was cancelled and relocated in 1983 . The highway is currently the only route to deviate from the recreational road criteria .

= = Route description = =

RE 8 begins at an at @-@ grade intersection with TX 72 south of the unincorporated community of Calliham . The highway proceeds as a two @-@ lane , paved road , traveling northward toward Calliham . As it travels through mainly rural areas , the route intersects a small dirt road before entering the southern portion of Calliham . The road intersects Fletcher Street and continues past several houses , traveling parallel to Naylor Street for a short distance before it intersects Ritcher Street , where it bends northeastward and continues . The road passes a large RV park and intersects Deer Trail before continuing past several houses . It proceeds to its northern terminus , an intersection with Quail Run Road at the edge of Choke Canyon State Park . A long park road continues north into the park , providing access to several campgrounds and recreational areas .

The highway is maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) . Part of the job of the TxDOT is to measure traffic along the highway . These counts are taken using a metric called annual average daily traffic (AADT) . This is a statistical calculation of the average daily number of vehicles that travel along a portion of the highway . The TxDOT usually measures AADT near an intersection . In 2011 , the highway 's AADT was 530 vehicles , taken at a point just north of the intersection with TX 72 . This was an increase from the previous year , when the count was just 330 vehicles , which was taken at the same point . This was a decrease from 2009 , when the AADT for the route was 390 vehicles . No portion of the roadway is listed on the National Highway System , a network of roads important to the country 's economy , defense , and mobility . RE 8 is currently the only route in the Recreational Road system to deviate from the system criteria . The TxDOT defines a Recreatonal Road as a route which travels " to a recognized recreational area " , while RE 8 serves Choke Canyon State Park .

= = History = =

The community of Calliham was first settled in 1918 , and was known as Guffeyola . The settlement was a simple camp city , but boomed in 1922 when oil was discovered nearby . In 1923 , due to the rapid expansion , J. W. Stephenson laid out the plan for the townsite for the community , which contained all roads and sites . The community continued to expand into the 1930s . By 1940 , an unimproved dirt road connected central Calliham to camps north of the community . The road crossed the Frio River on a concrete bridge , and had a single cattle guard located on its course . By 1951 , the road 's first block from its southern terminus was improved to a graded , bituminous surface , made up of crushed rock and asphalt . On October 28 , 1952 , FM 2153 was designated along the course of the highway , for a length of approximately 5 @. @ 5 miles (8 @. @ 9 km) . On October 13 , 1954 , the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) cancelled FM 2153 , and extended FM 99 over its course . The designation was officially passed by the Texas State Highway Department 's Administration Circle on December 1 , 1954 .

By 1956 , the entire length of the highway had been graded and resurfaced with crushed rock , as well as being minorly straightened . Between then and 1961 , the route was listed as being a Federal Aid Secondary Road , its surface was improved to bituminous , the bridge over the Frio

River was replaced , and the road 's course was minorly straightened . On March 27 , 1981 , FM 99 was approved to be relocated around the location of the newly created Choke Canyon Reservoir . The relocation was officially designated on June 15 , 1981 . On April 3 , 1981 , RE 8 was approved to be designated over the relocated portion of FM 99 . The designation was made official the same day FM 99 was relocated . On June 29 , 1983 , the TTC approved the cancellation and redesignation of RE 8 , and on August 18 , 1983 the redesignation was approved . The route was shifted to its present location , with a total length of about 1 @. @ 4 miles (2 @. @ 3 km) . In 1988 , Calliham was shifted southward from the Choke Canyon Reservoir , causing RE 8 to be shortened by about 0 @. @ 3 miles (0 @. @ 48 km) .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in McMullen County .