



Record of Decisions

**Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan
Scientific Advisory Committee
October 11 , 2011, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Reicher Ranch Cana House
3621 South Ranch Road 620
Austin, Texas 78738**

Attending:

David Steed
Craig Farquhar
Monica Swartz

Excused:

Nico Hauwert
John Cornelius
Kean Krejka
John Herron

Because no quorum was present the SAC convened as a committee of the whole at 3:24 PM

1. **Review and approve minutes from 8/16/2011** –Motion to approve as corrected by Swartz, Second Farquhar
2. **Advise the Coordinating Committee Secretary regarding Construction Approval for the Jollyville Transmission Main** – Monica Swartz made the following motion that was seconded by Craig Farquhar following discussion it carried 3/0

The Scientific Advisory Committee serving the BCCP Coordinating Committee has arrived at the following finding of fact/opinion based on our collective understanding:

We concur with staff recommendation that every effort has been made in the planning and design of the Jollyville Transmission Main to minimize impacts on habitat along and within all proposed corridors, whether previously approved, planned or new; and BCCP standards are met as provided for in the BCCP Infrastructure Management Plan.

However, we are concerned that unplanned or unforeseen impacts may have substantial effects on salamanders and other spring and aquifer organisms in the region of the Jollyville Transmission Main given their limited distribution. We recommend that the Coordinating Committee be prepared to take additional actions should planned monitoring indicate that the

project is causing significant harm to BCP natural resources and actions should be taken to mitigate harm.

3. **Consider and take action on a proposal to develop a BCP wide research strategic plan and research proposal review process** – Monica Swartz recommended that the SAC for a subcommittee to develop a research strategic plan that establishes science policy for BCCP. A useful plan would be publically transparent, stretch resources, and assure a logical approach to research on the preserve.
4. **Report from the BCCP Completion Task Group** – Rose Farmer gave a presentation to the committee and offered the Task Groups report into the record. In the most general terms BCCP is close (128 acres +/-) to acquiring the minimum 30,428 acres. However, configuration requirements in the HCP and Cave/Karst protection requirements may require acquisition of an additional 1100 acres to 1300 acres.
5. **Wildfires and BCP: Wildland Urban Interface Planning Efforts** – Willy Conrad and Rose Farmer presented verbal reports to the committee.
6. **Subcommittee reports**
 - a. **Mountain Bike Experimental Design** – City Staff will assist David Steed with reconvening the task group formerly led by Steve Windhager.
 - b. **Karst** – no report was presented
7. **Staff Updates** – reports were presented by Rose Farmer, Linda Laack, and Kelly Nesvacil
8. **Members Issues and Concerns** – none presented