

TRAVIS COUNTY'S BCCP Activities Update: 1 February 2016 – 31 March 2016

BCCP Administration	
Public Participation	Nine BCCP applications were received and processed as of March 31st; Four Participation Certificates were issued for a total of \$291,500.00 in mitigation payments. Fees were split 50:50 between Travis County and City of Austin.
Land Acquisition	No new parcels were acquired in this time period.
Reports and Events	The Karst Management Chapter of the Land Management Plan was approved at the March 18 th BCCP Coordinating Committee meeting.
	Planning is underway for the BCCP 20 th Anniversary Celebration. Activities are scheduled from March through May, culminating in a 20 th Anniversary Party Friday, May 6 th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at Reicher's Ranch.
Personnel	Hiring for the Community Liaison and Environmental Project Manager positions is underway.
Rare and Endangered Resources Management	
Golden-cheeked warbler and Black-capped vireo	The first golden-cheeked warblers arrived on the BCP on March 11 th , the first Black-capped vireo was heard on March 28 th ; Surveys for warblers began in mid-March, which include 100 acre survey plots as well as a baseline survey on the newly acquired 950 acre Kotrla Unit. Vireo surveys will begin in early April.
	In January and February, a group of Keep Austin Beautiful volunteers assisted in planting about 550 shin oaks and other small shrubs on the New Life tract in an effort to create vireo habitat.
Jollyville Plateau salamander	A working group was formed to develop a long-term study/monitoring scheme that will expand our knowledge of known salamander locations and ultimately allow us to predict abundance across the salamander's range. The working group consists of Travis County, City of Austin and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists.
Karst invertebrates	Winter season (January/February) faunal surveys were performed at 10 caves and cave cricket exit counts were conducted at five caves.
Plant and Animal Control	
Feral hogs	Eighteen hogs were removed from the BCP including nine from the Kotrla Unit and nine from the Woody Hollow tract.
	Two Volunteer Hog Trapper Agreements were approved by Commissioners Court on March 22 nd . Under these agreements, hog trappers are allowed to trap on Travis County BCP and Parks lands. They provide their service at no cost and are allowed to keep the meat.
White-tailed deer	Two deer were harvested in February, bringing the season (October – February) total to 74 deer removed from Travis County BCP.
Brown-headed Cowbirds	Four cowbird traps on or adjacent to Travis County BCP were opened on March 25 th .

TRAVIS COUNTY'S BCCP Activities Update: 1 February 2016 – 31 March 2016

Red-imported fire ants and Tawny crazy ants	Red-imported fire ant surveys and boiling water treatments were performed at seven caves.
Invasive Plants	Invasive plants (Chinaberry, Ligustrum sp., Nandina, Photinia, Chinese tallow, Japanese loquat, and Tree of Heaven) were removed from seven tracts.
Land Stewardship	
Fencing	Boundary fence was installed on the Trails End tract. An access gate was installed on the Canyon Vista tract.
Wildfire Preparedness	Two fuel reduction projects on the Canyon Vista tract were conducted in February. One of these projects was adjacent to Laurel Mountain Elementary School. Travis County teamed up with Leander ISD and the Austin Fire Department to conduct a shared fuel mitigation project both within the school boundary and on the BCP.
Law Enforcement	
Trespass and Criminal Mischief	Numerous incidents of trespass and criminal mischief were detected this period including one incident of dumping, two incidents of fence/lock cutting, one case of construction of a mountain bike trail, and one incident of cut trees. The cut tree incident at Steiner Ranch is still under investigation.