

FY 2017 First Quarter: October 1- December 31, 2016

BCP Partners: City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Travis Audubon & Wild Basin

HIKES & LECTURES

Partner	Event	Participants		
City of Austin	Guided hike @ Kent Butler Preserve	12		
Travis County	Two guided hikes @ Nootsie	27		
The Nature Conservancy	Two guided hikes	17		
The Nature Conservancy	Lecture: golden-cheeked warbler research	7		
Travis Audubon	Three guided hikes @ Baker Sanctuary	56		
Wild Basin (St. Ed's)	Five guided hikes @ Wild Basin	72		
Wild Basin (St. Ed's)	Lecture: Archeology	30		
Oct – Dec Total		221		

Hike topics included native plants, birds, and mindfulness

VOLUNTEERING (All Partners)

Activity	Participants	Hours		
Administration	5	49.5		
Land Stewardship	192	785		
Invasive Species Control	26	279.5		
Biological Monitoring & Surveying	15	127		
Adult Education	15	68		
Youth Education	15	63.5		
Oct – Dec Total	268	1,372.5		
Monetary value (\$25.11/hour): \$34,463.47				



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YOUTH EDUCATION

Partner	Event	Participants
City of Austin	AISD middle school field trips	360
City of Austin	Webelos @ the Shinnery	19
Travis Audubon	Whitestone Elementary's 5 th grade Hiking Club	23
Travis Audubon	LISD 5 th grade GCWA presentations	271
Travis Audubon	UT Forum lecture	20
The Nature Conservancy	Boy Scout campouts	42
Wild Basin (St. Ed's)	Action Academy 1 st to 8 th grade guided hike	44
Wild Basin (St. Ed's)	Redeemer Lutheran School 2 nd grade hike	42
Oct – Dec Total		821



Whitestone Elementary Hiking Club led by Chris Murray of Travis Audubon.



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Special Tours, Neighborhood Presentations & Large Events

Partner	Event	Participants
City of Austin	Wildfire Coordination Conference – Resource Advisor Training	50
City of Austin	Cave education tours or talks	212
Travis County	Presentation to new homeowners @ Steiner Ranch	45
Travis County	Presentation to Rice University students	30
Travis County	Christmas Bird Count	6
The Nature Conservancy	St. Ed's water quality course	33
The Nature Conservancy	Christmas Bird Count	4
Wild Basin (St. Ed's)	Volunteer bird surveys	6
Wild Basin (St. Ed's)	Audubon Master Birders class	70
Oct – Dec Total		456



Christmas Bird Count with Travis County biologists.



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HIGHLIGHTS

CITY OF AUSTIN



- With the start of Austin's new BCP Program Manager, Nico Hauwert, came a renewed focus on public education about caves. In two months, the City of Austin shared information about local karst species with over 200 participants in guided cave trips.
- City of Austin BCP staff organized a Resource Advisor training to connect wildland firefighters with biologists and land managers. These connections will promote the protection of sensitive environmental features during an emergency response.



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TRAVIS AUDUBON



- Baker Sanctuary has a new brown headed cowbird trap (pictured above) thanks to Alex Massaro, who built it for his Eagle Scout project with the help of Boy Scout Troop 202.
- This quarter, Travis Audubon continued its successful Hiking Club at Whitestone Elementary in Leander. 23 fifth graders participated, getting to know the preserve in depth with regular visits over a six week period. Each student received a total of 12 hours of instruction in Central Texas ecology and geology.



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TRAVIS COUNTY



- 30 community volunteers came out to help clean up the Trails End tract of the BCP, which was the site of illegal dumping for years before being acquired by the County. The volunteers made the preserve safer for wildlife and more attractive for neighborhood visitors, while also getting to know more about the BCP. (Photo by volunteer Heather Valey)
- In the first quarter of FY 2017, County volunteers removed more than 1,000 pounds of dumped trash, recyclables and scrap metal from the preserve.
- County staff presented about the BCP to 45 new homeowners in the Steiner Ranch development. Staff also provided education about wildfire prevention, oak wilt, and other important issues through articles submitted to neighborhood newsletters.