



**Water & Wastewater Commission
Review and Recommendation**

Commission Meeting Date:	January 10, 2017
Council Meeting Date:	February 1, 2018
Department:	Austin Water
Client:	Lisa O'Donnell, Nico Hauwert, and Daryl Slusher
Agenda Item	
<p>Authorize negotiation and execution of a two-year Collection Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service to provide research and data analyses related to golden-cheeked warbler population viability within the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, for a total contract amount of \$98,788.</p>	
Amount and Source of Funding	
<p>Funding in the amount of \$49,743 is available in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Balcones Canyonlands Preserve Operating Budget and Participation Certificate Account. Funding for the remaining one year contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.</p>	
Purchasing Language:	Collection Agreement
Prior Council Action:	February 17, 2011- Council approved a Collection Agreement with the United States Forest Service to provide research, monitoring, data analysis, and population habitat suitability modeling for the endangered golden-cheeked warbler and Balcones Canyonlands Preserve.
Boards and Commission Action:	January 10, 2018- To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.
MBE/WBE:	N/A

Austin Water's Wildland Conservation Division requests authorization to enter into a Collection Agreement with the United States Forest Service to provide the City of Austin with a comparison of Golden-cheeked Warbler (warbler) abundance estimated from 2017 intensive monitoring data and point count models, an estimate of juvenile survival and habitat use based on radio-tracking juvenile warblers, updated population viability models for warblers within the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, and training for City of Austin staff to perform the viability analyses. This two-year project will address questions remaining from a previously funded 5-year (2011-2015) study with the U.S. Forest Service and to conduct future data analyses.

The Wildland Conservation Division is made up of the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve program and the Water Quality Protection Lands program protecting over 40,000 acres of land from roughly Cedar Park to Kyle. The Balcones Canyonlands Preserve was established as a result of a Federal Permit issued to the City of Austin and Travis County to authorize impacts to eight endangered species. The warbler is one of the endangered species covered under the Federal Permit. This permit requires active management, monitoring, and research to ensure species protections.