



## Record of Decision

### Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan (BCCP) Coordinating Committee

April 3, 2019, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Travis County Multi-Function Room B  
700 Lavaca Street, Austin, Texas 78701

#### Attending:

Travis County Commissioner Precinct 2 – Brigid Shea, Chair  
Austin City Council Member District 7 – Leslie Pool, Co-Chair  
USFWS – Adam Zerrenner, Member (Ex Officio)  
BCCP Coordinating Committee Secretary – Kimberlee Harvey

1. **Citizen Communications** Three members of local caving groups spoke about the importance of continued cave access and BCP staff collaboration with local caving communities.
2. **Approve Record of Decisions for the December 7, 2018 Regular Meeting** Motion from Pool to approve, second by Shea, Carried 2/0
3. **Golden-cheeked Warbler Delisting Lawsuit Update** – Melinda Mallia, Travis County Natural Resources Program Manager, reported that Judge Sparks upheld the U.S. Fish and Wildlife position concluding that the Golden-cheeked Warbler remained in danger of extinction throughout its range and recommended no change to its endangered status. The Texas General Land Office filed an appeal on March 1, 2019.
4. **Paper on Density Influences Accuracy of Model-Based estimates for a Forest Songbird Published in the Journal of Field Ornithology** – Sherri Kuhl, City of Austin Wildland Conservation Division Manager, reported that the retraction appeal from 2015 had been settled. The Committee of Publication Ethics ruled that the authors of the paper did nothing legally or ethically wrong, so the journal editor finally agreed to publish it in the hard-copy version of the March 2019 journal.
5. **BCCP/BCP Seminar Series for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Texas** – Secretary reported that a 6-week BCP seminar was currently happening at UT Austin through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which is a community of retired and semi-retired adults who continue to seek learning opportunities to expand their knowledge and understanding of the world. Johanna Arendt, Travis County Community Liaison, provided additional details about the information included in the seminars.
6. **CAC Member Update: Filling the Consensus Development Interests Vacancy** – Secretary reported that the member replacement process for the CAC vacant

Consensus Development Interests seat had begun and that the nomination period would close on April 15, 2019. Once the nomination period closes, nominee information will be compiled and distributed to the Advisory Committee Task Group for review who will then have a blind vote to determine who will be recommended to the BCCP Coordinating Committee for approval.

7. **Receive BCCP Partner Reports; take action as appropriate –** BCP Partner Reports for October through December 2018 were presented. Kelsey Meisenhelder, Travis County BCP Coordinator, reported on BCCP mitigation participation and recent BCP acquisitions by Travis County. Linda Laack, Travis County Natural Resources Field Supervisor, reported on field land management activities highlighting a recent prescribed burn on the Travis County Kotrla BCP property. Nico Hauwert, City of Austin BCP Program Manager reported on land management activities. Hauwert also informed that William (Bill) Russell, who had discovered many of the BCP caves, had passed away and would be recognized through a City of Austin resolution renaming the Blowing Sink Research Management Area to the William H Russell Karst Preserve. Hauwert and Kuhl reported on efforts to work through a City processes that would help make cave restoration more efficient. Arendt reported on the BCP Partner Education Summary highlighting outreach and education events.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm**

A video recording of this meeting can be found online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPecgyXX4NY>

*Next BCCP Coordinating Committee meeting: June 14, 2019, 1:00pm-3:00pm,  
City Hall Chambers, Room 1001, 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701*