

TRAVIS COUNTY'S BCCP FY19 Quarter 3 Update: April 1 – June 30, 2019

BCCP Administration	
Public Participation	Five BCCP applications were received and processed from April 1 – June 30, 2019. Six Participation Certificates were issued for a total of \$56,100.00 in mitigation payments. Fees were split 50:50 between Travis County and City of Austin.
Land Acquisition	Travis County purchased the 0.38 acre Twidwell tract on June 27 th . This tract helps protect the surface and subsurface drainage areas for Stark's North Mine, a BCCP named cave.
Personnel	In June, Kristen Koppel was hired as a Mickey Leland intern and will work at the Natural Resources Field Office during the summer.
Rare and Endangered Resources Management	
Golden-cheeked Warblers	Staff conducted Golden-cheeked warbler surveys on three intensive 100-acre plots and 26 less-intensive enumeration survey plots. Staff is currently entering data.
Black-capped Vireos	Black-capped vireo surveys are underway. Thirteen territories are being monitored.
Karst Invertebrates	Spring season faunal surveys were performed at four caves and cave cricket exit counts were conducted at three caves. In June, an Austin American Statesman article about cave cricket exit counts, which includes interviews from staff and a volunteer, was printed in the paper and posted online. The link is: https://www.austin360.com/entertainmentlife/20190619/click-it-for-cricket-why-volunteers-count-bugs-in-caves-in-travis-county
Jollyville Plateau Salamanders	In March and April, County and City staff conducted salamander occupancy surveys on tributaries 5 and 6 of Bull Creek. Fifty-two sites were surveyed. Salamanders were found at 17 sites, 12 of which were spatially distinct from previously known localities.
Plant and Animal Control	
Feral Hogs	Fifty-nine hogs were removed from the Kotrla Unit and the Bull Creek Macrosite.
Brown-headed Cowbirds	Five cowbird traps were in operation during the spring and 145 cowbirds were trapped during the period of March 14 th to May 22 nd .
Red Imported Fire Ants and Tawny Crazy Ants	Fire ant control was conducted around 11 BCCP named caves. Arthropod sampling was conducted on the Jollyville Unit as part of a multi-year study investigating the impact of tawny crazy ants on the Golden-cheeked warbler's prey base.

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Invasive Plants	Invasive plants (Chinaberry, Ligustrum sp., Chinese Tallow, Fig, Nandina, Photinia, Vinca, Paper Mulberry, Wysteria, Pyracantha, Vitex and Japanese honeysuckle) were treated on 15 tracts. A total of 3,685 plants were treated or removed with approximately 142 hours of effort.
Land Management	
Facilities	In June, a new septic field was installed for the public restrooms at Hamilton Pool Preserve.
Law Enforcement	
Trespass and Criminal Mischief	<p>A BCP neighbor removed some trees on the Medway tract. Staff is working with the neighbor on restitution.</p> <p>A homeless camp and some dumped material were found on the Starks North Mine karst preserve tract. Staff cleaned up the area. Fence installation is planned for the fall which should reduce this persistent problem.</p> <p>In May, a teenager who was being pursued by law enforcement for possession of narcotics, entered the Ribelin tract and hid from authorities. He later turned himself in.</p> <p>Evidence of trespassing and a campfire were observed on the Wheless tract.</p> <p>Fences were cut on the Cuevas East and Grandview Hills tracts. Fence damage caused by a vehicle collision occurred on the Lime Creek Unit.</p>
Outreach/Volunteers	
<i>See BCP Partner Education Summary FY19 Third Quarter: April 1 – June 30, 2019</i>	