

**TRAVIS COUNTY'S BCCP Activities FY2020 Quarter 4 Update: 1 July – 30 September 2020**

<b>BCCP Administration</b>	
Public Participation	Nineteen BCCP applications were received and processed from July 1 <sup>st</sup> – September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2020. Eight Participation Certificates were issued for a total of \$28,975.00 in mitigation payments. Fees were split 50:50 between Travis County and City of Austin.
Personnel	Seasonal Techs, Kaitlin Lopez and Rebecca Woodward, completed their 6-month positions in August.
<b>Rare and Endangered Resources Management</b>	
Golden-cheeked warblers and Black-capped vireos	Staff entered data from the spring golden-cheeked warbler survey season. Black-capped vireo surveys ended in July and a record number of vireos were documented on Travis County lands this year. A total of 22 vireo pairs were monitored on the BCP and Reimer's Ranch Park. The Kotrla Unit, which had 1-2 vireo pairs in previous years, had six territories this year. Recent habitat restoration activities seem to be having a beneficial impact.
Karst Invertebrates	Summer season faunal surveys were performed at eleven caves and cave cricket exit counts were conducted at ten caves. County and City BCP staff consolidated and analyzed karst faunal survey data and submitted the information to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for inclusion in a status review of the Bone Cave harvestman. Following the status review, the Service will issue a 12-month finding indicating whether delisting the species is warranted in accordance with the Endangered Species Act. This process was initiated by a 2014 petition to delist the Bone Cave harvestman and subsequent litigation.
Jollyville Plateau salamanders	In July, Jollyville Plateau salamanders were surveyed in the Upper and Lower Ribelin survey plots. A total of 430 salamanders were counted.
<b>Plant and Animal Control</b>	
Feral Hogs	Seven hogs were removed from the Sam Hamilton East tract and the Kotrla Unit this quarter.
White-tailed deer	Spotlight deer surveys were conducted on the Kotrla Unit and at Hamilton Pool Preserve. Camera deer surveys were conducted on the Jollyville Unit.
Invasive Plants	Staff removed more than 15,200 invasive plants from the BCP this quarter.

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<b>Land Stewardship</b>	
Habitat Restoration	<p>On September 29<sup>th</sup>, Natural Resources and Parks staff conducted a prescribed burn on a 2-acre area of the Nootsie tract that was dominated by King Ranch bluestem, an invasive grass. Native grasses and forbs will be planted in the area to return it to a more natural state.</p> <p>A 5-acre brush management project was completed on the Kotrla Unit to improve black-capped vireo habitat.</p>
Wildfire Preparedness	Staff flagged fuel mitigation boundaries in preparation for projects that will occur this fall and winter.
Fence Construction	In September, a fence construction project was completed along the boundary of the Cuevas tract and a new 7-acre housing project that is under development. A clean up project of the Cuevas tract was completed prior to the fence being installed.
Buildings	<p>The Travis County BCP Visitor Center is currently in the planning and design stage.</p> <p>A collapsing old barn on the Nootsie tract was partially demolished and the area was cleaned up. Some of the stone walls, which have historic significance, were left intact.</p>
Utility Infrastructure Corridor	LCRA conducted routine inspections of their transmission lines that run through portions of Travis County BCP land.
Conservation Easements	<p>Five violations of tree cutting, encroachment, and/or dumping were documented on two conservation easements (CE) held by Travis County. Staff are working with the offenders to stop further damage and rectify issues.</p> <p>On the Greenshores CE, an underground wastewater line construction project was completed and all BCP requirements were met.</p>
<b>Law Enforcement</b>	
	<p>Law enforcement assistance was requested four times this quarter to help manage trespassing, illegal camping, and dumping issues.</p> <p>Legal action is being taken against one neighboring landowner for damage to the BCP</p>
<b>Outreach/Volunteers</b>	
See <i>BCP Partner Education Summary FY2020 Fourth Quarter: July 1 – September 30, 2020</i>	