



BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2022 Second Quarter: January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

2nd Quarter: Outreach & Education (All Partners)

Activity	Location	Events	Youth*	Adults*	Volunteer Hours
Guided Hikes	Onsite	266	513	2347	21
Programs / Presentations	Offsite	15	15	421	6
	Onsite	12	432	95	4
Visiting Group/Educators	Onsite	1	25	25	0
Land Stewardship	Onsite	94	41	269	1,167.5
Ecological Monitoring	Onsite	24	0	48	186.75
Administration	Onsite	1	0	1	5
Training	Onsite	1	0	11	12
Campouts	Onsite	2	42	23	40
January-March Total		416	1,068	3,240	1,442.25

Monetary value of volunteer work (\$26.43/hour): \$38,369.75

*Numbers indicate total participation during events not unique individuals

SELF-GUIDED PUBLIC ACCESS (Estimated Annual Visitation)

These numbers are not included in the Outreach & Education chart above. They represent a sample of BCP areas with public access – we hope to include more complete visitation numbers in future reports.

Hamilton Pool: 30,000+

Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve: 8,906

Baker Sanctuary: 558



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CITY OF AUSTIN



- The Wild Neighbors Speaker Series has continued to be a success. The January presentation, Reforesting Degraded Landscapes, with the City's Jim O'Donnell had an audience from all over the world, including US, Canada, Greece, Serbia, and Belgium!
- Volunteer workdays on the Vireo and JJ&T tracts has continued. A new bioswale at JJ&T was completed and was followed by planting and mulching many new native trees.
- An invasive privet pulling workday took place on the Long Canyon tract, moving the effort forward of making space for more native plants.
- A few BCP biologists gave separate presentations for organizations such as the National Speleological Society (NSS) and Capital Area Master Naturalists (CAMN).



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BAKER SANCTUARY (TRAVIS AUDUBON)



- Zane Hagler and Boy Scout Troop 271 constructed a new Chimney Swift tower for Baker Sanctuary, bringing the total of structures up to eleven.
- Multiple workdays were hosted at the Sanctuary, typically attended by Boy Scouts, and focused on the distribution of the mulch pile, affectionally known as 'Kevin', unto the trail system. Kevin is mostly the by-product of tree damage from the 2021 ice storm. Some Boy Scouts claim that no matter how much is removed from Kevin, he never grows any smaller. Time will tell if that is indeed true.
- Finally, with the loosening of Covid-induced restrictions, Travis Audubon has, once again, begun guided hikes for the community. Over the last quarter, TAS has hosted five such events for a myriad of folks, regaling them with the wonders and mysteries of the closed canopy juniper/oak woodland and its wily inhabitants.



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TRAVIS COUNTY



- In March, we hosted a group as part of the Its My Park Day Spring event to remove Vinca at a restoration site on the Bunten Tract. Volunteers had a great time learning about the BCP and removed a lot of invasive Vinca.
- TNR Biologist Paul Fushille joined Volunteer Coordinator Jeremy Hull to lead a Warbler Walk on the SAS Canyon Trail (pictured above). Attendees had a great time learning bird calls and identification tips with Paul and were lucky enough to spot a male Golden-cheeked warbler in all his glory.
- The Snowden Wednesday workdays continue strongly with volunteers putting in over 200 hours this quarter working on the native plant gardens surrounding the Snowden house and nearby area.
- Volunteers were trained on using game cameras for a new project collecting data for a researcher at Texas State University to determine a relationship between coyote occupancy and canopy cover. Cameras have been deployed on seven different tracts so far.



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WILD BASIN PRESERVE



- We had an event for neighbors who are donors which consisted of Ray Benson stories on the deck, as seen in the photo on the top left.
- We have had volunteers doing work on the trails and facilities.
- We also reopened the Visitor Gallery area of the Research Center.
- Finally, another major highlight is that we were able to open our new Outdoor evaporative toilet restroom facility, Eloo, pictured above on the right.



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ACTIVITY DEFINITIONS

Guided Hikes

Hikes on the BCP guided by staff or volunteers; includes education about the BCP, wildlife, and land management practices.

Programs / Presentations

Presentations by staff or volunteers about the BCP and related scientific and land management topics; includes educational events and programs.

Land Stewardship

Volunteer work on the BCP that includes removing invasive species, preparing for prescribed burns, creating fuel breaks, restoring habitat, patrolling, and maintenance of grounds, trails & facilities.

Ecological Monitoring

Includes surveys of endangered species, vegetation, and nuisance species such as cowbirds, hogs and red imported fire ants.

Campouts

Campouts on the BCP, usually organized by outside groups such as the Boy Scouts.

Visiting Groups / Educators

Groups visiting or hosting an event on the BCP that was not organized by BCP staff.

Administrative Help

Volunteer help with administrative work such as office work, research, and event coordination.

Training

Volunteer training & other trainings that support the BCCP's mission. Examples include educating emergency response and infrastructure maintenance staff about protecting sensitive environmental features and complying with clearing restrictions.