

Record of Decisions

Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan (BCCP) Coordinating Committee

August 5, 2022, 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

City Hall Chambers, Room 1001 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701

The video recording of this meeting is located at the link below. https://austintx.new.swagit.com/videos/178373

Attending:

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

Announcement:

Secretary introduced Christina Williams, Division Supervisor for the Consultations and HCPs branch of the USFWS Austin Ecological Services Office, and announced that Adam Zerrenner would no longer be attending these meetings as the USFWS representative. After serving as the Field Supervisor for the Austin Ecological Services Field Office for 15 years, Adam decided to leave Texas to take the position of the Field Supervisor for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Montana Ecological Services State Office. Catherine Yeargen is acting for Adam through October and if his position is not filled by then, they will likely bring someone else in to serve for another 90-120 day detail. Christina Williams will likely be a temporary stand in at the meetings until a replacement is hired who will be the BCCP primary point of contact.

Citizen Communications No one signed up to speak.

Items for discussion:

- 1. Approve Record of Decisions for October 8, 2021 Regular Meeting Motion from Shea to approve, second by Pool, Carried 2/0
- 2. Update on BCCP Permit Extension and Habitat Conservation Plan Administrative Changes Melinda Mallia & Kimberlee Harvey spoke about the progress being made on updating the 1995 BCCP ILA/Shared agreement.

- 3. Rehydration, Water Quality Enhancement, and Reforestation Projects on the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve Jim O'Donnell, City of Austin BCP Biologist, gave a presentation on land management activities that are capturing water on the BCP to help with restoration projects.
- 4. Potential ESA Listings in the BCCP Permit Area Lisa O'Donnell, City of Austin Senior BCP Biologist, and Blake Sissel, Travis County BCP Biologist, gave an update on potential ESA listings in the BCCP Permit area including the Bracted Twistflower and the Pedernales Salamander.
- 5. BCP Partner Report Highlights Lisa O'Donnell, City of Austin Senior BCP Biologist, gave updates on the Golden-cheeked Warbler General Land Office Lawsuit, and concerns about rangewide abundance survey studies and the current species status assessment. BCCP Coordinating Committee will submit a letter to the Service highlighting BCP staff concerns. O'Donnell also highlighted mycorrhizal fungi research happening on the BCP. Mallia spoke about progress being made on the BCP Visitors Center.