

**City of Austin's BCCP Activities
Quarter 1 Update: 1 October – 31 December 2017**

BCCP Administration	
Infrastructure Projects	Nine Infrastructure Habitat Assessment Applications were processed and Determination Letters were issued from October - December 2017.
Land Acquisition	No new parcels were acquired in this time period.
Reports and Events	BCP staff again presented the infrastructure workshop at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Oct. 13. BCP staff participated in the Westcave Christmas Bird Count, where the count area overlaps BCP property, Dec. 18.
Personnel	No personnel changes during this time period.
Rare and Endangered Resources Management	
Golden-cheeked Warbler and Black-capped Vireo	BCP staff completed avian data entry and quality control, then drafted annual report.
	On November 16, 2017, a court hearing was held on the General Land Office's lawsuit on the listing of the Golden-cheeked Warbler as endangered and not designating critical habitat. On November 30, 2017, Judge Sam Sparks ruled to dismiss two of the three complaints.
Jollyville Plateau Salamander	Staff continue to work on restoration of Moss gulley spring. BCP continues to locate and conduct flow measurement, aquatic life surveys, and water-quality sampling of springs across the BCP on a periodic basis in hopes of locating new salamander locations.
Bracted Twistflower	Bracted Twistflower data from the spring surveys was submitted to the Texas Natural Diversity Database on October 16 th .
Karst invertebrates/ karst work	Conducted cave faunal surveys and cave cricket exit counts (ongoing). Staff finalized data entry from 2017 surveys and counts submitted to Travis County staff to merge data for annual report. Conducted cave excavation and restoration work at several sites. Locating and assessing undocumented karst features (ongoing). Documenting flow rates at springs (ongoing). Contract work commenced on access shaft into Blowing Sink Cave for debris obstruction removal.
Plant and Animal Control	
Mammals	12 deer and 1 large boar were removed from JJ&T tract by contractor as of Nov. 1. WCD staff removed 9 deer and more than 40 hogs in this quarter.
Red-imported fire ants and Tawny crazy ants	Tawny crazy ants continue to be monitored per established protocol from Section 6 grant.
Soft ticks/ Relapsing Fever	Soft tick collection continues. Specimens captured are delivered to Texas State researchers.
Invasive Plants	BCP staff and volunteers are continuing efforts to remove non-native plants on COA BCP tracts.
Oak Wilt	BCP staff inspected several known oak wilt centers this quarter.
Land Stewardship	

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Habitat Restoration	Staff and volunteers continue to implement demonstration projects at the Vireo Preserve to promote slope stabilization, soil restoration, and regeneration of native plants on degraded areas that are currently not habitat for either the GCWA or BCVI. Since Vireo Preserve supports many of the habitat types observed throughout the BCP, lessons learned from restoration work at this site are applicable to other areas within the BCP.
Fencing	Approximately 4,000 LF of fencing was installed on Park West tract boundary.
Wildfire Preparedness	BCP and PARD staff assisted Austin Fire Dept. with preparations for a shaded fuel break on the Barton Creek Wilderness along the eastern boundary of the Travis Country subdivision. AFD began implementation in November.
Law Enforcement	
Trespass and Criminal Mischief	<p>PARD staff, with information from BCP staff, worked with neighbors to remove most encroachments from the Barton Creek Wilderness before Austin Fire Dept. began implementation of the shaded fuel break.</p> <p>BCP staff assisted Keep Austin Beautiful and more than 90 volunteers with removal of accumulated trash from transient camps on the Barton Creek Greenbelt behind the Brodie Oaks shopping center, Nov. 7.</p>
Outreach/Volunteers	
<i>See BCP Partners Education Summary October - December 2017</i>	