

**TRAVIS COUNTY'S BCCP Activities FY19 Quarter 1 Update: 1 October 2018 – 31 December 2018**

<b>BCCP Administration</b>	
Public Participation	Six BCCP applications were received and processed from October 1 – December 31, 2018. Two Participation Certificates were issued for a total of \$40,700.00 in mitigation payments. Fees were split 50:50 between Travis County and City of Austin.
Land Acquisition	Travis County purchased the 30.063 acre Trails End Seven 05 tract in the Lime Creek Unit and Cypress Creek Macrosite along Trails End Road on November 30 <sup>th</sup> .
Land Management Plan	The Public Access Chapter of the Land Management Plan was approved by the BCCP Coordinating Committee on December 7 <sup>th</sup> . It can be viewed at <a href="https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/tnr/bccp">https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/tnr/bccp</a> .
<b>Rare and Endangered Resources Management</b>	
Golden-cheeked Warbler	Staff participated in a multi-agency golden-cheeked warbler coordination meeting on October 3 <sup>rd</sup> , which was hosted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Staff presented an update on their study investigating the impacts of tawny crazy ants on the warbler's prey base and productivity.
Black-capped Vireo	In December, the Texas Conservation Corps donated a day of their services to improve black-capped vireo habitat on the Jollyville Unit during a chainsaw training class that was held on the BCP.  Planning is underway to conduct both a prescribed burn and some mechanical vegetation work to restore vireo habitat on the Kotrla Unit, which will be implemented in early 2019.
Karst Invertebrates	Fall season faunal surveys were performed at six caves and cave cricket exit counts were conducted at four caves.  An old cave gate at Tooth Cave was removed and a more bat-friendly gate was installed.
Jollyville Plateau Salamanders	County and City staff set up 50 new salamander occupancy survey sites on Tributaries 5 and 6 of Bull Creek. The surveys will be conducted in Spring 2019.
Texabama Croton	Staff and volunteers completed a baseline survey of the Texabama croton population on the Kotrla Unit. More than 6,000 individuals of this rare plant were documented, making it one of the largest colonies of Texabama croton in Central Texas.
<b>Plant and Animal Control</b>	
Feral Hogs	Four hogs were removed from the Kotrla Unit.
White-tailed Deer	Deer surveys were conducted in the fall and the deer harvest began in October. A total of 44 deer were harvested on the Kotrla Unit and the Medway, Snowden, Vireo Ridge, and Volente tracts during this quarter.

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Tawny Crazy Ants	The extent of the tawny crazy ant colony inhabiting a portion of the Jollyville Unit was mapped in November. The colony expanded its range about 55 m further into the BCP during a one year period.
Invasive Plants	Invasive plants (Chinaberry, Ligustrum sp., Nandina, Photinia, Pyracantha, Vinca, bamboo, and tree of heaven) were removed from seven tracts. Staff is developing a digital data collection protocol.
<b>Land Stewardship</b>	
Fence Construction	New boundary fence construction occurred on the Kotrla Unit.
Wildfire Preparedness	Fuel mitigation projects were completed on the BCP in the Wildlife-Urban Interface at Wild Basin and along Steiner Ranch Blvd. Projects were started along Lime Creek Road and at the Woods of Greenshores tract.
Infrastructure	In December, LCRA conducted inspections of some of their transmission lines which cross through Travis County BCP land.
Facilities	New security systems were installed at the Natural Resources field office, the maintenance building, and the Snowden house.
Conservation Easements	During this quarter, staff conducted annual conservation easement monitoring at eight properties which are privately owned, but are managed by Travis County through conservation easement agreements. Compliance issues were identified on three conservation easement properties; corrective measures are underway.
Planting Projects	Volunteers and staff planted and caged 31 oak saplings at Nootsie. The trees were donated by the Texas Forest Service.  Eighteen native trees and shrubs were planted and caged on the Snowden tract to enhance the educational display gardens. These trees were purchased with Travis County tree mitigation funds.
<b>Law Enforcement</b>	
Trespassing and Tree Damage	In December, an incident of trespass and tree damage occurred on the Cuevas East tract. Someone drove a large machine onto the tract which damaged trees in its path. This incident is under investigation.  Remote surveillance cameras captured photos of trespassers, including people entering on foot, mountain bike, and utility vehicles. Volente Peak and Lime Creek Ranch were the tracts with frequent trespassing issues this quarter. Increased signage, patrols, and new fencing are tools being used to curb trespassing.
<b>Outreach/Volunteers</b>	
See <i>BCP Partner Education Summary FY19 First Quarter: October 1 – December 31, 2018</i>	