

**Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP)
Updates for McGregor and Westcave Preserves**

**Q3 Report
April – June 2019**

McGregor Preserve

No activities to report.

Westcave Preserve Land Management Activities

Spring programming included two wildflower walks (31 adults attended), two bird walks (18 adults attended), private birding tours (23 adults attended), and a nature photography workshop that included seven adults and one child.

Research consisted of: (1) Texas horned lizard research with the Horned Lizard Conservation Society; NestWatch (<https://nestwatch.org>), which concluded on June 1; (2) Golden-cheeked Warbler (GCWA) resighting and banding, which concluded on June 1 (*see paragraph below for details*); (3) ongoing dung beetle surveys conducted by Texas State PhD student and former conservation intern, Andy Pinon; (4) dragonfly surveys which started on May 4; (5) one salamander survey with no individuals detected; (5) FrogWatch (<https://www.aza.org/frogwatch>) surveys, which began on May 4 and consisted of three visits with seven species identified; and (6) water quality testing that is conducted monthly at the grotto and the Pedernales River.

Two male GCWAs were banded and one male banded in 2018 returned to the preserve. There was a total of three GCWA territories identified during the 2019 survey season. One of the three territories had successful fledglings. A female GCWA feeding a Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) was seen in one of the other territories. Staff dispatched a total of six Brown-headed Cowbirds during the 2019 GCWA breeding season.

Bird Blind #2 is under construction. The roof, sides, flooring, water collection, benches, water feature, and feeding station are completed. The Ahrns Grove butterfly garden was fenced, gates installed, and gardens weeded for future plantings. Preparations for a prescribed burn in late summer are under way. Travis County Parks has agreed to conduct the burn. General maintenance on trails, boundaries, bird blinds, butterfly gardens, bird boxes, feeders, etc. occurred during this quarter.