

**TRAVIS COUNTY'S BCCP Activities FY2020 Quarter 1 Update: 1 October 2019 – 31 December 2019**

<b>BCCP Administration</b>	
Public Participation	Eight BCCP applications were received and processed from October 1 – December 31, 2019. Three Participation Certificates were issued for a total of \$94,300 in mitigation payments. Fees were split 50:50 between Travis County and City of Austin.
Land Acquisition	<p>Travis County completed a fee simple purchase of the 8.0 acre Woody Hollow tract in the Bull Creek macrosite. The County had previously managed this tract through a conservation easement.</p> <p>The 94.3 acre SAS property in the Cypress Creek macrosite was purchased in November. In addition to golden-cheeked warbler and Jollyville Plateau salamander habitat, this property has a 63,700 square foot building which will eventually be used for a BCP visitor center and additional office space.</p>
<b>Rare and Endangered Resources Management</b>	
Golden-cheeked warblers and Black-capped vireos	<p>Staff completed entering and analyzing data from the 2019 golden-cheeked warbler and black-capped vireo survey seasons.</p> <p>Staff participated in a multi-agency golden-cheeked warbler coordination meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>.</p>
Karst Invertebrates	<p>Fall season faunal surveys were performed at ten caves and cave cricket exit counts were conducted at four caves.</p> <p>Zara Environmental was contracted to conduct karst evaluations and excavations of 18 features on a property next to the Kotrla Unit. The goal of this project is to determine if any of these features have potential as substitution caves for unavailable BCCP-named caves. The project will be completed in 2020.</p>
<b>Plant and Animal Control</b>	
Feral Hogs	Six hogs were removed from the Sam Hamilton East tract and the Kotrla Unit.
White-tailed deer	Deer surveys were conducted in the fall and deer harvest began in October. A total of 37 deer were harvested on the Kotrla Unit and the Snowden, Vireo Ridge, and Volente tracts.
Tawny crazy ants and Red imported fire ants	<p>The extent of the tawny crazy ant colony inhabiting a portion of the Jollyville Unit was mapped in November. The colony expanded in some areas and retracted in others and the overall density was lower than in 2018. The combination of a summer drought and the presence of a microsporidian pathogen may account for the overall reduction in density and colonization.</p> <p>Red imported fire ant surveys and treatments were conducted at four caves.</p>
Invasive Plants	Staff, volunteers, and contractors removed more than 20,000 invasive plants from 11 BCP tracts.

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<b>Land Stewardship</b>	
Fence Construction	New boundary fence construction occurred on the Starks North Mine tract and several fence repairs were made on the Lime Creek Ranch tract.
Wildfire Preparedness	<p>Fuel mitigation projects were completed on the BCP in the Wildlife-Urban Interface along the Wheless tract, the Canyon Vista tract, and the Lime Creek Unit.</p> <p>Staff attended two public events at the Volente Volunteer Fire Department to promote wildfire mitigation.</p>
Utility Infrastructure Corridor	Pedernales Electric Cooperative (PEC) and Austin Energy conducted inspections and trimmed vegetation along some of their transmission and distribution lines that cross through Travis County BCP land.
Cleanups	Two large demolition and cleanup projects occurred this quarter to remove buildings and debris left over from previous owners. A house and outbuildings were removed from the Nootsie tract and several structures, an old car, and lots of trash were removed from the Blackmore tract.
Conservation Easements	During this quarter, staff conducted annual conservation easement monitoring at two properties which are privately owned, but are managed by Travis County through conservation easement agreements. The properties were in compliance with the conservation easement agreements.
Wastewater Discharge	On November 24 <sup>th</sup> , Austin Water had a pump failure at a lift station adjacent to the BCP resulting in an accidental wastewater discharge. About 46,000 gallons of wastewater flowed onto the Cuevas tract before the pump could be repaired. No recovery of the water was possible but, fortunately, environmental damage was minimal.
<b>Law Enforcement</b>	
Trespassing, Criminal Mischief, and Training	<p>A recurring trespasser on the Volente Unit was given a criminal mischief warning by Park Police.</p> <p>A remote trail camera was stolen from the Webb tract in November.</p> <p>Texas Search and Rescue, a non-profit first responder organization who deploy statewide to help law enforcement and emergency agencies, conducted two training events on the Nootsie tract to improve their field skills.</p>
<b>Outreach/Volunteers</b>	
See <i>BCP Partner Education Summary FY2020 First Quarter: October 1 – December 31, 2019</i>	