

## **Record of Decisions**

## Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan (BCCP) Coordinating Committee

November 22, 2019, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

City Hall Chambers, Room 1001 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701

## Attending:

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

- 1. **Citizen Communications** Two citizens with the Underground Texas Grotto spoke about the importance of cave restoration and getting local cavers involved.
- 2. Approve Record of Decisions for October 9, 2019 Regular Meeting Motion from Shea to approve, second by Pool, Carried 2/0
- 3. Update on the Petition to Delist the Bone Cave Harvestman Nico Hauwert, City of Austin BCP Program Manager stated that, after the 90-day finding, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that there may be information to consider delisting the species. BCP staff will be submitting information and comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during comment period for the 12-month status review.
- 4. CAMPO Regional Arterial Study Murfin Road BCCP Analysis Secretary stated that the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) regional arterial study was not accepted. However, a project considered in the study involved widening a road through the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP). The project proposed to connect Steiner Ranch to Murfin Road via a new bridge across Lake Austin. BCP staff was asked to evaluate if that project could be constructed in compliance with the BCCP Permit. It was determined that no widening of the Murfin Road BCCP infrastructure corridor would be allowed per the terms of the BCCP Permit.
- 5. National Habitat Conservation Plan Coalition Climate Change Study Melinda Mallia, Travis County Natural Resources Program Manager, discussed the climate change study presented at the 2019 National Habitat Conservation Plan Coalition annual meeting. The Balcones Canyonlands Preserve was one of the case studies included in that report.

- 6. **BCCP Coordinating Committee End-of-Year Letter** Secretary presented the end-of-year letter to the BCCP Coordinating Committee for signature.
- 7. **Report from Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)** Peter Torgrimson, Chair, reported that they last met on October 29<sup>th</sup> and that David Anderson has joined the committee. The committee discussed the LISD proposed road, the BCCP end-of-permit options report, and the climate change study.
- 8. Receive BCP Partner Reports BCP Partner Reports for July through September 2019 were reported. Nico Hauwert, City of Austin BCP Program manager, discussed coordination with TxDOT regarding the roadway improvement projects along FM 620 and Loop 360, and a City of Austin corridor improvements project along Slaughter Lane. That project is funding studies for Pipeline Cave. He also spoke about the re-opening of a trail at Emma Long Park. Mallia reported for Travis County and spoke about a recent BCP acquisition that includes a large building that will be used for a BCP visitor's center with trails, and for office and meeting space. Mallia also introduced the new Travis County website with information about the BCP and participation in the BCCP Permit. Cait McCann, City of Austin Education and Outreach Coordinator, gave a report on recent BCP education and outreach events.
- 9. **BCP Outreach Year End Summary Report** Postponed to Fall 2020
- 10. Identify Future Agenda Items None
- **11. Other Business** Reception immediately following for staff, volunteers, and stakeholders.