

**TRAVIS COUNTY'S BCCP Activities FY2020 Quarter 3 Update: 1 April – 30 June 2020**

<b>BCCP Administration</b>	
Public Participation	Twelve BCCP applications were received and processed from April 1 – June 30, 2020. Four Participation Certificates were issued for a total of \$79,750.00 in mitigation payments. Fees were split 50:50 between Travis County and City of Austin.
Personnel	Grants and Contract Administrator, Holly Kreiner, resigned in June to pursue a Master's Degree. Seasonal Tech, Bianca Perez, resigned in June to accept a permanent position with TCEQ.
Covid-19 Safety Measures	Shelter in Place orders due to the Covid-19 pandemic went into effect on March 24 <sup>th</sup> . From March 25 <sup>th</sup> through April 30 <sup>th</sup> , only patrolling was considered an essential duty so some staff conducted patrols on the BCP while the remaining staff shifted to teleworking. Beginning May 1 <sup>st</sup> other limited field activities were allowed to continue. Many safety measures were implemented to assure that staff could work safely.
<b>Rare and Endangered Resources Management</b>	
Golden-cheeked warblers and Black-capped vireos	Much of the golden-cheeked warbler survey season was shut down due to covid-19 restrictions but surveys resumed at a limited capacity from May 4 <sup>th</sup> to June 15 <sup>th</sup> . Since black-capped vireos nest later than the warblers, the vireo survey season was able to proceed with little disruption.
Karst Invertebrates	Spring season faunal surveys were performed at three caves and cave cricket exit counts were conducted at three caves. County and City BCP staff consolidated and analyzed karst faunal survey data and will submit the information to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for inclusion in a status review of the Bone Cave harvestman. Following the status review, the Service will issue a 12-month finding indicating whether delisting the species is warranted in accordance with the Endangered Species Act. This process was initiated by a 2014 petition to delist the Bone Cave harvestman and subsequent litigation.
<b>Plant and Animal Control</b>	
Feral Hogs	Nine hogs were removed from the Ribelin tract this quarter.
Cowbirds	One trap was in operation this spring and 18 brown-headed cowbirds were removed from the Jollyville Unit.
Invasive Plants	Staff removed more than 3,400 invasive plants from five BCP tracts.

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<b>Land Stewardship</b>	
Wildfire Preparedness	In April, the Ranch Record, a publication for Steiner Ranch residents, published an article entitled "Reducing Wildfire Risk on the BCP" written by Community Liaison Johanna Arendt. The article described the County's fuel mitigation efforts, the difference between California and Texas wildfire conditions, and what homeowners can do to protect their property.
Utility Infrastructure Corridor	Austin Energy accessed the Preserve to conduct an inventory of their poles within the BCP.  Pedernales Electric Cooperative (PEC) inspected some of their poles on the BCP. PEC also accidentally spilled some concrete on the Lake Perspective tract while replacing a pole adjacent to the tract. The spill was minor and PEC will clean the site in September.
Conservation Easements	Ten violations were documented on one conservation easement held by Travis County and staff is working with various offenders to address the damage.
<b>Law Enforcement</b>	
	<p>Increased patrolling was initiated this quarter to address the increase in back-of-lot tree clearing, trespassing, and criminal mischief associated with more people being home during the pandemic.</p> <p>Nine new incidents of back-of lot tree clearing were documented. Staff is seeking restitution for damages in these cases and in the ongoing cases from last quarter.</p> <p>Trespassing and criminal mischief included accessing the BCP by ATV, motorcycle and on foot, camping, fort building, trail construction, dumping, and cutting locks.</p> <p>Two llamas and a sheep roamed the Jollyville Unit in May until they were successfully reunited with their owner.</p>
<b>Outreach/Volunteers</b>	
See <i>BCP Partner Education Summary FY2020 Third Quarter: April 1 – June 30, 2020</i>	