

Aug. 24, 2006  
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**BCCP COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
RECORD OF DECISIONS  
FROM August 21, 2006**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approve and recommend to Austin City Council and Travis County Commissioners Court a City of Austin request for a minor amendment to Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit PRT-788841 to move the location of Water Treatment Plant 4 to a 45 acre parcel to be removed from the City of Austin Cortana BCP tract, and in so doing, transfer the BCCP Infrastructure Special use Tract designation with the plant to the new site. As part of this action City of Austin will dedicate the original WTP4 site, excluding the existing fire and EMS station, to BCP.

Chair Wynn made a motion to approve action Item 1, and to accept and adopt all conditions recommended by the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Scientific Advisory Committee as presented in presentation items 2 and 3 of this meeting. Motion was seconded by member Daugherty. Motion carried 2/0

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**BCCP  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Resolution  
8/8/08**

**In a called meeting the CAC took action on agenda item 1:**

- 1. Discuss the proposal to amend the Regional Fish and Wildlife Permit to transfer Infrastructure Special Use Site designation for Water Treatment Plant 4 from the original 102 acre site on Bull Creek to the proposed 45 acre alternate site on the City's Cortana tract and make a recommendation to the BCCP Coordinating Committee regarding this proposal.**

**On a motion from Ted Siff, second by Joe Lessard with accepted friendly amendments from Joe Lessard, and Robert Kleeman:**

**The Citizens Advisory Committee supports the Austin Water Utility proposal to move Water treatment Plant 4 to the Cortana alternate site contingent upon the following conditions:**

- Austin Water Utility must dedicate the 102 acre "original Water Treatment Plant 4 site" to Balcones Canyonlands Preserves to substitute for the 45 acres being removed from Cortana.**
- Austin Water Utility must dedicate the 928 acre Water Quality Protection Land Little Barton Creek Tract to Balcones Canyonlands Preserves under dual use management, as proposed by Austin Water Utility, in a manner that will count this tract toward the ultimate preserve system habitat protection goal of 30,428 acres.**
- In dedicating the Little Barton Creek tract to Balcones Canyonlands Preserves, Austin Water Utility must also act to grandfather the provisionally approved public access authorizations for this site under BCP.**
- Austin Water must provide leadership to BCCP Partners to jointly develop a plan to identify 2000 acres of existing or potential black-capped vireo habitat to be managed by BCP partners in fulfillment of the permit requirements for black capped vireo management under BCCP. This plan must identify sites, plan funding for acquisition where appropriate, plan funding for habitat manipulation where appropriate, and plan funding and other resources for ongoing management. This plan**

must be completed and submitted to the BCCP coordinating Committee  
by March 1, 2007.

Motion carried 6 for 1 opposed

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**Position Statement of the BCCP Scientific Advisory Committee  
On the Proposed Use of the Cortaño site for Water Treatment Plant 4**

**Adopted by the SAC on August 15, 2006**

It has now been 10 years since the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan was given final approval, and we find that the preserve system is failing to meet the preserve design criteria as promised in the Final HCP/EIS. Recognizing that the proposed preserve system was a compromise between the long term conservation needs of the species and the orderly growth and development of Austin and Travis County, we believe it is imperative to finish the preserve system as designed. Given that the City of Austin must put a new water treatment plant into operation in the next decade, we accept our role as scientific advisors to the BCCP Coordinating Committee and offer this position statement regarding the proposed removal of important habitat for the black-capped vireo to use as the Water Treatment Plant 4 site. While we find that the City's selection and evaluation process used to arrive at this decision was poorly implemented and communicated, we concur with and accept the recommendation, with conditions. If the options are limited to the original site and the Cortaño site, we agree with the proposed use of 45 acres of the Cortaño site for the new Water Treatment Plant 4 as described in the July 18, 2006 proposed amendment from Mayor Wynn, with the following stipulations:

- 1) Completion of the BCP. The City of Austin must renew its commitment to completing the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve as required by the Final HCP/EIS. While we are close to achieving the overall goal for the total preserve system size, much more work needs to be done to achieve the minimum area for each macrosite, the maximum percent of edge, and other minimum specifications. The City should work with Travis County to develop the strategies and funding needed to complete the preserve in each macrosite, as described in pages 3-59 through 3-75 of the Final HCP/EIS.
- 2) Black-capped Vireo. Because the black-capped vireo has not been effectively managed by the BCP up to this date, the City should take the lead role and work with Travis County and the Scientific Advisory Committee to develop an appropriate plan for the vireo. The plan should specify the actions needed to manage at least 2,000 acres of black-capped vireo habitat. The plan should identify the areas to be managed, describe how the area will be acquired or otherwise conserved, the sources of funding, and the habitat management methods that will be applied. The plan should be completed by March 1, 2007, with at least 1,000 acres to be under active management within three years. The City should have at least five acres of new vireo habitat under active management for each acre of current vireo habitat taken on Cortaño, and should work towards the goal of two acres of habitat suitable for occupancy for acre when it is taken.
- 3) Little Barton Creek. The City should include Little Barton Creek tract (approximately 928 acres) in the BCP, with the acreage counting toward the acreage goals for the Barton Creek macrosite and the overall preserve system. The Little Barton Creek unit should be managed for public use at no greater level of use than is currently authorized.

We hold the City of Austin and Travis County BCCP staff in high regard, and we look forward to working with them to achieve these goals.