

BIOLOGICAL ADVISORY TEAM "BAT" MEETING
Hays County Regional Habitat Conservation Plan

MINUTES

WHEN: January 8, 2008

WHERE: 206 North C. M. Allen Parkway, San Marcos, TX 78666

Attendance:

BAT Members

- Craig Farquhar – Chair
- Terri Siegenthaler
- Lee Elliott
- Linda Laack
- Randy Gibson
- Cal Newnam

HCP Consultant Team

- Loomis Austin, Inc. (LAI): Clifton Ladd, Amanda Aurora, Jennifer Williams, and Peter Sprouse and Krista McDermid (Zara Environmental)
- Smith/Robertson: Melinda Taylor and Rebecca Hays

Others in Attendance:

- Dianne Wassenich – San Marcos River Foundation
- Melanie Howard – City of San Marcos
- Robert Gulley – Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program
- Rachael Ranft – The Nature Conservancy
- Chris Ramser – Capital Area Council of Governments

BAT Members Not Present:

- Garry Stephens

1. Call to order: The BAT voted to have Clifton Ladd run the meeting until the BAT chairman (Craig Farquhar) arrived. Clifton Ladd called the meeting to order at 9:25 am.
2. Approve minutes from December 6, 2007 BAT Meeting: BAT members reviewed and approved the minutes from the December 6, 2007 meeting.
3. Citizen's Comments: No citizen comments were made.
4. Receive briefing on Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program: Robert Gulley briefed the BAT on the purpose, participants, and status of the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program.
5. Assessment and Consideration of Options for Species Coverage in the Hays County RHCP: Clifton Ladd and Amanda Aurora of LAI briefed the BAT on a draft proposal for species recommendations for the HCP. The BAT members reviewed and discussed the updated Hays County Species of Concern List and the draft recommendations. The BAT requested that a few minor changes be made to the draft recommendations, and to present the corrected draft to the

Citizens Advisory Committee at their meeting on Thursday. The BAT requested that the draft recommendations remain an agenda item for the next meeting.

6. Discuss Biological Considerations for Species Protection and Preserve Design: Clifton Ladd of LAI and Melinda Taylor of Smith|Robertson briefed the BAT on recent CAC discussions regarding preserve design options. The BAT began discussion of the biological considerations of different preserve models, with respect to the species to be covered by the Hays County RHCP. The BAT requested that the consultants provide them with a map of patch sizes of golden-cheeked warbler habitat.
7. Receive Briefing on the Overall Progress of the RHCP Planning Process and Important Decision Points: Clifton Ladd of LAI briefed the BAT on the overall progress of the RHCP planning process, the important decision points remaining, and BAT involvement.
8. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Agenda Items for Next Meeting: The BAT agreed that further discussion was needed on conservation strategies for the covered species and how to address additional and evaluation species in the RHCP. BAT members agreed on a meeting time of 9:00 am and a tentative meeting date of February 13, 2007, with the location still to be determined.
9. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am.