



## **Biological Goals Subcommittee Charge**

The Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) is currently in the process of renewing the Incidental Take Permit with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As part of that process, the existing components of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) conservation strategy will be reassessed, new elements recommended, and modifications discussed. As a required component of habitat conservation plans, biological goals are a guide for quantified biological objectives and management actions taken through conservation measures to achieve the conservation strategy.

The purpose of this Subcommittee is to review, discuss and develop recommendations for the biological goal(s) that should be considered for inclusion in the next EAHCP.

### **Specifically, the Subcommittee will:**

- Review the current EAHCP biological goals and the HCP Handbook as it pertains to biological goals development and structure.
- Develop initial recommendations for deletions, additions, or other changes to current biological goals.
- Finalize biological goal recommendations to be considered in the next EAHCP.
- Approve a report setting out the biological goal recommendations to be provided to the EAHCP Permit Renewal contractor.

### **Members:**

- **Chair:** Mark Enders (Stakeholder Committee)
- Rachel Sanborn (Stakeholder Committee)
- Kimberly Meitzen (Stakeholder Committee)
- Kevin Mayes (Stakeholder Committee)
- Jacquelyn Duke (Science Committee)
- Charlie Kreitler (Science Committee)

### **Subcommittee Organization:**

Pursuant to Subsection 8.1 of the Stakeholder Committee's operational rules, the Biological Goals Subcommittee is authorized to meet entirely through virtual means, or any combination of virtual and in-person meetings, and to finalize previously discussed drafts through email communications. Because of the short duration, Subcommittee members are not required to appoint alternates. The Subcommittee shall strive to achieve consensus on its recommendations, but, if, in the opinion of the Chair, consensus cannot be achieved by the deadline, the recommendations and report may be approved by a majority vote of the full Subcommittee as long as any member dissenting from approval is provided a reasonable opportunity to provide a succinct summary of the objections to the recommendations, which shall be included in the report.

A Subcommittee report setting out the recommendations for biological goals should be completed by March 31, 2023 and provided to the EAHCP Permit Renewal contractor by that date, with copies to the Stakeholder Committee, the Implementing Committee, the Science Committee, and the Biological Objectives Work Group.