

Conservation Measures Subcommittee Charge

The Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) is in the process of renewing an 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 HCPs, Conservation Measures describe specific actions that Permittees will implement to achieve biological objectives in support of the biological goals.

The purpose of this Subcommittee is to review and discuss the Conservation Measures that should be considered for inclusion in the next EAHCP.

Specifically, the Subcommittee will:

- Elect a Chair of the Subcommittee.
- Review the HCP Handbook as it pertains to Conservation Measure purpose and structure.
- Receive an overview of the Biological Goals and Biological Objectives Subcommittee recommendations.
- Use the best available science and knowledge of the current HCP experience to determine the needed Conservation Measures.
- Review the current EAHCP Conservation Measures (EAHCP § 5.0).
- Consider the effects of climate change and other potential variables relative to the proposed HCP period.
- Review and provide feedback on draft Conservation Measures developed and provided by EAHCP staff.
- Finalize and approve Conservation Measure recommendations to be provided to the EAHCP Implementing Committee before submission to the EAHCP Permit Renewal contractor (ICF).

Membership:

- Texas State University: Represented by Kimberly Meitzen
- City of San Marcos: Represented by Mark Enders
- City of New Braunfels: Represented by Phillip Quast
- San Antonio Water System: Represented by Linda Bevis
- Edwards Aquifer Authority: Represented by Marc Friberg
- Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority: Represented by Daniel Large
- EAHCP Stakeholder Committee Member (Bexar County Interest): Kerim Jacaman
- EAHCP Stakeholder Committee Member (Recreational Interest): Melani Howard
- EAHCP Stakeholder Committee Member (Agricultural Interest): Adam Yablonski
- EAHCP Stakeholder Committee Member (Environmental Interest): Myron Hess



Subcommittee Organization:

The Conservation Measures Subcommittee is authorized to meet through virtual means, or any combination of virtual and in-person meetings, and to finalize previously discussed drafts through email communications.

The Subcommittee shall strive to achieve consensus on its recommendations, but, if consensus cannot be achieved by the October 10, 2024 deadline, despite the Subcommittee's best efforts, the recommendations and report may be approved by a 75% 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.

The purpose of the October 10, 2024, deadline is to finalize a report that can be submitted to the Permit Renewal Contractor prior to the start of the Contractor's preliminary analysis of the EAHCP Conservation Strategy.