

Edwards Aquifer Authority

900 E. Quincy San Antonio, TX 78215 EdwardsAquifer.org

Meeting Minutes

EAHCP Science Committee

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

9:00 AM

The Meadows Center

A meeting of the Science Committee of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan will be held on the date, time, and location stated above.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair, Dr. Jacquelyn Duke, called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. All Committee members were present either in-person or online.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comment requests to address the Science Committee.

3. Program Announcements

3.1

- Hydrologic Update
- USFWS Proposed Rule for the Toothless Blindcat and Widemouth Blindcat

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of previous Committee meeting minutes.

• April 12, 2023

A motion was made by Butch Weckerly, and was seconded by Megan Bean, to approve the meeting minutes from the previous Science Committee meeting on April 12, 2023. There was no opposition, the minutes were approved.

5. Reports

5.1

Receive report from Dr. Chad Furl, P.E., Chief Science Officer at EAA, and Dr. Hakan Basagaoglu, Associate Director of Modeling at EAA, to the Science Committee on EAHCP Permit Renewal activities.

Dr. Hakan Basagaoglu, Associate Director of Modeling at EAA, presented an overview of the future climatic conditions in the Edwards Aquifer region and their projected

impacts on groundwater levels and spring flows. Modeling results are being used to assess future conditions in the Edwards Aquifer region as part of the EAHCP Permit Renewal process. A recording of the presentation and discussion is available on the EAA website.

5.2 Receive report from Dr. Chad Furl, P.E., Chief Science Officer at EAA, to the Science Committee on Biological Goals and Objectives for the EAHCP Permit Renewal.

Dr. Chad Furl. P.E., Chief Science Officer at EAA, presented an overview of the ongoing EAHCP Permit Renewal activities including the recommendations provided by the various Biological Objectives Subcommittee groups (macroinvertebrates, salamanders, and fountain darters and Texas wild-rice). The recommendations from the Biological Objectives Subcommittee and the Biological Goals Subcommittee are being evaluated by the EAHCP Permit Renewal contractors, ICF and BIO-WEST, and will be combined into one draft memorandum which will be shared in November 2023 with all EAHCP Committee members for review and comment.

6. Future Meetings

The next Science Committee meeting will be the annual joint meeting with the Stakeholder and Implementing Committees on Thursday, December 14 at 10:00 AM at the Edwards Aguifer Authority.

7. Questions from the Public

There were no questions from the public.

8. Adjourn

There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.