



Edwards Aquifer Authority

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

Meeting Minutes

EAHCP Science Committee

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

9:00 AM

STAR Park, 3055 Hunter Road, San Marcos, TX

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 9:03 AM. Committee members present: Dr. Jacquelyn Duke, Dr. Tom Arsuffi, Dr. Janis Bush, Charlie Kreidler, Conrad Lamon, Dr. Jason Martina, Dr. Josh Perkin, Dr. Jack Sharp, Dr. Butch Weckerly, and Nate Bendik. Committee member, Chad Norris, was unable to attend.

2. Public Comment

Dr. Chad Furl noted that Dr. Jacquelyn Duke and Dr. Butch Weckerly have officially retired so this is their last Science Committee meeting. The Committee thanked them for their many years of service. There were no additional comments.

3. Program Announcements

3.1

- Hydrological Update
- Comal Springs Refugia Salvage Event – May 2025
- Comal Springs Low-Flow Memorandum – May 2025
- Comal Springs System Update
- San Marcos Springs System Update
- Southern Edwards Aquifer Recovery Plan (USFWS)
- Edwards Aquifer Diving Beetle (USFWS)

Attachments: [2025-05-30 Comal Springs Low-Flow Memorandum](#)
[2025-06-11 USFWS Recovery Plan for the Southern Edwards Aquifer Springs and Associated Ecosystems](#)
[2025-06-17 Edwards Aquifer diving beetle not warranted for listing](#)

4. Individual Consideration

4.1

Approval of previous Committee meeting minutes.

- April 17, 2025

Attachments: [2025-04-17 EAHCP Science Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Dr. Jack Sharp, seconded by Dr. Tom Arsuffi, to approve the April 17, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion passed with no opposition.

4.2 Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2026 and 2027

A motion was made by Conrad Lamon, seconded by Dr. Jack Sharp, to nominate Dr. Jason Martina as Chair and Dr. Josh Perkin as Vice-Chair of the Science Committee for 2026 and 2027. The motion passed with no opposition.

5. Reports

5.1 Receive a report from ICF on the EAHCP Incidental Take Permit Renewal.

The Science Committee received a report from Lucas Bare, Project Manager at ICF, on progress and next steps for the EAHCP Incidental Take Permit Renewal (Permit Renewal). The Science Committee discussed the Effects Analysis and the direct and indirect impacts to the Covered Species. More information is available at <https://www.eahcprenewal.org/>

5.2 Receive a report from Kristy Smith, Environmental Scientist at EAA, on EAHCP Applied Research activities.

The Science Committee received a report from Kristy Smith, Environmental Scientist at EAA, on progress of 2025 EAHCP Applied Research activities and proposed projects for 2026. Projects include San Marcos salamander monitoring, Comal Springs dryopid beetle monitoring, and a Comal Springs riffle beetle population genetic studies.

5.3 Receive a report from Dr. Chad Furl, Chief Science Officer at EAA, on the role of the Science Committee in the next EAHCP Incidental Take Permit.

The Science Committee received a report from Dr. Chad Furl, Chief Science Officer at EAA, on proposed changes to the Science Committee's role in the next Incidental Take Permit. The next Science Committee meeting will be a Research Meeting held in Spring 2026 at Texas State University in San Marcos. More information will be available closer to the meeting.

6. Future Meetings

6.1 The next Science Committee meeting is a joint meeting with the Stakeholder and Implementing Committees on Thursday, December 18 at 10:00 AM at the Edwards Aquifer Authority, 900 E. Quincy Street, San Antonio, Texas, 78215.

7. Public Comment

Virginia Parker, Executive Director of the San Marcos River Foundation, made comments related to recent Permit Renewal memoranda. She would like to request, in

addition to the Program Manager, that the Stakeholder Committee and Implementing Committee have to ability to consult with the Science Committee on scientific matters related to the EAHCP. She also suggested including more hydrologists on the Science Committee to help better understand observed and modeled hydrologic conditions. The Permit Renewal memoranda discussed are available on the Permit Renewal website: <https://www.eahcprenewal.org/>

8. Adjourn

There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 AM.

This meeting of the Science Committee of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan complies with Section 7.9.3 of the Funding and Management Agreement (FMA), an interlocal agreement made pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 791 by and among the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA), the City of New Braunfels (New Braunfels), the City of San Marcos (San Marcos), the City of San Antonio acting by and through its San Antonio Water System (SAWS), Texas State University, and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA).