

APPENDIX A

SEP-HCP PROJECT TEAM, ADVISORY
COMMITTEES, AND PROJECT TIMELINE

PROJECT TEAM

Project Sponsors

County of Bexar, Texas

Renee Green	County Engineer
Andrew Winter	Environmental Engineer, Infrastructure Services Department
Robert Brach	Development Services Engineer, Infrastructure Services Department
Diane Bartlett	Civil Engineer, Infrastructure Services Department

City of San Antonio, Texas

Jesus Garza	Assistant Director, Planning and Community Development
Christopher Looney	Interim Assistant Director, Planning and Community Development
Patricia Wallace	Manager, Planning and Community Development – Regional and Transportation Planning Unit
Kyle Cunningham	Manager, Health Program – Metropolitan Health District

Development of the SEP-HCP was jointly sponsored by Bexar County and the City of San Antonio. Each sponsor provided 50 percent of the local matching funds required to access federal grant funds for Habitat Conservation Plan development. Bexar County assumed the lead role in the partnership.

Prime Environmental Consultant

Loomis Partners, Inc.

Clifton Ladd	Project Manager & Chief Scientist
Amanda Aurora	Assistant Project Manager & Primary HCP Author
Jennifer Blair	Staff Biologist
Laura Zebehazy	Staff Biologist

Wildlife biologists at Loomis Partners provided expertise in the conservation of the golden-cheeked warbler and black-capped vireo, as well as the development of regional habitat conservation plans in Texas. Loomis was primarily responsible for project management, authorship, and coordination of the SEP-HCP.

Core Environmental Team Sub-Consultant

Zara Environmental, LLC

Jean Krejca, PhD.	Chief Scientist & Karst Specialist
Rachel Barlow	Karst Biologist

Zara Environmental biologists provided scientific and technical expertise regarding the biology and conservation of karst and aquatic species.

Technical Sub-Consultants & Specialists

Ximenes & Associates

Sonia Jimenez	Facilitator
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Ximenes & Associates provided expertise in facilitating public meetings, identifying and resolving potential conflicts among stakeholder interests, and arriving at consensus.

Wendell Davis & Associates

Wendell Davis	Planner
Shelley Hauschild	GIS Planner
Dan Phillips	Research Associate

Wendell Davis & Associates provided demographic and housing market analysis and forecast land development trends for the Plan Area.

M. E. Allison & Co., Inc.

Christopher Allison	Chief Financial Officer
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M. E. Allison provided expertise in municipal finance, economic impact analysis, and funding mechanisms.

Independent Legal Counsel

Jackson Walker, LLP

Jerry Webberman	Partner, Austin Office
Megan Bluntzer	Associate, San Antonio Office

Bexar County retained independent legal counsel to provide additional guidance during SEP-HCP development.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Citizen's Advisory Committee

Bexar County convened the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) to provide input on the direction and content of the SEP-HCP. The CAC was composed of 21 individuals representing a variety of stakeholder groups, including rural landowners, conservation interests, business/real estate interests, and government/utility provider interests.

TABLE 1. SEP-HCP Citizen's Advisory Committee Membership and Affiliations.

LANDOWNER MEMBERS

NAME	AFFILIATION	ALTERNATE
Bebe Fenstermaker	Bexar County	Clark Terrell
Ann Dietert	Kerr County	
Dr. Bob Fitzgerald	Medina County	Lester Landrum
Delmar Cain	Kendall County	Chuck Janzow
Mary Bradshaw	Bexar County	Lottie Millsaps
Randy Johnson	Bexar County	Myfe Moore
Gary Schott	Bexar County	Madelyn Schott

CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

NAME	AFFILIATION	ALTERNATE
Annalisa Peace	Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance	Paul Barwick
Kirby Brown (Co-Chair)	Texas Wildlife Association	
Gerald McFarlen	Cibolo Nature Center	
Mary Fenstermaker	Hill Country Planning Association	

REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS GROUPS

NAME	AFFILIATION	ALTERNATE
Ian Cude	Real Estate Council of San Antonio	
Frosty Forster	Professional Engineers in Private Practice	
Michael Moore	Greater San Antonio Builders Association	
Susan Wright	Real Estate Council of San Antonio	
George Peck (Floating Alternate)	CEC Engineering	
Bob Liesman (Floating Alternate)	MBC Engineering	

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND UTILITY PROVIDERS

NAME	AFFILIATION	ALTERNATE
Commissioner Jonathan Letz (Co-Chair)	Kerr County	
Councilperson Jennifer Nottingham	City of Grey Forest	Mayor Jeff Waldrop

TABLE 1. SEP-HCP Citizen's Advisory Committee Membership and Affiliations.

Sandy Jenkins	City of San Antonio – Parks and Recreation	Eric Lautzenheiser
Tom Hornseth	Comal County	
Jenna V. Anguiano	CPS Energy	Kim Stoker
Deirdre Hisler	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Nic Maloukis

The CAC adopted their committee charge on March 1, 2010, and it included the following the language:

Bexar County proposes to charge the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan (SEP-HCP) with the following tasks:

- Recommend the overall vision, goals, and objectives of the SEP-HCP, including assistance with the recovery of threatened and endangered species; and reducing the associated pressures on Camp Bullis and aid in maintaining its training mission.
- Recommend a preferred alternative for each of the SEP-HCP major framing issues, including:
 - Boundaries of the Plan Area
 - Species to be Covered for Incidental Take
 - Activities to be Covered for Incidental Take
 - Conservation Strategy, and
 - Funding Strategy.
- Recommend the form and level of mitigation required of plan participants, and the methods for determining such requirements.
- Recommend a plan for consideration by Bexar County and the City of San Antonio prior to its submittal to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the basis for a permit application.
- The landowner members of the CAC will appoint one member of the Biological Advisory Team.

The CAC's adopted operational rules stated that the CAC will strive for consensus, but a super-majority of 65% of the CAC members present for a vote is sufficient to carry a motion.

Biological Advisory Team

Bexar County convened a Biological Advisory Team (BAT) to provide guidance on scientific aspects of the Plan. Members of the BAT were appointed by the Project Sponsors, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and the landowner members of the CAC. The BAT was composed of professional biologists with expertise ranging from species biology to general land management.

TABLE 2. SEP-HCP Biological Advisory Team Membership and Affiliations.

NAME	AFFILIATION
Richard Heilbrun, BAT Chairperson	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Valerie Collins	Pape-Dawson Engineers
Dr. Andy Gluesenkamp	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TABLE 2. SEP-HCP Biological Advisory Team Membership and Affiliations.

NAME	AFFILIATION
Julie Groce	Texas A&M University
Dr. Tom Hayes	Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance
Jayne Neal	City of San Antonio
Jackie Poole	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Justin Dreibelbis	Texas Wildlife Association

The BAT adopted their committee charge on February 8, 2010, and it included the following the language:

The Biological Advisory Team (BAT) for the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan (SEP-HCP) is charged with the following tasks:

- Provide input to the plan participants, including the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), on biological matters in connection with the development of the SEP-HCP, including critical reviews of any aspect of the SEP-HCP directly or indirectly affecting the biological integrity of the plan.
- As required by Chapter 83 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code (83.015c), the BAT will also assist in the:
 - Calculation of harm to the endangered species, and
 - The sizing and configuring of the habitat preserves.
- Comments and recommendations from the BAT will be based on the best available science.

The BAT's adopted operational rules of order stated that the BAT will strive for consensus, but if there is more than one dissenting vote then a motion does not carry.

Agency Oversight Group

The Agency Oversight Group (AOG) was created to facilitate coordination between the Project Sponsors and the regulatory agencies. Table 3 lists the group members and their affiliations.

TABLE 3. SEP-HCP Agency Oversight Group Membership and Affiliation.

NAME	AFFILIATION
Andrew Winter and Diane Bartlett	Bexar County
Jesús Garza, Kyle Cunningham, Patricia Wallace, and Christopher Looney	City of San Antonio
Allison Arnold, Christina Williams, and Charlotte Kucera	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Richard Heilbrun	Chair, Biological Advisory Team
Kirby Brown and Jonathan Letz	Co-chairs, Citizen's Advisory Committee

The AOG adopted their committee charge on March 12, 2010, and it included the following the language:

To provide logistical support, as needed to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), Biological Advisory Team (BAT), and ultimately the Southern Edwards Plateau Regional Habitat Conservation Plan (SEP-HCP) applicants, in order to meet deadlines, stay on budget, and provide a framework within which to facilitate communication between regulatory agencies and the Grant applicants. The AOG is not a decision-making body and will not deliberate on Plan decisions, development of, or implementation of the Regional Habitat Conservation Plan.

PROJECT TIMELINE

June 11, 2009 The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service announced a grant award to Bexar County and the City of San Antonio of approximately \$1.34 million to develop the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan. The County and City will each provide \$223,448.50 in local matching funds over the course of the project. The grant will be administered through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

July 21, 2009 Bexar County Commissioners' Court voted to select Loomis Partners as the prime environmental consultant to assist with the development of the SEP-HCP. The Loomis team also includes assistance from Zara Environmental, Jacobs Engineering Group, The Nature Conservancy, Wendell Davis, Braun & Associates, Ximenes & Associates, and M.E. Allison.

August 12, 2009 Bexar County hosted a kick-off meeting for SEP-HCP stakeholders. Meeting featured presentations by Andrew Winter (Bexar County), Allison Arnold (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service), and Clifton Ladd (Loomis Partners). Presentations were followed by a question and answer session.

November 17, 2009 The Bexar County Commissioners Court approved Interlocal Agreements (ILAs) with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) and the City of San Antonio to access the \$1.3 million in grant funds awarded by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) for development of the SEP-HCP. The County and City are each contributing \$223,000 in local matching funds. The Commissioners Court also approved a contract with Loomis Partners to engage the environmental consultant team selected to assist the County and City with this project.

December 1, 2009 The Bexar County Commissioners Court approved the appointment of 20 representatives to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). The appointments represent regional landowners, environmental/conservation groups, real estate/business groups, utilities, and government agencies. The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) must also appoint one member to the CAC.

December 11, 2009 The SEP-HCP website (www.sephcp.com) was launched with email announcements made to the Stakeholders Group. The website provides a single point-of-contact for information related to the development of the SEP-HCP, including meetings, announcements, project updates, documents, and general information.

January 19, 2010 The CAC held its first meeting on January 19, 2010 and heard presentations from Bexar County, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and Loomis Partners (SEP-HCP environmental consultant team project manager). The CAC was briefed on the Endangered Species Act, Habitat Conservation Plans, the National Environmental Policy Act, and Texas state law pertaining to regional HCPs. The project team identified the various participants in the process and their primary roles, as well as the the

project's work plan and schedule, including major tasks and milestones. The CAC landowner members appointed Mr. Justin Dreibelbis (Conservation Program Coordinator for the Texas Wildlife Association) as the landowner representative to the Biological Advisory Team.

January 29, 2010 The BAT held its first meeting on Friday January 29, 2010 and discussed considerations for the SEP-HCP Plan Area and list of Covered Species, as well as Open Meetings Act requirements, operational procedures, and the SEP-HCP work plan and schedule. The BAT established voting procedures that strive for consensus and provide for minority opinions to be added to the project record. The BAT will meet again in early February to resume discussions and possibly submit a recommendation for the Plan Area and list of Covered Species for the SEP-HCP.

February 8, 2010 The BAT held an all-day meeting on Monday February 8, 2010. The BAT took up several items including adopting a charge that defines the BAT's role in the SEP-HCP process, refining operational procedures for conduct of BAT business, and continuing discussions regarding the Plan Area and list of Covered Species. The BAT's adopted charge directs the group to provide input on biological matters in connection with the development of the SEP-HCP, including critical reviews of any aspect of the SEP-HCP directly or indirectly affecting the biological integrity of the plan. The charge also directs the BAT to base its recommendations on the best available science. The BAT also recommended a draft Plan Area for the SEP-HCP that includes Bexar, Medina, Bandera, Kerr, Kendall, Comal, and Blanco counties (with the possibility of adding Uvalde and Gillespie counties, after additional consideration).

February 9, 2010 The Bexar County Commissioners Court approved the appointment of 6 members of the SEP-HCP Biological Advisory Team (BAT). The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department appointed the BAT chairperson, and the landowner members of the Citizens Advisory Committee appointed another member of the BAT.

February 18, 2010 The CAC held its second meeting the evening of February 18, 2010 at the San Antonio Water System offices. The CAC appointed Kirby Brown (Texas Wildlife Association) and Commissioner Jonathan Letz (Kerr County) as committee co-chairs. The committee heard presentations about the Texas Open Meetings/Open Records Acts and Comal County's experience with developing a regional HCP. The CAC discussed wording for a committee charge and operational procedures, and voted to recommend a Plan Area for the SEP-HCP based on the recommendations from the BAT, which were presented to the committee by Allison Arnold (US Fish and Wildlife Service).

February 22, 2010 The BAT met on February 22, 2010 and adopted a framework of four categories for addressing species in the SEP-HCP, including 1) species covered for incidental take at permit issuance ("Covered Species"); 2) species covered in the plan for future incidental take authorization ("Future Covered Species"); 3) species addressed with targeted voluntary conservation commitments without seeking take authorization ("Voluntarily Conserved Species"); and 4) rare species that will benefit from the targeted conservation measures implemented for species in categories 1, 2, and 3 ("Additional Species"). The BAT also provisionally adopted a list of species in these categories in order to help direct the consultant team, but the BAT also intends to continue work on the species list over the next few months. The BAT discussed issues related to addressing aquatic species in the plan, but requested additional information and guidance from the species experts, USFWS, Bexar County/City of San Antonio, and the CAC before making any recommendations. The BAT also adopted a set of operational procedures for the conduct of BAT business.

March 1, 2010 The CAC held a training workshop and meeting on March 1, 2010. Several CAC members and appointed alternates participated in training on the Texas Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act by watching two videos prepared by the Texas Attorney General's office. During the regular meeting the CAC adopted a charge and operational procedures to help guide committee actions. The CAC also discussed ongoing communication and coordination with Comal County, with respect to Comal County's draft regional habitat conservation plan. The CAC also heard a presentation from the BAT chairperson regarding preliminary deliberations on a framework for including species in the SEP-HCP and the species that might be addressed by the plan. The next CAC meeting was tentatively set for the evening of Monday, April 5, 2010.

- April 5, 2010** The CAC met on the evening of April 5 and heard presentations from Mr. James Cannizzo regarding the mission and biological issues at Camp Bullis and from Mr. Richard Heilbrun (TPWD Wildlife Biologist and BAT chair) about the biology and habitat needs of the golden-cheeked warbler and black-capped vireo. The CAC also received updates on coordination efforts with Comal County, the status of obtaining independent legal counsel for the plan, and ongoing work by the consultant team on the baseline resource assessments. The CAC discussed the possibility of including aquatic species in the SEP-HCP, but did not take action on the topic. The next regular CAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 3, 2010.
- May 3, 2010** The CAC met on May 3, 2010 and heard a presentation from Mr. Robert Gulley on the progress of the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program. Mr. Gulley described that the EARIP is developing a Habitat Conservation Plan to implement conservation actions that will protect the endangered and threatened species that rely on spring flow at Comal Springs and San Marcos Springs. The CAC discussed the types of activities that the SEP-HCP might cover for incidental take, and reviewed a list of examples from other approved and draft regional plans in central Texas. The CAC also received updates from Bexar County and the consultant team regarding the project budget and an anticipated schedule for major CAC agenda topics over the coming months. The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Monday June 7, 2010.
- May 28, 2010** The BAT met on May 28, 2010 and discussed a variety of topics, including aquatic species, activities covered, permit duration, and several resource assessments prepared by the consultant team. Action was taken to recommend the inclusion of three freshwater mussels to the list of voluntarily conserved species in the SEP-HCP (Category 3), with the BAT taking responsibility for developing the conservation measures. The BAT will also be preparing a rough draft recommendation for consideration by the CAC on activities covered.
- June 7, 2010** The CAC met on June 7, 2010 and heard presentations on the HCP process and karst species. CAC members discussed aquatic species issues and recommended the inclusion of 3 freshwater mussels as Category 3 (voluntarily conserved) species, with the rest of the rare aquatic species treated as Category 5 species (considered but not included). The CAC also voted to recommend draft language for covered activities that would broadly include coverage for any type of incidental take, with specific examples of common activities to aid understanding. The CAC also began discussions of the permit duration and permit applicant.
- June 18, 2010** The BAT met on June 18, 2010 and discussed the resource assessments prepared by the consultant team and some of the early comments on these documents. BAT members revisited the species list for the SEP-HCP, including how to address karst aquatic invertebrates and Eurycea salamanders. The BAT voted to not object to a possible 30-year duration for the incidental take permit, acknowledging that this decision is largely not a biological issue. Finally, the BAT discussed overall biological goals and objectives for the SEP-HCP, including standards for mitigation and funding issues.
- July 7, 2010** The BAT met on July 7, 2010 to discuss the resource assessments and the overall biological goals and objectives for the SEP-HCP, including standards for mitigation and preserve design. The BAT also revisited the species list for the plan, primarily involving how to address salamanders and other aquatic karst species. No formal action was taken on these topics.
- July 12, 2010** The CAC met on July 12, 2010 and voted to recommend that the duration of the SEP-HCP and associated permit be 30 years. The CAC also discussed issues concerning who the appropriate permit applicant should be and began discussions on the overall conservation strategy for the SEP-HCP, including the desired goals and objectives for the plan. The CAC also received information about the funding plans used in other local RHCPs.
- July 28, 2010** The BAT met on July 28, 2010 and had detailed discussions on the species-specific biological goals and objectives for the plan. The BAT also discussed a draft proposal for broader community goals and objectives for the general conservation strategy. The BAT agreed to send their preliminary deliberations to the CAC for review and discussion, but did not make a formal recommendation.

- August 2, 2010** The CAC met on August 2, 2010 to continue discussions on the permit holder, including how to include other jurisdictions in the plan. The CAC also deliberated on a general conservation strategy and broad community-based goals and objectives for the plan. This general conservation strategy includes goals for regional conservation, supporting Camp Bullis, stakeholder involvement, streamlined permitting, sensitivity to local concerns, and leveraging resources. The CAC's strategy recommendations will help guide the formation of a specific conservation program that achieves protection of the SEP-HCP species and addresses community needs and concerns. The CAC also reviewed preliminary work by the BAT on a set of biological goals and species-specific biological objectives for the plan. CAC members were encouraged to send written comments on the proposals to the committee chairs.
- August 25, 2010** The BAT met on August 25, 2010 to discuss management and monitoring priorities for species addressed by the plan. No actions were taken, but BAT members generally agreed that plan resources should be focused first on acquisition of habitats, then active management of preserves, and finally on monitoring activities to demonstrate compliance with the permit, assess the biological effectiveness of the conservation program, and guide the adaptive management program.
- September 10, 2010** The BAT met on September 10, 2010 to discuss estimated potential impacts to the GCW and BCV from land development over the next 30 years and factors that should be considered for establishing appropriate mitigation ratios for participating projects. The USFWS presented guidance on how to assess take and determine mitigation, recent findings on species status, and suggestions for the creation of a regional preserve system. The consultant team presented estimates for population and land use changes over the term of permit and estimates of potential habitat loss for the GCW and BCV.
- September 13, 2010** The CAC met on September 13, 2010 and continued discussion on community goals and objectives, heard presentations on projected population and land use changes, and were introduced to the scale of potential habitat loss for the GCW and BCV over the duration of the plan. The CAC voted to approve a draft statement of community goals and objectives that outline preferences for the overall purpose and direction for the plan.
- September 24, 2010** The BAT met on September 24, 2010 to discuss possible recommendations for the amount incidental take to authorize and the amount of mitigation to provide for the GCW and BCV. The BAT reviewed estimates of total habitat and patch size metrics for the GCW based on multiple habitat models and discussed various scenarios for incidental take authorization and corresponding preserve sizes. BAT members heard presentations from the USFWS and the consultant team regarding assessing impacts to covered karst species, guidance for appropriate conservation measures, basic karst terminology, and examples of karst conservation programs from other central Texas RHCPs. The BAT discussed ideas and alternatives for assessing impacts for karst habitats and achieving conservation goals. No action was taken on providing recommendations to the CAC.
- October 4, 2010** The CAC met on October 4, 2010 and discussed preliminary guidance from the BAT on take authorization, mitigation ratios, and target preserve sizes for the GCW and BCV. The CAC also heard updates from the consultant team on the land development projections, illustrations of the range of possible funding needs, and alternatives for additional analysis of GCW habitat in the Plan Area. No actions were taken.
- October 8, 2010** The BAT met on October 8, 2010 and heard presentations about managing public access on preserve lands from William Conrad (City of Austin Wildlands Conservation Division Manager responsible for management of endangered species and water quality protection lands) and Deirdre Hisler (TPWD Superintendent at Government Canyon State Natural Area). The BAT discussed preserve size recommendations for the GCW and voted to approve a draft recommendation to the CAC for a target preserve of 85K - 100K acres for this species. The BAT decided to form a subcommittee to continue work on how to update GCW habitat estimates and mitigation ratio recommendations. The BAT also formed a subcommittee to discuss recommendations for karst preserve and mitigation requirements.
- October 18, 2010** The CAC held a workshop with members of the BAT on October 18, 2010 to help the CAC understand some of the factors under consideration by the BAT with respect to preserve

size and configuration, mitigation ratios, and other considerations for the conservation program. No actions were taken.

October 20, 2010 The BAT met on October 20, 2010 to hear and discuss preliminary cost estimates for funding the acquisition of a preserve system under different scenarios for mitigation ratios, participation rates, and the general location of preserve lands. The BAT discussed ideas for recommendations on preserve size and configuration, including the locations of focal areas, commitments for a specific amount of preserve land in or immediately adjacent to Bexar County and the possibility of obtaining conservation credit for some existing parks and preserves. The BAT discussed options for the karst conservation program that would address uncertainties regarding the status of many of the karst species. The BAT recommended that Bexar County obtain additional updated habitat information for the GCW from an analysis of 2010 satellite data with error checking over 2010 aerial imagery.

November 4, 2010 The BAT met on November 4, 2010 to continue GCW and karst subcommittee discussions on draft recommendations for the conservation program. The full BAT discussed the subcommittee proposals and voted to approve recommendations for CAC consideration regarding aspects of the GCW and karst conservation programs, including GCW mitigation ratios, the general locations of GCW mitigation land, upfront karst conservation commitments and a process for determining impacts to karst habitats.

November 15, 2010 The CAC met on November 15, 2010 to hear presentations and consider the BAT recommendations for the GCW and karst conservation measures. The CAC asked questions and discussed the biological rationale for the recommendations, as well as economic concerns. No actions were taken.

November 17, 2010 The BAT met on November 17, 2010 to discuss additional recommendations for the GCW, karst, and BCV conservation programs. The BAT approved recommendations for the BCV conservation measures, based on a proposal by the BAT's BCV subcommittee, that included a recommended take authorization of 6,000 acres and a mitigation ratio of 2:1. The BAT also approved several other conservation measures for the GCW, including aspects of preserve configuration, the timing of mitigation, and management and monitoring. For a portion of the meeting, the BAT met in karst and bird subcommittees to discuss possible recommendations for public access and recreation on preserve lands.

December 6, 2010 The CAC met on December 6, 2010 to hear BAT conservation recommendations for the BCV and preliminary cost estimates associated with the BAT recommendations. The BAT also further discussed the biological recommendations for the GCW and karst. The BAT discussed concerns from some rural landowners regarding the potential impacts of the plan on property rights, including a letter submitted to Bexar County from representatives of Whiskey Ridge Ranches in Kerr County. The BAT discussed options for changing the Plan Area or extent of incidental take coverage in response to these concerns. The BAT took action to ratify the biological recommendations of the BAT for the BCV and karst species.

December 13, 2010 The Kerr County Commissioners' Court approved a resolution submitted by Commissioner Jonathan Letz (CAC Co-Chair) stating that Kerr County Commissioners Court does not want to participate in the SEP-HCP and requests that Kerr County not be included in the SEP-HCP, unless the County or its residents specifically request (by resolution or letter to Bexar County) to be included.

December 28, 2010 The Bandera County Commissioners' Court approved a resolution on December 28, 2010 to not support or participate in the development or implementation of the SEP-HCP. The resolution also requests that Bandera County be removed from all planning documents that would commit Bandera County to the SEP-HCP process.

January 10, 2011 The CAC met on January 10, 2011 to discuss plan implementation and ideas for balancing plan costs. CAC members discussed simple examples of how the plan may be implemented to achieve conservation and extend endangered species take authorization to voluntary participants. The CAC also worked through a simple budget model for the plan that calculates how changes to the details of the conservation program and participation fees affect the overall program costs. No actions were taken on plan implementation or budget.

- February 7, 2011** The CAC met February 7, 2011 to discuss alternatives for the GCW and BCV conservation program and worked in small subgroups to identify options for balancing the amount of take to authorize, mitigation ratios and preserve size, the distribution of preserves, and the level of fees to charge participants. No decisions were made on these topics, and the CAC asked to continue the small group work sessions at their next meeting. The CAC heard public comments from landowners concerned with the direction of the plan and reviewed a draft brochure being developed to better inform the public about the project. The CAC also heard a presentation from Jacobs (the consultant team's NEPA contractor) about the EIS and scoping process.
- February 11, 2011** The BAT rescheduled its February 4 meeting for February 11, 2011. The BAT heard a presentation from Dr. David Diamond (Missouri Resource Assessment Program) regarding the GCW habitat model updates that were requested by the BAT. The BAT discussed how to respond to the County's and the CAC's questions regarding the BAT's recommendations for the GCW conservation program. The BAT also heard an update from the consultant team regarding recommended revisions to the proposed karst conservation program.
- February 21, 2011** The CAC held a meeting on Monday February 21, 2011 to continue small group discussions regarding alternatives for the GCW and BCV conservation program. The CAC members were asked to identify their priorities with respect to authorized habitat loss, mitigation ratios, preserve size and distribution, participation fees, and the level of acceptable public funding. Groups reported on their priorities and preferred scenarios to the full committee. This meeting was announced as a joint meeting of the CAC and BAT, but quorum of BAT members was not present at the meeting.
- February 22, 2011** The Blanco County Commissioners' Court approved a resolution on February 22, 2011 to not support nor participate in the creation of the SEP-HCP. The resolution further requests that Blanco County be removed from any and all documents, permit applications, and records that may commit Blanco County or its landowners to this process.
- February 28, 2011** The Kendall County Commissioners' Court approved a resolution on February 28, 2011 to not support nor participate in the creation of the SEP-HCP.
- March 7, 2011** The CAC met on March 7, 2011 to continue discussions regarding preferences for the GCW and BCV conservation program. The CAC used a "dot census" exercise to indicate preferences for mitigation ratios, preserve land distribution, participation fees, and levels of acceptable public funding. No actions were taken on a CAC recommendation for the plan. The CAC also discussed the potential implications of other counties passing resolutions to "opt out" of the SEP-HCP and the anticipated schedule for reviewing the first draft of the plan.
- March 11, 2011** The BAT met on March 11, 2011 to continue discussions on how to respond to Bexar County's and the CAC's questions concerning the BAT recommendations for the plan. The BAT approved a response for distribution to the CAC and the County, with a summary to be prepared by the BAT chair.
- April 1, 2011** The BAT met on April 1, 2011 to discuss the karst subcommittee's ideas for the conservation program, including ensuring that the Plan would not preclude recovery, procedures for investigating voids discovered during construction, and karst preserve management. The BAT also continued discussions regarding the treatment of Eurycea salamanders in the Plan. The BAT recommended adding several salamander species to the list of "Category 3" or "Category 4" species addressed in the Plan.
- April 11, 2011** The CAC met on April 11, 2011 to hear a presentation of the major components of the First Draft SEP-HCP and an update on the next steps, including review of the draft Plan, the process for addressing comments, and preparation of a revised draft. The CAC voted to reject the proposed draft model of the summary of the SEP-HCP with the understanding that the CAC will review and provide comments to Bexar County by June 1.
- April 12, 2011** The First Draft SEP-HCP is available for review and comment! The draft text and associated appendices are posted on the SEP-HCP website for downloading. Bexar County will accept written comments on the First Draft until June 1, 2011. Comments may be submitted by email to info@sephcp.com or by regular mail to the consultant team (c/o Ms.

Amanda Aurora, Loomis Partners, 3101 Bee Cave Road, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78746). Bexar County will address each comment received and prepare a revised Second Draft SEP-HCP for additional review. The revised draft is expected to be available by September 2011.

- April 25, 2011** The Medina County Commissioners' Court approved a resolution on April 25, 2011 to not support nor participate in the creation of the SEP-HCP.
- April 27, 2011** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) related to the proposed SEP-HCP. The notice announced the start of a public comment period to collect input on the scope of the environmental analysis for the EIS, including alternatives to the proposed plan. The Service will be holding several public meetings across the 7-county Plan Area in May and early June. The specific dates and locations of these public meetings will be announced through a variety of media outlets as they become available. The public is invited to send written comments to the Service (email to allison_arnold@fws.gov or US Mail to Field Supervisor, Austin Ecological Services Field Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78758–4460). Comments must be received by July 26, 2011.
- May 9, 2011** The CAC met on May 9, 2011 to discuss the First Draft SEP-HCP and the anticipated project schedule through 2011. The CAC decided to hold a workshop in June to develop a consensus recommendation for an alternative to the First Draft. Specific dates and location for the workshop are to be determined and the workshop will be open to the public. The CAC also heard a presentation regarding a land developer's perspective on the need for a regional HCP and various mitigation strategies.
- May 16, 2011** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced dates for 5 public meetings to collect input on the scope of the environmental analysis for the EIS, including alternatives to the proposed plan. The meetings will be held between June 6 and June 14, 2011 in various locations within the proposed 7-county Plan Area, including Bandera, Kerrville, Boerne, Blanco, and Helotes. The public meetings will start at 5:30pm and include an open house, formal presentations, and panel discussions with agency and applicant representatives.
- June 1, 2011** The comment period on the First Draft SEP-HCP has been extended until June 10, 2011. The draft text and associated appendices are posted on the SEP-HCP website for downloading. Comments may be submitted by email to info@sephcp.com or by regular mail to the consultant team (c/o Ms. Amanda Aurora, Loomis Partners, 3101 Bee Cave Road, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78746). Bexar County will address each comment received and prepare a revised Second Draft SEP-HCP for additional review. The revised draft is expected to be available by September 2011.
- June 6, 2011** The BAT met on June 6, 2011 to discuss BAT member comments on the First Draft SEP-HCP and to prepare a unified committee response to the draft. The BAT worked on several issues, including plan administration, advisory committees, mitigation ratios, karst preserves and participation process, secondary uses of preserves, and adaptive management and monitoring. The BAT agreed to continue working on a unified response to the First Draft on Friday June 10.
- June 10, 2011** The BAT met on Friday June 10, 2011 to prepare a unified committee response to the First Draft SEP-HCP. The BAT approved the content of an official BAT response to the First Draft, in addition to submitting comments from individual BAT members.
- June 15, 2011** The CAC held a 9-hour workshop on June 15, 2011 to develop a preferred scenario for the Plan that balances the amount of take authorization needed, mitigation ratios, preserve land distribution, and participation fees. Workshop participants developed ideas for a preferred scenario within their individual stakeholder groups, and then discussed these ideas with the entire group. Workshop participants developed a proposal that was unofficially accepted by more than 2/3 of the members present, with some members opposing it because of public funding concerns and/or desire for more preserve land in Bexar County. No actions were taken at this workshop. CAC members tentatively scheduled a July meeting to continue discussions on this consensus proposal with possible action on a recommendation for a Plan alternative.
- July 11, 2011** The CAC met on July 11, 2011 to discuss the outcome of the committee's June 15 workshop and vote on a recommended plan alternative. After much deliberation and several

votes, the CAC was not able to pass a motion recommending a plan alternative. Several CAC members desired an alternative with higher level of conservation than the proposed First Draft, while other CAC members were concerned that the level of funding required for such an alternative would be too great for participants and the public to bear. The CAC is not expected to meet again until a revised Second Draft of the plan is available for review.

December 6, 2011 The Bexar County Commissioners Court voted to submit the revised draft SEP-HCP to the USFWS with an application for an Endangered Species Act incidental take permit.

SUMMARY OF CAC AND BAT RECOMMENDATIONS

TABLE 4. Summary of CAC and BAT Recommendations.

Plan Component	BAT Recommendation / Action	CAC Recommendation / Action
Complete Plan Review	No action	April 11, 2011 Approved Action: The CAC voted to reject the proposed draft model of the summary of the SEP-HCP with the understanding that the CAC will review and provide comments to Bexar County by June 1, 2011.
Community Goals and Objectives	July 28, 2010 Consensus Action: recommend revisions to a draft version of community goals and objectives for CAC consideration	September 13, 2010 Approved Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Regional conservation •Support Camp Bullis •Stakeholder involvement •Streamline permitting •Locally appropriate & cost effective •Leverage resources
Plan Area	February 8, 2010 Consensus Action: draft recommendation for Plan Area to include 7 counties with possible addition of Uvalde and Gillespie	February 18, 2010 Approved Action: Plan Area to include 7 counties with possible reconsideration of Comal Co.
Plan Duration	June 18, 2010 Approved Action: BAT does not object to a 30-year duration	July 12, 2010 Approved Action: CAC recommends 30-year duration for plan and permit

Plan Component	BAT Recommendation / Action	CAC Recommendation / Action
Covered Species	<p>February 22, 2010 Approved Action: adopt species category framework and preliminary classification of species in each category (Cat 1 = GCW, BCV, and 3 Karst Inverts; Cat 2 = 6 Karst Inverts)</p> <p>May 28, 2010 Approved Action: add 3 mussels to list of voluntarily conserved (Cat 3) species, with BAT taking responsibility for developing conservation measures for these species</p> <p>April 1, 2011 Approved Action: add 7 Eurycea salamanders to Cat 3; add 4 Eurycea salamander to Cat 4; add 2 Eurycea salamanders to Cat 5</p>	<p>June 7, 2010 Approved Action: add 3 mussels to Cat 3 and all other aquatics to Cat 5</p>
Covered Activities	<p>May 28, 2010 Consensus Action: allow BAT Chair to draft proposal for CAC consideration</p>	<p>June 7, 2010 Approved Action: cover take associated with otherwise lawful activities (note specific examples for clarity)</p>

Plan Component	BAT Recommendation / Action	CAC Recommendation / Action
GCW Take and Mitigation	<p>November 4, 2010 Approved Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Consider authorizing approximately 8,000 acres of take in Bexar County and approximately 7,361 acres of take outside of Bexar County (15,361 acres total). •Take in Bexar County be mitigated at a ratio of 3:1, with 60% of the mitigation located within or within 5 miles of Bexar County and 40% located anywhere within the Plan Area. •Take outside of Bexar County be mitigated at a ratio of 2:1, with the mitigation located anywhere within the Plan Area. <p>November 17, 2010 Approved Action: adopt BAT recommendations for GCW as presented to CAC, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Mitigation must be in place before take occurs •Mitigate in proportion to severity of impact/harm 	<p>December 6, 2010: The CAC voted on a motion to accept the BAT's biological recommendations for the GCW, subject to later modification by the CAC, but the motion did not pass.</p> <p>March 7, 2010 Small Group Exercise: Group 1 Alternative received most votes, but no clear consensus and no action taken (6,900 ac of total take authorization; 3:1 Bexar County mitigation ratio; 2:1 rural county mitigation ratio; 60% of Bexar County mitigation located within 5 miles of Bexar County; \$5,500 per credit)</p> <p>June 15, 2011 Workshop: Supermajority of workshop participants unofficially accepted a preferred scenario, but no official CAC action was taken (7,500 ac of take authorization within Bexar County and 4,300 ac of take reserved for other counties; 2:1 ratio for direct impacts and 0.5:1 ratio for indirect impacts; 5,000 ac new preserves in Bexar County; \$4,000/credit)</p>

Plan Component	BAT Recommendation / Action	CAC Recommendation / Action
GCW Biological Goals and Objectives & GCW Preserve Standards	<p>October 8, 2010 Approved Action: Draft preserve size goal of 85,000 to 100,000 acres for the GCW; the actual amount and configuration of the preserve will depend on the locations of currently available habitat and anticipated habitat losses</p> <p>November 4, 2010 Approved Action: Up 10% of preserve lands may be composed of existing public lands, but 0% is preferred.</p> <p>November 17, 2010 Approved Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •500 acre minimum size •Priority for 5k to 10k acre focal preserves •Priority for at least 1 focal preserve in each county except Blanco •Priority for building upon existing protected lands 	<p>December 6, 2010 meeting: The CAC voted on a motion to accept the BAT's biological recommendations for the GCW, subject to later modification by the CAC, but the motion did not pass.</p>

Plan Component	BAT Recommendation / Action	CAC Recommendation / Action
BCV Take and Mitigation	<p>November 17, 2010 Approved Action: approve subcommittee recommendations for BCV conservation program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Consider up to 6000 acres of take authorization •2:1 mitigation ratio for all areas •Mitigation in place before take occurs •Mitigate in proportion to severity of impact/harm 	<p>December 6, 2010 Approved Action: Accept BAT's recommendations for the BCV conservation measures, but acknowledge that the CAC may issue different recommendations for the BCV based on further discussions.</p> <p>March 7, 2010 Small Group Exercise: Group 1 Alternative received most votes, but no clear consensus and no action taken (2:1 mitigation ratio for all areas; mitigation = \$5,500/credit)</p> <p>June 15, 2011 Workshop: Supermajority of workshop participants unofficially accepted a preferred scenario, but no official CAC action was taken (2,400 ac of take authorization within Bexar County and 1,400 ac of take reserved for other counties)</p>

Plan Component	BAT Recommendation / Action	CAC Recommendation / Action
BCV Biological Goals and Objectives & Preserve Standards	<p>November 17, 2010 Approved Action: approve subcommittee recommendations for BCV conservation program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Goal to acquire and manage 12,000 acres for BCV •100 acre minimum managed area within a minimum 500 acre protected property •Priority for at least 1 focal preserve of 2k to 4k acres in western part of plan area •Priority for expanding existing protected lands •Up 10% of preserve lands may be composed of existing public lands, but 0% is preferred. 	<p>December 6, 2010 Approved Action: Accept BAT's recommendations for the BCV conservation measures, but acknowledge that the CAC may issue different recommendations for the BCV based on further discussions.</p>
Karst Take and Mitigation	<p>November 4 and 17, 2010 Approved Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •No take authorization until draft downlisting criteria are met for a particular species in a particular KFR •Contribute to achieving 2x draft downlisting criteria •Able to use collected mitigation fees to purchase karst preserves in other KFRs •Karst survey protocol •Impact Zones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 0 – 150 ft ○ 150 – 345 ft 	<p>December 6, 2010 Approved Action: Accept the BAT recommendations for karst conservation measures, subject to later modification by the CAC.</p>
Karst Preserves	<p>November 4, 2010 Approved Action: Preserves consistent with standards in draft recovery plan</p>	<p>December 6, 2010 Approved Action: Accept the BAT recommendations for karst conservation measures, subject to later modification by the CAC.</p>

Plan Component	BAT Recommendation / Action	CAC Recommendation / Action
Karst Biological Goals and Objectives	<p>November 4, 2010 Approved Action: BAT approved recommendations for the karst conservation program, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •No take allowed until draft downlisting criteria are met for individual species in individual KFRs •Contribute to achieving 2x of draft downlisting criteria •Mitigation fees may be used to perform conservation in other KFRs 	<p>December 6, 2010 Approved Action: Accept the BAT recommendations for karst conservation measures, subject to later modification by the CAC.</p>
Preserve Management and Monitoring	<p>November 4 and 17, 2010 Approved Action: BAT approved recommendations for the conservation programs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •GCW & BCV - Manage protected habitats within preserves for the benefit of the species by minimizing threats and maintaining, restoring, or enhancing high quality habitat. •GCW & BCV - Monitor populations and habitats to track the status of the species within the preserve system and to inform the adaptive management process. •BCV - Management staff should be given authority to use lethal means to manage excessive numbers of depredatory species and other traditional land management practices, such as prescribed fire. •Adaptive management strategies should be implemented to prevent detriment to other listed species. 	<p>December 6, 2010 Approved Action: Accept BAT's recommendations for the BCV conservation measures, but acknowledge that the CAC may issue different recommendations for the BCV based on further discussions.</p>