

NEWS DROP

M A G A Z I N E

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION



This page, from left: Tamauj Thomas, Breanna Saucedo, and Ann-Margaret Gonzalez at the EAA exhibit, in the 2020 San Antonio Rodeo. | Cover: EAA mascot, Karston, Sarah Valdez, and Breanna Saucedo at the 2020 San Antonio Rodeo.





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FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

CHALLENGED, BUT NOT DETERRED

**THE UNEXPECTED LIMITATIONS AND UNCERTAINTIES
THRUST UPON US BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAVE
CHALLENGED US, BUT NOT DETERRED US**

Despite these unusual and trying times, I want to assure you that we at the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) continue to carry out our mission to manage, enhance and protect the Edwards Aquifer system with the same integrity, respect, and professionalism as always. The unexpected limitations and uncertainties thrust upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic have challenged us, but not deterred us.

#AquiferStrong

“Without question, the ideals embodied in the three “I” words – Inclusion, Imagination, and Innovation – which we have said will shape our culture, have been at the forefront of our work through this demanding time. Our staff, though separated by distance, has risen to the occasion with a spirit of collaboration and stewardship that continues to invigorate our commitment to our mission.”

We have proactively employed social distancing protocols and transitioned our operations to a fully remote model until such time that is deemed safe to return to standard business practices. We are making the best use of technology such as phone, text, email, videoconferencing and social media to stay connected with each other and with our stakeholders to remain effective in our responsibilities and responsive to the needs of our community. Our regulatory and groundwater management programs remain uninterrupted as do our science programs, including monitoring, recording and reporting of aquifer data.

Rest assured that we stand united with you, the community we serve, through this moment of crisis, upholding our pledge to ensure the sustainability of the region’s primary water resource, the Edwards Aquifer.

Thanks, stay safe and stay in touch,

Roland Ruiz

If you have any specific questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at r Ruiz@edwardsaquifer.org



INCLUSION
IMAGINATION
INNOVATION



EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY

WATER WELL REPORTING GOES GREEN

THE GOAL TO GO GREEN COMES IN THE FORM OF A DOWNLOADABLE METER MATTERS SMARTPHONE APPLICATION

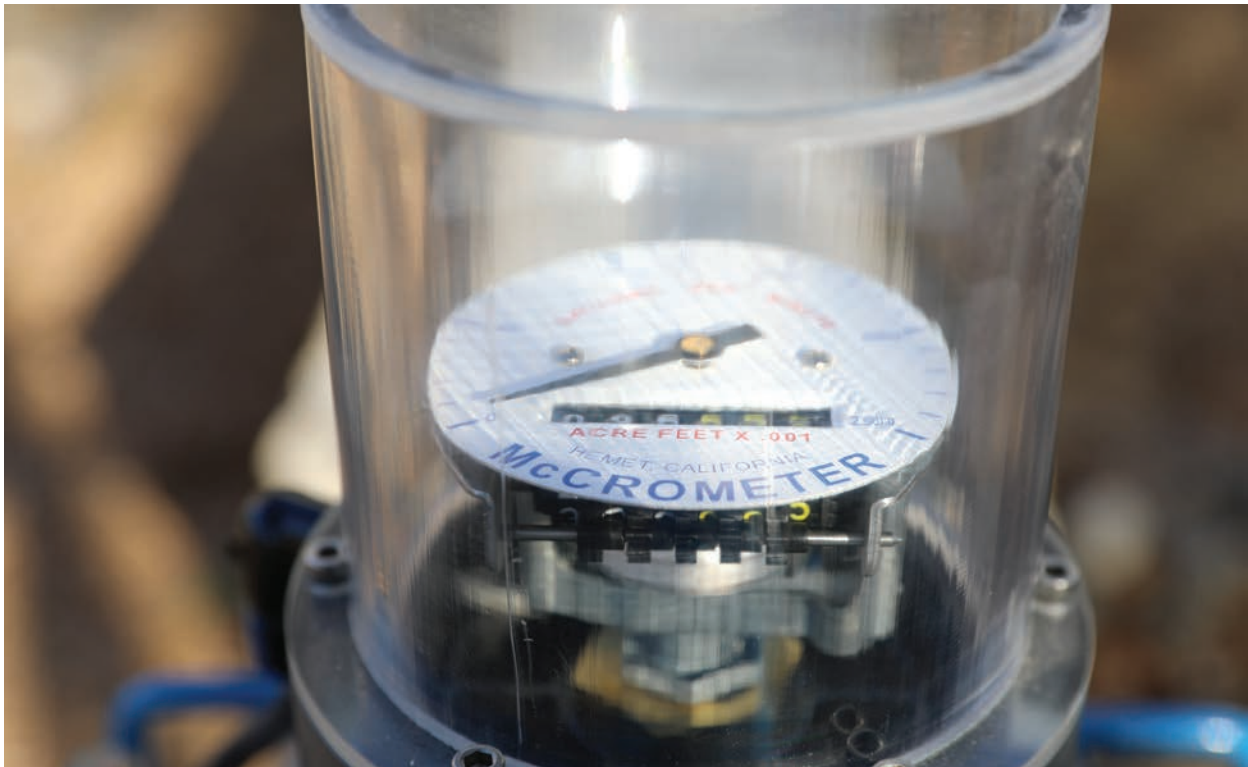
Here's how it works – after downloading the app, and registering the meter(s), it prompts a connection to the user's phone camera, which allows the well owner to snap photos of their meter readings at the recommended intervals. These intervals vary depending on the type of well it is, so the recommended reporting would be monthly for permitted well owners and quarterly for LPW owners – to fully meet EAA annual use reporting requirements.



M. Propeller
FLOW
McCRONZET

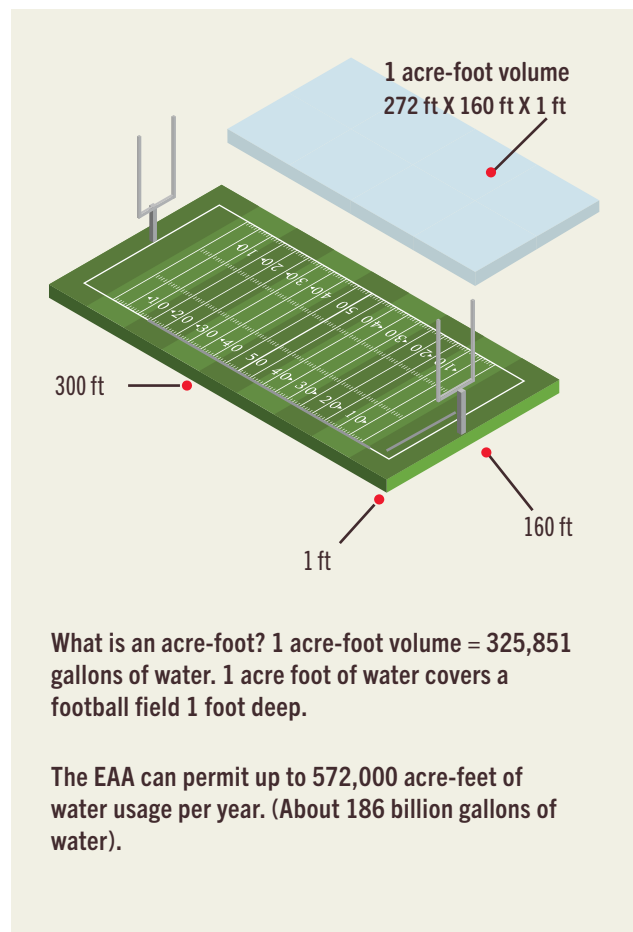
M. Propeller
FLOW
McCRONZET

DANGER
DO NOT REMOVE
UNDER PRESSURE



Permitted well owners and owners of Limited Production Wells (LPWs), aka well owners that pump less than 1.4 acre-feet per year, are encouraged to report their well readings both a monthly and quarterly basis*. However, annual reporting is mandatory for all well owners. For the past 25 years, well owners would keep track of their water usage by logging their readings, and then transfer those readings to the proper reporting form at the end of the year. Then, send it to EAA headquarters – year after year.

Fast forward to now, the goal to go green comes in the form of a downloadable Meter Matters Smartphone Application (app) available to well owners on iPhone and Android mobile devices that has recently been improved upon since debuting in 2016. In a few simple steps, well owners can submit periodic and end-of-year readings, meet their annual use reporting requirements, and potentially forgo filling out an Annual Use Reporting Form with the EAA.



* Permitted well owners must report monthly readings during Critical Period Management, and only if they have more than a 3-acre-foot permit.

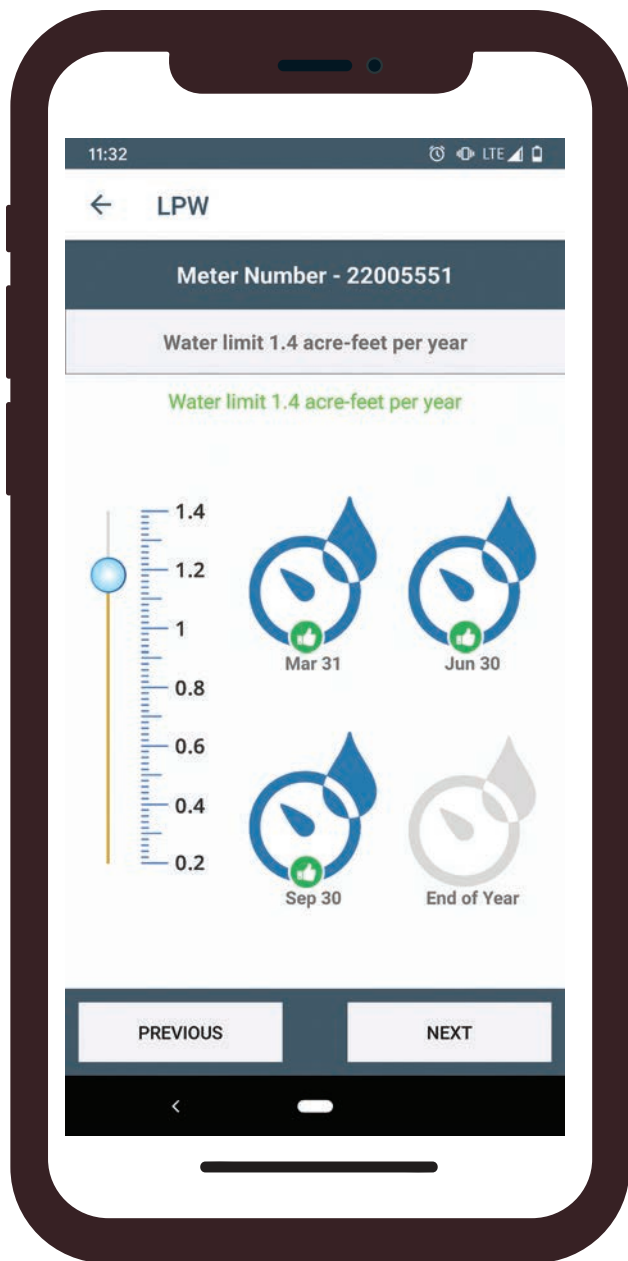


DANGER
High Voltage
Electrical
Equipment
Do Not Touch
Without Proper
Training

TO ACTIVATE
PUSH THE
POWER
BUTTON

McQuay-NEC

McQuay-NEC
HVAC
R/TECH
TV



Here's how it works – after downloading the app, and registering the meter(s), it prompts a connection to the user's phone camera, which allows the well owner to snap photos of their meter readings at the recommended intervals. "These intervals vary depending on the type of well it is, so the recommended reporting would be monthly for permitted well owners and quarterly for LPW owners – to fully meet EAA annual use reporting requirements," instructed Brannan Trigg, EAA Meters Team Member.

Then, EAA staff processes that reading and reports back through the app how much water the well owner has used from that meter year-to-date. In addition, permitted well owners that have additional reporting requirements can submit CPM monthly use reporting, report a meter repair/change on the well, or report the results of a meter accuracy verification test. These features give Meter Matters app users the ability to easily monitor and manage their use throughout the year.

"The meters team is available to work closely with well owners to answer any questions they may have about meter related matters or questions pertaining to the app," assured Chris Morgan, EAA Meters Team Member.

"I like the Meter Matters app because it allows me to manage all of my meter readings and reporting requirements from my phone. I just have to take a picture of the meter and submit the reading - no need for paperwork or stamps. I also like that it automatically calculates my total water use to date for each meter, so I can easily track how much I've pumped and how much I have left on my permit. I have all of my past meter readings at my fingertips, whenever I need them."

- Adam Y., Medina County



MEET THE METERS TEAM

Brannndon Trigg, Charles Bradshaw, and Chris Morgan (left to right) are the EAA staff working with well owners to collect meter readings and assist them with staying up to date with their reporting. “The app is a great tool for well owners to utilize, and because reporting is encouraged and, in some cases, mandatory it streamlines the submission process to one central location – the Meter Matters app.” said Charles Bradshaw, EAA Meters Team Member.

APP SEARCH KEY WORDS: EAA METER MATTERS

How to Report

STEP ONE:

Select a Meter to report

STEP TWO:

Enter your meter reading

STEP THREE:

Take a picture of the meter register

STEP FOUR:

Confirm and Submit!

Permitted users are prompted to collect meter readings anytime between 5 days before to 5 days after the end of each month and at the end of the year.

LPW owners are prompted to collect meter readings anytime between 20 days before to 20 days after the end of each quarter (March, June and September), and between 5 days before to 15 days after the end of the year.

Bonus incentive: LPW owners are encouraged to submit quarterly readings and an end of the year reading to receive a waived registration fee for the next year.

Avoid filling out an Annual Use Reporting Form with the EAA by using the app to make your end-of-year meter reading submission. ■




A green thumbs up indicates the readings was successfully reported and accepted into the system.

A red thumbs down means that the reading was not approved, and a Meters Team member will be in contact with you to troubleshoot the issue.

PERMITTED WELLS REPORTING ICON ACTIVATION SCHEDULE

Icon	Turns "On"		Turns "Off"	
Jan 31	Jan 25	Feb 5	Feb 5	Mar 5
Feb 28	Feb 25	Mar 5	Mar 5	Apr 5
Mar 31	Mar 25	Apr 5	Apr 5	May 5
Apr 30	Apr 25	May 5	May 5	Jun 5
May 31	May 25	Jun 5	Jun 5	Jul 5
Jun 30	Jun 25	Jul 5	Jul 5	Aug 5
Jul 31	Jul 25	Aug 5	Aug 5	Sept 5
Aug 31	Aug 25	Sept 5	Sept 5	Oct 5
Sep 30	Sep 25	Oct 5	Oct 5	Nov 5
Oct 31	Oct 25	Nov 5	Nov 5	Dec 5
Nov 30	Nov 25	Dec 5	Dec 5	Jan 15 (Next year)
End-of-Year	Dec 25	Jan 15 (Next year)	Jan 15 (Next year)	

LIMITED PRODUCTION WELLS REPORTING ICON ACTIVATION SCHEDULE

Icon	Turns "On"	Turns "Off"
Mar 31	Mar 10	Apr 20
Jun 30	Jun 10	Jul 20
Sep 30	Sep 10	Oct 20
End-of-Year	Dec 25	Jan 15 (Next year)

“After several years of kind and gentle encouragement from Charles Bradshaw to install and use the Meter App available to Edwards Well owners, I finally succumbed. My reluctance stemmed from so many companies making such applications sound so simple and once a person is involved, they are not worth the trouble. I was embarrassed for myself when I downloaded the App. It was so easy to install and will be so convenient. I would encourage anyone who feels like I did - to give it a try.”

- Julie T., Uvalde County





EDWARDS AQUIFER
HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

MORE AMOR FOR SAN MARCOS SALAMANDERS

**Researcher finding new ways to increase reproduction rates
of threatened and endangered salamander populations**

“One newspaper referred to me as the ‘Salamander Love Doctor,’ and so I’m running with that,” Marcec-Greaves said with a lighthearted smile. “You have to admit, salamanders are definitely adorable. Not only that, but many species of amphibians all over the world are threatened and endangered. So, I think it’s time we show them a lot of love. And that’s what I’m focused on doing for them.”







“I am a salamander aficionado.” Needless to say, that was quite the unique introduction to Dr. Ruth Marcec-Greaves, who visited the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) refugia at San Marcos in late February. She is the director of the Detroit Zoo’s National Amphibian Conservation Center and an expert in helping salamanders find their special someones a little more often in order to produce captive salamander populations.

Marcec-Greaves said her fascination with amphibians came at an early age. She loved turning over rocks to see what kinds of frogs, lizards or other animals would scurry about. Her passion for salamanders grew when she was in college. That led her to add a second doctoral degree focused on salamanders and reproductive physiology to her doctorate of veterinary medicine in zoo medicine and ecosystem health. At the National Amphibian Conservation Center, which is a 12,000 square-foot facility integrated into a two-acre wetland area, Marcec-Greaves applies her research-based reproductive technologies to assist the captive breeding programs there.

She is also a first-call consultant in helping other scientists around the world in their amphibian population development work.

“As part of the EAHCP comprehensive program, one of our jobs is to grow the population of the Edwards Aquifer endangered species in our refugia so we will have plenty of animals to reintroduce into the wild in the event some sort of disaster decimates those species now living in their natural habitats,” said Dr. Lindsay Campbell, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service supervisory biologist and point person on the EAHCP refugia program.



“So, as we have been studying the San Marcos salamander, I started looking for a scientist who might have some expertise with salamander breeding. All roads led to Ruth, and so we were very pleased when she agreed to come to San Marcos to work with us on our salamanders.”

Campbell explained that one of the things her team learned in trying to produce a large enough standing stock in the refugia is that there are many details you have to know before you ever get to the point of being able to successfully reintroduce a species. “We have been successful at breeding the various salamanders in our refugia, but it is critically important that we be able to produce them when we need to and that’s what this research and work with Ruth is all about,” Campbell reiterated. “We do have a few actively reproducing female salamanders in the refugia, but when you go to reintroduce the species back into nature, they can’t all be from the same genetic group.

At the National Amphibian Conservation Center, which is a 12,000 square-foot facility integrated into a two-acre wetland area, Marcec-Greaves applies her research-based reproductive technologies to assist the captive breeding programs there. She is also a first-call consultant in helping other scientists around the world in their amphibian population development work.



So, we are looking for ways to expand the numbers of clutches we get from many different females. We are focusing on the San Marcos salamander now because we have the most history with them. But, what we learn from our research on this species, we will be looking to apply to the others as well.”

“Like most animals, salamanders don’t just reproduce on cue,” Marcec-Greaves said. “But we have discovered various means of helping them be a little more predictable through understanding their typical mating habits and then by adding distilled hormones to the mix. Essentially, we will put a drop of the hormone solution on the salamander’s nose, which is where we’ve learned they absorb the most pheromones. We will leave that on them for about 10 seconds before putting them back in the water. Those pheromones help trigger reproductive behaviors and that gets us a lot closer to being able to have the species reproduce on demand, which is what you need to be able to do in a refugia like this.”

When asked about her growing reputation as the salamander love doctor, Marcec-Greaves said, “I just embrace it. If it can help generate some awareness about amphibians like the San Marcos salamander and what we are doing to preserve them, then having some fun with it is a good thing. Now, rumors have it that we’ll put on some Barry White or Marvin Gaye in the lab to create the right mood for our salamanders, but the truth is we think that the scientifically-prepared hormones are a little more effective for these guys. But, you never know where our research might lead.”

Spoken like a true aficionado. ■



EDWARDS AQUIFER
HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

COMAL SPRINGS RIFFLE BEETLE RESEARCH RAMPS UP

**Texas State, Fish & Wildlife, EAHCP advance learning about
endangered beetle**

Slowly but surely, scientists from Texas State University and the Fish and Wildlife Service working on the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) are learning more about the endangered Comal Springs riffle beetle, which lives in spring openings. Just a handful of years ago, researchers noted they were essentially starting from scratch when it came to developing a body of knowledge about the tiny creature. And even though scientists are learning more each day, the ultimate prize of being able to breed Comal Springs riffle beetles in a lab is still a mystery.



“Eventually, we need to find the right process for maintaining a self-sustaining population of riffle beetles at the EAHCP refugia site,” said Dr. Weston Nowlin, who leads a team of biologists at Texas State University studying the Comal Springs riffle beetle. “Right now we’ve hit a bit of a bottleneck. While we have successfully been able to get the males and females together to produce eggs, the beetles which emerge from metamorphosis do not survive very long. That’s obviously a hurdle we must figure out how to get over if we are going to be able to have some sort of standing stock of riffle beetles in the refugia. That way, if an extended drought or some other disaster were ever to sharply harm the species in the wild, we would be able to reintroduce them into their natural habitat from captivity.”

Over the past few years researchers have learned about the beetles’ life history, how long their reproduction cycle is, what elements are needed for them to reproduce, how they tolerate certain environmental conditions and what kind of a diet they best survive on. From the life history perspective, Weston’s team had to start by figuring out how to tell the males and females apart. An analysis of body characteristics found that the females have a longer sternum than their male counterparts. Next, they were able to mate beetles so the females could lay eggs. They also determined what type of substrate the females preferred in laying eggs, how many eggs could be produced at a time and then how long the eggs took to hatch into larvae. The larvae grow through a series of instars, which means various stages of development, before it becomes an adult.

“During our research, we’ve found out how many instars each riffle beetle goes through, what the survivorship is in captivity and then how long they are in the larval stage before they become adults,” Nowlin explained. “However, that last stage of pupation just before they emerge as adults has been where things have broken down. On the upside, we’ve found out the type of food they like best and that they can be sensitive to changes in water temperature and dissolved oxygen. In fact, just the change of a few degrees in temperature can dramatically impact a riffle beetle’s health. That’s probably why they like the Comal Spring openings so much because the water temperature there rarely changes. All of these findings will definitely help us in the next two studies we are working.”





Currently, Nowlin's team is wrapping up a study centered around the diet for a riffle beetle. From previous research, they know that the riffle beetle's primarily feed off of the biofilm that grows on leaves in the water and other types of organic matter. Getting the diet right will be critical to being successful in being able to produce adult riffle beetles in a lab environment. The next study will focus on creating conditions that will get the pupa to mature into adults.

“We should be wrapping up the diet research sometime over this summer and we're about to begin another two studies,” Nowlin noted. “Some previous research done collaboratively between Texas State and the Fish and Wildlife Service found that in one stage of development, the riffle beetle pupa forms a light, yellowish looking case and then go inactive for a period of time. They noticed that it seemed the Comal Springs riffle beetle pupal cases subsisted best when they were submerged in water. Most of the other types of riffle beetles we know about do not do this. Those pupal cases are typically found on stream banks near the water. So, we're developing two types of devices for Comal Springs riffle beetle pupa to grow in. In one, the pupa will be completely submerged in water. The other will have some sort of air-water interface. Then we'll see which process best allows pupa to develop into adults.

“In addition to that research, we'll also be modifying the frequency with which we handle the riffle beetles and the pupa. We check on and handle them every week, which is standard protocol right now. So, we'll have another group of beetles that we don't handle for several weeks at a time. The riffle beetle pupa have tiny hairs on their outer cases and we think they can be very sensitive. That means that too frequent handling could be changing the way they pupate. All of the things we're learning will hopefully enable the Fish and Wildlife Service to learn the best methods for creating a standing stock in the refugia like they are doing with the endangered fountain darters, Texas wild rice and salamanders.” ■





EDWARDS AQUIFER
HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

TAKING THE HIGH ROAD IN SEIZING THE MIDDLE GROUND

There was a time in the not too distant past that the proponents of property rights and environmental protections were like oil and water.

And while most of those battles were played out in the court system, attempts to prevent those legal struggles in the first place were not the norm. However, that combative dynamic is seeing a shift toward parties trying to balance the needs of both sides of the equation before the drawing of legal swords begins.

One promising indicator of such a shift is the formation of the National Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Coalition. In 2015, a small group of HCPs and federal officials gathered at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center to discuss the idea and merits of collaboration among all stakeholders in the development and implementation of Habitat Conservation Plan programs. The following year, the first National HCP Coalition conference was held.

“This past year, more than 100 people attended the national conference, and we were certainly pleased to be there representing the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP),” said EAHCP Habitat Conservation Manager Jamie Childers. “The group included not only people with HCPs from about 35 states, but there were representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who regulate Habitat Conservation Plans there as well. The mix of attendees made for a lively and very productive conference. Essentially, the Coalition is working to spread the word on the benefits of HCPs by focusing on balancing the needs of protecting endangered habitats and species with development that drives local and regional economies.”

The eight stated goals of the National HCP Coalition include issues relating to creating awareness about the value of HCPs to finding the means to effectively streamline planning, implementing and regulatory compliance processes. Additionally, the Coalition wants to serve as the primary place for HCP teams around the country to share their success stories and as a mentor for new HCP administrators.

“In my role with the EAHCP, I get very focused on the science of our work,” said EAHCP Chief Science Officer Dr. Chad Furl. “However, when you are in a meeting of regulators and administrators along with the science people, you really come away with a better perspective of just how many moving parts there are to a successful HCP and why it is critically important that collaboration is the rule rather than the exception.”

The National HCP Coalition underscores Furl’s thoughts about collaboration in a “lessons learned” page on their website. Under the title “Start Slow to Go Fast,” they relate the story of the startup of the Santa Clara Valley HCP in California.

It advises the parties developing an HCP should establish clear and consistent parameters and goals for the project and include informational and organizational elements. Also, this process needs to involve key stakeholders to ensure there is a process for resolving regional conflicts and a management system before moving forward.

“The ‘start slow’ topic at this year’s conference really made an impression on me in understanding how laying important groundwork and program governance for implementing an HCP can actually make things go a lot smoother with regulators and overall execution of the program down the road,” Childers noted. “It’s a marathon not a sprint. The EAHCP is the perfect example of that. It took a long time to get our current permit and it was issued for 15 years. When this permit concludes, we are most likely going to apply for a permit that covers us for decades.”

“Both Jamie and I are relatively new to the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan and one of the things we are thankful for is that there is such a long history of research and science that our HCP is built on,” Furl explained. “At the national conference we heard from HCPs just starting out and the struggles they were facing in creating that strong foundation on which to base their programs. We are very fortunate that the EAHCP has a solid governing structure, engaged stakeholders willing to work together and a deep set of data to work from. Those are the keys to our current successes which also gives us confidence we will be able to earn a lengthy renewal in 2028 as Jamie alluded to.”

The 2020 National HCP Coalition conference is going to be held in Austin in the fall. The EAHCP's Scott Storment and Olivia Ybarra will be on the planning committee for that gathering of national HCP participants.

“We encourage all of our stakeholders to make plans to attend the next HCP conference given its proximity to the Edwards Region,” Childers said. “There are many different perspectives included in the development and operation of an HCP. And it is quite fascinating to hear the views of folks from varying backgrounds and how they came together to get to a win-win solution. I know the opportunity I had to be at the last conference and hearing those different views will make me a better administrator for the EAHCP. So, that’s why I think our stakeholders should be in Austin for the 2020 National HCP Coalition conference if at all possible.” ■







EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY

LASSOING IN AWARENESS AT THE SAN ANTONIO STOCK SHOW AND RODEO

The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo has approximately 1.9 million visitors entering the grounds each year, and it's championed as one of the most prestigious events in the city of San Antonio.

The rodeo is rich with tradition and has a history of stewardship to the community, which sparked the EAA's participation back in 2015. For the EAA, stewardship is held in a high regard as a core value and participating in the rodeo was the right fit for spreading awareness.

From aquifer displays to pop-up banners and giveaways our staff has engaged with thousands of rodeo guests by sharing information about the work they do to fulfill the EAA's mission to manage, enhance, and protect the Edwards Aquifer.

“So far, my grandchildren have really loved the Edwards Aquifer booth...”

- Kristen Jordan, San Antonio Rodeo Visitor

The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo has approximately 1.9 million visitors entering the grounds each year, and it's championed as one of the most prestigious events in the city of San Antonio. The rodeo is rich with tradition and has a history of stewardship to the community, which sparked the EAA's participation back in 2015. For the EAA, stewardship is held in a high regard as a core value and participating in the rodeo was the right fit for spreading awareness.

From aquifer displays to pop-up banners and giveaways our staff has engaged with thousands of rodeo guests by sharing information about the work they do to fulfill the EAA's mission to manage, enhance, and protect the Edwards Aquifer. This year we were eager to share many historic moments with the public from the announcement of the Education Outreach Center at Morgan's Wonderland Camp to the acquisition of the sites for the Field Research Park and Research Center, formerly known as Cibolo Vista Tracts 1 and 2.

We embarked on debuting a sneak peek of the 3-D cave experience that will be fully unveiled at the Education Outreach Center at Morgan's Wonderland Camp. Rodeo attendees were given the opportunity to see inside of a Texas sized cave hundreds of feet below our feet! The interest was so great, that even the San Antonio Express-News captured a sense of the excitement. “So far, my grandchildren have really loved the Edwards Aquifer booth,” stated Kristen Jordan. She went on to say that they were anticipating a visit to experience the 3-D presentation. ■

SARODEO.COM

Right: Karston, EAA Texas Blind Salamander mascot at the San Antonio Rodeo



BIG SKY RIDES

Basin State Bank

LAZY DOE
FINE FOODS & COCKTAILS

EVANS REPAIR

K'S SUPERMARKET

John's Feed R-R

KLINGBON CONSTRUCTION

70

UPPER SECTIONS

KARSTON
TEXAS BLIND SALAMANDER

WU-TEX



EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY

A NEW WAY TO CHARGE UP AQUIFER AWARENESS

**The Recharge Zone Podcast will be the first official podcast
for the Edwards Aquifer Authority**

The show will be hosted by EAA's Communications Specialist, Ann-Margaret Gonzalez and Research Manager, Brent Doty. The hosts will bring together their areas of expertise to disseminate aquifer related news, facts, and current projects happening that the EAA in an easy to digest format. The podcast will air early Summer, so be sure to tune in to charge up your knowledge on all things Edwards Aquifer from the EAA!

Coming soon to Apple Podcasts







EDWARDS AQUIFER CONSERVANCY

EAA VOLUNTEERS CLEAN UP!

On a brisk Saturday morning in late January, EAA employees and family members gave of their time and talents to support a general clean-up of the newly acquired Field Research Park, which was contributed by the City of San Antonio via the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy.

Part of that conveyance included a home, that has been dubbed, “Aquifina Villa.” The Villa will serve as an initial base of operations for the Aquifer Science Management Services team and its work in surveying the properties and setting up instrumentation for data-gathering purposes. It will also serve as a gathering place for guests of the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy and will likely become the permanent home for the Conservancy and its staff in the near future.





The day's efforts focused on a clean-up and scrubbing down of the Villa. Additionally, the grounds immediately around the property had fallen tree limbs carried off; other precariously hanging tree limbs were felled and taken away; bushels of leaves were gathered and bagged; shrubs were pruned, and the Villa's pergola patio area was given a proper power washing – one that was way overdue!

“The cleanup allowed us to take care of some labor-intensive activities in a relatively short amount of time, stated Mark Hamilton, Executive Director of Aquifer Management Services for the EAA. “The fact that we were able to accomplish all of this in the span of about four hours speaks well to the impact of EAA teamwork, and one that I’m particularly proud of.”

In all, about 25 individuals, comprised of EAA employees from every division, and some of their family members, pitched in and gave of their time, talents and energies to make the event a complete success. After the morning's work was done, the volunteers were treated to a Bill Miller's Barbecue Luncheon – and had time to reflect on and admire their handiwork.

“What is so heartening about this effort is that it demonstrates the Edwards Aquifer Authority employees’ appreciation and support of the value proposition of the Field Research Park... As we visit with potential funders for capital improvements at the Park, we are able to share with them the amount of “sweat equity” that our EAA staff is placing into the endeavor. This demonstrated commitment by our people only strengthens our case for support.”

- Mike De La Garza, Senior Director of Communications & Outreach
& Executive Director of the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy



Despite the current pandemic impacting any gatherings from occurring again in the immediate future, we remain encouraged by our first foray into the field, and we look to future opportunities to make our mark on the EAA Field Research Park!






CONCOURSE

EAST CONCOUR



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