



MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2015

Available at eahcp.org

1. Call to Order. 9:05 am

Members present include: Tom Arsuffi, Doyle Mosier, Charles Kreitler, Jacquelyn Duke, Jackie Poole, Floyd Weckerly, Chad Norris, Glenn Longley, Janis Bush, Conrad Lamon, and Robert Mace.

2. Public Comment.

No comment.

3. Approval of minutes from the November 5th Science Committee meeting and presentation of December 18th Joint Committee meeting as approved by the Implementing Committee.

Charlie Kreitler moved for approval. Jackie Poole seconded. There was no objection.

4. Receive Report from the EAHCP Program Manager.

- Alicia Reinmund-Martinez discussed the Newsletter Distribution and if the committee had any suggestions for additional email on our list.
- Gizelle Luevano, EAA Hydrologic Data Coordinator, presented the results of the January 22nd Stormwater Sampling Event in the Comal system.
- Nathan Pence, EAHCP Program Manager, presented the National Academy of Science report process to the committee.
- Shaun Payne, EAHCP Coordinator, gave a presentation on Springflows and J-17 Index Well Level update.

5. Presentation of the 2014 Applied Research Results: Fountain Darter Movement Under Low-Flow Conditions in the Comal Springs/River Ecosystem.

Jake Jackson presented the results of Fountain Darter Movement Applied Research project. Discussion about variables and overall questions pertaining to the implications of the results followed. Presentation can be found under February 11th Science Committee Documents on eahcp.org.

6. Presentation of the 2014 Applied Research Results: Effects of Low Flow on Fountain Darter Reproductive Effort.

Harland Nichols presented the results of the Fountain Darter Reproduction Applied Research project. Discussion about variables and overall questions pertaining to the implications of the results followed. Presentation can be found under February 11th Science Committee Documents on eahcp.org.

7. Presentation of the 2014 Applied Research Results: Effects of Predation on Fountain Darters Study.

Myranda Clark presented the results of the Fountain Darter Predation Applied Research project. Discussion about variables and overall questions pertaining to the implications of the results

followed. Presentation can be found under February 11th Science Committee Documents on eahcp.org.

8. Presentation of and possible action to recommend the results of the 2014 Net Disturbance and Take Assessment Report for adoption by the Implementing Committee.

Ed Oborny presented the 2014 Net Disturbance and Take Assessment Report to the committee. Discussion pertaining to methods and general state of the system followed. Presentation can be found under February 11th Science Committee Documents on eahcp.org.

Todd Vottler asked if we could show a comparison to the overall population of the species.

Glen Longley made a motion to recommend the report for adoption by the Implementing Committee. Floyd Weckerly seconded. There was no objection.

9. Presentation of and possible action to provide input on the proposed 2015 Sediment Impacts on Texas wild-rice Applied Research methods.

Dr. Thom Hardy presented the objectives and methodology for the 2015 Sediment Impacts Applied Research study. Conrad Lamon asked specifically about assumptions for empirical relationships to be developed from the data gathered. Discussion about the methods followed. Presentation can be found under February 11th Science Committee Documents on eahcp.org.

10. Presentation of the 2014 Water Quality Monitoring Report.

Phil Pearce, SWCA, presented the summary of the Water Quality Monitoring program for 2014. Charlie Kreitler discussed that the analysis of the Water Quality data should reflect the impact on the Covered Species and not the purpose of TCEQ regulations. Glenn Longley mentioned a possible analysis of toxicity in species of concern. A general comment was to continue the monitoring, but to be less intensive.

Ed Oborny mentioned the findings in the Biological Monitoring effort and what the effects are on the species. Floyd Weckerly mentioned limiting the presentations of the Water Quality Monitoring program. Some more general discussion on collection and analysis followed and could the monitoring program stay as robust or be paired down. Dr. Hardy mentioned pursuing efforts being done by other entities.

Ms. Gizelle Luevano, EAA staff, gave a presentation about the Real Time Monitoring system portion of the Water Quality Monitoring program.

Presentations can be found under February 11th Science Committee Documents on eahcp.org.

11. Presentation of details on the development of the Ecological Model.

Ed Oborny introduced the Ecological Modeling Team, Dr. Grant, Dr. Wang, Dr. Doyle, Dr. Swannack, Dr. Hardy, and Dr. Ward.

Dr. Swannack presented about the agent based model.

Dr. Hardy presented the hydrologic and water quality parameters of the model.

Dr. Doyle presented the percent cover to biomass study for input into the Ecological Model.

Dr. Swannack presented the Aquatic Vegetation portion of the model.

Dr. Jackson presented the Food Source Analysis for input into the model.

Dr. Wang and Dr. Grant presented the Fountain Darter Modeling.

Dr. Ward Overview of Key Decisions.

Ed Oborny presented the Ecological Model schedule and next steps.

Throughout presentations, committee members asked several questions. Since many members had to leave before the end of the presentation Ms. Reinmund-Martinez told the committee that she would follow-up requesting members to provide input on the models spatial scope and data needs.

Presentations can be found under February 11th Science Committee Documents on eahcp.org.

12. Future agenda items.

13. Questions and comments from the public.

No Comment

14. Adjourn: 4:55 pm