

A scenic view of a river with large trees and a bird in flight. The trees have autumn-colored foliage, and the water is calm. A large tree with a thick trunk is prominent on the left. A bird is flying in the sky above the trees.

# COMAL SPRINGS RIFFLE BEETLE WORK GROUP





# CSRB WORK GROUP

- ▶ Draft charge questions have been developed
- ▶ EAHCP staff is working on work group membership and timing
- ▶ Goal today is to introduce and gather input on the charge questions and explain rationale





# CSRB WORK GROUP CHARGE

- The Work Group's charge consists of questions related to three areas
  - 1). Sampling methodology
  - 2). Field activities
  - 3). EAHCP LTBGs







# CSRB COTTON LURE SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Is the current cotton lure sampling methodology an appropriate means to monitor abundance at a locale?
- ▶ If not, what sampling methodologies exist that would provide a better proxy of abundance at a locale?
- ▶ If the previous two questions cannot be adequately answered without additional study, what would be an appropriate study to answer the questions?



# CSRB COTTON LURE SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

- To aid in addressing these questions, the EAHCP intends to engage with an outside researcher to prepare a written literature review on appropriate sampling technologies.
- Work group members will be given the opportunity to weigh in on information needed to answer sampling methodology charge questions.
- It is anticipated the written review will be finalized prior to work group meetings addressing this issue.



# BIOLOGICAL MONITORING, REFUGIA COLLECTIONS, AND APPLIED RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

- ▶ What changes are recommended for the Biological monitoring sampling program? What are the stated goals behind those changes?
- ▶ What changes are recommended for Refugia removal efforts? What are the stated goals behind those changes?
- ▶ Are the current and proposed levels of physical activity in the CSRB habitat protective of the species? If not, what level of activity is appropriate?



# BIOLOGICAL MONITORING, REFUGIA COLLECTIONS, AND APPLIED RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

- ▶ EAHCP staff will conduct analyses on biomonitoring and refugia data at the direction of the work group.
- ▶ Work group members will be given the opportunity to weigh in on initial information needed to begin addressing the charge questions. Additional analyses will be completed as they are identified.





# CSRB LONG-TERM BIOLOGICAL GOALS

- ▶ Are the current population and habitat LTBGs for the CSRB appropriate?
- ▶ What is an appropriate means to monitor the habitat quality goal?
- ▶ How can Biological monitoring, Refugia efforts, and Applied Research studies be used to establish new LTBGs if needed?



# CSRB LONG-TERM BIOLOGICAL GOALS

- ▶ The NAS report 3 will be finalized by September 2018. The report addresses the topic of CSRB LTBGs.
- ▶ The NAS and others have expressed concern over monitoring of the habitat goals and use of lure counts for achieving LTBGs.

	Spring Run 3	Western Shoreline	Spring Island Area
Habitat	Silt-free gravel and cobble substrate $\geq 90\%$ of each study area		
Density (# of CSRB/Lure)	$\geq 20$	$\geq 15$	$\geq 15$



# PROPOSED CSRB WG TIMELINE

Tentative CSRB WG schedule	
Solicit Science Committee input on charge questions	March 8 - March 23
Finalize and approve work group charge through Science Committee	May 9 meeting
Hold initial work group meeting	May
Conduct literature and other work group requests	May - August
Perform data analyses and other work group requests	May - August
NAS Report 3 complete, literature review complete, and initial data analyses complete	September 1
Work group begins regular meetings	September - October
Finalize and document work group results	November - December
Implement work group suggestions	2019