



ATTACHMENT 3
United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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JUN 13 2016

Nathan Pence, Program Manager
Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan
900 East Quincy
San Antonio, Texas 78215

Dear Mr. Pence:

This letter is in response to your May 23, 2016 letter requesting to amend the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Plan Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP). Chapter 5 *Minimization and Mitigation Measures; Measures Specifically Intended to Contribute to Recovery* includes a commitment by the Edwards Aquifer Authority, City of New Braunfels, City of San Marcos, San Antonio Water System, and Texas State University (Permittees) to convene a Regional Advisory Group to advise the San Antonio Water System regarding implementation of the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Program. The EAHCP section 5.2.1 states that the 12-member Regional Advisory Group will meet no less than quarterly. The Permittees and the members of the Regional Advisory Group have agreed based experience implementing the EAHCP and the Section 10(a)(1)(B) permit that the Regional Advisory Group need only meet annually unless circumstances warrant more frequent meetings.

This amendment to the EAHCP does not change the terms and conditions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit TE-63663A-1 or change any impacts previously described in the EAHCP, the EAHCP Environmental Impact Statement, or the Service's Endangered Species Act Section 7 biological opinion. Therefore, we approve of your request to amend the EAHCP section 5.2.1 as requested in your letter, specifically that the frequency of meetings of the Regional Advisory Group will be as needed but no less than annually.

Sincerely,

Adam Zerrenner
Field Supervisor

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