



Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program News Release

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Headline

(City and Date:) The Steering Committee of the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program (EARIP) decided _____ at its monthly meeting.

(Details of the decision)

(Possible quote from chair or program manager)

(Background of issue written in advance)

(Other decisions made at the meeting with most important listed first. Could be bullet list. Possible background on other important issues written in advance—no more than a paragraph).

In accordance with Senate Bill 3, the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program (EARIP) is working through a formal consensus-building process among regional stakeholders to arrive at a plan to protect the endangered species while managing the aquifer for the benefit of all. Stakeholders in the EARIP process include water utilities, cities, agricultural users, industrial users, environmental organizations, river authorities, downstream and coastal interests.

The Edwards Aquifer region provides the primary water supply to some 1.7 million people in south central Texas.

The EARIP created its organizational structure in the past year (2007-2008), hiring a program manager, and appointing committees on science, recharge, finance and public outreach and a workgroup on biological modeling. The Steering Committee has set goals of developing a habitat conservation plan by the end of 2011 and recommendations for aquifer management by the end of 2012. For additional information, the website is <http://www.earip.tamu.edu/>.

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