



**Barton Springs
Edwards Aquifer**
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

For Immediate Release: Monday, June 30, 2014

For more information, contact: John Dupnik, General Manager, (512) 282-8441 or jdupnik@bseacd.org

Aquifer District Habitat Conservation Plan Available for Public Review and Comment

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District is in the process of developing a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The overall goal of the District's HCP process is to protect the endangered species that rely on the aquifer as habitat while providing a requisite water supply to the people who are dependent on the groundwater resources within the District.

The draft HCP has been developed with input from multiple advisory groups over the course of nearly ten years. Most recently the Management Advisory Committee--a group of stakeholders including permittees, private landowners, biologists, environmentalists, and local, state, and federal government agencies--has reviewed and provided input into the proposed draft HCP.

At the June 26 Board Meeting, the Board of Directors voted to release the proposed draft HCP and begin the official public comment period. Comments can be submitted via email, direct mail, or fax until July 25, 2014. Please send them to:

Email: bseacd@bseacd.org (include "HCP Public Comment" in subject line)

Direct mail: BSEACD, re: HCP Public Comment, 1124 Regal Row, Austin, Tx 78748

Fax: 512-282-7016 (include "HCP Public Comment" in subject line)

The draft HCP, history of the HCP development process, and supporting materials can be found online in the Spotlights section of the District home page: www.bseacd.org.

BSEACD is a groundwater conservation district charged by the Texas Legislature to preserve, conserve, and protect the aquifers and groundwater resources within its jurisdiction, which includes parts of three Central Texas counties. It is governed by a Board of five elected directors and staffed with hydrogeologists, groundwater regulatory compliance specialists, environmental educators, geospatial systems specialists, and administrative support personnel.