

State of Texas
County of Williamson
Know all men by these presents:

THAT ON THIS, the 28th day of October 2008, the Commissioners' Court of Williamson County, Texas, met in duly called session at the Courthouse in Georgetown, with the following members present;

Dan A. Gattis, County Judge
Lisa L. Birkman, Commissioner, Precinct One
Cynthia Long, Commissioner, Precinct Two
Valerie Covey, Commissioner, Precinct Three
Ron Morrison, Commissioner, Precinct Four

And at said meeting, among other business, the Court considered the following

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Conservation Foundation was established in 2002 as a proactive measure to further conservation of endangered species in Williamson County while helping to further responsible development; and

WHEREAS, US Fish & Wildlife Service issues Incidental Take Permits to private landowners, corporations, State or local governments, Tribes or other non-Federal landowners who are interested in conducting activities that might incidentally harm (or "take") endangered or threatened wildlife on their land; and

WHEREAS, to obtain a permit, the applicant needs to develop a *Habitat Conservation Plan* (HCP), designed to offset any harmful effects the proposed activity might have on the species. The HCP process allows development to proceed consistent with conserving listed species; and

WHEREAS, Williamson County received a federal grant to develop a Regional Habitat Conservation Plan (RHCP) in order to offer a voluntary option for entities, landowners and developers to more easily proceed with development plans while lessening the lengthy delays and increased costs associated with acquiring an individual permit from the US Fish & Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS, the County coordinated an extensive public input process including appointing a Citizens Advisory Committee comprised of landowners, environmental groups, school districts, developers, municipalities, and others and a Biological Advisory Team comprised of professional biologists and scientists from key disciplines to review the RHCP and held public meetings to receive input on the plan; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Benjamin Tuggle, Southwest Regional Director for US Fish & Wildlife Service, will officially present to Williamson County their 10(a)(1)(B) Incidental Take Permit for their Regional Habitat Conservation Plan on Wednesday, October 29, at 9:30 a.m. at Beck Preserve; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the County's leadership, innovation and commitment to operate from a regional perspective to further responsible development while working to conserve endangered species through the creation of the Regional Habitat Conservation Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, County Judge Dan A. Gattis, do hereby proclaim October 29, 2008, as Regional Habitat Conservation Plan Day in Williamson County.

RESOLVED THIS 28th DAY OF October, 2008

Attest:

Nancy E. Rister
Nancy E. Rister
Williamson County Clerk

Dan A. Gattis
Dan A. Gattis
Williamson County Judge