

## ATTACHMENT A

### WORK AUTHORIZATION NO. 7

This Work Authorization is made pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Agreement entered into by and between Williamson County, Texas, a political subdivision of the State of Texas, (*the "County"*) and SWCA Environmental Consultants (*the "Consultant"*).

**Part 1.** The *Consultant* will provide written comments responding to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposal to list the Jollyville Plateau Salamander, Georgetown Salamander, and Salado Salamander as threatened or endangered species. The proposed scope of work is intended to provide the Service with the latest scientific information demonstrating that listing of at least the Georgetown Salamander is not warranted at this time. The consultants will work closely with the Williamson County Conservation Foundation during all aspects of this work authorization.

**Part 2.** The maximum amount payable for services under this Work Authorization without modification is \$145,000.00.

**Part 3.** Payment to the *Consultant* for the services established under this Work Authorization shall be made in accordance with the Agreement.

**Part 4.** This Work Authorization shall become effective on the date of final acceptance of the parties hereto and shall terminate on December 31, 2012, unless extended by a Supplemental Work Authorization.

**Part 5.** This Work Authorization does not waive the parties' responsibilities and obligations provided under the Agreement.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Sound Science. Creative Solutions.

Austin Office  
4407 Monterey Oaks Boulevard,  
Bldg. 1, Suite 110  
Austin, TX 78749  
Tel 512.476.0891 Fax 512.476.0893  
www.swca.com

Mr. Gary Boyd  
Director, Environmental Programs  
Williamson County Conservation Foundation

25 October 2011

**Re: Exhibit B – Scope of Work and Budget Estimate for Consulting Services Relating to the Possible Listing of the Georgetown, Salado, and Jollyville Plateau Salamanders under the Federal Endangered Species Act**

Dear Gary,

Per your request SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) has prepared a cost estimate for a response to the possible listing of the above-referenced species in Williamson County, Texas. The following is a breakdown of the expected consulting budget for the effort to participate and provide comments on behalf of the County in the listing process. In addition to SWCA's services we have included projected fees for Texas Perspectives to provide an initial assessment of the economic impact of the listing and for Prime Strategies to coordinate governmental interaction in Washington, D.C., as well as preparation of the economic analysis. We understand that Smith-Robertson will provide necessary legal service under a separate contract with the Williamson County Conservation Foundation.

SWCA proposes to develop extensive comments on the status of the species occurring in Williamson County for the upcoming public comment period. Based on elements of the listing petition, subsequent settlement agreements and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) 2010 species assessment and listing priority form, our comments will focus on existing conservation actions, status of threats to the salamanders and opportunities to implement conservation measures similar to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Optional Enhanced Water Quality Measures and the potential economic impact of listing. Preparation of these comments would commence immediately with initial comments completed in mid-December 2011 and final comments completed for submittal to the USFWS by December 31, 2011.

Detailed components of this effort will include the following:

- Review all available data on water quality and *Eurycea* sp. salamanders
- Review all available data on the status of the northern segment of the Edwards Aquifer



- Review water quality best management practices including the TCEQ Optional Enhanced Water Quality Measures and others with emphasis on methods to reduce threats listed in the USFWS 2010 status review
- Develop current baseline status including rapid assessment of up to 20 known and potential sites for the Georgetown salamander. Characterize threats or lack thereof on a site specific basis including water quality sampling, habitat assessment, presence/absence survey, and springshed analysis

**Total SWCA cost estimate is \$75,000.00**

The Texas Perspectives budget estimate is as follows:

- \$45,000 for economic impact analysis to be completed by December 15<sup>th</sup>

**Total Texas Perspectives cost estimate is \$45,000.00**

The Prime Strategies budget estimate is as follows:

- \$25,000 during the development of the economic analysis and coordination with government officials

**Total Prime Strategies cost estimate is \$25,000.00**

**Total Work Authorization cost estimate is \$145,000.00**

## **EXHIBIT C - WORK SCHEDULE**

SWCA, Prime Strategies, and Texas Perspectives will begin work immediately upon receipt of a signed work authorization from Williamson County. A written response from the County will be provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by December 31, 2011. Some aspects of this work authorization may continue into the first quarter of 2012.

#### **EXHIBIT D - FEE SCHEDULE**

SWCA proposes to conduct the services described in Exhibit B on a time and materials basis not to exceed \$145,000.00 in accordance with SWCA's Standard Rate Schedule on file with Williamson County.

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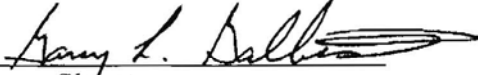
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**ATTACHMENT A (con't.)**

**Part 6.** This Work Authorization is hereby accepted and acknowledged below.

CONSULTANT:  
SWCA Environmental Consultants


By:   
Signature

Gary L. Galbraith  
Printed Name

Principal  
Title

12/14/2011  
Date

COUNTY:  
Williamson County, Texas

By:   
Signature

Dan A. Gattis  
Printed Name

County Judge  
Title

                      
Date

**LIST OF EXHIBITS**

Exhibit A - Services to be Provided by County

Exhibit B - Services to be Provided by Consultant

Exhibit C - Work Schedule

Exhibit D - Fee Schedule