BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 First Quarter: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

1st Quarter: Outreach & Education (All Partners)

Activity	Location	Events	Youth*	Adults*	Volunteer Hours
Guided Hikes	Onsite	179	1000	2081	194
Programs / Presentations	Offsite	4	0	65	2
	Onsite	15	2	150	8.5
Visiting Group/Educators	Onsite	6	26	64	
Land Stewardship	Onsite	127	47	626	1585.75
Ecological Monitoring	Onsite	23	31	26	142
Administration	Onsite				
Training	Onsite	2	0	14	40
Campouts	Onsite	1	4	4	
October-December Total		**357**	**1110**	**3030**	**1972.25**

Monetary value of volunteer work ($28.14/hour): $55,499.12

*Numbers indicate total participation during events not unique individuals

SELF-GUIDED PUBLIC ACCESS (Estimated Annual Visitation)

These numbers are not included in the Outreach & Education chart above. They represent a sample of BCP areas with public access – we hope to include more complete visitation numbers in future reports.

Hamilton Pool: 30,000+
Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve: 8,906
Baker Sanctuary: 558

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 First Quarter: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

CITY OF AUSTIN





- Over 700 trees have been planted on the JJ&T tract of the BCP and watering and forest restoration workdays have continued on the Vireo Preserve.

- We've continued our Wild Neighbors Speaker Series, in conjunction with Travis County and talked to neighbors about possums and the history of the Christmas Bird Count.

- Guided hikes continued on Cortana, Bright Leaf, Kent Butler, and Long Canyon Tracts. There was a collaborative hike done with Latino Outdoors Austin in December at Bright Leaf.

- In November, we gathered with volunteers at our Onion property for a volunteer appreciation lunch. Prior to the lunch, volunteers had to option to join in on either a guided hike or cave tour.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 First Quarter: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

BAKER SANCTUARY (TRAVIS AUDUBON)



- A hardy band of intrepid volunteers came together in December to rid the Canyon Trail of the last remnants of the ice storm known as Uri. While the trail had been cleared months prior by the resident land manager, many piles of interlocked, stubborn, and generally unpleasant piles of slash remained to be dispersed throughout the woodland. By disseminating the brush away from the trail, the mellow aesthetic of the area was restored, not to mention it also reduced the likelihood of a hiker encountering a snake which may have been attracted to a pile in their ceaseless search for quivering, musky rodents.

- Nicholas Melendrez, with help from Boy Scout Troop 410, installed two additional trail benches on the Baker Spring Trail. Unfortunately, in the process he discovered a large, nearly impenetrable bench of limestone lurking a mere six inched beneath the placid soil. Moving the benches was not an option, so with the pluck we have come to expect from the Scouts, he and his troop spent several grueling hours ever so slowly chipping their way through the rock until the appropriate depth was achieved. One can only hope that future loungers on the benches sense their sacrifice.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 First Quarter: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

TRAVIS COUNTY





- In November Travis County BCP participated in the Fall It's My Park Day Event (pictured left) Volunteers spent time removing invasive vinca from the preserve while learning about the BCP, its endangered species and mission. We have participated in both the spring and fall events for a few years and always look forward to them.

- We hosted several corporate groups in Q1 including Red Hat and Deloitte (pictured right). These corporate events combine an active project such as removing invasive plants and a guided hike to learn about the BCP.

- On a very rainy day in November 28 seniors from Jarrell High School visited the preserve to volunteer removing invasive plants, go on an educational nature hike, and participate in a BCP 101 presentation. The rain did not dampen spirts and the students removed a lot of common periwinkle and wisteria.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 First Quarter: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

WESTCAVE PRESERVE





- The end-of-the-year cold shock turned the Grotto at Westcave into an icicle winter wonderland that board member Matthew Guthrie was able to experience and capture. For the fall field trip season, Westcave had a total of 16 field trips serving 598 students who participated in Environmental Justice discussions to learn that people do not all have the same accessibility to nature, but everyone deserves to live on a clean and healthy earth. In pre/post surveys we found an increase in students' reported mood and desire to join an environmental career after the program.

- Jenny McMillan is a recent addition to the Westcave staff as our new Executive Director starting in August. Over the years Jenny has found joy, peace and spiritual restoration in nature. Growing up, she enjoyed making mud pies with her sisters and later developed a love of hiking and camping. Jenny is eager to contribute her skills and talents to help Westcave thrive for many years to come. She earned a BS in biology from Texas State University and an MS in organizational leadership and ethics from St. Edward's University in Austin. She has 15+ years of experience in nonprofit development and works hard to align philanthropic interests with mission goals to ensure long-term organizational success. She looks forward to creating meaningful partnerships within our community and sharing the unique natural experiences Westcave offers.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 First Quarter: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

WILD BASIN





- Artist in Residence: Fall Artist In Residence, Ania Safko, interacted with weekend guests on the trails. In November, she led a youth and an adult ceramics workshop. In a December reception, Ania displayed her ceramic work and recited a written piece about the preserve and drought.

- Schools Return: After over two years of no school visits, due to the pandemic, school field trips restarted in the fall. One teacher shared that it was some of the students' first field trip.

- New Interpretive Signs:Staff and volunteers installed the preserve's first permanent interpretive signs along the Arroyo Vista Loop. These new signs are used by both self-guided hikers and guided programs. Signs include illustrations and interpretive information in English and Spanish. A QR code linking the visitor with an audio version of the text will be added soon.

- Retreat, Hike and Service:The St. Edward's Marketing Department came to Wild Basin for a staff retreat, which included a guided hike and a service project restoring some of the weathered outdoor furniture.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

- This quarter, there was a Boy Scouts of America Troop 52 leadership training camp out.
- Texas Parks and Wildlife had drawn hunts which included 39 hunters.
- An Eagle Scout Project took place this quarter in which two deer blinds were constructed.
- Volunteer workdays this quarter yielded 89 hours. These workdays included invasive species removal, trail work and maintenance, as well as seed collection.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 First Quarter: October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

ACTIVITY DEFINITIONS

Guided Hikes
Hikes on the BCP guided by staff or volunteers; includes education about the BCP, wildlife, and land management practices.

Programs / Presentations
Presentations by staff or volunteers about the BCP and related scientific and land management topics; includes educational events and programs.

Land Stewardship
Volunteer work on the BCP that includes removing invasive species, preparing for prescribed burns, creating fuel breaks, restoring habitat, patrolling, and maintenance of grounds, trails & facilities.

Ecological Monitoring
Includes surveys of endangered species, vegetation, and nuisance species such as cowbirds, hogs and red imported fire ants.

Campouts
Campouts on the BCP, usually organized by outside groups such as the Boy Scouts.

Visiting Groups / Educators
Groups visiting or hosting an event on the BCP that was not organized by BCP staff.

Administrative Help
Volunteer help with administrative work such as office work, research, and event coordination.

Training
Volunteer training & other trainings that support the BCCP's mission. Examples include educating emergency response and infrastructure maintenance staff about protecting sensitive environmental features and complying with clearing restrictions.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Second Quarter: January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

2nd Quarter: Outreach & Education (All Partners)

Activity	Location	Events	Youth*	Adults*	Volunteer Hours
Guided Hikes	Onsite	222	1441	3039	295
Programs / Presentations	Offsite	4	0	108	0
	Onsite	3	2	66	0
Visiting Group/Educators	Onsite	6	28	71	0
Land Stewardship	Onsite	137	46	733	1827.25
Ecological Monitoring	Onsite	37	1	28	120
Administration	Onsite	0	0	0	0
Training	Onsite	0	0	0	0
Campouts	Onsite	4	79	35	0
January-March Total		**413**	**1597**	**4080**	**2242.25**

Monetary value of volunteer work ($28.14/hour): $63,096.92

*Numbers indicate total participation during events not unique individuals

SELF-GUIDED PUBLIC ACCESS (Estimated Annual Visitation)

These numbers are not included in the Outreach & Education chart above. They represent a sample of BCP areas with public access – we hope to include more complete visitation numbers in future reports.

Hamilton Pool: 30,000+
Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve: 8,906
Baker Sanctuary: 558

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Second Quarter: January 1, 2023 –March 31, 2023

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

CITY OF AUSTIN





- Prior to Golden-cheeked Warbler season, we had four invasive privet pulling workdays on the Long Canyon tract, which is part of a long-term invasive control method.

- Tree Planting and Nursery workdays at the JJ&T tract and Forest Restoration workdays at Vireo have successfully continued, with tree planting season wrapping up at the end of March.

- We've continued our Wild Neighbors Speaker Series, in conjunction with Travis County. Presentation topics included Texas groundwater fauna and native plants and pollinators.

- We continued guided hikes, which took place on Kent Butler, Sam Hamilton, Bright Leaf, and Long Canyon tracts.

- Golden-cheeked Warbler season is in full swing and so are surveys. Biologists and volunteer resighters are seeing banded returning birds and nest-building. Our volunteer resighters consist of 70 people and, so far, they're completed approximately 515 survey hours and counting.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Second Quarter: January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

BAKER SANCTUARY (TRAVIS AUDUBON)





- A special workday was convened to deal with tree damage from Ice Storm Uri of 2021 fame. The plan was to begin the long process of cleaning out the shaded fuel break with the assistance of volunteers with chainsaws. As it turns out, Ice Storm Mara rolled in, so volunteers were redirected to cleaning up the public space around the JAEC.

- Bryce Gilley, with assistance from Boy Scout Troop 234, installed two new trail benches as part of his Eagle Scout project. They were originally planned to be situated on the northern Sanctuary but, due to Mara and the resultant destruction, they were instead installed on the southern Sanctuary where some trail had been laboriously cleared.

- Once again, GCWA monitoring season has arrived and the birds are reluctantly ready to be monitored. A dedicated group of monitors struggled through Uri's destruction of the study plot, climbing through deadfalls, dodging tumbling widow makers, and re-routing around massive walls of tangled trees, all to glimpse the shiny legs of warblers. After a year of work, the plot was cleared and the monitors were excited to return, but, alas, Mara arrived and now the plot is arguably worse than it was from Uri. However, the monitors persevere and dream of better days to come.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Second Quarter: January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

TRAVIS COUNTY





- In a mad rush before Golden-cheeked warbler nesting season, volunteers spent significant time in Q2 cleaning up after winter storm Mara. They assisted with clearing roads and trails and chipping debris at several Travis County tracts.

- A special celebration occurred during a Snowden Wednesday workday in March when we celebrated long-time volunteer Yates Barreda's (pictured left) 10th anniversary volunteering with Travis County BCP and her 80th birthday. Yates has clocked in over 1,846 hours volunteering since 2013! She has been instrumental in establishing the Snowden teaching gardens and is a valued asset to our program.

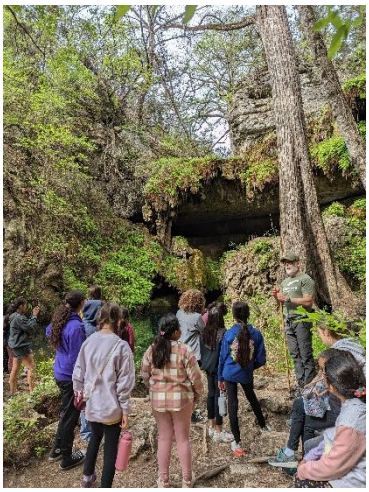
- We were happy to welcome Westlake High School Seniors (pictured right) again as part of the Seniors Day of Service Project. The students planted 30 trees of various sizes on the Snowden tract. After the planting festivities, they went on a short 1.3-mile hike to learn about the BCP, our protected species, and the importance of conservation.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Second Quarter: January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

WESTCAVE PRESERVE





- Westcave kicked off their field trip Spring Season welcoming 708 students in February and March on 15 field trip days to the lush, beautiful Grotto as Red Wild Columbine and fiddle ferns.

- Westcave also hosted the Girls Outside Program, a program providing 320 K-12 girls from 10 Austin ISD schools with opportunities to learn and grow together through time in nature.

- Golden-cheeked warblers officially returned March 9th at Westcave. "Fluffy", a male banded in 2022 has been confirmed on the property. So far during the 2023 season, 3 males have been noted to occupy a territory.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Second Quarter: January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

WILD BASIN





● Senior Service Day: In March a group of 13 seniors and 2 teachers from Westlake High School selected Wild Basin for their senior day of service. They removed 17 large bags of loose trash and other large debris between the western property line and Highway 360.

● Speaker and Social Series Started: On Feb. 28th, Wild Basin's Research Director, Darren Proppe PhD, gave a public presentation about ongoing research at Wild Basin, with the topic "Urbanization Drives Changes in Wild Basin Preserve." On March 28th, City of Austin Wildlife Officer, Emery Sadkin, presented about Peacefully Coexisting with Coyotes. A new speaker is being planned for each month.

● Wild X Wild Basin: During the week of Spring Break, Wild Basin provided family friendly weekday events that included guided hikes, a bird talk and walk with Travis Audubon volunteers, a fossil touch table with the Paleontological Society of Austin, and a few tree cookie crafts.

● Eagle Scout Project: An Eagle Scout candidate has been working to replace and upgrade the bird blind on North Hollow's retention pond. Work started early in February and is expected to be completed by mid-April. A lot of material harvested from tree damage during winter storm Mara is being incorporated into the project.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

- This quarter, there were four Boy Scouts of America campouts.
- This quarter also included one Boy Scouts of America crossover event.
- Volunteer workdays included removing ice storm damaged trees from roads and trails as well as invasive species removal.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Second Quarter: January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

ACTIVITY DEFINITIONS

Guided Hikes
Hikes on the BCP guided by staff or volunteers; includes education about the BCP, wildlife, and land management practices.

Programs / Presentations
Presentations by staff or volunteers about the BCP and related scientific and land management topics; includes educational events and programs.

Land Stewardship
Volunteer work on the BCP that includes removing invasive species, preparing for prescribed burns, creating fuel breaks, restoring habitat, patrolling, and maintenance of grounds, trails & facilities.

Ecological Monitoring
Includes surveys of endangered species, vegetation, and nuisance species such as cowbirds, hogs and red imported fire ants.

Campouts
Campouts on the BCP, usually organized by outside groups such as the Boy Scouts.

Visiting Groups / Educators
Groups visiting or hosting an event on the BCP that was not organized by BCP staff.

Administrative Help
Volunteer help with administrative work such as office work, research, and event coordination.

Training
Volunteer training & other trainings that support the BCCP's mission. Examples include educating emergency response and infrastructure maintenance staff about protecting sensitive environmental features and complying with clearing restrictions.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

Travis County, City of Austin, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

3rd Quarter: Outreach & Education (All Partners)

Activity	Location	Events	Youth*	Adults*	Volunteer Hours
Guided Hikes	Onsite	233	1974	3531	318
Programs / Presentations	Offsite	12	113	564	0
	Onsite	17	248	494	3
Visiting Group/Educators	Onsite	16	33	198	0
Land Stewardship	Onsite	124	53	596	2015.75
Ecological Monitoring	Onsite	123	29	164	1219.50
Administration	Onsite	2	0	2	5
Training	Onsite	1	1	3	0
Campouts	Onsite	3	59	32	0
April-June Total		**531**	**2510**	**5584**	**3561.25**

Monetary value of volunteer work ($31.80/hour): $113,247.75

*Numbers indicate total participation during events not unique individuals

SELF-GUIDED PUBLIC ACCESS (Estimated Annual Visitation)

These numbers are not included in the Outreach & Education chart above. They represent a sample of BCP areas with public access – we hope to include more complete visitation numbers in future reports.

Hamilton Pool: 30,000+
Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve: 8,906
Baker Sanctuary: 558

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

Travis County, City of Austin, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

4th Quarter: Outreach & Education (All Partners)

Activity	Location	Events	Youth*	Adults*	Volunteer Hours
Guided Hikes	Onsite	183	630	3269	142.5
Programs / Presentations	Offsite	7	355	855	12
	Onsite	3	5	61	0
Visiting Group/Educators	Onsite	10	0	86	0
Land Stewardship	Onsite	107	25	536	1258.50
Ecological Monitoring	Onsite	28	0	43	94.50
Administration	Onsite	1	0	3	6
Training	Onsite	1	0	4	24
July-September Total		**340**	**1015**	**4857**	**1537.5**

Monetary value of volunteer work ($31.80/hour): $48,892.50

*Numbers indicate total participation during events not unique individuals

SELF-GUIDED PUBLIC ACCESS (Estimated Annual Visitation)

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Hamilton Pool: 30,000+
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BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

Travis County, City of Austin, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

CITY OF AUSTIN





- 70 Golden-cheeked Warbler resighting volunteers dedicated more than 1,200 hours to monitoring endangered warblers on Travis County and City of Austin BCP properties this nesting season (March – May).

- Volunteers continued forest restoration projects at Vireo Preserve, maintaining a plant nursery of over 1,000 natives, and watering plantings through the summer months. They built rock rundowns to reduce erosion and used branches from storm damage to build berms on contour. Logs were inoculated with Reishi and Turkey tail mycelium to encourage decomposition.

- Jim O'Donnell and volunteers continued restoration work in the mile of berms and swales that have been planted with over 2,000 trees at JJ&T. Hundreds of natives were watered to survive the harsh summer months while becoming established. Volunteers used a variety of techniques to slow, spread, and sink water on the landscape.

- Thirteen volunteers contributed over 50 hours alongside Wildlands staff to help survey one of the rare plant species of the preserve, *Streptanthus bracteatus*. These surveys took us off trail on steep, rocky terrain in Mt. Bonnell and Barton Creek Greenbelt.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

Travis County, City of Austin, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

BAKER SANCTUARY (TRAVIS AUDUBON)





- A total of eight guided hikes were undertaken by Boy Scouts, wayward souls from Illinois, and industrious Sierra Club members. While only half the Sanctuary is currently open due to a massive amount of ice storm damage, the hikers universally expressed their wonder and amazement of the Texas Hill Country and its colorful denizens.

- In addition to the hikes, the annual Baker Nature Day was a success with its nature-based crafts, guided hikes in search of the ever elusive Golden-cheeked Warbler, and the wildly popular, and slightly menacing, Raptor Show (pictured left).

- Many thanks to Bryce Gilley (Troop 234), Hayden Snow (Troop 271), and Ben Hubert (Troop 70), whose combined Eagle Scout prowess yielded an additional four trail benches and a sign kiosk for the Sanctuary (pictured right)!

- Last but certainly not least, the entire 4th grade class of C.C. Mason Elementary (LISD) was regaled with what some claim to be the finest PowerPoint ever crafted on the ecology of the Texas Hill Country.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

Travis County, City of Austin, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

TRAVIS COUNTY





- In April, Travis County BCP joined forces with Balcones Canyonlands Master Naturalists to conduct an immersive exploration of moths on the Snowden Tract, over 25 folks gathered to learn about moths under the nighttime sky (pictured left).

- Our ongoing efforts to combat invasive vinca, aka common periwinkle, and Johnson grass received a significant boost as we collaborated with various groups, including ASEZ WAO, a non-profit global volunteer organization working with young adults. In a significant turnout, 66 volunteers dedicated their time to eradicating invasive vinca and Johnson grass while gaining insights into the BCP, our mission, and endangered species (pictured right).

- Amid scorching temperatures in July, we celebrated Latino Conservation Week in partnership with Latino Outdoors and the Hispanic Access Foundation, further advancing our efforts of removing invasive vinca. This momentum continued with a partnership with Queer Friends ATX for Pride on the Preserve, featuring an educational nature hike and the removal of vinca.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

Travis County, City of Austin, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

WESTCAVE PRESERVE





- This summer Westcave partnered again with one of our collaborative organizations, El Ranchito. This is a unique nature-immersion week-long camp provides "youth, who may not otherwise have access, opportunities to form strong bonds with nature and one another in community. Over the course of 5 camp sessions, Westcave educators hiked down 85 campers and 41 camp counselors to our magical natural spring-fed dripping spring waterfall. Campers ranged in age from 4th to 9th grade and were immersed in the sounds of nature and the drastic ecological changes that occur when entering our sheltered canyon. Before hiking back, campers were allowed a minute of reflection to listen to the soothing sounds of the waterfall.

- Additionally, Paul Vickery, Education Coordinator at Wild Basin, and Meagan Whitehouse, Education Manager at Westcave, collaborated to teach archery to 33 youth in 8-9th grade and 16 camp counselors in two camp sessions. The campers learned the importance of setting themselves up for success that moves beyond getting an arrow down range to hit their target. It takes many steps to be successful at archery and everything else in one's life. Often, it takes a community to achieve one's goals.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

Travis County, City of Austin, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

WILD BASIN





- Spring Artist In Residence, Leila Ali, started her residency on March 1st. She did botanical illustrations and photography with a focus on "everyday plants" (See picture of silk tassel drawing with color pencil). She provided a children's workshop and an adult workshop using watercolors. Her final reception was in late May. The Fall Artist in Residence is Thomas Cook. His residency started Sept. 7th with a focus on landscape sketching and oil painting.

- During the months of June and July every Wednesday at 8:30am a free guided hike was provided to the general public. Reservations were required and attendance varied per week.

- The monthly in person speaker and social event began in February 2023 and allows the public to participate in a relaxed atmosphere learning opportunity. Video recording of the speaker can be found on the Wild Basin Creative Research Center YouTube channel. Topics include Texas backyard wildlife, the origins for the BCP, Bat Gardens and Beyond and more.

- Working with a group of volunteers and an SEU intern, interpretive pavers were created and installed to create a pathway through the sensory garden on the southern side of the Creative Research Center (See above photo of volunteers with intern). The pavers feature a combination of animal tracks and plant pressings common at the preserve.

- Monthly volunteer events have been running with a focus on recovery from Winter Storm Mara that hit in early February. Volunteers have been helping staff to clear staged brush from the side of the trails or haul larger debris to staging areas to be chipped later in the year. All vegetative debris will be used in trail restoration projects.

The Nature Conservancy

- Boy Scouts of America Pack 70, Pack 91, and Troop 72 joined us for campouts.
- Guided hikes were given for Johnson City ISD, Elite Summer Camp and Beer Made By Walking groups.

BCP PARTNER EDUCATION SUMMARY

FY 2023 Third Quarter (April– June) & Fourth Quarter (July- September)

City of Austin, Travis County, The Nature Conservancy, Westcave Preserve, Wild Basin Preserve, and Travis Audubon's Baker Sanctuary

ACTIVITY DEFINITIONS

Guided Hikes
Hikes on the BCP guided by staff or volunteers; includes education about the BCP, wildlife, and land management practices.

Programs ! Presentations
Presentations by staff or volunteers about the BCP and related scientific and land management topics; includes educational events and programs.

Land Stewardship
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Ecological Monitoring
Includes surveys of endangered species, vegetation, and nuisance species such as cowbirds, hogs and red imported fire ants.

Campouts
Campouts on the BCP, usually organized by outside groups such as the Boy Scouts.

Visiting Groups ! Educators
Groups visiting or hosting an event on the BCP that was not organized by BCP staff.

Administrative Help
Volunteer help with administrative work such as office work, research, and event coordination.

Training
Volunteer training & other trainings that support the BCCP's mission. Examples include educating emergency response and infrastructure maintenance staff about protecting sensitive environmental features and complying with clearing restrictions.