MAYOR
Thomas Kilgore
MAYOR PRO TEM
Louis Mastrangelo

COUNCILMEMBERS
Laurie Higginbotham
Sanjeev Kumar
Steve Smith
Keith Trecker
Gretchen Vance

CITY MANAGER
Julie Oakley

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
Joseph Molis

Lakeway™
TEXAS

November 29, 2021

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Austin Ecological Services Field Office
10711 Burnet Road, Suite 303
Austin, TX 78758

Debra Scott, Environmental Project Manager
Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources
700 Lavaca, 5th Floor
Austin, TX 78701

RE: Schramm Ranch – Fish and Wildlife Service Permit (PRT-812696)
("The 10-A Permit") 2021 Annual Report

The entire 500-acre permit area for Schramm Ranch is built out except for five greenbelts that belong to the City of Lakeway. The greenbelts' extremely steep slopes and limited access make them unsuitable for development (See Attachment A). Four of the greenbelts totaling 48 acres share a common boundary with the west side of the preserve and may allow for expansion of the warblers' territories.

Approximately 208 acres of the permit area are designated as golden-cheeked warbler preserve. The City of Lakeway is responsible for 107 acres in three tracts surrounding the Ridge at Alta Vista subdivision, while the City of Austin manages the 101-acre tract on the east side of Lakeway's preserve lands.

A total of 370 single-family homes were built in the Alta Vista and the Ridge at Alta Vista subdivisions. The Enclave at Alta Vista North houses 46 condominiums and Honey Creek houses 22 condominiums.

Honey Creek and the Alta Vista subdivision share no boundaries with the preserve. The Enclave at Alta Vista North and The Ridge at Alta Vista, however, are almost entirely surrounded by the preserve. The Enclave North has 46 condominiums, 36 of which have backyards facing the preserve. One hundred twenty-seven homes in the Ridge at Alta Vista have backyards adjoining the preserve.

No encroachments into the Schramm Ranch preserve were identified during the October 2020 – September 2021 reporting year. Steep slopes and dense vegetation are expected to have deterred residents from entering the preserve, however, the absence of lanes or easements between homes as well as very steep slopes along the shared boundary combine to make inspection of the preserve lands very challenging.

Two large signs identifying the greenbelt as a golden-cheeked warbler preserve are maintained on both sides of Aria Drive, the single road that leads in and out of the subdivision. The City is considering the implementation of other public outreach campaigns in the October 2021 – September 2022 reporting year to further facilitate public awareness for the preserve. To address any future instances where encroachment occurs in the preserve, the City plans to review and modify ordinances as necessary to strengthen existing protections in place for the preserve.

Management activities, including fuels reduction and species monitoring, were severely limited in the October 2020 – September 2021 reporting year due to the extended absence and ultimate departure of the City Forester. The City is actively recruiting for a new City Forester who would oversee all public outreach and management activities related to the preserve. Recently filled positions, such as the Assistant City Manager and Director of Building and Development Services positions, as well as newly created positions are expected to provide support for a newly-hired City Forester in implementing the City of Lakeway Golden-cheeked Warbler Management Plan.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions about Lakeway's Schramm Ranch golden-cheeked warbler preserve.

Respectfully,

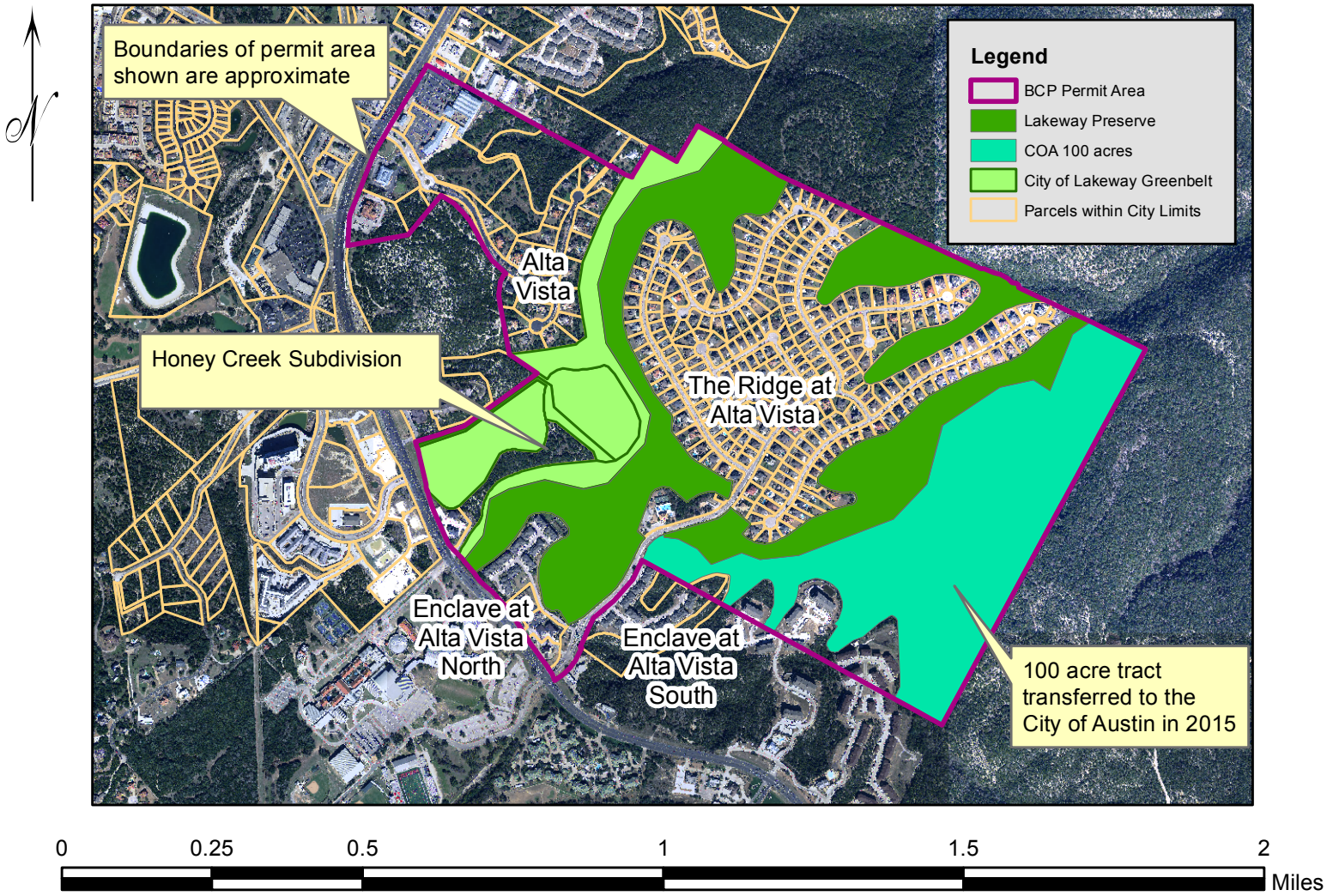


Kyle Honnerlaw, Environmental Coordinator
Lakeway Building and Development Services Department
1102 Lohmans Crossing Road
Lakeway, TX 78734
512-314-7545
khonnerlaw@lakeway-tx.gov

Enc: Schramm Ranch Preserve Map, Schramm Ranch Preserve – Sign Locations

ATTACHMENT A

Schramm Ranch Preserve Map



ATTACHMENT B

Schramm Ranch Preserve – Sign Locations

