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Chessie Zimmerman

January 15, 2014

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Austin Ecological Field Services Office
10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200
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US Fish and Wildlife Service

Division of Ecological Services
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

Mike Wallace
Travis County Natural Resources
P.O. Box 1748
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Re: Schramm Ranch – Fish and Wildlife Service Permit (PRT-812696) ("The 10-A Permit")
2013 Annual Report

As noted in previous reports, development continues on the property covered by the above-referenced permit. Utility infrastructure and street construction operations have been completed, and homes have been constructed on the majority of the residential lots. Construction continues on the few remaining undeveloped lots. A total of 370 single family homes will eventually be constructed on the non-habitat areas of Schramm Ranch, now subdivided and developed as The Ridge at Alta Vista and Alta Vista. In addition, 90 condominium units have been developed in the subdivisions of the Enclave at Alta Vista North and the Enclave at Alta Vista South. Within the next few years, approximately 20 more condominium units will be constructed in the subdivision platted as Honey Creek.

The agreement between the Developer and FWS allows installation of perimeter fencing between developed areas and the preserved areas, and this installation is a condition of issuance of the City's certificate of occupancy for homes constructed in the permit area.

In February 2013, Texas Firewise Liaison Patrick Allen performed a Firewise Community Risk Assessment that included the permit area. He identified The Ridge at Alta Vista and the

surrounding preserve as a Priority Area for fuel reduction. Mr. Allen's recommendations included the installation of fifty foot-wide shaded fuel breaks along preserve fence behind the homes.

Spot checks along the inner edges of the preserve boundary found many large piles of old woody debris hidden under the forest canopy. These "jackpots" of dead wood were apparently pushed into the edges of the preserve during road construction, prior to installation of the perimeter fencing. Landscape debris was also found piled behind the back fence of some properties. The presence of these fuels places adjacent homes at risk. To date, no fuel reduction projects have been performed in the permit area, but the city hopes to accomplish this in the near future.

The city has participated in educational activities about the risk of wildfire with residents in the permit area, and police and code enforcement officers continue to patrol the subdivisions in order to prevent trespassing and illegal dumping.

Best regards,

Chessie Zimmerman
Deputy City Manager
City of Lakeway