# What Changes to Covered Activities Should the Permit Renewal Process Consider?



#### **Covered Activities: How to Define?**

Covered Activities encompass all actions that Permittees will conduct for which take is authorized by the incidental take permit.

Covered Activities must be under the control of the Permittees, or participating entities.

# **Current Covered Activities**

### **Covered Activities**

**Location:** Is the activity in the Permit Area?

Impact: Is the activity reasonably likely to take at least one Covered Species?

**Data:** Do we know enough about the activity to describe and quantify effects on the Covered Species?

**Control:** Is the activity under "direct control" of permit applicants, or can this control be established?

The EAHCP covers activities associated with the use of the Edwards Aquifer by EAA, San Antonio Water System, the City of San Marcos, the City of New Braunfels, and Texas State University. These Covered Activities include, in summary:

#### **Groundwater Withdrawal**

Groundwater withdrawal programs and regulations

Groundwater permit transfers and amendments

## Management and Operations

Water management to maintain consistent flows in the Comal and San Marcos springs

Diversion of surface water in accordance with State laws

Operation of boats and the spring-fed pool at Comal

Construction of infrastructure to direct aquatic recreation access

Golf course maintenance

# **Aquatic Recreation**

Aquatic recreational activities (swimming, wading, boating, tubing, kayaking, paddleboarding) in the Comal and San Marcos springs and river ecosystems

#### Conservation

Conservation Measures to minimize and mitigate impacts on Covered Species and to contribute to their recovery

# 2020 Permit Options Report: Change to Covered Activities to Consider

#### **Change to Consider**

Add projects occurring in the San Marcos River with the potential to affect Covered Species

#### Background

The EAHCP covers only routine, minor maintenance and repair of infrastructure along the springs system, not major construction projects such as dams or bank stabilization

#### Rationale

Since the Covered Activities were determined in 2010 and 2011, other infrastructure projects have been proposed in the San Marcos Springs system that could affect Covered Species and their habitats

#### **Questions to Consider**

Are there activities not already covered that should be considered for coverage in the renewal process for the EAHCP? Is there information about EAHCP Covered Activities that should be considered in the renewal process?