LANDOWNER Incentive Program

L.I.P. Bulletin

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

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In 2009 the Landowner Incentive Program completed nine projects. Here are their stories.

BEXAR COUNTY

LINDA PALIT, TEXAS CAVE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Robber Baron Cave

Robber Baron Cave, located in the middle of a busy neighborhood in north-central San Antonio, is a maze cave in the Austin Chalk formation. It is the longest known cave in Bexar County having almost a mile of passage. Robber Baron was a commercial show cave from 1924 to 1933. The entrance is a natural-collapse sinkhole with two separate passages into the cave.

More recently the sinkhole was used as a dump for soil and construction materials when the surrounding neighborhood was built. In the late 1970s, cavers traded their skills at building gates for access to the cave. A small entrance was covered, and the larger entrance was gated. But the gate was breached. Over the years, each time the gate was breached it was replaced by a bigger, stronger, and better gate. This happened five times until a reinforced concrete bunker with a steel gate was installed.

The owner of the cave donated it to the Texas Cave Management Association (TCMA) upon his death in 1995. As understanding and awareness of endangered species grew, the gate was seen more as a problem because it restricted air flow, water flow, and the natural deposition of nutrients in the cave. The endangered species are dependent upon the ability of host species to exit the cave to forage and to return to the cave bringing in nutrient sources. The entry of windblown organic debris and water through the cave entrance is also believed to be an important source of nutrients. Two endangered species, Robber Baron Cave Mesh Weaver, *Cicurina baronia* (endangered), and Robber Baron Cave Harvestman, *Texella cokendolpheri* (endangered), plus four other endemic troglobites were documented in the cave, and the TCMA decided it was time to address the needs of these underground creatures.

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Robber Baron Cave

Large rocks were used to establish a more stable trench and sinkhole edges.

A team of volunteers and a landscape architect/caver worked extensively to develop a plan. Work began in spring 2003 and spanned multiple years, involving support from numerous volunteers as well as a USFWS Partners Grant, a Kronkosky Grant, a Wrey Grant – Magnolia Foundation in addition to the LIP grant.

A large portion of time and energy was dedicated to the removal of the fill that had been dumped in the cave in the 1960s and '70s, and the restoration crews were relieved to find the fill was relatively clean with no paint, chemicals, or significant pollutants. By summer 2004, an estimated 430 cubic meters were removed from the sinkhole, and its depth increased from 5.5 m. to 9.2 m.

Immediately after the completion of the excavation, wildlife habitat-friendly gates were installed. Both gates allow maximum airflow, water entrance, and passage of insects and small animals.

With proper gates in place and dumped materials removed, restoration crews began addressing the considerable erosion and runoff contamination problems. Because of the threat of pollution from the major street on the east side of the property, a low retaining wall was created along the street. This retaining wall deflects the first wash of pollution off the street in a major rain event.

The next efforts to solve the erosion problem were focused on the edges of the trench. Large boulders were placed on a secondary ledge with native plants, sand, and dirt interspersed to stabilize the area.

Next, field stone, gravel, and mortar were used to build a retaining wall at the bottom of the sinkhole, restricting the dirt that remains in that area. Then, using the same materials, steps were built in the trench. Behind each step, gravel was used on each level to act as a filter for the water as it comes down the trench. Short lengths of PVC pipe to act as weep holes were placed at the base of each step to control drainage through the gravel and the step.

At ground level, exotic vegetation (ligustrum, Boston ivy, etc.) was aggressively removed. Directly around the sinkhole, some of the non-native plants were left to stabilize the area, and gradually those will be replaced with native plants.

Gravel paths, retained by metal edging, were laid along the property. A new layer of topsoil was distributed on the lot for final planting. Several phases of plantings and mulching have established beds of native, drought-tolerant plants and shrubs. The primary purpose of these plantings is to prevent erosion. This final effort served both to aid in erosion control as well as to maintain the types of plants which might be expected to be around caves in this area, and to develop an aesthetically pleasant area in the residential neighborhood, encouraging pride and ownership. The grounds of the property are open, but the cave is not open for unsupervised visitation. An educational kiosk was placed at the top of the trench that goes down into the sinkhole of the cave. Additional cautionary signs are placed to warn of the dangers inherent in a cave sinkhole.

Work is ongoing at this cave property, but the effects of the changes already made have already been noted. The improvements to the property have resulted in positive comments by many people in the neighborhood and seem to have increased the respect people have for the property. Dumping of trash on the surface and in the sinkhole has nearly ceased, and vandalism incidents have become rare and minor. In the cave, more than a half-dozen Robber Baron Cave Mesh Weavers have been spotted by TCMA members over the last year. One was seen spinning a web in an infrequently traveled passage. In 2006, visitors found a bat on the ceiling of the entrance passage. This was the first sighting of a bat in Robber Baron Cave in decades. Since then, the number has increased each year with 10 bats observed in the cave at the end of 2009. The cave biota is thriving as the cave entrance and the grounds are restored to natural conditions. With TCMA serving as the steward to this special property, and with the support of organizations like Texas Parks and Wildlife, the natural environment of the cave can be restored and preserved.

JACKIE POOLE, TPWD

Bamberger Snowbell Recovery Effort

Most LIP projects involve a single landowner. But in order to recover an entire species, multiple landowners have to be involved. For J. David Bamberger, the driving force behind this LIP project, working with multiple landowners was no problem. When his LIP project began in summer 2005, his goal was to establish more than 500 individuals and over 30 viable, reproductive populations of Texas snowbells throughout their historic range.

Bamberger looks through the branches of a 9-foot snowbell used for education.

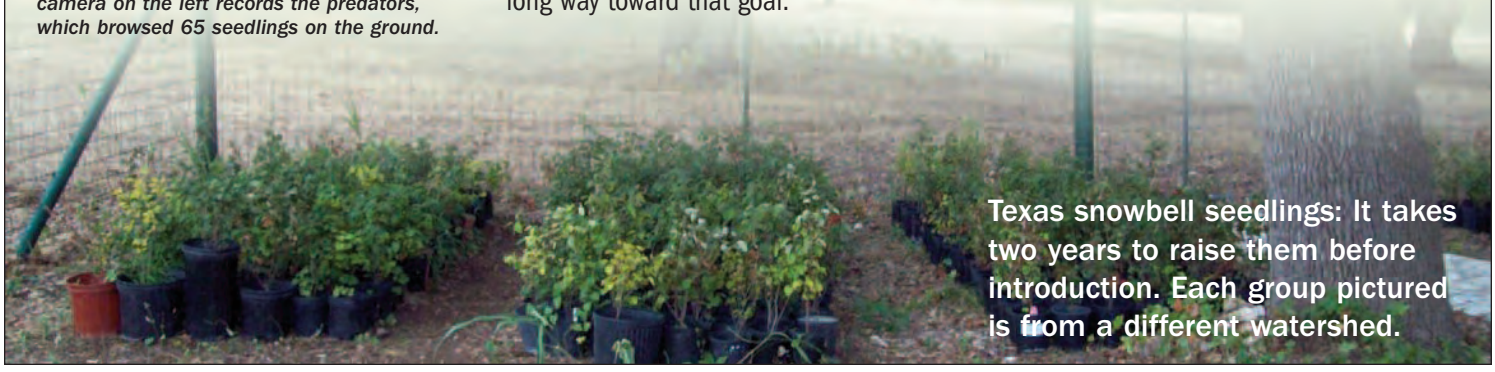
Unable to reach the mother tree, this wire net was put up; it collected 107 seeds. The camera on the left records the predators, which browsed 65 seedlings on the ground.

Texas snowbells occur along the Devil's and Nueces rivers with drainages in Val Verde, Edwards and Real counties. Mr. Bamberger immediately hit the road and began calling on landowners with suitable snowbell habitat in the aforementioned counties plus Kinney and Uvalde. He enlisted the help of his staff from the Bamberger Ranch Preserve and other volunteers (including landowners) to help survey for previously unknown populations of Texas snowbells, as well as sites for planting. Due to their palatability to browsing animals, most Texas snowbells grow on inaccessible cliffs above the creeks and rivers, but some populations (primarily those along the Devil's River) grow on limestone ledges or gravel streambeds, easily accessible to all sorts of animals. Texas snowbells are most easily found in the spring when they flower. Then, the large clusters of bright white flowers are easily seen against the green backdrop of foliage. Mr. Bamberger and his volunteers have found several new populations.

Reintroducing new populations of Texas snowbells is a lengthy, labor-intensive process. First, seeds have to be collected from natural populations. Most natural populations are just a few individuals and do not produce many seeds, but a few populations are large enough to allow 10 percent of the seed to be harvested. The seeds are then planted and cared for until the seedlings are two to three years old. Seedlings are then transported, often by hand across rough terrain, along with picks, shovels, caging material, weed barrier, and water. Usually three seedlings are planted per cage (to protect the plants from herbivores), mulched, and watered. The seedlings are also measured and tagged to track their progress through time. The reintroductions are visited in the spring and fall to assess their health, replace the dead, and water if conditions are extremely dry (only done during the drought of 2009). Many landowners have agreed to become the caretakers of reintroduced Texas snowbell populations.

At the end of the project in 2009, 682 Texas snowbells were established on over a dozen ranches with multiple populations on each property. Aside from exceeding the original goal of 500 plants, other benefits gained were good working relationships with the landowners, the discovery of several new wild populations, and knowledge gained about reintroducing Texas snowbells. For example, we now know that established Texas snowbells can withstand an extreme drought, that use of a weed barrier greatly improves survival in the face of extreme heat and drought, and that reintroduced plants flower within several years of planting.

Although the LIP funding has come to an end, proud landowners will continue to monitor their populations which will hopefully flourish and produce more Texas snowbells. Perhaps these landowners will encourage others to establish populations on their land. While we are not at recovery just yet, this project has brought Texas snowbells a long way toward that goal.



Texas snowbell seedlings: It takes two years to raise them before introduction. Each group pictured is from a different watershed.

DONLEY COUNTY

GENE T. MILLER, TPWD, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE LANDOWNER COOPERATOR

Native Habitat Restoration

This native habitat restoration project occurred in two segments (2007 and 2008) on a 1,700-acre ranch located on Eagle Arroyo, a tributary of Salt Fork of the Red River, in Donley County, within the Rolling Plains portion of the eastern Panhandle.

To say the least, the property had not been optimally managed from a wildlife perspective because of inadequate infrastructure. When purchased in 2004, it had only three failing windmills, a marginal solar-powered well, and poor fences.

However, it did possess a cottonwood riparian area, scattered hackberry, soapberry, and mesquite mottes, abundant plum and sumac thickets, and rolling sand hills that provided an excellent foundation for enhancing habitat for multiple species: lesser prairie-chicken, Texas horned lizard, bobwhite quail, white-tailed and desert mule deer, Rio Grande wild turkey, grassland birds (including neotropical migratory species like scissor-tailed flycatcher and Mississippi kite), and birds of prey. Most importantly, the landowner had a stewardship ethic and a desire to receive professional technical guidance services from TPWD, USDA-NRCS, and USFWS. A comprehensive TPWD Wildlife Management Plan was developed with strategic goals and objectives in mind; then, habitat restoration work began in earnest, with funding supplied by the landowner and various cost-sharing programs, including the Landowner Incentive Program.

Initial improvement was directed at providing reliable water sources in multiple areas to allow a rotational cattle-grazing program. To fully utilize the water sources, overflow ponds and drainages were established as a groundwater source. The drainage areas act as “mini wetlands” and bugging areas for the benefit of multiple species. A cottonwood riparian area was fenced as a separate wildlife habitat unit. The overflows will also be fenced to exclude grazing and prevent fouling of the ground water, further enhancing their usefulness. Fencing the tubs will allow cattle movement to adjacent pastures without adding additional fences, and provide a safer environment for the lesser prairie-chicken. Followup brush control projects to decrease the density of mesquite and sand sage are scheduled to return the ranch to a healthier mid- to tall-grass prairie habitat. Long-term thinking, a love of the land and native wildlife, and a motivated landowner mean that a healthier landscape will be in place here for years to come.

HOCKLEY, COCHRAN & YOAKUM COUNTIES

DUANE LUCIA, TPWD

Lesser Prairie-Chicken Habitat

Approximately 45,000 acres located in Hockley, Cochran and Yoakum counties are currently in the care of a landowner with an interest in good habitat stewardship and a desire to improve habitat for the lesser prairie-chicken. This ranch is used for cow/calf production and the northern part of the ranch is fragmented by oil production roads and drill sites. Range conditions were considered poor to fair when habitat work first began. Honey mesquite had invaded about 80 percent of the ranch, and grasses were in a low succession state.

This area was once considered lesser prairie-chicken habitat and currently there are chickens west, south and east of the project property. There were no birds detected on these portions of the property prior to the habitat improvements.

In the late 1990s, this landowner started working with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department by allowing department personnel access to their property to conduct lesser prairie-chicken surveys. Since then the department and the ranch have been working cooperatively to improve these rangelands to benefit lesser prairie-chickens by reducing the amount of mesquite occurring on the ranch.

Since 2002, LIP has helped with efforts to reduce invasive woody overstory with the most recent LIP efforts involving mid-summer Remedy® and Reclaim® aerial application on 900 acres and a resulting 85 percent brush mortality.

In addition to applying herbicide to brush on the rangeland, a subsequent LIP project has assisted with water development for livestock in an effort to better move livestock throughout pastures, allowing for more even grazing distribution. TPWD has also assisted the ranch in developing new stocking rates, which allows the range to recover and provides better nesting habitat for chickens. With the assistance from LIP and other state and federal programs, this landowner has effectively treated and enhanced almost 4,000 acres of what was once mesquite-infested chicken habitat. Grazing pressure has been reduced, and perennial grasses have responded well to rest. Today range condition is evaluated at fair to good and has weathered at least three major droughts in the last ten years without significant range degradation.

Lesser prairie-chicken surveys in and around project areas have shown positive results with lesser prairie-chickens heard on the project areas during the booming season.

Aggressive mesquite management continues to be a priority on this property with the goal of restoring additional lesser prairie-chicken habitat on the areas of the ranch that are adjacent to existing chicken populations in hopes of providing suitable habitat opportunities for range expansion.

GOLIAD COUNTY

BRENT ORTEGO, TPWD

Coastal Prairie Restoration

This project is a continuation of previous efforts to enhance and restore native grasslands on a landscape level in coastal prairie sites of Goliad County. This 5,100-acre ranch borders two other cooperating ranches with an additional 6,700 acres that have completed LIP contracts and have Attwater's prairie-chicken Safe Harbor agreements in place. This ranch received an Attwater's prairie-chicken Safe Harbor agreement and received technical assistance from a collaboration of conservation organizations to complete this work.

For this project infrastructure was constructed to provide for a two-cow/calf herd/eight-pasture rotational grazing system and a bull two-pasture switch/back system. This greatly enhanced grazing efficiency on the ranch.

In addition, individual plant treatment using chemical basal spraying with Velpar for control of huisache and mesquite was conducted in pastures with sparse to moderate brush densities. Spike was applied aerially to control dense stands of post oak. A controlled burning program is established on the ranch, and chemically treated sites are burned one year after herbicide application (weather permitting). Post oak mortality has been impressive, and response from herbaceous vegetation under the post oak is very good considering the ongoing drought. Mesquite and huisache control is progressing and sites will be in much better condition following the first controlled burn.

Another species expected to benefit from this restoration effort is the white-tailed hawk. While no white-tailed hawks were observed prior to project initiation, brush decomposition post-herbicide treatment — once advanced enough — is expected to provide required open prairies. White-tailed hawks are known to winter and potentially breed on neighboring ranches and are expected to use this ranch as soon as habitat conditions are suitable.

WHARTON COUNTY

BRENT ORTEGO, TPWD

Grassland/Wetland Restoration

In 2006, with the assistance of TPWD biologist Brent Ortego, a 35,000-acre South Texas ranch began a LIP project to restore 800 acres of grasslands and create 40 acres of wetlands.

Invasive brush on 600 acres was treated through a combination of mowing, prescribed burning and herbicide treatment. Two hundred acres of fallow farmland were site prepared and planted to native grasslands. Forty additional acres of farmland were converted into wetlands with the construction of levees and the installation of water-control structures.

Native seeds were harvested on project grasslands and used to plant the fallow farmland. These grasslands will be used in the future for sources of native seeds for grassland restoration in the region. Planted grasslands were showing signs of establishment by the conclusion of the project.

The 40 acres of wetlands are being managed as moist soil units and are very attractive to waterfowl, wading birds and shorebirds.

GOLIAD COUNTY

BRENT ORTEGO, TPWD

Coastal Prairie Restoration

This project was established to restore and maintain 6,500 acres of Coastal Prairie habitat on a private ranch for the benefit of white-tailed hawk and other prairie dependent wildlife in conjunction with the Coastal Prairie Conservation Initiative, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, and the Grazing Land Conservation Initiative. Individual plant herbicide treatment and prescribed burning were used to control invading brush on native grasslands within this Goliad-Refugio Coastal Prairie.

All mesquite and huisache brush as well as a few scattered oaks were sheared and treated with herbicides on the south side of the ranch, which contains the main prairie. The shearing was done to reduce availability of raptor perches to protect Attwater's greater prairie-chickens. Two oak motts on the ranch in this area were not treated. The results are a very open prairie that appears to be of high quality for most native grassland wildlife.

Cost-share assistance was provided to construct two miles of fence to improve grazing management efficiency for the ranch with regard to native wildlife species.

The net result of using herbicides and fire to aggressively attack brush invading the prairie, and improving the grazing efficiency of the ranch in cooperation with the Coastal Prairie Conservation Initiative, has produced a very functional ranch that has the major portion of the property in a large open native prairie. Attwater's greater prairie-chickens have been stocked for two years on the site, and this species is nesting on this and neighboring ranches. White-tailed hawks breed on the ranch, and additional hawks winter here.

JASPER & WHARTON COUNTIES

RICKY MAXEY, TPWD

Longleaf Pine Restoration

This property contains approximately 800 acres, of which approximately 50 percent are forested and 50 percent is in managed pastures. The forests on the property when the project was initiated in 2006 were largely pine, pine-hardwood and hardwood pine forests dominated by loblolly (*Pinus taeda*) and shortleaf (*Pinus echinata*) pine and various endemic hardwoods with the dominants being oaks (*Quercus* spp.) and hickories (*Carya* spp.). The property is actively managed for production of forest, range, wildlife and recreation.

The property straddles the Jasper-Newton county line on deep sandy ridges of the coastal plain separating the Neches and Sabine river basins. Historically the forests atop these rolling hill uplands of eastern Texas were dominated by longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) savannahs. Many of the native plants, including little bluestem grass (*Andropogon scaprius*), remaining in the seed banks of the forested portions of the property are indicator species for that ecological system. The longleaf pine-little bluestem vegetation series was identified by the Texas Natural Heritage Program (1993) as globally threatened throughout its range (G2), and extremely rare throughout the state and vulnerable to extirpation (S1). Restoration of this vegetation series and its associated animal and plant species has been identified by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and many of our cooperators as a high conservation priority within Texas, and throughout the southeastern United States.

The goal of this landowner was to restore longleaf pine savannah to approximately 195 acres of his property. Approximately two-thirds of the project acreage was forest land that had been clear-cut by the previous landowner, and approximately one-third was in managed pasture. The landowner utilized his own equipment and fuel to perform site preparation tasks to prepare the site for planting. LIP funds were utilized to purchase containerized longleaf pine seedlings and to hand-plant those seedlings. This project was the initial step to restore longleaf pine savannah to appropriate sites over time throughout this property.

Ultimately, long-term management of the restored longleaf pine savannah on this property will require application of prescribed burning on a three- to five-year cycle. Longleaf pine and the savannah vegetation community associated with it are fire-dependent and need these periodic fire events as part of their natural growing cycle. Not only are these fires important to their life cycles, but in their absence off-site species from the lower slopes, including loblolly pine, will encroach on these sites and compete for space, sunlight and moisture to the demise of the longleaf pine savannah. In addition, many of the savannah plants of this vegetative community are shade-intolerant and will not grow in the absence of sunlight. Therefore, preventing encroachment of off-site species is critical to the establishment and maintenance of longleaf pine savannah.

GAINES COUNTY

JIM LIONBERGER, TPWD

Native Grassland Restoration

Our objective was to directly improve and enhance 500 acres of existing native grassland by installing a new pipeline to provide adequate water for proper livestock distribution as well as providing water for various wildlife species including the lesser prairie-chicken.

Prior to the LIP project, water distribution on this property was in need of enhancement in order to implement better prescribed grazing practices. Periodic overflow of tanks into earthen depressions now provides important water resources for wildlife. In addition to the target 500 acres, an adjacent 1,300 acres of this ranch benefit through the implementation of grazing practices that will improve habitat quality, overall land health, plant diversity, and hydrology.

In addition to the water sources, this project also increased forage production and lesser prairie-chicken nesting and brood-rearing habitat by aerially spraying honey mesquite on 160 acres of the pasture and thus reducing the amount of tall woody vegetation. This will allow lesser prairie-chickens in the near vicinity of the ranch to utilize this reclaimed habitat and allow for range expansion of the species. LIP funding has been utilized for mesquite control on other ranches in the High Plains in the past few years, and we have observed lesser prairie-chickens using treated areas.

Considering Cultural Resources While Managing Natural Resources

CHRISTOPHER LINTZ, PH.D.,
TPWD WILDLIFE DIVISION CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST

Cultural resource sites, as places of past human activities, are similar to natural resources in that both are about as common as starlings in Central Texas during winter. Although archeological sites may be relatively common, their individual scientific and educational importance is limited by poor preservation conditions, or scarcity of remains. Sometimes different occupation remains are compressed into unclear palimpsests, or the deposits are mixed and disturbed. The most important cultural resources consist of unmixed or discrete occupation debris that were rapidly buried and sealed to preserve the spatial patterning of remains that is critical for interpreting human behavior.

The spatial relationships among artifacts and associated features (cooking hearths, houses, storage pits, dumps, soil color anomalies from decomposed post holes, etc.) provide the context necessary for interpreting material associations, activities and behaviors. Prehistoric sites with good preservation and spatial context are akin to individual members of an endangered species: They are limited in number and unique. Archeological sites are non-renewable, so unlike endangered species, their numbers have no hope of revival. The loss of the spatial context at each site represents a permanent loss of information for all humankind.

Individuals concerned about conserving archeological remains should be acutely aware that the landscapes are ever-changing and dynamic. The movement of sediments from hilltops to valley bottoms occurs by the process of colluviation, whereas changes in ground cover, stream gradients, or rainfall can initiate river bottom entrenchment or accelerate gully erosion. In contrast, over-bank flooding and windborne processes can also deposit substantial sediments on river terraces and hilltops. Sand dunes representing but a few thousand years that measure more than 4 m. (13 ft.) thick mantle upland hills around Freestone County. Similarly, alluvial sediments measuring more than 6 m. (20 ft.) thick have accumulated in less than 2,000 years in some valleys in Briscoe and Bell counties.

Historical documentation of the kind and depths of prior ground-disturbing activities may not guarantee that replication of the same activities will not adversely affect cultural resources in dynamic landscapes. For example, knowledge that a parcel of land was cleared and plowed to a depth of 30 cm. during the 1930s has little bearing on the depth to undisturbed deposits if the land is in a dynamic setting. For, if the parcel has received a few millimeters to centimeters of over-bank flood sediments, each year for the past 80 years, the contact between disturbed plow zone and undisturbed ground with intact deposits may be much deeper than the historical knowledge would suggest. Thus, proposed disking that will affect 30 cm. should not cause new damage to buried archeological sites. But if the 1930s field experienced subsequent sheet erosion or wind deflation, then plowing to the same historic depth of 30 cm. runs a great chance of destroying the spatial context of buried archeological remains in an undisturbed site.

The past half-century has witnessed a fluorescence of natural resource management strategies and tactics for enhancing grasslands, brush and forest habitats. In response, industries have developed a wide range of specialized pieces of heavy equipment as management tools to assist in eradicating or beating back undesirable foliage. Some activities, such as aerial spraying and prescribed fire, cause little to no ground disturbances and do not alter the archeological context except perhaps where fire breaks are needed. Other activities, such as systematic disking, chaining, aeration, terrace bank sculpting etc., cause much greater ground disturbances with potential for destroying archeological context.

Natural habitat management practices do not have to conflict with the goals of conserving cultural resources. Awareness of the potential landscape dynamics and the effects of possible ground disturbance caused by the various available management tools go a long ways toward our understanding of the unintended adverse affects to cultural resources. In general, if options are available, then the natural resource management practice that invokes less ground-disturbing practices is better for conserving cultural resources.

From the Desk of Arlene Kalmbach

TPWD LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Notes on the Upcoming Landowner Incentive Program 2010 Funding Cycle and the Future of the LIP Program in Texas

Since 1997, the Texas Landowner Incentive Program has received funding from a variety of sources in order to effectively serve and support conservation-minded landowners. The federal LIP, which began funding the Texas LIP in 2005, will be ending here in Texas sometime in 2011. However the program will continue in Texas, where it serves as a tool for implementing the goals of the Texas Wildlife Action Plan by helping landowners with efforts to protect and conserve rare and declining species.

LIP supports creative and effective projects giving priority to those with long-term protection (either already in place or as part of the project application) as well as to those who have long-term monitoring built into the project and are willing to share the resulting data. The next traditional LIP funding cycle will begin in May 2010. The process will not change from 2009. Please take a moment to review the calendar below if you are considering submitting an application.

With an eye toward the future, the TPWD LIP is in the early stages of establishing a partnership with the USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. It is expected that this collaboration will result in special focus areas with dedicated LIP funds. To best take advantage of these resources, biologists are encouraged to follow the Web site updates in the coming months.

Once again, thank you for your interest in and continued support of the LIP program in Texas. In a state where conservation work on private lands is essential, it is important that programs such as LIP are available.

In closing, let me emphasize my personal commitment to making this program and your projects a success. The best way for me to do that is through communication and feedback from you. If you have thoughts, suggestions, concerns, ideas or questions regarding any aspect of this program, please let me know.

Please visit the LIP Web site for all updates and details on the 2010 funding cycle. If you have any questions, contact Arlene Kalmbach at (512) 924-6987 or arlene.kalmbach@tpwd.state.tx.us

2010 LIP Funding Cycle Calendar

5-3-10	Request for proposals
6-25-10	Last day to submit applications
6-28-10 through 7-9-10	Preliminary application review (for completion and NRCS cost comparison)
7-12-10 through 8-6-10	TPWD diversity staff species specialists review
8-23-10 through 9-17-10	TPWD Private Lands Advisory Board LIP subcommittee review
9-20-10 through 9-30-10	Final selections. Contracts will be mailed beginning in October (exception: projects requiring cultural resource and/or section 7 clearance)

Executive Director
Carter P. Smith

Editor, *L.I.P. Bulletin*
Arlene Kalmbach

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

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"To manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations."

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All inquiries: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744, telephone (800) 792-1112 toll free, or (512) 389-4800 or visit our Web site for detailed information about TPWD programs:
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