

Travis Audubon Society
Baker Sanctuary Fence Project Phase III

Project Description:

Travis Audubon Society ("TAS") owns the Baker Sanctuary, a 690 acre habitat preserve located in northwest Travis County for state and federally endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler and other wildlife. In addition to providing quality habitat, this land helps filter pollutants, which enhances water quality as it flows from Lime Creek to Sandy Creek then into the Cypress Creek arm of Lake Travis. However, Baker Sanctuary has become overrun with white-tailed deer which are destroying the hardwood-juniper woodland habitat and understory plant species the Golden-cheeked Warblers need to survive. Additionally, the large population of browsing deer causes the land to erode, resulting in decreased water quality and increased runoff into Lake Travis and the Colorado River. In order to prevent this erosion and habitat destruction from the deer, TAS shall install an eight foot tall game fence along 1,900 feet of the northern end of the Baker Sanctuary to keep the deer out. Such installation may involve clearing no more than an eight foot wide path to facilitate fence construction. TAS shall minimize disturbance to the Golden-checked Warbler during this project, including considerations of nesting season. This is Phase III of the fence project, which will eventually enclose the entire Sanctuary.

Environmental Benefit:

This project will enhance the quality of the environment and prevent pollution by keeping the deer out of Baker Sanctuary, thereby reducing soil erosion and increasing water quality. Additionally, the fence will prevent destruction of habitat critical to the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler.

Eligible Areas and Counties:

Colorado River Basin and Edwards-Trinity Plateau, Gulf Coast, Ogallala, Pecos Valley, Trinity Aquifers including Andrews, Austin, Bastrop, Blanco, Borden, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Callahan, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Colorado, Comanche, Concho, Crockett, Dawson, Eastland, Ector, Edwards, Fayette, Gaines, Garza, Gillespie, Glasscock, Hays, Hockley, Howard, Irion, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Lampasas, Lee, Llano, Lynn, Martin, Mason, Matagorda, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Mills, Mitchell, Nolen, Reagan, Real, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Scurry, Sterling, Sutton, Taylor, Terry, Tom Green, Travis, Upton, Wharton and Yoakum Counties.

Minimum Contribution Amount:

\$500