



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: December 6, 2023

In Control: Conservation Advisory Board Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Homer Garcia III

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A discussion and update regarding the Sycamore Springs Ranch, Triesch Ranch and Gilleland Ranch Addition by The Nature Conservancy.

SUMMARY:

The Nature Conservancy will provide project updates on the Sycamore Springs Ranch, Triesch Ranch and Gilleland Ranch Addition properties which may be considered for protection through the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Nature Conservancy will provide project updates on the Sycamore Springs Ranch, Triesch Ranch and Gilleland Ranch Addition properties for consideration by the Conservation Advisory Board as candidates for conservation easements through the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program.

The Sycamore Springs Ranch is approximately 112 acres located in Uvalde County over the

Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone. This property ranks in the 60th percentile of the SET model. Edwards Aquifer Authority conducted a geological assessment on this property which confirmed high water quality and high water quantity benefits if this property is protected. A survey and environmental reports have been completed. The Nature Conservancy will be requesting final approval from the Conservation Advisory Board for acquisition of a conservation easement on this property.

The Triesch Ranch is approximately 292 acres located in Medina County over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone and Contributing Zone. This property is located adjacent to the Rothe Martin conservation easement and ranks in the 40th percentile of the SET model. Edwards Aquifer Authority conducted a geological assessment on this property which confirmed high water quality and high water quantity benefits if this property is protected. The Nature Conservancy will be requesting Stage 2 approval from the Conservation Advisory Board in order to proceed with requesting a survey and environmental reports for this property.

The Gilleland Ranch Addition is approximately 560 acres located in Uvalde County over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. This property is located adjacent to the Gilleland Ranch conservation easement and ranks in the Top 10 percent of the SET model. Edwards Aquifer Authority conducted a geological assessment on this property which confirmed moderate water quality and moderate water quantity benefits if this property is protected. The Nature Conservancy will be requesting Stage 2 approval from the Conservation Advisory Board in order to proceed with requesting a survey and environmental reports for this property.

ISSUE:

This is a presentation to the Conservation Advisory Board on the Sycamore Springs Ranch, Triesch Ranch and Gilleland Ranch Addition properties. The Conservation Advisory Board may elect to recommend final approval for acquisition of a conservation easement on the Sycamore Springs Ranch and may elect to approve Stage 2 due diligence for the Triesch Ranch and Gilleland Ranch Addition projects.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

ALTERNATIVES:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends final approval which is required for City Council consideration for acquisition of a conservation easement on the Sycamore Springs Ranch property. Staff recommends approval of Stage 2 due diligence on the Triesch Ranch and Gilleland Ranch Addition properties.

