

Which species does the SEP-HCP cover?

Golden-cheeked Warbler

Black-capped Vireo

Government Canyon Bat Cave

Spider (Neoleptoneta
microps)

Madla Cave Meshweaver
(Cicurina madla)

Braken Cave Meshweaver
(Cicurina venii)

Government Canyon Bat Cave
Meshweaver (Cicurina
vespera)

Rhadine exilis (a beetle with
no common name)

Rhadine internalis (a beetle
with no common name)

Helotes Mold Beetle
(Batisodes venyivi)

City of San Antonio
**DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**

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the email address below:*

WEBSITE:

[www.sanantonio.gov/DSD/
Constructing/SEP-HCP](http://www.sanantonio.gov/DSD/Constructing/SEP-HCP)

E-MAIL:

DSDSEPHCP@SANANTONIO.GOV

SOUTHERN EDWARDS PLATEAU HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO • BEXAR COUNTY





Photo from Deidre Hisler, TPWD
Government Canyon State Natural Area, Bexar County

What is the SEP-HCP?

The Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan (SEP-HCP)

is a joint effort by the City of San Antonio and Bexar County to implement a program for local administration of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Plan provides an alternative to dealing directly with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for obtaining compliance with endangered species regulations.

The Plan offers an expedited process (months vs. years) for compliance with the ESA. The Plan will increase the level of conservation for endangered species through an increase in ESA compliance and provides an economic benefit to the development community as well.

Why do we need the SEP-HCP?

South central Texas is home to several federally listed threatened or endangered species, including several birds and cave dwelling spiders and beetles. The ESA prohibits harm to these species, including actions that could impact endangered species habitat.

The presence of endangered species can conflict with the desirable economic growth of communities that share the same area. In the Greater San Antonio area, such conflicts have received attention in and have been cited as a significant threat to the military's training mission at Camp Bullis. The presence of these military facilities is a key factor contributing to the economic vitality of the region.

Consulting individually with the USFWS, to achieve compliance with the ESA is often a lengthy process, sometimes taking years to complete. Too often, the burden of compliance leads to a decision to disregard the ESA in favor of risking enforcement action by the Service. Non-compliance with the ESA can sometimes mean that the corresponding actions for the affected species will not occur.

The Plan simplifies, streamlines, and shortens the process of achieving ESA compliance, thereby reducing regulatory uncertainty for voluntary participants and increasing the level of conservation for the region's natural resources.

What is the purpose of the SEP-HCP?

The SEP-HCP is a voluntary tool to help people achieve compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Plan helps to leverage resources for conservation at a regionally significant scale.

Participation in the Plan is voluntary for anyone seeking to comply with the ESA. Anyone, including private landowners or other local governments, wishing to use the Plan for ESA compliance must enroll in the Plan. The City of San Antonio nor Bexar County will not require or compel any landowner, developer, local government entity, or any other person to participate in the Plan.

Those wishing to not participate in the Plan may conduct their activities in a way that does not harm endangered species or may seek other options for ESA compliance, such as consulting individually with USFWS.



Photo by Jean Krejca, Zara Environmental
Endangered Karst Spider