



Environmental Services, Inc.

6 June 2012

River Place Municipal Utility District
Attn: Phil Haag
10123 Treasure Island Drive
Austin, TX 78730

RE: Results of golden-cheeked warbler survey on River Place M.U.D. Nature Trail located west of River Place Boulevard and south of the intersection of RM 620 and FM 2222, Travis County, Texas
HJN 120040 TE

Dear Mr. Haag,

Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. (Horizon) has conducted surveys for the federally listed endangered golden-cheeked warbler (GCW) (*Setophaga chrysoparia*) on the above-referenced property (subject site). The surveys were conducted according to US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) survey guidelines (last updated 13 January 2010) and the terms of Horizon's USFWS endangered species Permit Number TE798998-3, issued 28 March 2011.

GCW SURVEY RESULTS

Horizon conducted GCW surveys on the nature trail and surrounding areas near the River Place Country Club. The nature trail is approximately 2.5 miles long and 2 to 3 feet wide (see Figure 1 and Photographs, attached). Survey efforts conducted on the subject site occurred on the following dates in 2012: 29 March, 4, 13, 19, 27 April, and 4 May. Horizon spent approximately 2.5 to 4 hours within the study area during each survey event between 7:00 am and 12:00 pm.

On the 6 survey dates, 11 separate GCW observations were documented. Looking at the distribution of the observations (Figure 1), survey results indicate that there were likely 4 GCW males utilizing the study area. One visual unbanded, after second year, male GCW was observed on the southern end of the trail on 27 April 2012. The male GCW was observed foraging, vocalizing, and flying above the nature trail. Behavior exhibited by the male was consistent with territorial defense. No females or fledglings were observed.

At the time of Horizon's survey efforts, current land use of the subject site consisted of the recreational nature trail within dense, mature juniper/oak woodlands with a variety of oak and other broadleaf species interspersed with mature Ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*). Adjacent land use at the time of the surveys consisted of predominately single family residential and recreational golf course development with associated community amenities to the east of the study area and vacant wooded rangeland to the west.

120040_GCW_Survey.docx

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

1507 South IH 35 ★ Austin, Texas 78741 ★ 512.328.2430 ★ Fax 512.328.1804 ★ www.horizon-esi.com
Certified WBE/DBE/HUB

It is Horizon's opinion that the study area including the nature trail are currently and have historically been utilized by the federally listed GCW and that development of the nature trail had no adverse effect on the GCW.

If you have any future questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.

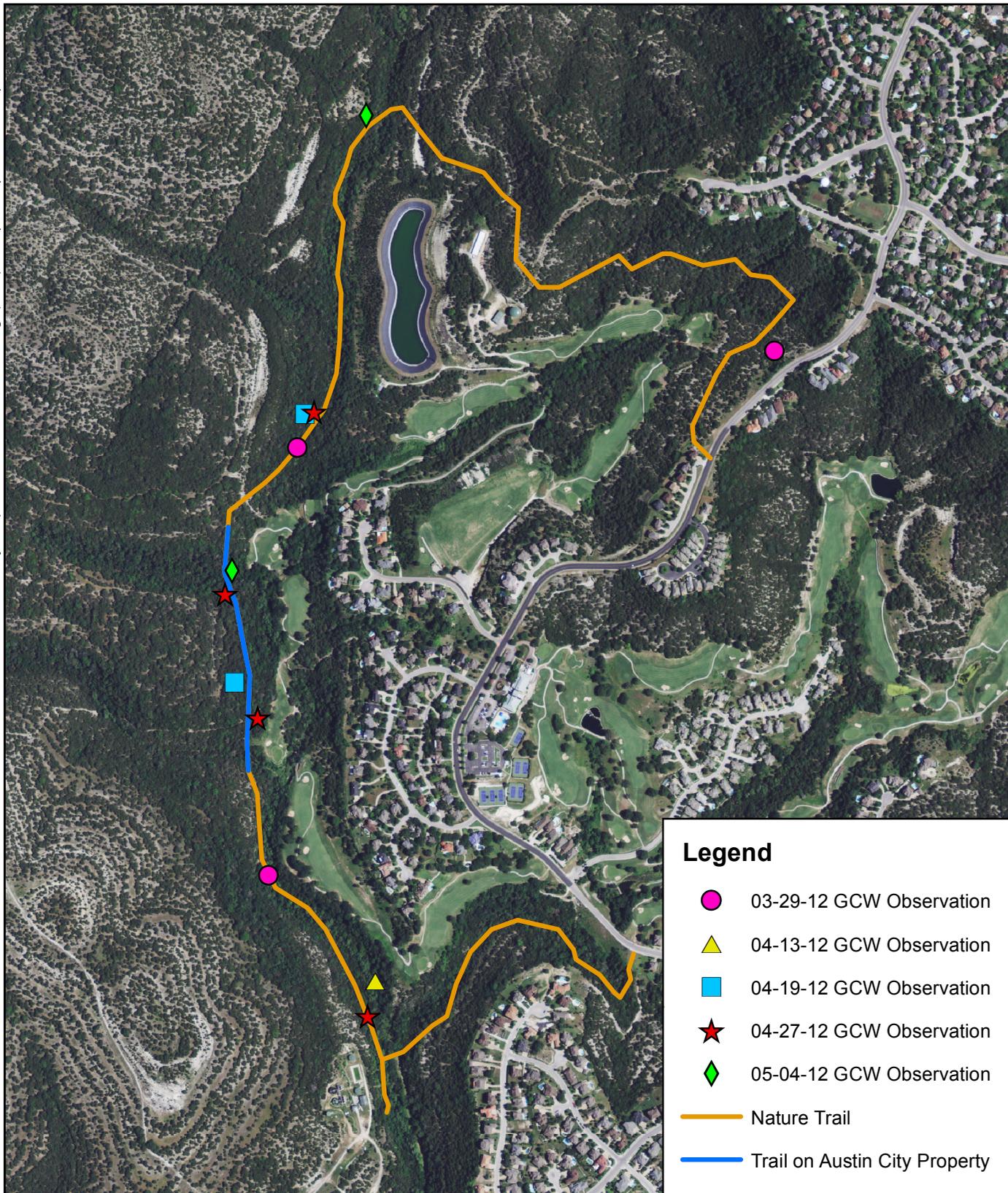


Shannon Dorsey
Principal

Attachments: Figure 1 - Site Findings Map
 Site Photographs
 GCW Field Survey Forms

References:

(USFWS) US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. Austin, Texas Ecological Services, <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/Documents/R2ES/GCWA_Survey_Guidelines_20100113.pdf>. Accessed 28 March 2012.



MAP SOURCE: USDA, 2010.

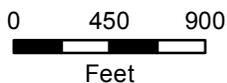


FIGURE 1
SITE FINDINGS MAP
RIVER PLACE M.U.D. NATURE TRAIL
AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS