

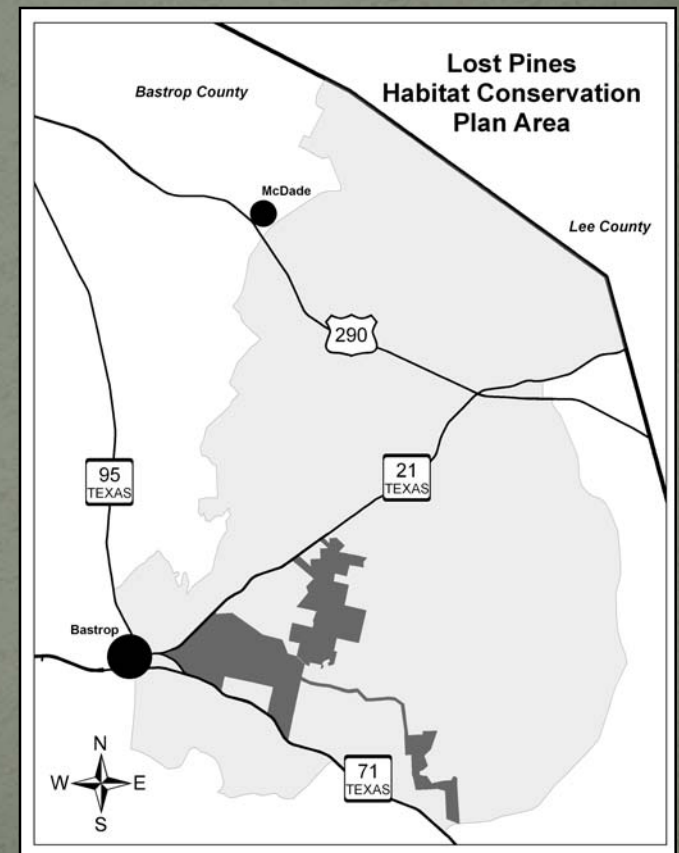
Landowner Incentives Through the Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Plan



Roxanne Hernandez, LPHCP Administrator

Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Plan (LPHCP)

- Approved by USFWS in April 2008
- Implementation began in mid-November 2008
- Encompasses a 124,000-acre area
 - Basic premise is that the Houston toad and humans can coexist
 - Success of the plan is dependent on the cooperation and participation of landowners within the plan area



Property Tax Savings

- House Bill 604, adopted by the Texas Legislature in 2007, amended Section 23.51 of the Tax Code to allow certain land to move directly into a wildlife management appraisal without having been appraised as agricultural land for the previous five years.
- To qualify, landowners must actively use the land to protect federally listed endangered species (i.e., Houston toad) under a federal permit (i.e., Bastrop County's LPHCP) through implementation of a qualified conservation plan (i.e., plans required under the LPHCP).
- Participation in Bastrop County's LPHCP provides a means for qualifying landowners to take advantage of the benefits of HB 604.

Habitat Improvement Grants

- **Bastrop County Grant Program:**

Funded through mitigation fees collected from residential and commercial construction activities within the plan area

- **Partners for Fish & Wildlife/Bastrop County Grant Program:**

Funded by the US Fish & Wildlife Service

>>>Both require landowner cost-share<<<

>>>Both are reimbursement programs<<<

Activities Funded



Brush & understory
thinning

Native grassland
restoration



Activities Funded



Prescribed fire preparation
and implementation



Restoration of loblolly pines
and other native trees to
re-establish canopy cover



Activities Funded

Treatment of red imported
fire ants



Fencing to restrict
and manage
livestock access to
breeding ponds

Grant Program Requirements

- Property must be located within the LPHCP area
- Conservation Agreement – 10 year term
- Maintenance of habitat improvements for term of agreement
- Participation in the LPHCP for wildlife management (unless the landowner is covered by some other federal permit)

Grant Application Process

- Contact Roxanne Hernandez,
Administrator of Bastrop County's LPHCP –
(512) 332-7284
- Meet on-site to discuss habitat
management objectives and potential
funding opportunities
- Develop improvements plan and enter into
agreement

For More Information about Bastrop County's LPHCP

Contact Roxanne Hernandez,
Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Plan Administrator
512-332-7284
BastropLPHCP@co.bastrop.tx.us
Website: www.co.bastrop.tx.us

For More Information about Appraisal as Wildlife Management Land

Contact the Bastrop Central Appraisal District
512-303-1930