

I have had the privilege of participating in one of the first plant and bird surveys of Honey Creek SNA when acquired by The Nature Conservancy. I continue to survey Honey Creek SNA for Guadalupe River State Park monthly for breeding, resident, and migratory birds. Then and now it has remarkable species.

Honey Creek under Texas Parks and Wildlife Department management supports not only an endangered species, but also grassland and species unusual for Comal County. Native grasses have been renewed by controlled burns. More bird species nest at Honey Creek due to either the riparian or improved grassland habitat. It is an important bird area.

Honey Creek is preserved. The State and its citizens are its stewards. Honey Creek spring flow into the Guadalupe River impacts water quality downstream and in the Aquifers, the source of water for an increasing population and municipal and private utilities.

TCEQ is my governmental entity charged with protection of the State's preservation of this irreplaceable resource.

You must review and study the experts' conclusive comments that any accidental, rain event, or probable leaching into the karst features one-third of a mile from this property will irreversibly alter this natural resource.

Population growth has put so much pressure on Guadalupe State Park that it has had to close to its gates hundreds of days. The Park also closes frequently after any heavy rainfall to preserve the integrity of its trails. Honey Creek SNA will probably have to be opened to more public activities to fill the need of recreation. TCEQ must find the best ways to protect Honey Creek.

The thin soil over karst geology mandating soil build up to 18 inches in the evaporative field begets the nature of runoff in the hill country. Already, TCEQ not being very familiar with the other water treatment permits of the type proposed in this permit applications during the Public Comment tonight (which will be submitted by a participant) was troublesome. TCEQ must make itself familiar with the results of this type of treatment in this type of environment. Also, knowing that imported, invasive Bermuda grass works well in other environments does not show due caution that seeds do not spread to Honey Creek SNA.

Inspections every five years is inadequate. Knowing that a TCEQ San Antonio expert will investigate a treated sewage violation after the fact is inadequate. Do not approve this permit in the first place.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this and other Public Comments.

Juliana Crouch

New Braunfels

On Tue, Jun 9, 2020, 7:30 PM Meghan Taack <[customer@gotowebinar.com](mailto:customer@gotowebinar.com)>  
wrote: