

Candelaria Farm Preserve
Technical Advisory Group, TAG
Rio Grande Nature Center State Park • 2901 Candelaria Rd NW
Education Building
May 10, 2018 • 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Minutes - Final

Participants

Members: Brian Hanson, Chairman, bhanson5@comcast.net: Christianne Hinks, Peggy Norton, Judy Kowalski, Kent Swanson, Steve Cox, Heather MacCurdy, Yolanda Holman, James Lewis

Additional Technical Assistance: Dave Hutton, Matt Schmader

Community – Kathleen Hall, Linda Shank

Review of Agenda – approved

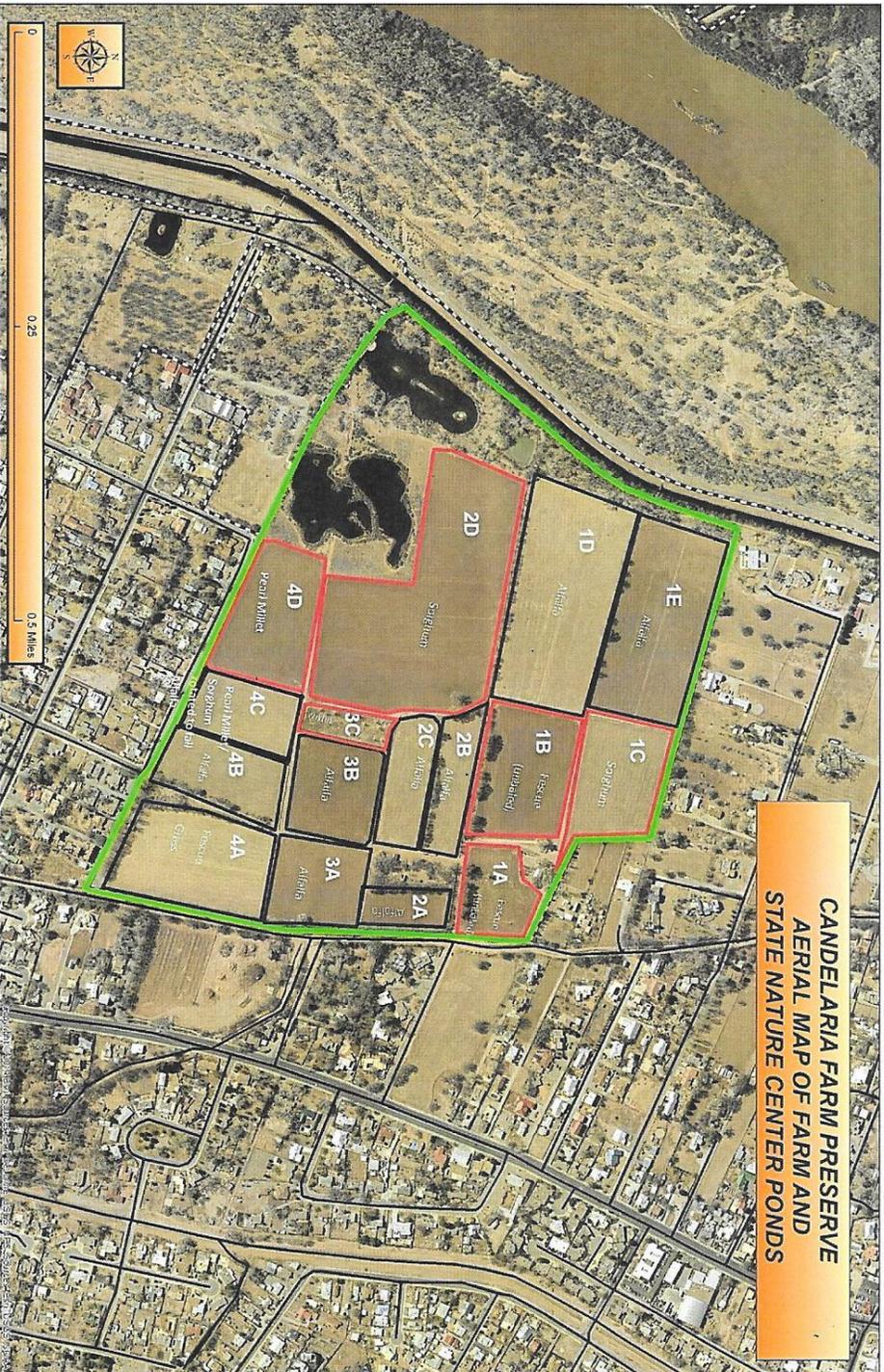
Minutes April 26, 2018: Approved with minor adjustments to the herbicide spraying

Announcements from TAG Members

- Dave Hutton explained that during Herbfest at the Nature Center, (May 13 at 12 noon) Candelaria Farm Preserve (CFP) will be discussed including Wes Brittenham presenting about how to vegetate native plants on the cropland; Brian will give a powerpoint about CFP; followed by comments from the audience.
- Matt mentioned that it is tough to know exactly when the area will be sprayed since if it is windy they won't spray. He also said it would be better to talk directly with the farmer instead of talking about him in meetings. Everyone should keep in mind that the farmer is a person and should be treated accordingly. Peggy responded with - I called the farmer, we started meeting in September, agreed to meet monthly, met in October, then he didn't respond after that (I had heard his wife was ill). We met in February with Open Space, Farmer, neighborhood reps, discussed the farming successes and changes for the new year and a crop plan was to be completed.
- Kent said it was Open Space responsibility to notify the residents about spraying. The public should be notified 48 hours before spraying.
- Matt mentioned that Open Space employees were recently injured demonstrating that it is a dangerous job managing Open Space lands.
- Steve Cox mentioned that 3 bird species have been documented nesting at the ponds.
- Kent handed out a proposed crop plan from Mr. Roberts dated May 3, 2018 (see below)

Candelaria Farm Wildlife Cropping Areas

(Updated May 3rd 2018)



**CANDELARIA FARM PRESERVE
AERIAL MAP OF FARM AND
STATE NATURE CENTER PONDS**

Approximate acreage per field

Wildlife cropping areas

appear in red (see detailed crop plan attached)

- 1A: 2.85 acres
- 1B: 5.51 acres
- 1C: 4.9 acres
- 1D: 10 acres
- 1E: 9.35 acres
- 2A: 1.45 acres
- 2B: 2.7 acres
- 2C: 2.7 acres
- 2D: 14.83 acres
- 3A: 3.73 acres
- 3B: 3.91 acres
- 3C: 1.43 acres
- 4A: 6.26 acres
- 4B: 3.87 acres
- 4C: 3.27 acres
- 4D: 5.3 acres

Total farmable acreage: 82.06

Designated wildlife crops:

34.82 acres (approximately 42.4% of total farmable acreage)

Public Comment

Kathleen mentioned that Dave Mehlman had documented 103 bird species in Candelaria South and the surveys can be obtained from Ebird.

Site specific Management for the Resource Management Plan (RMP) Cropland

Brian created a map of proposed Technical Advisory Group (TAG) changes from cropland to native bosque habitat and crops for wildlife. In December management of the cropland was discussed and TAG agreed to a general plan. Brian wanted agreement from the TAG about general concepts so they could be presented to the public at Herbfest on May 13. TAG members had many comments concerning the map but finally agreed to have Brian use the map but it had to be explained that it was a draft and assumptions about management should be included.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Judy said the Resource Management Plan had to include how outdoor recreation is included. Cropland management should be explained so that it meets the requirements of the LWCF concerning agriculture operation and costs.

Contractor Status

James Lewis explained that progress is being made towards a final contract but there are many steps and did not know when the contract will be finalized. He suggested the contractor should meet with TAG soon after completion of contract signing.

Next Meeting:

June 7, 2:30 PM – Primarily Contractor status and coordination between TAG and the contractor.