

Press Release

For immediate release

30 September 2011

**Bastrop Complex Fire Recovery Plan Includes  
Lost Pines Ecosystem Recovery--  
Environmental Assessment Is First Step**

The Bastrop Complex Fire Recovery Plan includes an ecosystem recovery plan for the Lost Pines area. However, before staff can get on the ground to work toward that recovery, an assessment plan must be implemented and data collected, announced Bastrop County Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Plan Administrator Roxanne Hernandez.

“At this time, we’re assessing damage to the area’s natural resources,” Hernandez said. “Once we have enough information about the impacts to make informed decisions, we will develop a strategy and specific management actions for recovery of the Lost Pines. This plan will ultimately provide guidance for private property owners interested in restoring the integrity of their landscape.” Experts in the fields of soils and erosion, wildlife, water quality, hydrology, forestry, and others are developing the recovery plan.

Hernandez said that Bastrop County is collaborating with state and federal entities to develop the recovery plan. Partners include: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Texas Forest Service; Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Natural Resources Conservation Service; Texas AgriLife Extension Service; Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; Texas State University; and the Lower Colorado River Authority.

Bastrop County is accepting donations to assist with the recovery of the Lost Pines ecosystem. To donate, make checks payable to Bastrop County and send them to Lost Pines Habitat Conservation, Attn: Resource Recovery, 901 Pecan Street, Bastrop, TX 78602. Donations for Bastrop State Park recovery should be sent to Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Attn: Cashiers, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744.

For additional information, Hernandez can be reached by phone at 332-7284 or by email at [Roxanne.hernandez@co.bastrop.tx.us](mailto:Roxanne.hernandez@co.bastrop.tx.us).

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