



News Release

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Service Approves CEMEX Construction Materials South Habitat Conservation Plan *Plan Facilitates Quarry Activities While Protecting the Golden-Cheeked Warbler*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has approved the incidental take permit application and associated Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the CEMEX Balcones Quarry Northeast Area Tract in Comal County, Texas. The incidental take permit will be in effect for 15 years.

CEMEX Construction Materials South, LLC requested an incidental take permit to cover clearing and implementation of quarrying activities on 199.4 acres within the CEMEX Balcones Quarry Northeast Area that may affect the golden-cheeked warbler and its habitat. As part of the Habitat Conservation Plan, CEMEX will mitigate with the purchase of high quality golden-cheeked warbler habitat.

The golden-cheeked warbler is a small, migratory song bird that nests exclusively in central Texas. The bird is threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation as a result of urban encroachment and the clearing of juniper. The golden-cheeked warbler was listed as endangered on December 27, 1990.

Copies of the HCP and Environmental Assessment are available online at <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/AustinTexas/>. For additional information contact, Mr. Adam Zerrenner, Field Supervisor, by mail at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin Ecological Services Field Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78758-4460; or by phone at 512-490-0057.

The Service has a number of tools under the Endangered Species Act, including HCPs, that provide businesses, landowners and state and local governments with the ability to continue their on the ground activities while ensuring protection of listed species such as the golden-cheeked warbler.

America's fish, wildlife, and plant resources belong to all of us, and ensuring the health of imperiled species is a shared responsibility. We're working to actively engage conservation partners and the public in the search for improved and innovative ways to conserve and recover imperiled species.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <http://www.fws.gov/>. Connect with our [Facebook page](#), follow our [tweets](#), watch our [YouTube Channel](#) and download photos from our [Flickr page](#).

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