

By: Baxter

H.B. No. 1837

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1837:

By: Phillips

C.S.H.B. No. 1837

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to federal approval of land for habitat conservation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 83, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Section 83.021 to read as follows:

Sec. 83.021. FEDERAL APPROVAL OF LAND ACQUISITIONS. (a)
This section applies to a conservation agreement, as defined by
Section 83.005, a habitat conservation plan, or a regional habitat
conservation plan that:

(1) received a federal permit before September 1,
1999;

(2) has planned the acquisition of more than 1,000
acres of land under the permit; and

(3) has not completed the planned acquisitions by
September 1, 2003.

(b) Not later than December 1, 2003, a permit holder shall
prepare an amendment to a plan or agreement to which this section
applies to include all land and conservation easements acquired
before December 1, 2003, by the permit holder with public money for
any environmentally related purpose and after the submission of the
original plan to the federal government. The permit holder shall
submit the amendment to the plan or agreement to the appropriate
federal agency under the federal act. The federal agency shall
determine which portions of the land acquired count toward the

1 total area of land planned for acquisition under the original
2 habitat preservation plan or agreement.

3 (c) The permit holder shall prepare and file an additional
4 amendment for every 1,000 acres of land or conservation easements
5 acquired on or after December 1, 2003, not later than 60 days after
6 the date of the last acquisition.

7 (d) If the federal agency approves the use of all or part of
8 the land included under Subsection (b) for partial completion of
9 the planned acquisitions under the original plan or agreement, the
10 permit holder shall reduce appropriately the number of acres that
11 need to be acquired to complete land acquisitions under the
12 original plan or agreement.

13 (e) This section expires on September 1, 2005.

14 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.