



The other part of the proposed route, from Cypress Creek Road southward along Anderson Mill Road and then east along FM 2769, either to the power line easement or to an alignment closer to RM 620 were not surveyed on the ground by our firm, however a great deal is already known about environmental issues along the south part of the route proposed by the City of Austin. This portion of the line would traverse numerous areas known to be habitat, or known to possess the necessary characteristics of habitat, for at least the same endangered species discussed above and possibly more.

COA already drew extensive opposition from anti-growth and environmental groups and agencies including Travis County Commissioner's Court for its plans to locate its own proposed water plant at the so-called "Cortana" site, and for locating its part of the intake lines in this same area, and was compelled to abandon the Cortana site for an alternate site in what is an equally sensitive area of the Bull Creek watershed, based almost exclusively on the extent of community concerns over the environmental impacts for their small part of the south alignment, alone.

To properly evaluate the route, it would be necessary to survey an area 1000 feet wide within which the water line would be located. This would include vegetation surveys, surveys for the Golden-cheeked warbler (*D. chrysoparia*) and surface and subsurface investigations for karst features that may contain *R. persephone* and other endangered cave dwellers. The results of the findings within this 1000 foot corridor would have be evaluated by the scientists and then presented to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan (BCCP) committee and other involved and interested organizations. Based upon what is already known about the area, even without the additional findings to be sought in the field, we believe that environmental impacts of the south portion of the proposed COA route would disqualify it from serious consideration, as they did after a detailed examination of the north portion of the route.