

## Environmental Services

John J. Kuhl

### Summary of Qualifications

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- Extensive public and private sector experience in multi-disciplinary environmental consulting, conservation, natural and cultural resources protection, land management and policy analysis.
- Demonstrated ability to simultaneously manage multiple controversial projects successfully while recruiting and cultivating valuable staffing teams.
- Excellent communication skills with well-documented written, speaking and networking history in environmental and public service fields. Deep multi-media presentation experience (including televised).
- Varied field and regulatory skill sets developed in endangered species and general wildlife, vegetation, waters of the U.S. (including wetlands), land acquisition and management, parks management and design, conservation biology and other natural and cultural resource subject areas.
- Extensive people and project management experience, including budgets, scopes of work, annual work plans, strategic plans and all manner of performance management and planning.

### Professional Qualifications

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October 2018 to Present

*Blanton & Associates, Inc. Field Ecologist – Austin, TX – Part-time Contract Basis*

- Conducting a variety of field surveys primarily for energy and transportation projects on a statewide basis. Examples include quantitative general avian surveys, quantitative raptor and large bird surveys, post construction mortality surveys for bats and birds and habitat and habitat assessment and presence absence surveys for reptiles and amphibians.

July 2018 to Present

*Kuhl Resources LLC Lead Ecologist/Owner – Austin Texas*

- Leading a family business focused upon finding conservation-oriented solutions for a wide variety of clientele. Offering full spectrum natural and cultural resource services using a network of like-minded experts cultivated over three decades of environmental consulting in Texas and neighboring states. Recent projects include habitat assessment for rare and listed wildlife, wildlife baseline survey (avian, reptile, amphibian and mammal), Waters of the U.S. (including wetlands) determinations, and wildlife management plan preparation and implementation for 1-d-1 Open Space appraisal valuation purposes.

September 2007- July 2018

*Hicks & Company Environmental and Archeological Consultants Ecology Program Manager – Austin, TX*

- Managed a group of ecologists, archeologists, planners and project managers to complete multi-disciplinary projects for a wide variety of clients throughout Texas and the Southwest. Part of executive team with companywide responsibilities for personnel, financial forecasting, business development and quality assurance/quality control.
- Functioned as Senior Project Manager for everything from small projects to large, complex Environmental Impact Statements, Environmental Assessments, Environmental Compliance



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Projects, Expert Witness Testimony, and Ecological Studies. Extensive client management, agency coordination/negotiation and project budget/scope development. (Project and Publication list attached).

April 1998-August 2007

*Travis County Environmental Officer & Division Director – Austin, TX*

- As Environmental Officer, provided guidance to and acted on behalf of the Travis County Commissioners Court on a wide array of environmental, regulatory and legislative issues.
- Directed Travis County's Natural Resources and Environmental Quality Division including the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan and Preserve, as well as program elements varying from grant seeking and administration, solid waste, recycling and hazardous materials issues, to air and water quality protection and general environmental compliance.

1987-1998

*Ecologist, Environmental Consultant & Senior Project Manager -- Austin, TX*

- Advanced from entry to mid-level ecologist at Environmental Technical Services, DLS Associates, Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Mariah Associates, Inc. from 1987-1992. Progressed to Senior Project Manager at Hicks & Company from 1992-1998. Main emphases included environmental regulatory compliance, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance and endangered species, wildlife/vegetation studies, wetlands delineation, and impact assessment. Primary industry sectors included habitat conservation planning, transportation, surface mining, public utility and power generation and general development. Extensive client management, marketing and agency coordination/negotiation. (Separate project and publication list available).

## Education, Continuing Education and Certifications

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- B.S. Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, 1986
- Texas Tech University School of Law, 1988-1989
- Basic Wetlands Delineation Certificate, Wetlands Training Institute, Houston, Texas, 1991
- Habitat Evaluation Procedures Certificate, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Ecology Research Center and Colorado State University, Green Bay Wisconsin, 1993
- Wetland Plant ID Certificate, Wetlands Training Institute, Austin, Texas 1997
- Basic and Intermediate Environmental Law Enforcement – Capital Area Council of Governments Regional Environmental Task Force 1999 & 2000, respectively
- Various CLE International Endangered Species Act and Water Law Conferences, 1992- 2000
- Division of Emergency Management First Responder Awareness 29 CFR 1910.120 Emergency Services Training Institute, Texas Engineering Extension Service, Texas A&M University System, 2001& 2006
- Wetlands Regional Supplement Seminar & Field Practicum, Wetland Training Institute, Houston Texas 2009
- Keying Wetland Grass and Grass-like Species, Wetland Training Institute, New Braunfels, Texas, 2014



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- USFWS Southwestern Willow Flycatcher & Yellow Billed Cuckoo Survey Training Workshops, Tucson, Arizona, 2009 & Bosque del Apache NWR, New Mexico 2017
- USFWS T&E Statewide Survey Permit (previous TE08563D-0 for Attwater's Greater Prairie Chicken, Bald Eagle, Golden-cheeked Warbler, Black-capped Vireo, Interior Least Tern, Northern Aplomado Falcon, Piping Plover, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (TX, NM & AZ), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (western subspecies) and Houston Toad (including handling and relocation)
- TPWD Scientific Research Permit SPR-1018-272. Includes unrestricted live capture for relocation and salvage of specimens found dead.
- TXDOT Precertification Sequence No. 2326 – 2.3.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.6.1, 2.6.2, 2.6.3, 2.14.1

## Publications and Presentations

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### Professional Consulting Reports

- Over 170 professional reports submitted to a variety of local, state and federal agencies in support of technical studies, permitting activities and environmental policy, 1988-2000 & 2007-Present (partial list included - complete list available).

### Co-author and technical advisor of four major Travis County Ordinances

- Solid Waste Management or Disposal Facilities in or Near Floodplains – Subchapter C, Chapter 64, Travis County Code, October 2001
- Siting of Solid Waste Facilities – Chapter 62, Travis County Code, July 2003
- Interim Water Quality Rules – Chapter 82, Travis County Code, July 2005
- Conservation Development Ordinance and Technical Guidance Manual – Chapter 82, Travis County Code, December 2006

### Professional Presentations at Travis County

- Weekly, televised presentations before the Travis County Commissioners Court regarding a variety of technical and policy issues involving varied agencies and stakeholders. Extensive coordination with County Attorneys Office staff and elected officials in Executive Session. Extensive experience with public meetings/hearings and topical presentations to various professional associations, neighborhood groups, etc.
- Annual budget hearings and semi-annual programmatic work sessions before the Travis County Commissioners Court
- Numerous presentations regarding specific permit actions before the Texas Legislature, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and other agencies
- *Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan and Preserve*, CLE International Endangered Species Act & Habitat Conservation Planning, Tucson, AZ, November 2002.
- *Public/Private Host Fee Opportunities*, CAPCOG Solid Waste Summit, Austin, Texas, November 2003.
- *Illegal Dumping Enforcement, Local Government Programs*, Texas Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America, Brownsville, Texas, March 2004.



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- *Landfills and Travis County – Half a Decade of Challenges*, Air & Waste Management Association Central Texas Chapter of the Southwest Section, March 2006.

### Additional Information

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- Personal Interests include hunting, fishing, dog training, paddle sports and family activities
- Fluent in Spanish and English, conversational background in German
- Extensive executive leadership experience serving on youth non-profit boards of directors
- 15 years' experience coaching youth soccer, eight years at select/academy level

### References

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