

MARK KIRKPATRICK

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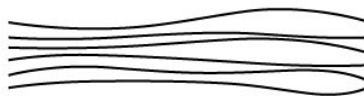
The Save Our Springs Alliance and I filed two federal lawsuits that ultimately forced the government to list the salamander in 1997.”

Bill Bunch and George Cofer got me involved with the movement to protect the Springs in 1989. This led to many adventures, including the famed all-night City Council hearing in June 1990 and protests against naming a building at UT after developer-nemesis Jim Bob Moffat in 1996.

At Bunch’s suggestion, Barbara Mahler and I filed a petition in 1992 with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the Barton Springs salamander as an endangered species. The petition triggered a political backlash among those favoring development over conservation, and inspired Texas Governor George W. Bush and U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison to oppose the listing. The Save Our Springs Alliance and I filed two federal lawsuits that ultimately forced the government to list the salamander in 1997. Over the next 15 years, I served as a board member and Science Officer of SOS.

What this dry narrative fails to convey are the many wonderful experiences I’ve had with the community of people committed to protecting the Springs, and with the Springs themselves.

BARTON CREEK



TIME STREAM