

GALVESTON COUNTY

BIRDS

		Federal Status	State Status
American Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	DL	T
year-round resident and local breeder in west Texas, nests in tall cliff eyries; also, migrant across state from more northern breeding areas in US and Canada, winters along coast and farther south; occupies wide range of habitats during migration, including urban, concentrations along coast and barrier islands; low-altitude migrant, stopovers at leading landscape edges such as lake shores, coastlines, and barrier islands.			
Arctic Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus tundrius</i>	DL	
migrant throughout state from subspecies' far northern breeding range, winters along coast and farther south; occupies wide range of habitats during migration, including urban, concentrations along coast and barrier islands; low-altitude migrant, stopovers at leading landscape edges such as lake shores, coastlines, and barrier islands.			
Attwater's Greater Prairie-Chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido attwateri</i>	LE	E
this county within historic range; endemic; open prairies of mostly thick grass one to three feet tall; from near sea level to 200 feet along coastal plain on upper two-thirds of Texas coast; males form communal display flocks during late winter-early spring; booming grounds important; breeding February-July			
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	DL	T
found primarily near rivers and large lakes; nests in tall trees or on cliffs near water; communally roosts, especially in winter; hunts live prey, scavenges, and pirates food from other birds			
Black Rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>		
salt, brackish, and freshwater marshes, pond borders, wet meadows, and grassy swamps; nests in or along edge of marsh, sometimes on damp ground, but usually on mat of previous year's dead grasses; nest usually hidden in marsh grass or at base of Salicornia			
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	DL	
largely coastal and near shore areas, where it roosts and nests on islands and spoil banks			
Eskimo Curlew	<i>Numenius borealis</i>	LE	E
historic; nonbreeding: grasslands, pastures, plowed fields, and less frequently, marshes and mudflats			
Henslow's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>		
wintering individuals (not flocks) found in weedy fields or cut-over areas where lots of bunch grasses occur along with vines and brambles; a key component is bare ground for running/walking			
Mountain Plover	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>		
breeding: nests on high plains or shortgrass prairie, on ground in shallow depression; nonbreeding: shortgrass plains and bare, dirt (plowed) fields; primarily insectivorous			

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Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	DL	T
<p>both subspecies migrate across the state from more northern breeding areas in US and Canada to winter along coast and farther south; subspecies (F. p. anatum) is also a resident breeder in west Texas; the two subspecies' listing statuses differ, F.p. tundrius is no longer listed in Texas; but because the subspecies are not easily distinguishable at a distance, reference is generally made only to the species level; see subspecies for habitat.</p>			
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	LT	T
<p>wintering migrant along the Texas Gulf Coast; beaches and bayside mud or salt flats</p>			
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>		T
<p>resident of the Texas Gulf Coast; brackish marshes and shallow salt ponds and tidal flats; nests on ground or in trees or bushes, on dry coastal islands in brushy thickets of yucca and prickly pear</p>			
Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		
<p>formerly an uncommon breeder in the Panhandle; potential migrant; winter along coast</p>			
Southeastern Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus tenuirostris</i>		
<p>wintering migrant along the Texas Gulf Coast beaches and bayside mud or salt flats</p>			
Sprague's Pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	C	
<p>only in Texas during migration and winter, mid September to early April; short to medium distance, diurnal migrant; strongly tied to native upland prairie, can be locally common in coastal grasslands, uncommon to rare further west; sensitive to patch size and avoids edges.</p>			
White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>		T
<p>prefers freshwater marshes, sloughs, and irrigated rice fields, but will attend brackish and saltwater habitats; nests in marshes, in low trees, on the ground in bulrushes or reeds, or on floating mats</p>			
White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>		T
<p>near coast on prairies, cordgrass flats, and scrub-live oak; further inland on prairies, mesquite and oak savannas, and mixed savanna-chaparral; breeding March-May</p>			
Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	LE	E
<p>potential migrant via plains throughout most of state to coast; winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties</p>			
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>		T
<p>forages in prairie ponds, flooded pastures or fields, ditches, and other shallow standing water, including salt-water; usually roosts communally in tall snags, sometimes in association with other wading birds (i.e. active heronries); breeds in Mexico and birds move into Gulf States in search of mud flats and other wetlands, even those associated with forested areas; formerly nested in Texas, but no breeding records since 1960</p>			

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FISHES

	Federal Status	State Status
<p>American eel <i>Anguilla rostrata</i></p> <p>coastal waterways below reservoirs to gulf; spawns January to February in ocean, larva move to coastal waters, metamorphose, then females move into freshwater; most aquatic habitats with access to ocean, muddy bottoms, still waters, large streams, lakes; can travel overland in wet areas; males in brackish estuaries; diet varies widely, geographically, and seasonally</p>		

<p>Smalltooth sawfish <i>Pristis pectinata</i></p> <p>different life history stages have different patterns of habitat use; young found very close to shore in muddy and sandy bottoms, seldom descending to depths greater than 32 ft (10 m); in sheltered bays, on shallow banks, and in estuaries or river mouths; adult sawfish are encountered in various habitat types (mangrove, reef, seagrass, and coral), in varying salinity regimes and temperatures, and at various water depths, feed on a variety of fish species and crustaceans</p>	LE	E
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MAMMALS

	Federal Status	State Status
<p>Louisiana black bear <i>Ursus americanus luteolus</i></p> <p>possible as transient; bottomland hardwoods and large tracts of inaccessible forested areas</p>	LT	T

<p>Plains spotted skunk <i>Spilogale putorius interrupta</i></p> <p>catholic; open fields, prairies, croplands, fence rows, farmyards, forest edges, and woodlands; prefers wooded, brushy areas and tallgrass prairie</p>		
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<p>Red wolf <i>Canis rufus</i></p> <p>extirpated; formerly known throughout eastern half of Texas in brushy and forested areas, as well as coastal prairies</p>	LE	E
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<p>West Indian manatee <i>Trichechus manatus</i></p> <p>Gulf and bay system; opportunistic, aquatic herbivore</p>	LE	E
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REPTILES

	Federal Status	State Status
<p>Alligator snapping turtle <i>Macrochelys temminckii</i></p> <p>perennial water bodies; deep water of rivers, canals, lakes, and oxbows; also swamps, bayous, and ponds near deep running water; sometimes enters brackish coastal waters; usually in water with mud bottom and abundant aquatic vegetation; may migrate several miles along rivers; active March-October; breeds April-October</p>		T

<p>Atlantic hawksbill sea turtle <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i></p> <p>Gulf and bay system, warm shallow waters especially in rocky marine environments, such as coral reefs and jetties, juveniles found in floating mats of sea plants; feed on sponges, jellyfish, sea urchins, molluscs, and crustaceans, nests April through November</p>	LE	E
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REPTILES

		Federal Status	State Status
Green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	LT	T
<p>Gulf and bay system; shallow water seagrass beds, open water between feeding and nesting areas, barrier island beaches; adults are herbivorous feeding on sea grass and seaweed; juveniles are omnivorous feeding initially on marine invertebrates, then increasingly on sea grasses and seaweeds; nesting behavior extends from March to October, with peak activity in May and June</p>			
Gulf Saltmarsh snake	<i>Nerodia clarkii</i>		
<p>saline flats, coastal bays, and brackish river mouthss</p>			
Kemp's Ridley sea turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	LE	E
<p>Gulf and bay system, adults stay within the shallow waters of the Gulf of Mexico; feed primarily on crabs, but also snails, clams, other crustaceans and plants, juveniles feed on sargassum and its associated fauna; nests April through August</p>			
Leatherback sea turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	LE	E
<p>Gulf and bay systems, and widest ranging open water reptile; omnivorous, shows a preference for jellyfish; in the US portion of their western Atlantic nesting territories, nesting season ranges from March to August</p>			
Loggerhead sea turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	LT	T
<p>Gulf and bay system primarily for juveniles, adults are most pelagic of the sea turtles; omnivorous, shows a preference for mollusks, crustaceans, and coral; nests from April through November</p>			
Texas diamondback terrapin	<i>Malaclemys terrapin littoralis</i>		
<p>coastal marshes, tidal flats, coves, estuaries, and lagoons behind barrier beaches; brackish and salt water; burrows into mud when inactive; may venture into lowlands at high tide</p>			
Texas horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>		T
<p>open, arid and semi-arid regions with sparse vegetation, including grass, cactus, scattered brush or scrubby trees; soil may vary in texture from sandy to rocky; burrows into soil, enters rodent burrows, or hides under rock when inactive; breeds March-September</p>			
Timber/Canebrake rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>		T
<p>swamps, floodplains, upland pine and deciduous woodlands, riparian zones, abandoned farmland; limestone bluffs, sandy soil or black clay; prefers dense ground cover, i.e. grapevines or palmetto</p>			

PLANTS

		Federal Status	State Status
Coastal gay-feather	<i>Liatris bracteata</i>		
<p>Texas endemic; coastal prairie grasslands of various types, from salty prairie on low- lying somewhat saline clay loams to upland prairie on nonsaline clayey to sandy loams; flowering in fall</p>			
Correll's false dragon-head	<i>Physostegia correllii</i>		
<p>wet, silty clay loams on streamsides, in creek beds, irrigation channels and roadside drainage ditches; or seepy, mucky, sometimes gravelly soils along riverbanks or small islands in the Rio Grande; or underlain by Austin Chalk limestone along gently flowing spring-fed creek in central Texas; flowering May-September</p>			

GALVESTON COUNTY

PLANTS

Federal Status

State Status

**Grand Prairie evening
primrose**

Oenothera pilosella ssp sessilis

known in Texas from a single historic collection from Galveston Island; elsewhere known from remnant moist to dry tallgrass prairies on sandy or silty Alfisols over claypan on ancient river terraces of the Mississippi Alluvial Plain, and fragipan flatwoods; flowering May-June

Houston daisy

Rayjacksonia aurea

Texas endemic; on and around naturally barren or sparsely vegetated saline slick spots or pimple mounds on coastal prairies, usually on sandy to sandy loam soils, occasionally in pastures and on roadsides in similar soil types where mowing may mimic natural prairie disturbance regimes; flowering late September-November (-December)

Texas ladies'-tresses

Spiranthes brevilabris var. brevilabris

Sandy soils in moist prairies, incl. blackland/Fleming prairies, calcareous prairie pockets surrounded by pines, pine-hardwood forest, open pinelands, wetland pine savannahs/flatwoods, and dry to moist fields, meadows, and roadsides. Delicate, nearly ephemeral orchid, producing winter rosettes, flowers Feb-Apr. Historically endemic to SE coastal plain.

Texas windmill-grass

Chloris texensis

Texas endemic; sandy to sandy loam soils in relatively bare areas in coastal prairie grassland remnants, often on roadsides where regular mowing may mimic natural prairie fire regimes; flowering in fall

Threeflower broomweed

Thurovia triflora

Texas endemic; near coast in sparse, low vegetation on a veneer of light colored silt or fine sand over saline clay along drier upper margins of ecotone between between salty prairies and tidal flats; further inland associated with vegetated slick spots on prairie mima mounds; flowering September-November