

HARRIS COUNTY

AMPHIBIANS

		Federal Status	State Status
Houston toad	<i>Anaxyrus houstonensis</i>	LE	E
endemic; sandy substrate, water in pools, ephemeral pools, stock tanks; breeds in spring especially after rains; burrows in soil of adjacent uplands when inactive; breeds February-June; associated with soils of the Sparta, Carrizo, Goliad, Queen City, Recklaw, Weches, and Willis geologic formations			

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.			
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			
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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		Federal Status	State Status
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	DL	T
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.			
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	LE	E
cavity nests in older pine (60+ years); forages in younger pine (30+ years); prefers longleaf, shortleaf, and loblolly			
Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		
formerly an uncommon breeder in the Panhandle; potential migrant; winter along coast			
Southeastern Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus tenuirostris</i>		
wintering migrant along the Texas Gulf Coast beaches and bayside mud or salt flats			
Sprague's Pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	C	
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.			
White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>		T
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			
White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>		T
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			
Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	LE	E
potential migrant via plains throughout most of state to coast; winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties			
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>		T
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			

FISHES

		Federal Status	State Status
American eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>		
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			

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FISHES

		Federal Status	State Status
Creek chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon oblongus</i>		T
tributaries of the Red, Sabine, Neches, Trinity, and San Jacinto rivers; small rivers and creeks of various types; seldom in impoundments; prefers headwaters, but seldom occurs in springs; young typically in headwater rivulets or marshes; spawns in river mouths or pools, riffles, lake outlets, upstream creeks			
Smalltooth sawfish	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>	LE	E
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			

MAMMALS

		Federal Status	State Status
Louisiana black bear	<i>Ursus americanus luteolus</i>	LT	T
possible as transient; bottomland hardwoods and large tracts of inaccessible forested areas			
Plains spotted skunk	<i>Spilogale putorius interrupta</i>		
catholic; open fields, prairies, croplands, fence rows, farmyards, forest edges, and woodlands; prefers wooded, brushy areas and tallgrass prairie			
Rafinesque's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>		T
roosts in cavity trees of bottomland hardwoods, concrete culverts, and abandoned man-made structures			
Red wolf	<i>Canis rufus</i>	LE	E
extirpated; formerly known throughout eastern half of Texas in brushy and forested areas, as well as coastal prairies			
Southeastern myotis bat	<i>Myotis austroriparius</i>		
roosts in cavity trees of bottomland hardwoods, concrete culverts, and abandoned man-made structures			

MOLLUSKS

		Federal Status	State Status
Little spectaclecase	<i>Villosa lienosa</i>		
creeks, rivers, and reservoirs, sandy substrates in slight to moderate current, usually along the banks in slower currents; east Texas, Cypress through San Jacinto River basins			
Louisiana pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema riddellii</i>		T
streams and moderate-size rivers, usually flowing water on substrates of mud, sand, and gravel; not generally known from impoundments; Sabine, Neches, and Trinity (historic) River basins			
Sandbank pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis satura</i>		T
small to large rivers with moderate flows and swift current on gravel, gravel-sand, and sand bottoms; east Texas, Sulfur south through San Jacinto River basins; Neches River			

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MOLLUSKS

		Federal Status	State Status
Texas pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia askewi</i>		T
rivers with mixed mud, sand, and fine gravel in protected areas associated with fallen trees or other structures; east Texas River basins, Sabine through Trinity rivers as well as San Jacinto River			
Wabash pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia flava</i>		
creeks to large rivers on mud, sand, and gravel from all habitats except deep shifting sands; found in moderate to swift current velocities; east Texas River basins, Red through San Jacinto River basins; elsewhere occurs in reservoirs and lakes with no flow			

REPTILES

		Federal Status	State Status
Alligator snapping turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>		T
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			
Green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	LT	T
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			
Gulf Saltmarsh snake	<i>Nerodia clarkii</i>		
saline flats, coastal bays, and brackish river mouthss			
Kemp's Ridley sea turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	LE	E
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			
Leatherback sea turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	LE	E
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			
Loggerhead sea turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	LT	T
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			
Smooth green snake	<i>Liochlorophis vernalis</i>		T
Gulf Coastal Plain; mesic coastal shortgrass prairie vegetation; prefers dense vegetation			
Texas horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>		T
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			

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REPTILES

		Federal Status	State Status
Timber/Canebrake rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>		T

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

PLANTS

		Federal Status	State Status
Coastal gay-feather	<i>Liatris bracteata</i>		

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

Florida ladies-tresses *Spiranthes brevilabris var. floridana*

Moist to wet, relatively open sites of pine-dominated landscapes, mesic pine uplands, open scrub pinelands with saw palmetto, Catahoula sandstone barrens, meadows, open grassy lawns, pitcher plant and seepage bogs, wet prairies, wet savannahs, and flatwoods. Delicate, nearly ephemeral, orchid with winter rosette. Flowers Apr-May.

Giant sharpstem umbrella-sedge *Cyperus cephalanthus*

in Texas on saturated, fine sandy loam soils, along nearly level fringes of deep prairie depressions; also in depressional area within coastal prairie remnant on heavy black clay; in Louisiana, most sites are coastal prairie on poorly drained sites, some on slightly elevated areas surrounded by standing shallow water, and on moderately drained sites; soils include very strongly acid to moderately alkaline silt loams and silty clay loams; flowering/fruitletting May-June, August-September, and possibly other times in response to rainfall

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)

Neglected coneflower *Echinacea paradoxa var. neglecta*

Rocky prairies, glades, and crosstember open woodlands and savannas. Full sun.

Panicled indigobush *Amorpha paniculata*

A stout shrub, 3 m (9 ft) tall that grows in acid seep forests, peat bogs, wet floodplain forests, and seasonal wetlands on the edge of Saline Prairies in East Texas. It is distinguished from other *Amorpha* species by its fuzzy leaflets with prominent raised veins underneath, and the flower panicles, which are 8 to 16 inches long and slender, held above the foliage.

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.

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PLANTS

Federal Status

State Status

Texas meadow-rue

Thalictrum texanum

Texas endemic; mostly found in woodlands and woodland margins on soils with a surface layer of sandy loam, but it also occurs on prairie pimple mounds; both on uplands and creek terraces, but perhaps most common on claypan savannas; soils are very moist during its active growing season; flowering/fruitletting (January-)February-May, withering by midsummer, foliage reappears in late fall(November) and may persist through the winter

Texas prairie dawn

Hymenoxys texana

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Texas endemic; in poorly drained, sparsely vegetated areas (slick spots) at the base of mima mounds in open grassland or almost barren areas on slightly saline soils that are sticky when wet and powdery when dry; flowering late February-early April

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