Last Update: 10/1/2021

# TARRANT COUNTY

#### **AMPHIBIANS**

Strecker's chorus frog Pseudacris streckeri

Terrestrial and aquatic: Wooded floodplains and flats, prairies, cultivated fields and marshes. Likes sandy substrates.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

Woodhouse's toad Anaxyrus woodhousii

Terrestrial and aquatic: A wide variety of terrestrial habitats are used by this species, including forests, grasslands, and barrier island sand dunes.

Aquatic habitats are equally varied.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: SU

**BIRDS** 

bald eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus

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

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3B,S3N

Black Rail Laterallus jamaicensis

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 years dead grasses; nest usually hidden in marsh grass or at base of Salicornia

Federal Status: LT State Status: T SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S2

Chestnut-collared Longspur Calcarius ornatus

Occurs in open shortgrass settings especially in patches with some bare ground. Also occurs in grain sorghum fields and Conservation Reserve

Program lands

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

Franklin's gull Leucophaeus pipixcan

This species is only a spring and fall migrant throughout Texas. It does not breed in or near Texas. Winter records are unusual consisting of one or a few individuals at a given site (especially along the Gulf coastline). During migration, these gulls fly during daylight hours but often come

down to wetlands, lake shore, or islands to roost for the night.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S2N

#### **DISCLAIMER**

#### **BIRDS**

interior least tern Sternula antillarum athalassos

Sand beaches, flats, bays, inlets, lagoons, islands. Subspecies is listed only when inland (more than 50 miles from a coastline); nests along sand and gravel bars within braided streams, rivers; also know to nest on man-made structures (inland beaches, wastewater treatment plants, gravel mines, etc); eats small fish and crustaceans, when breeding forages within a few hundred feet of colony

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: N

Endemic: N Global Rank: G4T3Q State Rank: S1B

Lark Bunting Calamospiza melanocorys

Overall, it's a generalist in most short grassland settings including ones with some brushy component plus certain agricultural lands that include grain sorghum. Short grasses include sideoats and blue gramas, sand dropseed, prairie junegrass (Koeleria), buffalograss also with patches of bluestem and other mid-grass species. This bunting will frequent smaller patches of grasses or disturbed patches of grasses including rural yards. It also uses weedy fields surrounding playas. This species avoids urban areas and cotton fields.

Federal Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S4B

mountain plover Charadrius montanus

Breeding: nests on high plains or shortgrass prairie, on ground in shallow depression; nonbreeding: shortgrass plains and bare, dirt (plowed)

fields; primarily insectivorous

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S2

piping plover Charadrius melodus

Beaches, sandflats, and dunes along Gulf Coast beaches and adjacent offshore islands. Also spoil islands in the Intracoastal Waterway. Based on the November 30, 1992 Section 6 Job No. 9.1, Piping Plover and Snowy Plover Winter Habitat Status Survey, algal flats appear to be the highest quality habitat. Some of the most important aspects of algal flats are their relative inaccessibility and their continuous availability throughout all tidal conditions. Sand flats often appear to be preferred over algal flats when both are available, but large portions of sand flats along the Texas coast are available only during low-very low tides and are often completely unavailable during extreme high tides or strong north winds. Beaches appear to serve as a secondary habitat to the flats associated with the primary bays, lagoons, and inter-island passes. Beaches are rarely used on the southern Texas coast, where bayside habitat is always available, and are abandoned as bayside habitats become available on the central and northern coast. However, beaches are probably a vital habitat along the central and northern coast (i.e. north of Padre Island) during periods of extreme high tides that cover the flats. Optimal site characteristics appear to be large in area, sparsely vegetated, continuously available or in close proximity to secondary habitat, and with limited human disturbance.

Federal Status: LT State Status: T SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S2N

Rufa Red Knot Calidris canutus rufa

Habitat: Primarily seacoasts on tidal flats and beaches, herbaceous wetland, and Tidal flat/shore. Bolivar Flats in Galveston County, sandy

beaches Mustang Island, few on outer coastal and barrier beaches, tidal mudflats and salt marshes

Federal Status: LT State Status: T SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G4T2 State Rank: S2N

#### **DISCLAIMER**

## **BIRDS**

western burrowing owl Athene cunicularia hypugaea

Open grasslands, especially prairie, plains, and savanna, sometimes in open areas such as vacant lots near human habitation or airports; nests and

roosts in abandoned burrows

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G4T4 State Rank: S2

white-faced ibis Plegadis chihi

Prefers freshwater marshes, sloughs, and irrigated rice fields, but will attend brackish and saltwater habitats; currently confined to near-coastal

rookeries in so-called hog-wallow prairies. Nests in marshes, in low trees, on the ground in bulrushes or reeds, or on floating mats.

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S4B

whooping crane Grus americana

Small ponds, marshes, and flooded grain fields for both roosting and foraging. Potential migrant via plains throughout most of state to coast;

winters in coastal marshes of Aransas, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.

Federal Status: LE State Status: E SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G1 State Rank: S1S2N

**FISH** 

Mississippi silvery minnow Hybognathus nuchalis

Found in eastern Texas streams, from the Brazos River eastward and northward to the Red River; found in moderate current; silty, muddy, or

rocky substrate. In Texas, adults likely to inhabit smaller tributary streams.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S4

**INSECTS** 

American bumblebee Bombus pensylvanicus

Habitat description is not available at this time.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: Global Rank: G3G4 State Rank: SNR

Comanche harvester ant Pogonomyrmex comanche

Habitat description is not available at this time.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: Y Global Rank: G2G3 State Rank: S2

**MAMMALS** 

big brown bat Eptesicus fuscus

Any wooded areas or woodlands except south Texas. Riparian areas in west Texas.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

DISCLAIMER

## **MAMMALS**

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S5

big free-tailed bat Nyctinomops macrotis

Habitat data sparse but records indicate that species prefers to roost in crevices and cracks in high canyon walls, but will use buildings, as well; reproduction data sparse, gives birth to single offspring late June-early July; females gather in nursery colonies; winter habits undetermined, but may hibernate in the Trans-Pecos; opportunistic insectivore

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

black bear Ursus americanus

Generalist. Historically found throughout Texas. In Chisos, prefers higher elevations where pinyon-oaks predominate; also occasionally sighted in desert scrub of Trans-Pecos (Black Gap Wildlife Management Area) and Edwards Plateau in juniper-oak habitat. For ssp. luteolus, bottomland hardwoods, floodplain forests, upland hardwoods with mixed pine; marsh. Bottomland hardwoods and large tracts of inaccessible forested areas.

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

black-tailed prairie dog Cynomys ludovicianus

Dry, flat, short grasslands with low, relatively sparse vegetation, including areas overgrazed by cattle; live in large family groups

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G4 State Rank: S3

cave myotis bat Myotis velifer

Colonial and cave-dwelling; also roosts in rock crevices, old buildings, carports, under bridges, and even in abandoned Cliff Swallow (Hirundo pyrrhonota) nests; roosts in clusters of up to thousands of individuals; hibernates in limestone caves of Edwards Plateau and gypsum cave of Panhandle during winter; opportunistic insectivore.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G4G5 State Rank: S2S3

eastern red bat Lasiurus borealis

Red bats are migratory bats that are common across Texas. They are most common in the eastern and central parts of the state, due to their requirement of forests for foliage roosting. West Texas specimens are associated with forested areas (cottonwoods). Also common along the coastline. These bats are highly mobile, seasonally migratory, and practice a type of "wandering migration". Associations with specific habitat is difficult unless specific migratory stopover sites or wintering grounds are found. Likely associated with any forested area in East, Central, and North Texas but can occur statewide.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3G4 State Rank: S4

#### **DISCLAIMER**

## **MAMMALS**

eastern spotted skunk Spilogale putorius

Generalist; open fields prairies, croplands, fence rows, farmyards, forest edges & Degree woodlands. Prefer woodled, brushy areas & Degree woodled, brushy

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G4 State Rank: S1S3

hoary bat Lasiurus cinereus

Hoary bats are highly migratory, high-flying bats that have been noted throughout the state. Females are known to migrate to Mexico in the winter, males tend to remain further north and may stay in Texas year-round. Commonly associated with forests (foliage roosting species) but are found in unforested parts of the state and lowland deserts. Tend to be captured over water and large, open flyways.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3G4 State Rank: S4

long-tailed weasel Mustela frenata

Includes brushlands, fence rows, upland woods and bottomland hardwoods, forest edges & rocky desert scrub. Usually live close to water.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S5

mountain lion Puma concolor

Generalist; found in a wide range of habitats statewide. Found most frequently in rugged mountains & tops riparian zones.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S2S3

Muskrat Ondatra zibethicus

Found in fresh or brackish marshes, lakes, ponds, swamps, and other bodies of slow-moving water. Most abundant in areas with cattail. Dens in bank burrow or conical house of vegetation in shallow vegetated water. It is primarily found in the Rio Grande near El Paso and in SE Texas in the Houston area.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S5

swamp rabbit Sylvilagus aquaticus

Primarily found in lowland areas near water including: cypress bogs and marshes, floodplains, creeks and rivers.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S5

tricolored bat Perimyotis subflavus

Forest, woodland and riparian areas are important. Caves are very important to this species.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G2G3 State Rank: S2

#### DISCLAIMER

## **MAMMALS**

western hog-nosed skunk Conepatus leuconotus

Habitats include woodlands, grasslands & amp; deserts, to 7200 feet, most common in rugged, rocky canyon country; little is known about the

habitat of the ssp. telmalestes

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G4 State Rank: S4

# **MOLLUSKS**

Louisiana Pigtoe Pleurobema riddellii

Occurs in small streams to large rivers in slow to moderate currents in substrates of clay, mud, sand, and gravel. Not known from impoundments

(Howells 2010f; Randklev et al. 2013b; Troia et al. 2015). [Mussels of Texas 2019]

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G1G2 State Rank: S1

Sandbank Pocketbook Lampsilis satura

Occurs in small streams to large rivers in slow to moderate current in sandy mud to sand and gravel substrate. Can occur in a variety of habitats but most common in littoral habitats such as banks or backwaters or in protected areas along point bars (Randklev et al. 2013b; Randklev et al.

2014a; Troia et al. 2015). [Mussels of Texas 2019]

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y
Endemic: Global Rank: G2? State Rank: S1

Texas Heelsplitter Potamilus amphichaenus

Occurs in small streams to large rivers in standing to slow-flowing water; most common in banks, backwaters and quiet pools; adapts to some reservoirs. Often found in soft substrates such as mud, silt or sand (Howells et al. 1996; Randklev et al. 2017a). [Mussels of Texas 2019]

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G1G3 State Rank: S1

REPTILES

alligator snapping turtle Macrochelys temminckii

Aquatic: Perennial water bodies; rivers, canals, lakes, and oxbows; also swamps, bayous, and ponds near running water; sometimes enters

brackish coastal waters. Females emerge to lay eggs close to the waters edge.

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S2

common garter snake Thamnophis sirtalis

Terrestrial and aquatic: Habitats used include the grasslands and modified open areas in the vicinity of aquatic features, such as ponds, streams or

marshes. Damp soils and debris for cover are thought to be critical.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: N
Endemic: Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S2

#### **DISCLAIMER**

## REPTILES

eastern box turtle Terrapene carolina

Terrestrial: Eastern box turtles inhabit forests, fields, forest-brush, and forest-field ecotones. In some areas they move seasonally from fields in spring to forest in summer. They commonly enters pools of shallow water in summer. For shelter, they burrow into loose soil, debris, mud, old stump holes, or under leaf litter. They can successfully hibernate in sites that may experience subfreezing temperatures.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

Prairie Skink Plestiodon septentrionalis

The prairie skink can occur in any native grassland habitat across the Rolling Plains, Blackland Prairie, Post Oak Savanna and Pineywoods

ecoregions.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S5

slender glass lizard Ophisaurus attenuatus

Terrestrial: Habitats include open grassland, prairie, woodland edge, open woodland, oak savannas, longleaf pine flatwoods, scrubby areas,

fallow fields, and areas near streams and ponds, often in habitats with sandy soil.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

smooth softshell Apalone mutica

Aquatic: Large rivers and streams; in some areas also found in lakes and impoundments (Ernst and Barbour 1972). Usually in water with sandy or mud bottom and few aquatic plants. Often basks on sand bars and mudflats at edge of water. Eggs are laid in nests dug in high open sandbars

and banks close to water, usually within  $90\ m$  of water (Fitch and Plummer 1975).

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

Texas garter snake Thamnophis sirtalis annectens

Terrestrial and aquatic: Habitats used include the grasslands and modified open areas in the vicinity of aquatic features, such as ponds, streams or

marshes. Damp soils and debris for cover are thought to be critical.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: Y Global Rank: G5T4 State Rank: S1

Texas horned lizard Phrynosoma cornutum

Terrestrial: Open habitats with sparse vegetation, including grass, prairie, 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. Occurs to 6000 feet, but largely limited below the

pinyon-juniper zone on mountains in the Big Bend area.

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G4G5 State Rank: S3

#### **DISCLAIMER**

## **REPTILES**

timber (canebrake) rattlesnake Crotalus horridus

Terrestrial: Swamps, floodplains, upland pine and deciduous woodland, riparian zones, abandoned farmland. Limestone bluffs, sandy soil or

black clay. Prefers dense ground cover, i.e. grapevines, palmetto.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G4 State Rank: S4

western box turtle Terrapene ornata

Terrestrial: Ornate or western box trutles inhabit prairie grassland, pasture, fields, sandhills, and open woodland. They are essentially terrestrial but sometimes enter slow, shallow streams and creek pools. For shelter, they burrow into soil (e.g., under plants such as yucca) (Converse et al.

2002) or enter burrows made by other species.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5 State Rank: S3

western chicken turtle Deirochelys reticularia miaria

Aquatic and terrestrial: This species uses aquatic habitats in the late winter, spring and early summer and then terrestrial habitats the remainder of the year. Preferred aquatic habitats seem to be highly vegetated shallow wetlands with gentle slopes. Specific terrestrial habitats are not well

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G5T5 State Rank: S2S3

western massasauga Sistrurus tergeminus

Terrestrial: Shortgrass or mixed grass prairie, with gravel or sandy soils. Often found associated with draws, floodplains, and more mesic

habitats within the arid landscape. Frequently occurs in shrub encroached grasslands.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3G4 State Rank: S3

**PLANTS** 

earleaf false foxglove Agalinis auriculata

Known in Texas from one late nineteenth century specimen record labeled -Benbrook-; in Oklahoma, degraded prairies, floodplains, fallow

fields, and borders of upland sterile woods; in Arkansas, blackland prairie; Annual; Flowering August - October

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y

Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: SH

**Engelmann's bladderpod** Physaria engelmannii

Grasslands and calcareous rock outcrops in a band along the eastern edge of the Edwards Plateau, ranging as far north as the Red River (Carr

2015).

known.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G4 State Rank: S3

#### **DISCLAIMER**

# **PLANTS**

Glen Rose yucca Yucca necopina

Grasslands on sandy soils and limestone outcrops; flowering April-June

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: Y Global Rank: G1G2 State Rank: S3

Hall's prairie clover Dalea hallii

In grasslands on eroded limestone or chalk and in oak scrub on rocky hillsides; Perennial; Flowering May-Sept; Fruiting June-Sept

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: Y Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S2

Osage Plains false foxglove Agalinis densiflora

Most records are from grasslands on shallow, gravelly, well drained, calcareous soils; Prairies, dry limestone soils; Annual; Flowering Aug-Oct

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S2

**Reverchon's scurfpea** Pediomelum reverchonii

Mostly in prairies on shallow rocky calcareous substrates and limestone outcrops; Perennial; Flowering Jun-Sept; Fruiting June-July

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S3

Shinner's sedge Carex shinnersii

Occurs in ditches and swales in prairie landscapes (Carr 2015).

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S2

Sutherland hawthorn Crataegus viridis var. glabriuscula

In mesic soils of woods or on edge of woods, treeline/fenceline, or thicket. Above\near creeks and draws, in river bottoms. Flowering Mar-Apr;

fruiting May-Oct.

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G5T3T4 State Rank: S3

**Texas milk vetch** Astragalus reflexus

Grasslands, prairies, and roadsides on calcareous and clay substrates; Annual; Flowering Feb-June; Fruiting April-June

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: Y Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S3

#### **DISCLAIMER**

# **PLANTS**

**Topeka purple-coneflower** Echinacea atrorubens

Occurring mostly in tallgrass prairie of the southern Great Plains, in blackland prairies but also in a variety of other sites like limestone hillsides;

Perennial; Flowering Jan-June; Fruiting Jan-May

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S3