



Lower Rio Grande Valley



The City Nature Challenge is a global, city-scale urban biodiversity BioBlitz framed as a friendly competition between participating areas.



Red-crowned Parrot, John McIntyre, iNaturalist, CCBY-NC



Reddish Egret, cho buck, iNaturalist, CCBY-NC

Data collection
Apr 29-May 2

Identifications
May 3-8

By the numbers:

- 4 counties
- More than 11,195 observations
- 2,155 species recorded
- 194 observers
- More than 560 identifiers
- Over 89% of observations were verifiable



Lower Rio Grande Valley Highlights

Globally, 445 cities from 47 countries participated in the 2022 City Nature Challenge. Lower Rio Grande Valley ranked **#38 for Observations**, **#23 for Species**, and **#99 for Observers** globally, placing it in the top 11% of projects.

The City Nature Challenge is organized by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and the California Academy of Sciences. More information at citynaturechallenge.org

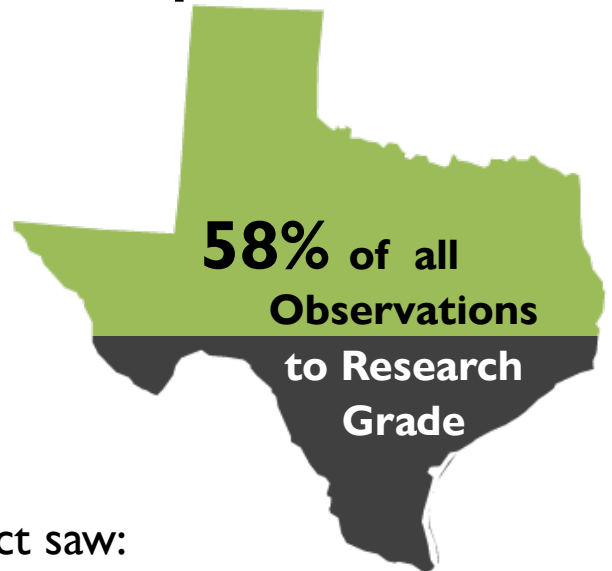


Lower Rio Grande Valley



Cumulative Impact

58% of the observations recorded during the City Nature Challenge in the LRGV area were **Research Grade** - observations of wild organisms with photo or sound vouchers of a quality to merit a species-level identification by the majority of identifiers.



During the 4 days of the event, the project saw:

- 46 Species of Greatest Conservation Need at Research Grade (see list)
- 159 new species records in iNaturalist
- 3% increase in iNaturalist observations for the project counties
- Project page: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2022-lower-rio-grande-valley>



Texas Horned Lizard, David Scott, iNaturalist, CCBY-NC



Bailey's Ballmoss, franbarr, iNaturalist, CCBY-NC



Texas tortoise, John Brush, iNaturalist, CCBY-NC



Lower Rio Grande Valley



Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Recorded to Research Grade

- | | |
|--|---|
| American Oystercatcher, <i>Haematopus palliatus</i> | Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, <i>Tyrannus forficatus</i> |
| American White Pelican, <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> | Snowy Egret, <i>Egretta thula</i> |
| Aplomado Falcon, <i>Falco femoralis</i> | Stilt Sandpiper, <i>Calidris himantopus</i> |
| Bailey's ballmoss, <i>Tillandsia baileyi</i> | Summer Tanager, <i>Piranga rubra</i> |
| Black Skimmer, <i>Rynchops niger</i> | Swainson's Hawk, <i>Buteo swainsoni</i> |
| Brown Pelican, <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i> | Texas Blind Snake, <i>Rena dulcis</i> |
| Common Yellowthroat, <i>Geothlypis trichas</i> | Texas Horned Lizard, <i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i> |
| Dickcissel, <i>Spiza americana</i> | Texas Indigo Snake, <i>Drymarchon melanurus erebennus</i> |
| Eastern Meadowlark, <i>Sturnella magna</i> | Texas Tortoise, <i>Gopherus berlandieri</i> |
| Forster's Tern, <i>Sterna forsteri</i> | Tricolored Heron, <i>Egretta tricolor</i> |
| Franklin's Gull, <i>Leucophaeus pipixcan</i> | Vasey's Wild Lime, <i>Adelia vaseyi</i> |
| Green Heron, <i>Butorides virescens</i> | White-faced Ibis, <i>Plegadis chihi</i> |
| Gull-billed Tern, <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> | White-tailed Hawk, <i>Geranoaetus albicaudatus</i> |
| Harris's Hawk, <i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i> | Texas Shrimp-plant, <i>Yeatesia platysegia</i> |
| Lark Sparrow, <i>Chondestes grammacus</i> | Wilson's Plover, <i>Charadrius wilsonia</i> |
| Least Bittern, <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> | Wood Thrush, <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> |
| Least Tern, <i>Sternula antillarum</i> | |
| Little Blue Heron, <i>Egretta caerulea</i> | |
| Loggerhead Shrike, <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> | |
| Long-billed Curlew, <i>Numenius americanus</i> | |
| Mississippi Kite, <i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i> | |
| Mottled Duck, <i>Anas fulvigula</i> | |
| Northern Bobwhite, <i>Colinus virginianus</i> | |
| Orchard Oriole, <i>Icterus spurius</i> | |
| Painted Bunting, <i>Passerina ciris</i> | |
| Red-crowned Parrot, <i>Amazona viridigenalis</i> | |
| Reddish Egret, <i>Egretta rufescens</i> | |
| Rio Grande Ayenia, <i>Ayenia limitaris</i> | |
| Runyon's Cory Cactus, <i>Coryphantha macromeris runyonii</i> | |
| Runyon's Water Willow, <i>Justicia runyonii</i> | |