

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



Dickcissel, laurasare, iNaturalist, CC-BY-NC



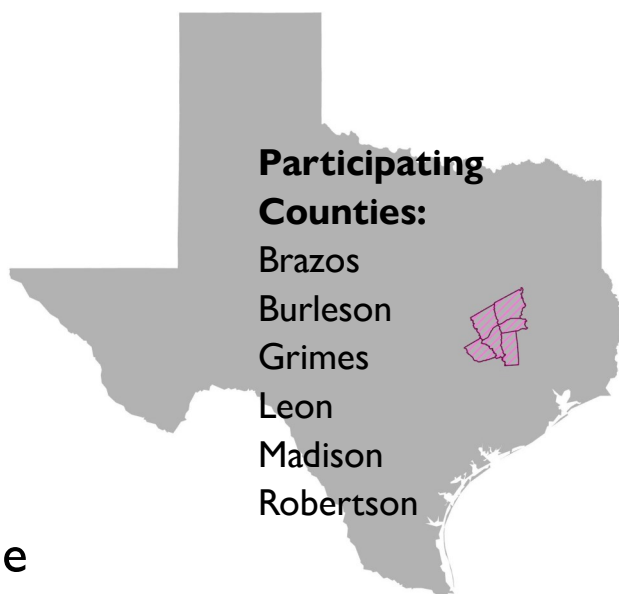
Largefruit Sand Verbena, Taylor Garrison, iNaturalist, CC-BY-NC

Data collection
Apr 28-May 1

Identifications
May 2-7

By the numbers:

- 6 counties
- More than 3,215 observations
- 1,150 species recorded
- 126 observers
- More than 345 identifiers
- 98% of observations were verifiable



Participating Counties:

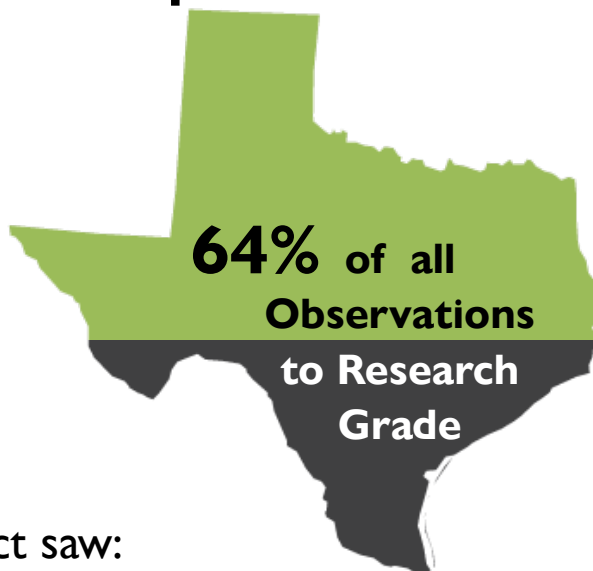
Brazos
Burleson
Grimes
Leon
Madison
Robertson

Brazos Valley Highlights

Globally, 482 cities from 46 countries participated in the 2023 City Nature Challenge. Brazos Valley ranked **#130 for Observations**, **#82 for Species**, and **#134 for Observers** globally, placing it in the top 26% of projects.

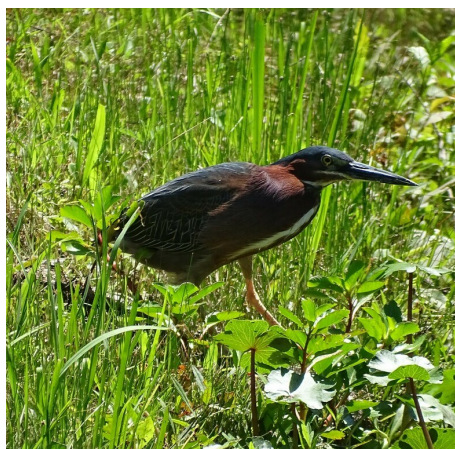
Cumulative Impact

64% of the observations recorded during the City Nature Challenge in the Brazos Valley project 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:

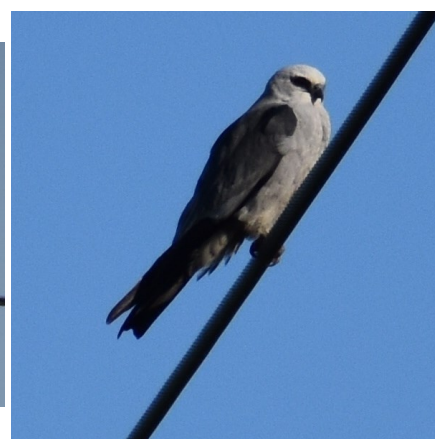
- 30 Species of Greatest Conservation Need at Research Grade (see list)
- 64 new species records in iNaturalist
- 1.4% increase in iNaturalist observations for the project counties
- Project page: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2023-brazos-valley-tx>



Green Heron, Dwight Bohlmeier, iNaturalist, CC-BY-NC



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Dwight Bohlmeier, iNaturalist, CC-BY-NC



Mississippi Kite, Rhett Raibely, iNaturalist, CC-BY-NC

Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Recorded to Research Grade

American Bumble Bee, <i>Bombus pensylvanicus</i>	Texas Sandmint, <i>Rhododon ciliatus</i>
American White Pelican, <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	Western Sandpiper, <i>Calidris mauri</i>
Bald Eagle, <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Wood Thrush, <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>
Cerulean Warbler, <i>Setophaga cerulea</i>	Yellow-billed Cuckoo, <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>
Common Yellowthroat, <i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	
Dickcissel, <i>Spiza americana</i>	
Eastern Box Turtle, <i>Terrapene carolina</i>	
Eastern Meadowlark, <i>Sturnella magna</i>	
Franklin's Gull, <i>Leucophaeus pipixcan</i>	
Green Heron, <i>Butorides virescens</i>	
Largefruit Sand Verbena, <i>Abronia macrocarpa</i>	
Lark Sparrow, <i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	
Little Blue Heron, <i>Egretta caerulea</i>	
Loggerhead Shrike, <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	
Mississippi Kite, <i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>	
Orchard Oriole, <i>Icterus spurius</i>	
Painted Bunting, <i>Passerina ciris</i>	
Peregrine Falcon, <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	
Red-shouldered Hawk, <i>Buteo lineatus</i>	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, <i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>	
Sedge Wren, <i>Cistothorus stellaris</i>	
Snowy Egret, <i>Egretta thula</i>	
Stilt Sandpiper, <i>Calidris himantopus</i>	
Summer Tanager, <i>Piranga rubra</i>	
Swainson's Warbler, <i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>	
Swamp Rabbit, <i>Sylvilagus aquaticus</i>	