

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



**Red-headed Woodpecker**, @coeller,  
iNaturalist (CC-BY-NC)



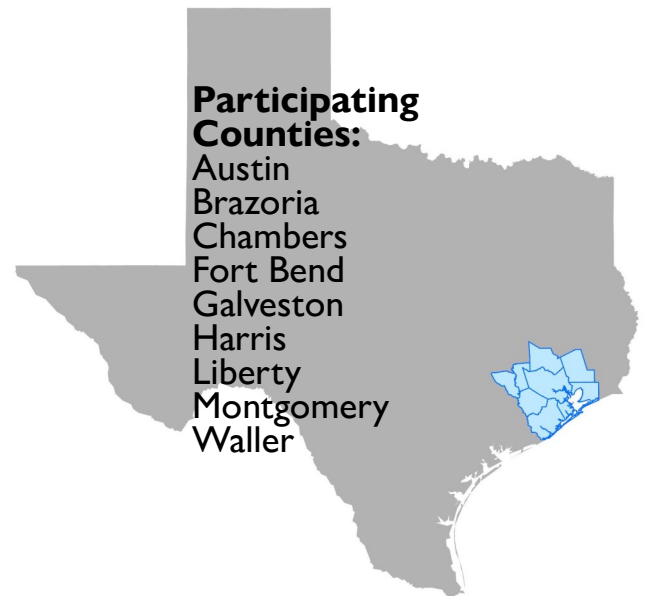
**Prothonotary Warbler**, @jlbryan,  
iNaturalist (CC-BY-NC)

**Data collection  
Apr 25-28**

**Identifications  
April 29-May 4**

## By the numbers:

- 9 counties
- 45,000 observations
- More than 4,200 species recorded
- More than 1,230 observers
- 1,439 identifiers
- Over 96% of observations were verifiable

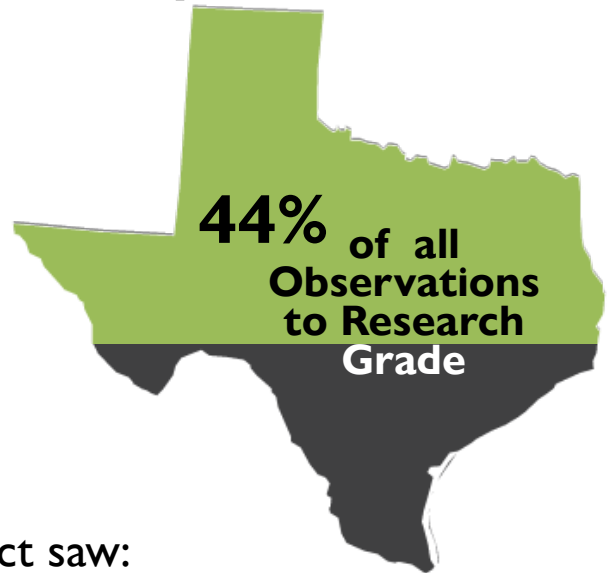


## Houston-Galveston Highlights

Globally, 669 cities from 62 countries participated in the 2025 City Nature Challenge. Houston-Galveston ranked **#11 for Observations**, **#11 for Species**, and **#13 for Observers** globally, placing it in the top 2% of projects globally.

## Cumulative Impact

**44% of the observations** recorded during the City Nature Challenge in the Houston-Galveston 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:

- 44 Species of Greatest Conservation Need at Research Grade (see list)
- 138 new species records in iNaturalist
- 3% increase in iNaturalist observations for the project counties
- Project page: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2025-houston-galveston>



**Seaside Sparrow**, @jdjames,  
iNaturalist (CC-BY-NC-ND)



**Indianola Beaksedge**, @bigcitynaturegirl,  
iNaturalist (CC-BY-NC)



**Black Tern**, @mary4mac, iNaturalist  
(CC-BY-NC)

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## Species of Greatest Conservation Need Recorded to Research Grade

American Bumble Bee, *Bombus pensylvanicus*  
Black Skimmer, *Rynchops niger*  
Black Tern, *Chlidonias niger*  
Common Bottlenose Dolphin, *Tursiops truncatus*  
Common Grackle, *Quiscalus quiscula*  
Common Nighthawk, *Chordeiles minor*  
Eastern Meadowlark, *Sturnella magna*  
Grasshopper Sparrow, *Ammodramus savannarum*  
Green Heron, *Butorides virescens*  
Houston daisy, *Rayjacksonia aurea*  
Indianola beaksedge, *Rhynchospora indianolensis*  
King Rail, *Rallus elegans*  
Least Tern, *Sternula antillarum*  
Loggerhead Shrike, *Lanius ludovicianus*  
Mottled Duck, *Anas fulvigula*  
Ornate Box Turtle, *Terrapene ornata*  
Piping Plover, *Charadrius melodus*  
Prothonotary Warbler, *Protonotaria citrea*  
Reddish Egret, *Egretta rufescens*  
Red-headed Woodpecker, *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*  
Saltmarsh Snake, *Nerodia clarkii*  
Sanderling, *Calidris alba*  
Seaside Sparrow, *Ammospiza maritima*  
Smooth Softshell, *Apalone mutica*  
Southern Flounder, *Paralichthys lethostigma*  
Swallow-tailed Kite, *Elanoides forficatus*  
Texas pinkroot, *Spigelia texana*  
Texas Prairie Dawn, *Hymenoxys texana*  
Willet, *Tringa semipalmata*  
Yellow-billed Cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus*