

Mustang Island



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



Sanderling, @seandaniels, iNaturalist (CC Saltmarsh Snake, @seandaniels, -BY-NC-SA)



iNaturalist (CC-BY-NC-SA)

Data collection Apr 25-28

Identifications April 29-May 4

By the numbers:

- 1 area (Mustang Island)
- 797 observations
- More than 380 species recorded
- 40 observers
- More than 195 identifiers
- 100% of observations were verifiable



Mustang Island Highlights

Globally, 669 cities from 62 countries participated in the 2025 City Nature Challenge. Mustang Island ranked #375 for Observations, #375 for Species, and #375 for Observers, globally, placing it in the top 54% of projects.



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Cumulative Impact

24% of the observations recorded during the City Nature Challenge in the 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.

24% of all Observations to Research Grade

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

- 13 Species of Greatest Conservation Need at Research Grade (see list)
- 9 new species records in iNaturalist
- 1% increase in iNaturalist observations for the project counties
- Project page: https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2025-mustang-island-texas



Keeled Earless Lizard, @seandaniels, iNaturalist (CC-BY-NC -SA)



Green Heron, @jeffmci9, iNaturalist (CC-BY-NC)



Reddish Egret, @shearwatters, iNaturalist (CC-BY)



Mustang Island



Species of Greatest Conservation Need Recorded to Research Grade

Black Skimmer, Rynchops niger
Common Bottlenose Dolphin, Tursiops truncatus
Green Heron, Butorides virescens
Green Sea Turtle, Chelonia mydas
Keeled Earless Lizard, Holbrookia propinqua
Least Tern, Sternula antillarum
Loggerhead Shrike, Lanius Iudovicianus
Mottled Duck, Anas fulvigula
Piping Plover, Charadrius melodus
Reddish Egret, Egretta rufescens
Saltmarsh Snake, Nerodia clarkii
Sanderling, Calidris alba
Willet, Tringa semipalmata