

Last Update: 10/1/2021

## JOHNSON 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

**black-capped vireo** *Vireo atricapilla*

Oak-juniper woodlands with distinctive patchy, two-layered aspect; shrub and tree layer with open, grassy spaces; requires foliage reaching to ground level for nesting cover; return to same territory, or one nearby, year after year; deciduous and broad-leaved shrubs and trees provide insects for feeding; species composition less important than presence of adequate broad-leaved shrubs, foliage to ground level, and required structure; nesting season March-late summer

Federal Status: State Status: SGCN: Y  
Endemic: N Global Rank: G3 State Rank: S3B

**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

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## JOHNSON COUNTY

### BIRDS

**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

**golden-cheeked warbler** *Setophaga chrysoparia*

Ashe juniper in mixed stands with various oaks (*Quercus* spp.). Edges of cedar brakes. Dependent on Ashe juniper (also known as cedar) for long fine bark strips, only available from mature trees, used in nest construction; nests are placed in various trees other than Ashe juniper; only a few mature junipers or nearby cedar brakes can provide the necessary nest material; forage for insects in broad-leaved trees and shrubs; nesting late March-early summer.

Federal Status: LE	State Status: E	SGCN: Y
Endemic: N	Global Rank: G2	State Rank: S2S3B

**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:	State 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*

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## JOHNSON COUNTY

### BIRDS

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

**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

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## JOHNSON COUNTY

### 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

**a caddisfly**      *Neotrichia juani*

Specimens were collected from perennial and ephemeral rivers, and small spring-fed streams (Harris and Tiemann 1993).

Federal Status:	State Status:	SGCN: Y
Endemic:	Global Rank: G1	State Rank: S1

**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

### 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
Endemic: N	Global Rank: G5	State Rank: S5

**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

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## JOHNSON COUNTY

### MAMMALS

#### 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

#### eastern spotted skunk

*Spilogale putorius*

Generalist; open fields prairies, croplands, fence rows, farmyards, forest edges & woodlands. Prefer wooded, brushy areas & tallgrass prairies. S.p. ssp. interrupta found in wooded areas and tallgrass prairies, preferring rocky canyons and outcrops when such sites are available.

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 & 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

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## JOHNSON COUNTY

### MAMMALS

**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

**western hog-nosed skunk**

*Conepatus leuconotus*

Habitats include woodlands, grasslands & 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

**Brazos Heelsplitter**

*Potamilus streckeri*

Reported from streams, but not far into the headwaters, to large rivers, and some reservoirs. In riverine systems occurs most often in nearshore habitats such as banks and backwater pools but occasionally in mainchannel habitats such as riffles. Typically found in standing to slow-flowing water in soft substrates consisting of silt, mud or sand but occasionally in moderate flows with gravel and cobble substrates (Randklev et al. 2014b,c; Tsakiris and Randklev 2016b; Smith et al. 2019) [Mussels of Texas 2020]

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y  
Endemic: Y Global Rank: GNR State Rank: SNR

**Texas Fawnsfoot**

*Truncilla macrodon*

Occurs in large rivers but may also be found in medium-sized streams. Is found in protected near shore areas such as banks and backwaters but also riffles and point bar habitats with low to moderate water velocities. Typically occurs in substrates of mud, sandy mud, gravel and cobble. Considered intolerant of reservoirs (Randklev et al. 2010; Howells 2010o; Randklev et al. 2014b,c; Randklev et al. 2017a,b). [Mussels of Texas 2019]

Federal Status: PT State Status: T SGCN: Y  
Endemic: Y Global Rank: G1 State Rank: S2

### REPTILES

**Brazos water snake**

*Nerodia harteri*

Aquatic: Shallow, fast-flowing water with a rocky or gravelly substrate preferred. Adults can be found in deep water with mud bottoms, such as large section fo rivers and reservoirs. Riffle habitat is particularly important for this species.

Federal Status: State Status: T SGCN: Y  
Endemic: Y Global Rank: G1 State Rank: S1

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## JOHNSON COUNTY

### 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

**western box turtle** *Terrapene ornata*

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## JOHNSON COUNTY

### REPTILES

Terrestrial: Ornate or western box turtles 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 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

**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

**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

**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

**tree dodder**                      *Cuscuta exaltata*

Parasitic on various *Quercus*, *Juglans*, *Rhus*, *Vitis*, *Ulmus*, and *Diospyros* species as well as *Acacia berlandieri* and other woody plants; Annual; Flowering May-Oct; Fruiting July-Oct

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