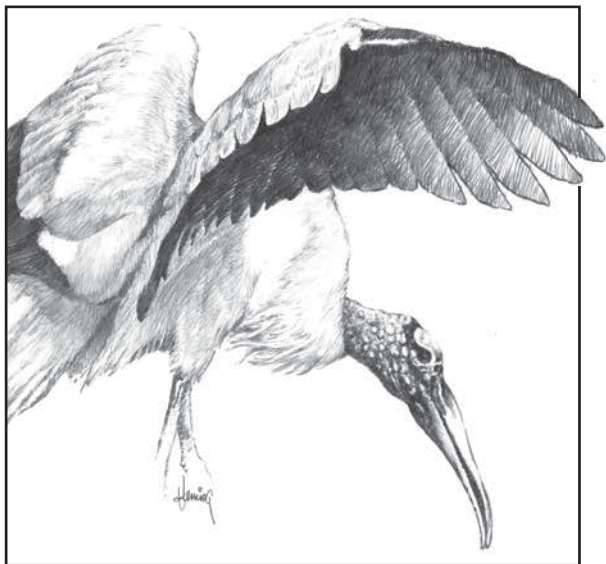


TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

BIRDS

OF

SAN JACINTO BATTLEGROUND STATE HISTORIC SITE



A FIELD CHECKLIST

2018

Cover: Illustration of Word Stork by Rob Fleming.

INTRODUCTION

San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site is on the site of the decisive battle that granted Texas freedom from Mexico. In April 1836 General Sam Houston of the Texian army defeated General Santa Ana of the Mexican army on this site. It has been set aside from urban and industrial development for its historical importance and has left a pristine marsh and prairie environment prime for bird watching.

Though surrounded by industrial plants and a bustling shipping channel bursting with super tankers and barges bringing shipments to the second busiest port in the United States this site boasts impressive sightings of 295 species of birds including many county rarities. Many wading birds call San Jacinto Battleground home year round. Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Yellow-crowned Night-Herons, the vibrant Roseate Spoonbills, and many more can be seen nearly daily looking for their next meal in the shallow waters of the wetland.

Through the summer months Scissortail Flycatchers, Loggerhead Shrikes and, Eastern Kingbirds can be easily spotted in the prairie looking for insects among the thick grasses. But the highlight of many trips are the flocks of Wood Storks that migrate here. These large white storks arrive in early summer and can be seen throughout the hot summer days feeding and resting in the wetlands.

Spring and fall migration seasons bring large numbers of tanagers, grosbeaks, and buntings through the oak and cedar elm trees of the park. While found in smaller numbers a wide variety of migrating warblers can be seen darting among the tree tops of the prairie and forested areas of the park.

The proximity to the ship channel lends to large numbers of pelicans, terns, and gulls passing overhead. The variety of habitats within this site allow a birdwatcher of any skill level or focus to enjoy themselves and see something new.

This checklist was revised and updated in 2017 by Erik Ostrander and Katelyn Shaver using data gathered from Ebird.org, personal observations,

and Christmas bird count data. Nomenclature and organization for this checklist follow the 7th edition of the American Ornithological Society *Check-list of North American Birds* as currently supplemented. Please report bird sightings especially rare or unusual birds as these will assist in future updates to this checklist.

Please help protect the natural avian communities in our parks by refraining from using playback tapes of bird songs. Frequent use of these tapes disrupts normal avian activity patterns, disrupts essential territorial behavior and may lead to nest failure. Thank you for your cooperation.

LEGEND

A – Abundant	Should see on 75% or more of trips in proper habitat and season
C – Common	Should see on 50% or more of trips in proper habitat and season
F – Fairly Common	Should see on 25% or more of trips in proper habitat and season
U – Uncommon	Should see on about 10% of trips in proper habitat and season
R – Rare	Not seen annually but expected to occur again
X – Accidental	Only one or two records in past ten years
I – Irregular	Absent some years, but may be numerous in others
H – Hypothetical	Not yet recorded, but to be expected
E – Extirpated	Formerly present, no recent records

*Species which breeds or probably breeds in park or vicinity.

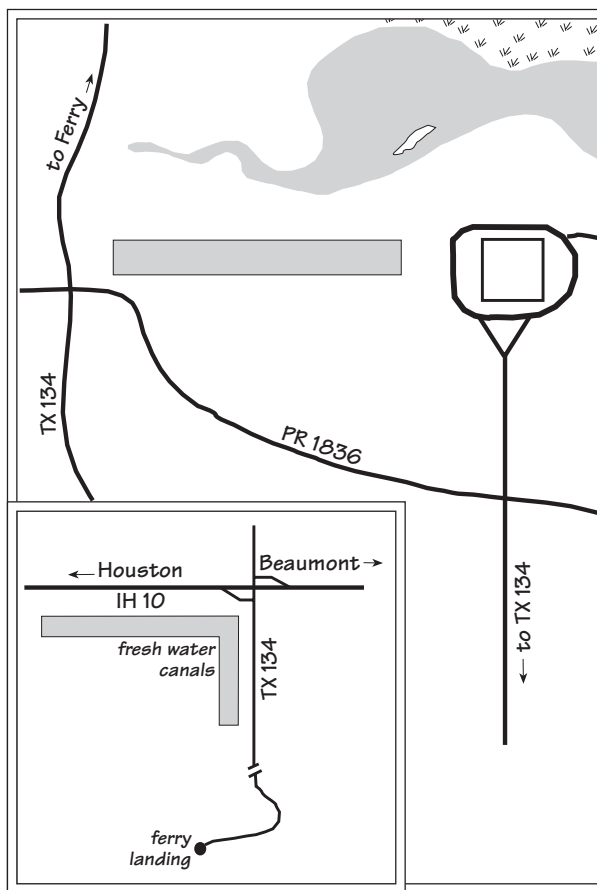
Sp – Spring (March-May)
S – Summer (June-July)
F – Fall (August-November)
W – Winter (December-February)

CHECKLIST

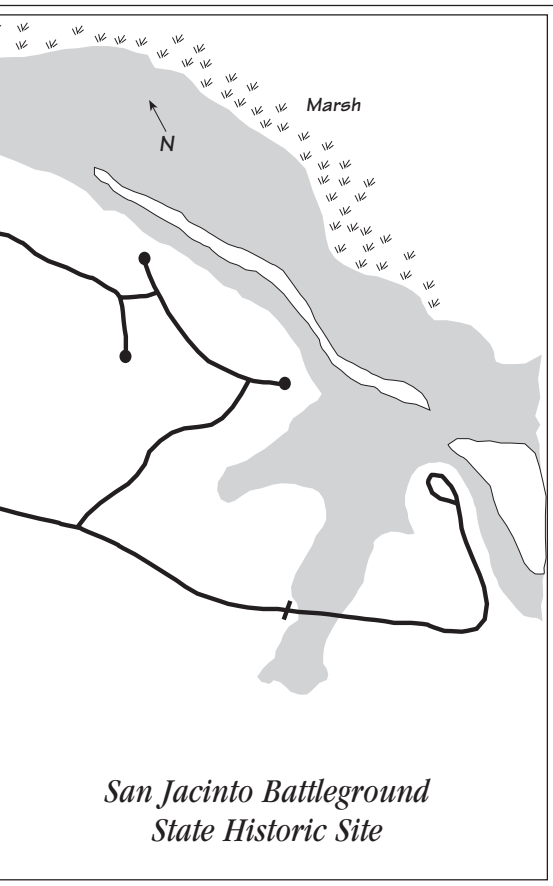
	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	C	C	U	U
_____ Fulvous Whistling-Duck		R		
_____ Snow Goose				R
_____ Ross's Goose				X
_____ Greater White-fronted Goose				R
_____ Wood Duck		R		
_____ Blue-winged Teal	A	R	C	A
_____ Cinnamon Teal	X			
_____ Northern Shoveler	U		A	C
_____ Gadwall	U		C	C
_____ American Wigeon	R			O
_____ Mallard				
_____ Mottled Duck	U	O	U	C
_____ Northern Pintail	O		O	A
_____ Green-winged Teal	A		C	A
_____ Canvasback	R		U	U
_____ Redhead			U	R
_____ Ring-necked Duck	U		C	C
_____ Greater Scaup	O		U	C
_____ Lesser Scaup	C		C	C
_____ Surf Scoter			X	
_____ Long-tailed Duck			X	
_____ Bufflehead			R	U
_____ Common Goldeneye	R		R	O
_____ Barrow's Goldeneye				X
_____ Hooded Merganser	U		C	C
_____ Red-breasted Merganser	O		O	O
_____ Ruddy Duck	U		C	C
_____ Northern Bobwhite				X
_____ Least Grebe				X
_____ Pied-billed Grebe	O	R	C	C
_____ Horned Grebe				R
_____ Eared Grebe			O	O
_____ Rock Pigeon	A	A	A	A
_____ Eurasian Collared-Dove	R	R	R	R

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Inca Dove	R		R	R
_____ Common Ground-Dove			X	
_____ White-Winged Dove	O	R	O	O
_____ Mourning Dove	A	A	A	A
_____ Yellow-billed Cuckoo	R	R	R	
_____ Groove-billed Ani			X	X
_____ Common Nighthawk		R	O	
_____ Chuck-will's-widow	R		R	R
_____ Eastern Whip-poor-will			X	
_____ Chimney Swift	O	O	O	
_____ Ruby-throated Hummingbird	R	R	O	
_____ Black-chinned Hummingbird	X		X	
_____ Yellow Rail				X
_____ Black Rail	X		X	
_____ King Rail			R	R
_____ Clapper Rail	R	R	O	O
_____ Virginia Rail			O	O
_____ Sora	O		O	O
_____ Common Gallinule	O	R	R	R
_____ American Coot	U	O	A	A
_____ Sandhill Crane				R
_____ Black-necked Stilt	U	C	C	U
_____ American Avocet	O	R	U	A
_____ American Oystercatcher				X
_____ Black-bellied Plover	R	R	O	O
_____ American Golden-Plover	X			
_____ Semipalmated Plover		O	R	R
_____ Piping Plover			X	
_____ Killdeer	C	C	A	A
_____ Upland Sandpiper			R	
_____ Long-billed Curlew			X	
_____ Hudsonian Godwit	X			
_____ Marbled Godwit	X	X		
_____ Ruddy Turnstone	R	R	R	
_____ Red Knot	X			
_____ Stilt Sandpiper	R	R	R	O
_____ Sanderling	R	R	R	O

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Dunlin	R			O
_____ Baird's Sandpiper	R		R	
_____ Least Sandpiper	R		U	C
_____ White-rumped Sandpiper	R			
_____ Buff-breasted Sandpiper			X	
_____ Pectoral Sandpiper	R	R		
_____ Semipalmated Sandpiper	R	U	R	
_____ Western Sandpiper	R	O	U	O
_____ Short-billed Dowitcher			X	
_____ Long-billed Dowitcher	O	R	O	U
_____ American Woodcock				X
_____ Wilson's Snipe	R		R	R
_____ Wilson's Phalarope	R	X	R	
_____ Spotted Sandpiper	R	O	O	U
_____ Solitary Sandpiper	R		R	R
_____ Greater Yellowlegs	R	R	U	C
_____ Willet	R	R	O	O
_____ Lesser Yellowlegs	O	R	U	U
_____ Bonaparte's Gull				R
_____ Little Gull			X	
_____ Laughing Gull	A	A	A	A
_____ Franklin's Gull	R		R	
_____ Ring-billed Gull	R	R	U	C
_____ Herring Gull	R	R	R	U
_____ Lesser Black-backed Gull				R
_____ Least Tern	R	O	R	
_____ Gull-billed Tern	R	R		
_____ Caspian Tern	O	O	U	O
_____ Black Tern	R	O		
_____ Common Tern		R		
_____ Forster's Tern	O	O	O	O
_____ Royal Tern	R	R	O	R
_____ Sandwich Tern	X	R		
_____ Black Skimmer	X	R	O	R
_____ Common Loon				R
_____ Wood Stork		C	U	
_____ Neotropic Cormorant	C	C	C	A



There are several approaches to the park, but for maximum birding opportunities, you should take IH-10 and the Lynchburg Ferry (inset). Leave IH-10 at Exit 787 from either east or west, following the signs for TX 134, Lynchburg Ferry, and San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site. The ferry landing is 2.4 miles from IH-10.



	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Double-crested Cormorant	C		A	A
_____ Anhinga	R		C	O
_____ American White Pelican	U	O	C	C
_____ Brown Pelican	C	O	C	C
_____ American Bittern	R		R	R
_____ Least Bittern	R	R	R	
_____ Great Blue Heron	C	A	A	A
_____ Great Egret	C	A	A	A
_____ Snowy Egret	C	C	A	A
_____ Little Blue Heron	U	C	O	O
_____ Tricolored Heron	C	A	C	O
_____ Reddish Egret		R	O	R
_____ Cattle Egret	O	C	O	R
_____ Green Heron	U	C	U	
_____ Black-crowned Night-Heron	U	U	U	U
_____ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	O	U	O	R
_____ White Ibis	U	C	A	C
_____ White-faced Ibis	R	R	O	R
_____ Roseate Spoonbill	O	C	A	A
_____ Black Vulture	C	C	A	A
_____ Turkey Vulture	C	U	A	A
_____ Osprey	U	O	C	C
_____ White-tailed Kite	X		X	X
_____ Mississippi Kite	R		R	
_____ Northern Harrier	R		C	C
_____ Sharp-Shinned Hawk	R		R	U
_____ Copper's Hawk	R	R	U	O
_____ Bald Eagle	R	R	R	O
_____ Harris' Hawk	X			X
_____ White-tailed Hawk		X		
_____ Red-shouldered Hawk	O	O	C	C
_____ Broad-winged Hawk	R		R	
_____ Swainson's Hawk	O	R	O	
_____ Zone-tailed Hawk			X	
_____ Red-tailed Hawk	O	R	A	A
_____ Barn Owl			R	R
_____ Great Horned Owl	R			R

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Barred Owl				R
_____ Belted Kingfisher	C	R	C	C
_____ Red-headed Woodpecker		R	R	R
_____ Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	O	A	A
_____ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	O		C	C
_____ Red-naped Sapsucker				X
_____ Downy Woodpecker	U	O	C	C
_____ Hairy Woodpecker				X
_____ Northern Flicker	O		U	U
_____ Pileated Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
_____ Crested Caracara	R		O	O
_____ American Kestrel	U		A	A
_____ Merlin	R		R	R
_____ Peregrine Falcon	R		O	O
_____ Monk Parakeet				R
_____ Olive-sided Flycatcher	R		R	
_____ Eastern Wood-Pewee	O		R	
_____ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			R	
_____ Alder Flycatcher			R	
_____ Willow Flycatcher	X		X	
_____ Least Flycatcher	O		O	R
_____ Eastern Phoebe	C		A	A
_____ Vermillion Flycatcher	R		C	U
_____ Great Crested Flycatcher	O		O	
_____ Great Kiskadee			X	
_____ Couch's Kingbird			X	
_____ Western Kingbird	R	O		
_____ Eastern Kingbird	O	O	O	
_____ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	U	U	U	
_____ Loggerhead Shrike	O	C	A	A
_____ White-eyed Vireo	U	O	R	R
_____ Yellow-throated Vireo	R			
_____ Blue-headed Vireo	R		R	O
_____ Philadelphia Vireo	R		R	
_____ Warbling Vireo	X			
_____ Red-eyed Vireo	R		R	
_____ Blue Jay	A	A	A	A

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ American Crow	A	U	A	A
_____ Horned Lark				X
_____ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	O	R	U	R
_____ Purple Martin	O	O		
_____ Tree Swallow	O	R	O	O
_____ Bank Swallow	R		R	
_____ Barn Swallow	U	U	U	
_____ Cliff Swallow	U	U		
_____ Cave Swallow	R	R	R	
_____ Carolina Chickadee	U	O	U	C
_____ Tufted Titmouse	O	R	O	U
_____ Red-breasted Nuthatch	X		O	U
_____ Brown Creeper			R	O
_____ House Wren	R		O	U
_____ Winter Wren	R		R	R
_____ Sedge Wren	O		U	U
_____ Marsh Wren	U		C	U
_____ Carolina Wren	U	R	U	C
_____ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	O		C	C
_____ Golden-crowned Kinglet			O	O
_____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		A	A
_____ Eastern Bluebird	R		O	O
_____ Veery	X			
_____ Swainson's Thrush	R			
_____ Hermit Thrush	R		O	O
_____ Wood Thrush			X	
_____ American Robin	R		O	C
_____ Gray Catbird	R		O	O
_____ Brown Thrasher	R		O	O
_____ Northern Mockingbird	C	C	C	C
_____ European Starling	C	C	C	C
_____ Cedar Waxwing	U			C
_____ House Sparrow	C	C	C	C
_____ American Pipit	R		O	U
_____ Sprague's Pipit				X
_____ House Finch	R	R	R	R
_____ Pine Siskin				R

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ American Goldfinch	O		O	C
_____ Bachman's Sparrow	X			
_____ Grasshopper Sparrow			R	R
_____ LeConte's Sparrow			R	R
_____ Nelson's Sparrow			R	R
_____ Seaside Sparrow	R		R	R
_____ Chipping Sparrow			R	O
_____ Clay-colored sparrow				X
_____ Field Sparrow	R		R	O
_____ Lark Sparrow				X
_____ Fox Sparrow				R
_____ Dark-eyed Junco				R
_____ White-crowned Sparrow	R		R	O
_____ Harris's Sparrow				R
_____ White-throated Sparrow	R		U	C
_____ Vespers Sparrow			R	R
_____ Savannah Sparrow	O		U	C
_____ Song Sparrow	R		O	C
_____ Lincoln's Sparrow	R		O	O
_____ Swamp Sparrow	O		C	C
_____ Spotted Towhee	X			X
_____ Eastern Towhee	X		R	R
_____ Yellow-breasted Chat	R		R	
_____ Yellow-headed Blackbird	X			
_____ Eastern Meadowlark	R	R	O	O
_____ Orchard Oriole	O	R		R
_____ Baltimore Oriole	R		R	
_____ Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	A	A
_____ Bronzed Cowbird			X	
_____ Brown-headed Cowbird	O	O	R	O
_____ Rusty Blackbird				X
_____ Brewer's Blackbird			X	
_____ Common Grackle	O	O	O	O
_____ Great-tailed Grackle	A	A	A	A
_____ Ovenbird	R		R	
_____ Worm-eating Warbler	R			
_____ Louisiana Waterthrush			R	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Northern Waterthrush	R		R	
___ Blue-winged Warbler	R			
___ Black-and-white Warbler	R	X	R	
___ Prothonotary Warbler	X			
___ Tennessee Warbler	R		R	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U	C
___ Nashville Warbler	R		R	
___ Mourning Warbler	R		R	
___ Kentucky Warbler	X		R	
___ Common Yellowthroat	O	R	O	O
___ Hooded Warbler	R			
___ American Redstart	R		R	
___ Cape May Warbler			X	
___ Cerulean Warbler			X	
___ Northern Parula	R		R	
___ Magnolia Warbler	R			
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	R			
___ Blackburnian Warbler	R			
___ Yellow Warbler	R		R	
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	R			
___ Blackpoll Warbler	R			
___ Palm Warbler	R		R	R
___ Pine Warbler			O	U
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	O		C	A
___ Yellow-throated Warbler	R		R	
___ Prairie Warbler			X	
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	R		R	
___ Canada Warbler	R			
___ Wilson's Warbler	X		R	
___ Summer Tanager	R		R	
___ Scarlet Tanager	R		R	
___ Western Tanager			X	
___ Northern Cardinal	A	A	A	A
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	R		R	
___ Blue Grosbeak	R		R	
___ Indigo Bunting	O		O	
___ Painted Bunting	O	O		
___ Dickcissel	O	O	R	

CITATION

Erik Ostrander and Katelyn Shaver. January 2018. Birds of San Jacinto State Park: a field checklist. Natural Resource Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

In 1983, the Texas Legislature created the Special Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Fund. This fund may be used for nongame wildlife and endangered species research and conservation, habitat acquisition and development and dissemination of information pertaining to nongame management. Money for this fund is obtained through private donations and sale of nongame wildlife art prints and stamps. This fund now gives Texans a unique opportunity to help support this state's valuable and sensitive nongame resources. Your individual contributions and purchases of nongame art prints and stamps will help determine the level of nongame conservation activities in Texas. For more information call toll-free (1-800-792-1112) or contact: **Nongame and Endangered Species Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.**



Natural Resources Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife
4200 Smith School Road
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