

# CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE  
FOUNDATION

2016 ANNUAL REPORT







Since 1991, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation has leveraged public funds with private philanthropy to advance Texas' proud outdoor traditions and conserve our state's wildlife, habitat and natural resources. Our vision is for all Texans to have access to the wild things and wild places in our state, both now and for generations to come.





There are millions of reasons  
to celebrate our state's proud outdoor  
traditions and our glorious wildlife, habitat  
and natural resources.

Indeed, since 1991, Texas Parks and Wildlife  
Foundation (TPWF) has raised more than  
\$170 million in private philanthropy to ensure  
that all Texans, today and for generations to  
come, can enjoy the wild things and wild  
places of Texas.

In 2016, TPWF celebrated its 25th anniversary.  
In this 2016 annual report, we reflect on the  
achievements of the past, with gratitude for  
your support and confidence in the continued  
commitment to our mission in the future.





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Some 25 years ago, when Perry R. Bass (1914-2006), Ed Cox, Jr., Chuck Nash, Ygnacio Garza and Andy Sansom came together to create Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation, few could have foreseen the magnitude and breadth of its impact on every corner of our state, in partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. As you read through the pages of this 2016 annual report, we hope you will be inspired by the many projects that are conserving the lands, waters and wildlife of Texas.

TPWF and the legacy of its founders have made invaluable contributions to the people of Texas, and private philanthropy has played a significant role. Thank you to all who have supported TPWF over the years. The impact of TPWF, its founders, trustees and donors over the last quarter-century will endure in the wild things and wild places of Texas for many lifetimes. We look forward to what will be accomplished in the next 25 years!

**KELLY R. THOMPSON**  
*Chairman*  
*Texas Parks and  
Wildlife Foundation*

**ANNE BROWN**  
*Executive Director*  
*Texas Parks and  
Wildlife Foundation*





**For the past quarter-century, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation has played a vital role in conserving the lands and waters of Texas through private philanthropy – more than 170,000 acres have been protected, an area that’s larger than some countries!**

In 2010, a pristine stretch of the Devils River was saved from development forever after a private fundraising effort brought in \$10 million, leveraged with \$4 million in state and federal funds. This private/public partnership conserved nearly 18,000 acres of biologically diverse and culturally significant land in Val Verde County, with 10 miles of frontage along the crystal-clear Devils River.

Today, TPWF continues to focus on strategic land acquisitions. Powderhorn Ranch along the Texas coast is a spectacular acquisition that came about through a remarkable collaboration of conservation partners. TPWF is currently stewarding the property, which will become a







# R D



state park and wildlife management area. This 17,351-acre tract conserves vanishing coastal prairie habitat, home to hundreds of species including the endangered whooping crane.

coast following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. With the Texas Coastal Conservation Initiative, TPWF is leading the conservation and philanthropic communities in efforts to maximize mitigation dollars. The Gulf Coast Conservation Loan Fund at TPWF brings together funders and conservation organizations in an innovative conservation partnership that is simply unprecedented.

Partnerships will continue to play an outsized role in our land conservation efforts. For example, we have an extraordinary opportunity to achieve transformative conservation of the Texas





**The face of Texas has changed over the past 25 years, as our population continues to shift from rural to urban and becomes increasingly diverse. For TPWF, one of our missions is to engage a new and younger generation in the enjoyment of the outdoors and in a commitment to the future of the wild things and wild places in Texas.**

Among our early, signature projects was the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens, completed in 1996 and made possible by private philanthropy matched with local, state and federal dollars. The result was a fish hatchery and visitor center designed to engage a new generation of anglers. Since its opening, more than one million children and adults have visited. The center is



also home to the Toyota Sharelunker program, which engages anglers in the conservation of Florida largemouth bass, the most sought-after sportfish in Texas.

Today, TPWF is redoubling efforts to engage all Texans in state parks across Texas. Through a competitive matching grant program with the Meta Alice Keith Bratten Foundation, state parks across Texas have access to funds for meaningful enhancements and habitat conservation projects. Thanks to this partnership, improvements from butterfly





# ENGAGE

gardens to better trail markers are enriching the state park experience for all Texans.



Nurturing the next generation of conservation leaders is the goal of Stewards of the Wild, TPWF's young professionals program. Established in Dallas in 2013, the program is now the largest of its kind in the state, with 750 members and additional chapters in Austin, Fort Worth, Houston, Midland and San Antonio. Membership means interaction with Texas' great conservation heroes, like Wales Madden, Jr. of Palo Duro Canyon fame and Tio Kleberg and Dr. Fred Bryant of Caesar Kleberg

Wildlife Research Institute. Young leaders are also enjoying and learning from field trips that showcase conservation successes, such as desert bighorn sheep restoration in the Trans-Pecos and the landmark Powderhorn Ranch. Every day, Stewards of the Wild members across the state are also socially connecting

with thousands of their peers, helping to build a community of shared love for Texas' lands, waters and wildlife.





# LEAD



**As commissioned peace officers, Texas Game Wardens have a passion to protect the citizens and resources of Texas. In times of natural disaster, game wardens lead the way in search and rescue operations and render aid during hurricanes, floods, tornadoes and wildfires. Every day, game wardens perform their core duties of conservation enforcement and education.**



TPWF has played a critical role in raising private funds for the Texas Game Warden Training Center and continues to support the



center, most recently with the construction of a new kitchen and cadet dorms completed in 2016. These facilities provide for the basic needs of cadets as they undergo

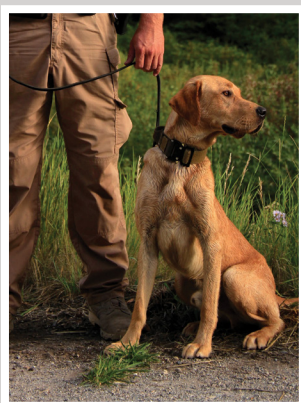
the grueling seven-month regimen required to become a Texas Game Warden.

Enhancing Texas Game Warden capabilities is a priority for TPWF. A highly successful K-9 unit was established in 2013, and TPWF support

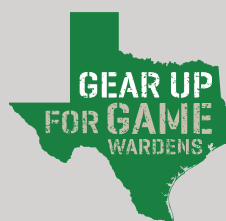




was critical to its launch. There are now ten K-9 teams stationed throughout the state. In 2016, TPWF raised funds for cooling vests, a piece of specialized canine safety equipment over



and above standard-issue gear. Texas canine wardens work all hours, in all seasons, and don't stop until the job is done. In the brutal heat of a Texas summer, these cooling vests will ensure their safety on even the hottest Texas day.



Meeting the future needs of Texas Game Wardens is the goal of a new fundraising partnership launching in 2017. While the state provides the basic necessities for wardens

to do their jobs, there is still a critical need for extra equipment. Gear Up for Game Wardens is a web-based effort that will match donors with a list of specialty gear needed as wardens face challenges as unique as the 254 Texas counties they serve.



# C O N S E

**Conservation is our heartbeat. One of the first critical conservation efforts TPWF engaged in was the shrimp license buyback program, made possible by legislation passed in 1995. Increased license fees, federal dollars and a license surcharge provided most of the dollars needed, but private dollars raised by TPWF also contributed. The program has reduced the number of shrimp licenses by 66% since its beginning, significantly reducing pressure on coastal shrimp populations.**



On the other side of the state, TPWF is working today to conserve pronghorn in the Trans-Pecos. This ancient North American species is the fastest land animal in the Western Hemisphere and once roamed West Texas in numbers more than 17,000 strong. Disease and drought contributed to their precipitous decline, and by 2012, the pronghorn was at risk of disappearing from the Trans-Pecos forever. With the help of donors, TPWF is leveraging public funding to ensure this





# R V E



unique and iconic animal will always roam the grasslands of West Texas. Funding for the Trans-Pecos Pronghorn Restoration Project supports vital activities such as translocation of animals, monitoring and research activities, and habitat restoration and improvements.

In Gulf of Mexico waters off the Texas coast, the future of coastal fishing and diving is bright. The Keeping it Wild and Shell Oil artificial reefs will be in place by mid-2017. These two reefs are located in a 381-acre area just six miles offshore from the Port O'Connor jetties and Matagorda Island. Private dollars raised by Coastal Conservation Association's Building Conservation Trust and donated to TPWF, along with Shell's donation,

will be leveraged with state dollars from the Texas Artificial Reef Program. The new reefs will improve the nearshore marine environment while increasing angler and diver access to the resources they love.

The fact is, as our state's population continues to grow, so does the pressure on Texas lands, waters and wildlife. Growth is truly a tribute to the opportunity to be found in Texas. But challenges to our natural resources are also an opportunity for all of us. Through public/private partnerships involving agencies, universities, nonprofit organizations and private landowners throughout the state, we will achieve remarkable conservation success.



## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 & 2015

	2016	2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Investments	\$ 25,682,558	\$ 19,723,597
Receivables, net	9,768,956	12,259,442
Fixed Assets, net	43,025,635	33,794,883
Assets Held for Others	488,571	470,909
Other Assets	77,448	98,945
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 79,043,168</b>	<b>\$ 66,347,776</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities	\$ 98,989	\$ 86,501
Assets Held for Others	488,571	470,909
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>587,560</b>	<b>557,410</b>
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	49,297,689	40,428,097
Temporarily Restricted	24,407,919	24,040,031
Permanently Restricted	4,750,000	1,322,238
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>78,455,608</b>	<b>65,790,366</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 79,043,168</b>	<b>\$ 66,347,776</b>

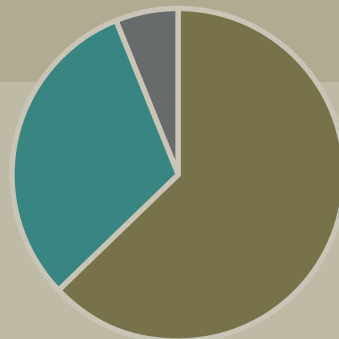
Land acquisition of \$8.5M and \$16M is recorded as an asset of TPWF on the Condensed Statement of Financial Position for FY2016 and FY2015 respectively.

### 2016 NET ASSETS

Unrestricted  
**63%**

Temporarily Restricted  
**31%**

Permanently Restricted  
**6%**





## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 & 2015

	2016	2015
<b>REVENUES AND ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS</b>		
Contributions:		
Unrestricted	\$ 1,460,076	\$ 9,790,375
Restricted	15,154,908	14,898,635
Total Contributions	16,614,984	24,689,010
Special Event (net of DBC)	226,953	220,004
Investment Income	1,619,161	(312,302)
Other Income	438,415	159,573
<b>TOTAL REVENUES AND ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 18,899,513</b>	<b>\$ 24,756,285</b>
<b>EXPENSES AND DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS</b>		
Program:		
Grants	\$ 1,808,317	\$ 4,554,679
Direct Project Cost and Scholarships	4,159,972	3,096,404
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>5,968,289</b>	<b>7,651,083</b>
Support Services:		
Development	97,991	115,041
Management and General	167,991	181,433
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	<b>265,982</b>	<b>296,474</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES AND DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS</b>	<b>6,234,271</b>	<b>7,947,557</b>
<b>INCREASE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 12,665,242</b>	<b>\$ 16,808,728</b>

### 2016 EXPENSES

Program

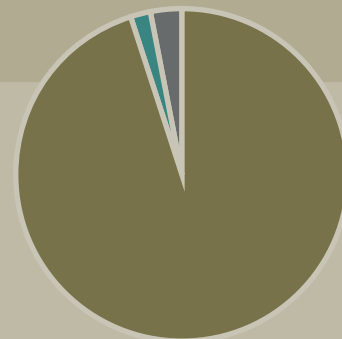
**95%**

Development

**2%**

Management & General

**3%**





# Conserving Our Wild Things and Wild Places for 25 Years

In 25 years, we have invested over \$170 million to advance conservation in Texas.





A few examples  
of Texas Parks  
and Wildlife  
Foundation's  
impact over  
the years:



Reduced the number of shrimp  
boats on the water by 66% through  
support of the Shrimp License  
Buyback Program



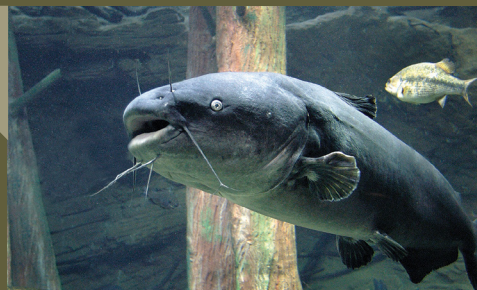
Conserved over 173,000 acres of  
our native ground, representing 7  
of Texas' 10 ecoregions



Translocated 442 pronghorn from  
the Panhandle to boost critically low  
populations in the Trans-Pecos



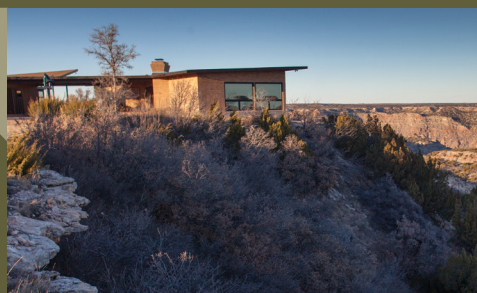
Stocked over 1 million Guadalupe  
bass in Texas rivers and streams



Stocked over 1 million catfish and  
400,000 rainbow trout in urban  
lakes through the Neighborhood  
Fishin' program



Enabled over 1,000 search and rescue  
missions annually through training  
and equipment for the Texas Game  
Warden Search and Rescue Team



Enhanced the visitor experience for  
more than 8 million annual visitors  
to Texas State Parks



# THANK YOU

to the many generous donors who supported Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

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Betsy and G. Hughes Abell  
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*Esther and Thomas Schneider*  
*Marcia Schorlemmer*  
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*Names in italics are members of the  
 John Graves Legacy Society.*

*Please contact us for information on  
 including a gift to TPWF in your  
 will or estate plan.*

‡ Realized Bequest



Please consider remembering  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation  
in your estate plan.

