TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT















FACES of CONSERVATION

Since 1991,

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation has engaged 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.

For more than 25 years, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation (TPWF) has worked hand in hand with those who love the lands, waters and wildlife of our state. Thanks to the support of generous donors, we've invested more than \$170 million in transformational conservation projects that have touched every corner of Texas.

Behind every conservation success story are the relationships, partners and people who made it happen. From the working relationships between TPWF staff and their Texas Parks and Wildlife Department colleagues, to the deep gratitude we have for our conservation partners as we work together toward common conservation goals, TPWF celebrates the many committed people who are dedicated to the wild things and wild places of Texas.





exas Parks and Wildlife Foundation's success is built on the relationships, partners and people with whom we work. As chairman for the last six years, I have watched with pride as the TPWF team has evolved, enhancing its role in its partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the conservation mission that is the bedrock of our work.

We have engaged with new partners and old and have begun to awaken and inspire the next generation of conservation leaders. Bright new thought leaders are emerging on the conservation stage in Texas, forging nationally recognized innovative partnerships that will forever conserve Texas' precious natural resources.

From the conservation professionals at the heart of the many projects that are conserving the best of Texas, to the generous donors who make this work possible, we salute the dedicated conservationists working in Texas today. Through our combined, collaborative efforts, we are making a difference for future generations.

As you read these stories, I hope you will be as inspired as I am by the conservation successes made possible through partnership and collective effort. Together we will ensure and safeguard the future of the wild things and wild places of Texas.

KELLY R. THOMPSON

Chairman (2011-2017)

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation



LEAD







Game wardens have a job as big as Texas, patrolling all of Texas' 268,500 square miles, including over 10 million miles by vehicle and 160,000 hours by boat each year. Game warden cadets undergo a grueling training regimen before they make the grade, keeping their skills sharp with ongoing training throughout their careers.

That training takes place at the Texas Game Warden Training Center in Hamilton County. TPWF spearheaded the private fundraising efforts that made the facility possible. As part of TPWF's fundraising initiative, Keeping it Wild: The Campaign for Texas, TPWF is working on phase two of an effort that has already provided additional resources, including cadet dormitories and renovations to the kitchen and dining hall.

TPWF's support has also been instrumental in the creation of a Texas Game Warden K-9 Unit. Susan Houston worked closely with Grahame Jones to identify and provide the resources needed to get the first teams on the ground in 2013.

Providing specialized training and equipment is another way TPWF helps Texas Game Wardens meet their mission. During Hurricane Harvey, training and equipment TPWF provided helped game wardens rescue over 10,000 Texans.

Jones and Houston's latest collaboration to benefit Texas Game Wardens launched in October 2017. Gear Up for Game Wardens will advance the capabilities of Texas Game Wardens by providing specialty gear needed to maintain safety and ensure the highest level of service for the people of Texas.

CONSERVE

TPWF's Julie Shaddox manages relationships with donors and partners to facilitate conservation, from grassland restoration to marine habitat. Sean Stone with the Coastal Conservation Association's (CCA) Building Conservation Trust works with numerous partners, including TPWF, to fund critical marine habitat enhancement projects. Their complementary efforts are making a difference for the future of Texas' lands and waters.







In 2017, two new artificial reefs were placed in the Gulf of Mexico, just six miles off the coast of Port O'Connor. The nearshore reefs are constructed out of huge concrete pyramids, creating marine habitat for a variety of sea creatures. The project is part of TPWF's fundraising effort, Keeping it Wild: The Campaign for Texas. CCA's Building Conservation Trust, CCA Texas and Shell Oil Company contributed funds for these reefs, which were leveraged with state dollars from the Texas Artificial Reef program. Within a few months, the new reefs attracted numerous forms of sea life and are now a destination for anglers and divers.

TPWF is also working to restore what was once a sea of grassland across the state. A defining feature of our state in bygone days, grassland is now the most threatened habitat type in North America. Grasslands are also home to some of Texas' most iconic species, including quail and monarch butterflies. Fortunately, TPWF is part of the Grassland Restoration Incentive Program, which provides funding for private landowners to engage in grassland habitat restoration. TPWF has secured significant funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the project.

From artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico, to grassland restoration projects across the state, TPWF is conserving the wild places of Texas—and the wild things that call them home.

STEWARD

Out of the worst oil spill disaster in history flows an unprecedented amount of funding dedicated to restoration of the Gulf of Mexico. Nearly \$800 million in Deepwater Horizon settlement funds will be available for Texas projects through 2031. However, as TPWF learned during the acquisition of Powderhorn Ranch, which required multiphase funding, the timing of available funds doesn't always align with the opportunity to conserve a critical tract of land.

In early 2017, TPWF partnered with Texas philanthropists to establish the Gulf Coast Conservation Loan Fund. The new fund provides zero-interest loans to nonprofit partners to make transformational projects, like Powderhorn Ranch, possible.

The Gulf Coast Conservation Loan Fund provided two loans in 2017 for Deepwater Horizon land conservation projects. The first acquisition will forever prevent development on a pristine barrier island near Houston that will become part of TPWD's Follets Island Coastal Preserve. The second increases precious coastal habitat adjacent to the Perry R. Bass Marine Fisheries Research Center on Matagorda Bay. Both projects will ensure that Texans will enjoy coastal breezes on unspoiled beaches for generations to come.

In June 2017, TPWF was awarded a prestigious Conservation Innovation Grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service for developing the new conservation finance tool. Through the grant and this new loan fund, TPWF is scaling up efforts that will make a significant and lasting difference on Texas' coastal landscape.

Jay Kleberg and Merrill Gregg are working together to conserve pristine coastal habitat in Texas. The TPWF colleagues have developed an innovative strategy to finance land conservation, building on lessons learned from the acquisition of Powderhorn Ranch in 2014. TPWF is now taking a leadership role in educating the philanthropic community about the current opportunity for transformational conservation of the Texas coast. By the end of 2017, more than 25,000 acres had been permanently conserved through these collaborative efforts.













Engaging the next generation of conservation leaders is the goal of Stewards of the Wild. Phil Lamb exemplifies the impact of the program.

"I've always been interested in the outdoors, but my involvement with Stewards really heightened my awareness of conservation issues and ignited my passion for conserving our natural resources," said Lamb. "Stewards of the Wild has truly been life changing for me."

In fact, the successful Dallas lawyer was so inspired by his experience that he made a dramatic career change in early 2017, leaving his legal career behind. He is now Director of Development for the Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation.

Fueled by the energy of people like Phil Lamb, the momentum is growing. The member-driven chapters have spread across the state, including Austin, Fort Worth, Houston, Midland and San Antonio. A Tyler chapter was formed in late 2017, and there are now more than 800 members statewide.

The Stewards chapters place a great deal of value in their local and state communities and answer the call to make a difference when others are in need. Houston members got directly involved in Hurricane Harvey rescues and recovery efforts. Matt Hughes organized a group of Stewards who came to the aid of a TPWD employee in Rockport whose home had been destroyed. Other chapters have done service work in state parks and set up fishing events for children in their communities.

Phil Lamb (left) has been involved with TPWF's young professionals organization, Stewards of the Wild, since the first chapter formed in Dallas in 2013. TPWF's Matt Hughes (above) leads the effort to coordinate the Stewards program. Along with their peers in Stewards chapters across the state, they are building a community based on a shared love for Texas' lands, waters and wildlife.

PARTNERING for the FUTURE



TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith and TPWF Executive Director Anne Brown have been partners in conservation for more than 15 years, even before their current Texas Parks and Wildlife roles. They share a deep love of Texas and have devoted their lives to its lands, waters, wildlife, and people. Their work together is a seamless collaboration that traverses the entire breadth and depth of our great state but always stays anchored in what matters most: ensuring the future of our wild things and wild places.



TPWF is uniquely able to make conservation happen at scale—the kind of scale that Texas demands and deserves, and the kind of scale that means what is accomplished won't ever be forgotten or easily undone.

It was with this sense of scale in mind that Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation launched Keeping it Wild: The Campaign for Texas, an effort as vast as the scope of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's mission and unmatched in its ambition. Following two leaders unafraid of the challenge and deeply aware of what is at stake, staff across both organizations worked closely to identify transformational projects that will leave a permanent mark for the future of Texas. The \$100 million campaign will wrap up in 2018 and is the largest fundraising effort ever undertaken by TPWF.

From acquiring the jewel that is Powderhorn Ranch to the restoration of majestic pronghorn in West Texas, the conservation of Guadalupe bass in Hill Country streams, and the creation of the finest Game Warden Training Center in the world, the Keeping it Wild campaign touches every corner of the state.

It is our hope that these projects, and projects yet to come, inspire our fellow Texans to discover all that is wild and beautiful and unending in Texas and kindle their passion to conserve it—now and forever.

CONDENSED STATEMENT of FINANCIAL POSITION

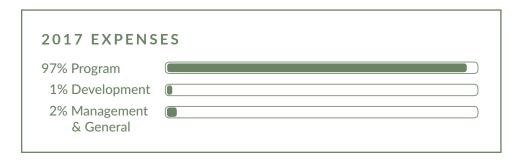
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 & 2016

ASSETS	2017	2016
Cash and Investments	\$34,555,388	\$25,682,558
Receivables, net	6,265,773	9,768,956
Fixed Assets, net	45,440,958	43,025,635
Assets Held for Others	385,994	488,571
Other Assets	155,228	77,448
TOTAL ASSETS	\$86,803,341	\$79,043,168
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities	\$1,587,915	\$98,989
Assets Held for Others	385,994	488,571
Total Liabilities	1,973,908	587,560
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	53,153,743	49,297,689
Temporarily Restricted	26,780,656	24,407,919
Permanently Restricted	4,895,033	4,750,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS	84,829,432	78,455,608
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$86,803,341	\$79,043,168

CONDENSED STATEMENT of ACTIVITIES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 & 2016

REVENUES & ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS	2017	2016
Contributions:		
Unrestricted	\$1,699,350	\$1,460,076
Restricted	10,375,200	15,154,908
Total Contributions	12,074,551	16,614,984
Special Event (net of DBC)	245,915	226,953
Investment Income	3,522,284	1,619,161
Other Income	768,849	438,415
TOTAL REVENUES & ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS	\$16,611,600	\$18,899,513
EXPENSES & DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS Program:		
Grants	\$5,320,676	\$1,808,317
Direct Project Cost and Scholarships	4,595,677	4,159,972
Total Program	9,916,353	5,968,289
Support Services:		
Development	135,153	97,991
Management and General	186,270	167,991
Total Support Services	321,423	265,982
TOTAL EXPENSES & DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS	10,237,776	6,234,271
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$6,373,824	\$12,665,242



THANK YOU

to the many generous donors who supported Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

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