

WE WILL NOT BE TAMED

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
2018 ANNUAL REPORT





Photographs by Jonathan Vail

Since 1991, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation (TPWF) has leveraged public funds with 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 a quarter century, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation (TPWF) has encouraged Texans to get involved in conserving the wild things and wild places of our state. Thanks to the support of generous donors, more than \$190 million has been invested in conservation projects across Texas.

In 2018, TPWF amplified our conservation message with a public awareness campaign called “We Will Not Be Tamed.” We Will Not Be Tamed calls us to appreciate the wildness of Texas, the vastness of our Texas spirit and why we should be inspired to conserve it.

TPWF enlisted a remarkable group of Texan outdoorsmen and women to join us in the campaign, to stand together and tell their stories about the state that has given them so much.

Their stories are as unique as they are, and they inspire us with their passion for the lands, waters and wildlife of our state.



JT VAN ZANDT at Powderhorn Ranch, Calhoun County



In 2018, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation embarked on the most ambitious public awareness campaign in our history. Our goal was to involve more Texans in our vision to conserve the wild things and wild places of Texas.

Texans, long famous for their love of our state's iconic landscapes and diverse wildlife, did not disappoint us. Tens of thousands answered the call, standing together with Ambassadors like JT Van Zandt to support the place they love.

Thanks to our presenting sponsor Toyota, We Will Not Be Tamed reached millions across the state and resonated with Texans from all walks of life.

Whether you find yourself most at home on a South Texas quail hunt, a Chihuahuan Desert hiking trail, or somewhere in between, we hope that these stories of our Ambassadors, and of the conservation work made possible by our supporters, will reaffirm your own passion for all that is wild and wonderful in Texas.

We'll be sharing inspiring stories about our Ambassadors throughout 2019. We hope that you will join us in keeping it wild!



MICHAEL S. GREENE
*Chairman
Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation*



ANNE BROWN
*Executive Director
Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation*

RESTORING TEXAS COASTAL TREASURES

Chuck Naiser has fished in Texas coastal waters for more than 50 years. His passion for Texas' coastal resources has evolved into a fierce determination to make a difference for the generations that will enjoy these waters long after he is gone.

That's why Naiser was tapped as a We Will Not Be Tamed Ambassador, and why he is such an advocate for places like Powderhorn Ranch (pictured), which has been conserved forever thanks to a partnership effort led by TPWF.

Naiser's beloved Rockport was ground zero for Hurricane Harvey's landfall in August 2017 and Naiser has helped his community pick up the pieces in the storm's aftermath. One of the storm's casualties was the nearby Fulton Fishing Pier, a beloved community asset for Rockport residents and a draw for visitors to the Coastal Bend. Thanks to a partnership coordinated by TPWF, repairs to the pier are underway. YETI and the Sid W. Richardson Foundation stepped up with over \$250,000 needed to match FEMA funding. The pier is expected to reopen in late 2019.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Coastal Fisheries Division facilities also sustained millions of dollars in damages, much of which was ineligible for FEMA funding. Seven out of ten sites managed by the division were affected. The research vessels docked in Rockport also sustained significant damage.

During times like this, friends of Texas Parks and Wildlife show their true nature. Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Chairman Emeritus Lee Bass offered \$500,000 to jump-start a short-term fundraising effort. Within a few short months \$1.5 million had been raised, with major contributions from the Coastal Conservation Association and the Rebuild Texas Fund, a philanthropic collaborative led by the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation. Thanks to this effort, research vessels are back in the water and fish hatcheries are back in production, supporting world-class fishing, fueling coastal economies and providing recreational opportunities for hundreds of thousands of anglers.





CHUCK NAISER at Powderhorn Ranch, Calhoun County

CONSERVING TEXAS WILDLIFE

Adrian Sabom grew up surrounded by the wide open spaces of her family's South Texas ranch, a place where she learned to cherish the outdoors. As a child, she spent every weekend during quail season in the field with her family, a passion she now shares with her husband and children. As a We Will Not Be Tamed Ambassador, Adrian is helping to inspire others to conserve the land she loves, for the sake of the wildlife we all enjoy.

TPWF collaborates with many organizations and landowners across Texas to further quail conservation efforts. The Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, an organization close to Adrian's heart, studies research questions related to quail and other wildlife. As the statewide sponsor of TPWF's young professionals organization, Stewards of the Wild, the institute helps TPWF address quail conservation issues through expert guest speakers.

TPWF also partners with the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch near Abilene and the Borderlands Research Institute (BRI) in Alpine. TPWF established the Kelly R. Thompson Professorship in Quail Research at BRI, in honor of Kelly R. Thompson, who served as chair of TPWF's board of trustees for six years. In October 2018, TPWF Executive Director Anne Brown was named "Quail Patriot" by the Quail-Tech Alliance for her ongoing work in support of quail.

In April 2018, TPWF launched a new way for Texans to support quail conservation through a quail conservation license plate. For every license plate purchased, \$22 will go to TPWF for quail conservation efforts in Texas, including habitat conservation and education.

TPWF continues to support habitat conservation through the Grassland Restoration Incentive Program, which provides technical guidance and funding for private landowners to engage in grassland habitat restoration, benefiting quail and a host of other wildlife species that epitomize Texas.





ADRIAN SABOM at Schorp-White Ranch, Frio County



PARTNERSHIPS FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LANDS

As a South Texas quail guide, Leon McNeil spends weekends during quail season guiding hunts on private land. He's also a high school coach and he runs a successful nonprofit called City Kids Adventures, which mentors inner-city kids through outdoor experiences.

Jordan Shipley's career has taken him from the Friday night lights to the pre-dawn light of a Texas deer blind. A high school and college football star, Jordan's NFL career was cut short due to injury. Now he brings the same focus he brought to the football field to his lifelong dedication to hunting.

Leon and Jordan's passion for the outdoors, and for sharing that passion with the next generation, made them obvious choices as We Will Not Be Tamed Ambassadors. As Texas hunters, they appreciate what private landowners do to steward the lands we love.

Many other Texans share this appreciation for careful land stewardship. Through the Lone Star Land Steward Awards, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department recognizes landowners for exceptional

land stewardship. Since 1996, the program has honored more than 225 landowners who have conserved nearly 5 million acres of our home ground. Properties like the Winkler Ranch in Central Texas, where Jordan Shipley was photographed for the campaign, are a testament to land management practices that benefit wildlife.

Together with many generous donors, TPWF's support for the annual Lone Star Land Steward Awards is enhancing on-the-ground conservation efforts across Texas. In addition to honoring private landowners for their conservation and stewardship efforts, the awards program is enabling Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to provide additional technical guidance, helping even more landowners access the latest science-based management practices.

Hunters like Leon and Jordan benefit from public land stewardship efforts, as well. Through a Texas Wildlife Management Area endowment, TPWF has secured more than \$5 million to conserve the lands, waters, and wildlife that are the birthright of all Texans.



JORDAN SHIPLEY at Winkler Ranch, Blanco County



MATT MORRIS at Franklin Mountains State Park, El Paso County

FOR THE LOVE OF TEXAS PARKS

At first glance, Matt Morris and Jorge Avalos may not seem to have much in common. Matt is a yoga instructor and Jorge is a retired U.S. Army Ranger. Although their life experiences are vastly different, they share a deeply held belief in the healing power of nature.

Matt suffered with Crohn's disease in his 20s, and when modern medicine didn't work, he began spending more time in Franklin Mountains State Park. Today he is disease free and credits yoga, trail running, and time in the park for his recovery.

In 2011, Jorge suffered a debilitating injury during a skydiving demonstration that left him paralyzed from the waist down. Jorge picked up cycling as a part of his rehabilitation and believes that time spent in nature aided his remarkable recovery.

From trail running in Franklin Mountains State Park in El Paso to mountain biking in Government Canyon State Natural Area in San Antonio, Matt and Jorge appreciate all that state parks have to offer.

So do their fellow Texans.

When part of Balmorhea State Park's pool wall collapsed in early 2018, TPWF received numerous calls from people who wanted to help. Apache Corporation issued a \$1 million challenge grant, and people from all corners of the state responded.

The outpouring of support netted more than \$1 million. In addition, Apache pledged another \$1 million contribution to establish an endowment to benefit Balmorhea State Park in perpetuity.

Phillips 66 is another dedicated state park supporter. The company recently provided \$275,000 for enhancements at five state parks across Texas. From grassland restoration at Choke Canyon State Park to updating the Nature Center at Brazos Bend State Park, the support of Phillips 66 is bringing visitors closer to nature.

A competitive grants program sponsored by Meta Alice Keith Bratten Foundation allows state parks to access funding while leveraging the work of dedicated volunteers. In addition to the monetary award, volunteers have contributed over 10,000 volunteer hours to over 45 projects since 2015, ranging from the never-ending work of battling invasive species to enhancing the trails that allow visitors to get away from it all.

TPWF is committed to helping all Texans, regardless of physical ability, benefit from the healing power of nature. Thanks to a grant from Austin Blake Howell Foundation, some state park visitors now have access to equipment like all-terrain wheelchairs for beach access and adaptive fishing gear.



JORGE AVALOS at Winkler Ranch, Blanco County

CONSERVING TEXAS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Artist Xochitl Rodriguez grew up in El Paso, surrounded by the ruggedly beautiful terrain of the Chihuahuan Desert. She grew up romping in the arroyos and trails of the desert and mountains with her mother and grandmother. Today she shares that passion with her 5-year-old daughter Calista. First strapped in her mother's backpack when she was four months old, the two have traversed nearly every trail in the Franklin Mountains.

Xochitl's passion for the world around her is why TPWF asked her and her daughter to join the We Will Not Be Tamed campaign. As the diverse

stories of our Ambassadors prove, there are as many different ways to appreciate and support Texas' natural resources as there are Texans. For some supporters, a planned gift is a meaningful way to pay tribute to the special places that have shaped their lives and families.

For Xochitl and Calista, the pulse of the land and trails resonates deep in their souls. As Xochitl passes on her passion for the land to the next generation in her family, the legacy of the wild things and wild places of Texas lives on.





**C O N D E N S E D S T A T E M E N T O F
F I N A N C I A L P O S I T I O N**

For the Years Ended December 31, 2018 & 2017

	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Cash and Investments	\$ 44,684,733	\$ 34,577,888
Receivables, net	3,697,184	6,265,136
Fixed Assets, net	11,708,301	45,431,073
Assets Held for Others	360,854	385,994
Other Assets	119,894	155,224
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 60,570,966	\$ 86,815,315
 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities	\$ 1,043,431	\$ 1,638,156
Assets Held for Others	360,854	385,994
Total Liabilities	1,404,285	2,024,150
Net Assets*:		
Unrestricted	24,833,059	54,570,590
Temporarily Restricted	25,079,488	25,325,542
Permanently Restricted	9,254,134	4,895,033
Total Net Assets	59,166,681	84,791,165
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 60,570,966	\$ 86,815,315

The 2018 Condensed Statement of Financial Position is unaudited.

For the most recent audited financial information as of December 31, 2017, please contact TPWF.

** The significant change in net assets between 2017 and 2018 reflects the October 2018 transfer of 15,098 acres at Powderhorn Ranch to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The net value of the property conveyed was \$33,538,378.*

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the Years Ended December 31, 2018 & 2017

	2018	2017
REVENUES AND ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS		
Contributions:		
Unrestricted	\$ 7,044,270	\$ 3,103,364
Restricted	9,771,225	8,986,245
Total Contributions	16,815,495	12,089,609
Special Event (net of DBC)	359,327	235,415
Investment Income (Loss)	(2,134,588)	3,522,282
Other Income	520,365	754,407
TOTAL REVENUES AND ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS	\$ 15,560,599	\$ 16,601,713
EXPENSES AND DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS		
Program:		
Grants	\$ 1,676,029	\$ 5,320,676
Direct Project Cost and Scholarships	5,727,241	4,624,071
Total Program	7,403,270	9,944,747
Support Services:		
Development	85,777	135,150
Management and General	157,658	186,259
Total Support Services	243,435	321,409
TOTAL EXPENSES AND DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS	7,646,705	10,266,156
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 7,913,894	\$ 6,335,557
Conveyed Powderhorn Ranch WMA to TPWD, net effect	\$ (33,538,378)	

2018 EXPENSES

Program	<div></div>	97%
Development	<div></div>	1%
Management and General	<div></div>	2%

The 2018 Condensed Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets is unaudited.
For the most recent audited financial information as of December 31, 2017, please contact TPWF.

T H A N K Y O U

to the many generous donors who supported Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation
from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

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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.

WE WILL NOT BE TAMED AMBASSADORS



Jorge Avalos

U.S. Army veteran Jorge Avalos served for 23 years. During his deployment to Iraq, an IED hit Jorge's vehicle and he suffered a traumatic brain injury and PTSD. While still on active duty, an accident during a skydiving demonstration left him paralyzed from the waist down. During his recovery, Jorge started cycling as a part of his rehabilitation and remains an avid bike enthusiast.



Thomas Flemons

Thomas Flemons is a lifelong outdoorsman with a passion for kayaking Texas rivers. Once a mortgage loan officer constrained to a world of ties and cubicles, Thomas began selling kayaks as an independent rep in 2006. Eventually, he and a college friend started working on a way to improve the 4,000-year-old Inuit technology still found in today's kayaks, and Diablo Paddlesports was born.



Leon McNeil

Leon McNeil is a teacher and nonprofit leader who is making a difference in the lives of young people. A native son of San Antonio, Leon had a rough childhood. When he left town thanks to a football scholarship, some teammates introduced him to hunting and fishing. Today, Leon and his wife Leticia run City Kids Adventures, which introduces urban kids to outdoor experiences.



Matt Morris

Yoga teacher Matt Morris grew up in the Chihuahuan Desert, where the landscape inspired his love for nature. He leads his students through routines that explore the mind-body connection and the extension of yogic principles from the mat into the world. Having struggled with a debilitating disease for many years, Matt credits yoga, trail running, and time in the Franklin Mountains for his recovery.



Chuck Naiser

Chuck Naiser is regarded as one of the most accomplished and revered fly-fishing guides in Texas. A former vice president of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association (now CCA), Chuck was inducted in the Perry R. Bass Memorial Sports Fishing Wall of Fame in 2011. This prestigious honor cemented a lifelong love of saltwater fishing and efforts to promote its advancement in Texas.



Xochitl Rodriguez

El Paso native Xochitl Rodriguez believes art is about creating a moment in life instead of a thing. She co-founded the Caldo Collective, a nonprofit that creates experiences that allow community and artists to come together. She enjoys a life driven by family, community organizing, triathlon training, and a relentless desire to show her daughter just how big and breathtaking the world can be.



Adrian Sabom

Adrian Sabom is a South Texas native who spent her childhood on a working cattle ranch on the Nueces Strip. As an adult, Adrian has spent three decades volunteering her time and resources in support of applied wildlife research in South Texas with the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute. Adrian is a lifelong quail hunter and proud mother of two.



Jordan Shipley

Jordan Shipley's career has taken him from the Friday night lights to the pre-dawn light of a South Texas deer blind. A high school and college football star, Jordan's NFL career was cut short due to injury. Now he is taking full advantage of his love of the outdoors as a spokesman for YETI and co-host of "The Bucks of Tecomate" on the Outdoor Channel.



JT Van Zandt

JT Van Zandt is the oldest son of songwriter Townes Van Zandt. In the aftermath of his father's death, numerous interests vied to define his legacy. For JT, the best way to honor his father is by protecting harmony in nature. As a fly-fishing guide who specializes in red fishing on the Texas coast, JT is dedicated to conserving the natural resources he loves.

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