

Joan and Scott Holt Paradise Pond Birding Center



WAYNE NICHOLAS

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER

The Joan and Scott Holt Paradise Pond Birding Center (Paradise Pond) is located within the Port Aransas city limits, and is the only natural, permanent freshwater wetland on Mustang Island. This small area has long been recognized by birdwatchers as an important stopover site for migratory birds along the central Texas coast.

LOCATION: The birding center is located in the city of Port Aransas, Nueces County, Texas

SIZE: 0.41 ha (1 acre)

HABITAT: Paradise Pond consists of a small, freshwater lake and marsh, surrounded by dense black willow. The area is surrounded by open fields

and development, and is a true oasis for migrating birds.



BIRDS: As a wooded oasis in the middle of development, Paradise Pond is a natural attraction for migrating birds. Birders have long visited the spot to see migrant landbirds. A four year study from 1998-2001 produced 119 migratory species, with 5,456 individuals counted. Thirteen Partners in Flight Watch List species have been counted, including nine species of warblers.

CONSERVATION: Paradise Pond is an excellent example of the results of a targeted and focused approach to saving important migratory habitat. Grant money from the Great Texas Birding Classic was used to secure challenge funds from the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program. Local landowners donated land, and the City of Port Aransas donated many in-kind services.



Site Partner:

City of Port Aransas

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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