

Fred B. Jones Sanctuary

Fred B. Jones sanctuary is located on the north edge of Nueces Bay, near Corpus Christi, Texas, and is managed by the Audubon Outdoor Club of Corpus Christi. It represents the only defined area of shrubs and native vegetation in a sea of farmland in this heavily agricultural area. As with all coastal areas with remaining native vegetation, Fred B. Jones is an important stopover point for transgulf migrants and wintering grassland birds.



SWAINSON'S THRUSH

WAYNE NICHOLAS

LOCATION: The sanctuary is located in San Patricio County, near Portland, Texas, on the north edges of Nueces Bay.

SIZE: 3.65 ha (9 acres)

HABITAT: The sanctuary consists of mesquite, blackbrush acacia, agarita, Texas olive, and also includes a small, defined area of tall Texas ash. There is a creek that divides the property. A great many wildflowers are present in the spring.

BIRDS: Due to its strategic location along Nueces Bay, and its isolation amid farmland, Fred B. Jones is a natural stopover point for both transgulf and circumgulf migrants. Wintering sparrows are present here in numbers. Many western and southern species that prefer drier habitats can be found here, such as Lesser Nighthawk, Golden-fronted and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, Groove-billed Ani, Curve-billed and Long-billed Thrashers, and Olive Sparrow.



CONSERVATION: The Sanctuary has been plagued by vandalism in the past, but this has decreased recently because new home construction has increased in the area, which reduces its isolation. Oil and gas wells on adjacent properties have affected the runoff of water, which has caused erosion along the stream. Audubon Outdoor Club has plans to maintain and enhance the habitat, and to start a program of invasive grass control.

Site Partner:

Audubon Outdoor Club of Corpus Christi

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